



Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: “God authorized and commanded me to commission you: **Go** out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I’ll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age.” – Matthew 28:18-20 (*The Message*)

GO: THE BOOK OF ACTS

After the departure of Jesus, the disciples could have hidden in fear to protect themselves, or scattered and returned to the comfort of what they knew. But they didn’t. They followed the instructions of Jesus to go and share the way of God with others as Jesus had shared with them. And they changed the world. This is the purpose and mission of God’s church. Are we ready to *GO*?

You have a part to play!

APR 14

GO: WITNESS

Acts 1:1-11

As Luke begins the story of what happened to the followers of Jesus, he shares an encounter of the disciples with Jesus before he ascended. The disciples asked a question: "Is this it? Is the kingdom now to be restored?" Jesus told them that the details of when were not their concern. Their roles were to be witnesses for Jesus!

Our mission is to go and witness to the love and way of Jesus!

Monday	Read Luke 24:45-49. What positive ways have you observed followers of Jesus witnessing to God's presence and forgiveness in Jesus?
Tuesday	Read Acts 1:1-5. What do you think it means to be baptized by the Holy Spirit?
Wednesday	Read Acts 1:6-9. Why does being a witness for the love and way of Jesus matter?
Thursday	Read Acts 1:10-11. How do we transition from "standing and looking toward heaven," to moving and living by the promise of Jesus' coming?
Friday	Read Acts 1:12-14. As you are invited to share the love of Jesus, what is in your prayers?
Saturday	Read 1 Peter 3:15. How does knowing Jesus impact your life and give you hope?

CIRCLE Study Questions:

1. What are ways of witnessing that turn people away from the love of Jesus?
2. Why does witnessing to the love of Jesus matter?
3. Pastor Brian said in this week's message, "We invite, God saves. We witness, the Holy Spirit transforms." What do these statements mean to you?
4. What do you want people to know about Jesus and about the church?
5. The foundational statement of this sermon series is: "You have a part to play!" How does that make you feel? Excited? Nervous? Scared? Hopeful? Overwhelmed? And why?

FaithFit Challenge:

With your Clay circle/small group, family, or a spiritual friend, share your answers to these 2 questions. 1) How have you come to know about God, God's love, and the way of Jesus? 2) What impact has the love of Jesus and the presence of the church made in your life, and/or what difference does knowing the love of Jesus make in your life today?