

## Sermon: **The ultimate act of love: Going.**

Matthew 28: 16-20

Watch the private Ryan clip around the beginning when he asked was his life worth it, segway into the great commission. End with a clip about Jesus on the cross. And then end with communion.

Do you realize that this verse is still in action today? We view the world as being USO-centric. Basically that the world revolves around us. And being American's when we think of that statement, we see only people in the USA as American's when there are South American's and far North Americans (Canadians).

Anyway we see the world as not only revolving around our country but as Texans we see it as revolving around our state and even just the area we live in. But those words were written in a far off land, a long, long time ago, to a group of ex fisherman, political rebels, tax collectors and such. It was a command that we can see the fruit of. Because of there commitment to the message we today in July 17, 2005 can also say that we are Christians just like them. We will all inhabit the same heaven, and worship God forever.

Imagine if this very same commandment was given to us here at Renewed Life church. Imagine we are the only believers on the planet; would we have confidence that the message of Jesus would not only spread but reach the ends of the Earth? Or would it just reach the edge of this city? When you look at us you will see we have spread past that. (List cities represented here and that have come through our doors).

Would we believe that this message would still be alive and around 2000 years from now? Some are amazed we are still here 4 years after we started.

Is this just for the disciples? How did it spread so fast? Acts 1:8 So far just for the disciples, but we see the key that they will receive power from the Holy Spirit, and then they will be His witnesses.

Acts 2: 42-47 Note the marks of a believer; Fellowship, eating together, meeting together in worship of God everyday. And note God was adding to their number daily. Were the disciples just really busy? No the growth and adding to the church now came after others were filled with the Spirit, and they also began to go forth.

The church grows in 2 ways, one by natural birth that hopefully turns into spiritual birth. The other way is from going and our friends, neighbors etc... experience God and are reborn.

This only happens as others feel the deepened and responsibility for others, when they truly understand what is going on and taking place all our excuses melt away. We can't wait to share what God has, and is doing in our lives. We share this in the hope that others will also make the decision to have the new life God has offered us.

(\*\*\*Show video clip Saving Private Ryan)

We feel just like Ryan about our debt of salvation. Has our life been worth the sacrifice offered? Do you even see your life this way? Most believers do not. They take for granted all that God has done, and given us. Most never truly experience the life God really has for us. We are to busy with our own problems, and situations to worry about others.

But if you saw someone drowning would you not throw them a rope? If you saw someone in a burning building would you not offer help? If you knew a bridge was out and people were flying towards it, would you not try and warn them? Mark 16:15-16 points out that whoever believes shall be saved, but whoever does not shall be condemned.

We will tackle tough questions like this in August, but I will give it a quick answer this morning. God does have the right, in the fact that all creation is subject to Him because He has made it. The same right you exercise to bless or punish your children when they make the choices for right and wrong. The same God given right society has for taking someone's life when they choose to be a detriment to society instead of a positive functioning member of society.

But with this added fact we realize that the majority of people we know will die and go to hell. We know this and yet we do not warn them. Do you not know that you will give account for these people? Your life is given, and your position is for fighting this battle. God's strategy is to use you as a soldier to wipe out this global terror of sin.

There is a cancer that kills every person. It is sin. It slowly robs people of their life. Most choose to act like men and refuse to go to the doctor and try and cling to their life and this world. If they just ignore it maybe it will go away.

Like modern leprosy, no person needs to die this horrible death, but they still do... God is offering up salvation, but you are His messengers.

The ultimate act of showing God you love Him is by living a life of service that helps others come to know Him.

Bringing one back covers a multitude of sins. I use to think this meant mine, but I realize it is the sins of the one who walked away. (James 5:20).

Basically this is a command, but one that we do out of love and duty; a deep sense of obligation and humble thankfulness. Our goal should be to take as many people with us.

You see in most movies the hero is trying desperately to save everyone from the villain. We are the heroes and Satan is the ultimate villain. How are we doing in the battle? Life takes on new meaning in this new context.

It takes commitment to God.

It takes commitment to the church.

It takes giving your whole self to God so He can transform you.

It takes having a Godly love.

It takes having a Godly passion.

It takes having a Godly world view.

This view is that all people are worth and need this salvation

II Peter 3:9 not wanting any to perish!!!

John 3:16-21 / I John 3:16 we know love because Jesus laid down His life for us and we are to lay down our lives for our brothers.

When we come to partake of communion today, I want you to take this with a deep sense of awe. God laid down His life, are you willing to go so others may have what you have? Lay down your life in service to helping others know Him. This is not a job just for the professional clergy.

Many complain about the size of the church. Many complain that we cannot do certain things. They want us to move. If we all reached out, like we are commanded, then all these felt problems would disappear so that we can help people with real problems of a sinful life and coming unto a full knowledge of a life in Christ Jesus.