

# Go Tell It

## *On the Mountain With a Mission*

October 1, 2023

Today we're on a mission to spread the Word to save the world! Cuz we're picking up where we left off last week, and after hearing how sharing our Savior is the duty *demanded* of every devoted *follower*, our next question *becomes*: **Are you putting effort into your assignment?**



Remember, it isn't *belief alone* that *saves* – even the *shuddering demons believe*. And it's not a matter of simply *saying* some *magic words*. No, **salvation comes to anyone who trusts in Jesus**. And **the only way to trust is to act on what you believe** – and *do* what Jesus asks us to:



[And His command couldn't be more clearly communicated [Jesus said] As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you. – John 20:21 NIV



[Where to? Well, He *also* said] Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. [And why was that? Well:] – Matthew 28:19 NIV

This Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to *all* nations, and then the end will come. – Matthew 24:14 NIV

So there you go! Regardless of *denomination* or *doctrine*, *here's* something we can *all* agree on: **It ain't over yet!** So since we're still *here* in a sinful world – *spreading* God's love certainly seems like the *central command* of our *main* mission. *Sure*, our God-given assignment *has to* start with our *own inner* transformation that comes from **confessing our sin before God** – but immediately *after*, an *outer* element is added; **confessing our Savior before others!** Cuz *they* need Him, too; and **our assignment is both training mission and rescue mission**. So how do we get 'r done? **Go get 'em!**

That's why the feet of believers who bring the Good News are so beautiful to those who *haven't* heard! It's a *life-saver* for those desperate and *drowning*, it's a *light* for those lost in the *dark*, and it's the *cure* for those suffering from *sickness*! So, how come His Place only has *one* campus to help all those *hurting*?! That's a question *I asked* when I *first* fell in love with *this* family – and it's one I've *heard* from many members *since*. So let me answer once and for all: *we don't*.

In case you didn't *know*, **your church is just one of FIFTEEN different His Place locations!** And *our* geographical reach is one of the *smallest* of the bunch! It's just that our *other* fourteen campuses happen to be on the *other side* of the world in the Philippines! And that is very much on purpose because when *fulfilling* our mission, we take our *cue* from you-know-Who, and *He* reminded us:

It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. – Luke 5:31 NIV

It's a lot less *necessary* to bring *life-savers* to those who can *swim*, *light* to those where it's *bright*, or a *cure* to those already in *recovery*. Because, **our impact is greatest where the need is highest!**

And **every His Place location has been deliberately decided by how we can best serve the biggest needs of every one of God's children.** And some are lost, sick, and drowning with zero help!

Listen, there are over 120 churches in Skagit County to serve 130,000 people – and although I wish *those numbers were better, after* our first trip to Calew – **there was now 1 church to serve over 100,000 Ibaloi people.** And even after 30 years and 14 churches, there's *still* plenty of dark corners just *dying* for their *first taste* of the light!



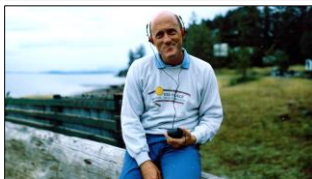
Now, am I saying that there's *no* need here at home? *Absolutely not!* Our community and country is in *dire* need of the same Good News – I'm just saying we've already got a lot of brothers and sisters hard at work here at home while there are other harvests without *any workers at all!*



[And moreover, listen to Paul's perspective:] It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was *not* known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. Rather, as it is written: "Those who were *not* told about Him *will see*, and those who have *not* heard *will understand*." - Romans 15:20-21 NIV



**Building on an existing foundation is called *franchising*.** And I'm not here to throw *stones*, but in an era of mega-chain-churches, it seems like *somewhere* along the way, we became more interested in the business of *franchising* churches than *planting* them. And although franchises *can* serve many, they can *also* create uncomfortable *crowding* and unhealthy *competition*. Meanwhile, **growing fruit on empty ground is called *planting*.** And *planted* churches bring much *needed* nourishment to serve the *starving* in an otherwise *barren* area.



So, when it comes to sharing Jesus, ***we want to create more opportunities; not more options.*** And that's why *your* church has been focusing on the Philippines for 30 years – it's a great place to put a lot of our *effort* into our *assignment*. And here's the best part – that effort is something that we *all* do *together*, because like *all* churches, ***our church is a body, not a building.***

Some of us are the hands and feet meant to make the trip to the front lines of the darkest frontiers, while some of us are more hearts and minds meant to provide or pray in support of all our other parts. But the point is, ***you can still serve overseas without ever setting foot on foreign land!***

Now it is *your* job to confess *your* sins and Savior with *your* mouth in *your* life – but, ***none of us can fulfill God's greater mission to save the world on our own. It's a team effort*** and like it or not, you've been in the game since you got saved. And our mission is to save the world, ***your only choice is deciding how you contribute.*** And if that sounds scary, I got good news, we got Pastor Nick!

Because when it's hard to *know* where to *start*, ***there's nothing better than a pep talk from one of our biggest playmakers to get your head in the game.*** And Old Saint Nick has been working for over 30 years to provide our whole His Place body with an opportunity to work together, ace our assignment, and ultimately accomplish our mission! So, I'll let him take it from here!