

Principle 42

The True Mission of the Church

The closing Words of Jesus Christ to His early disciples for their mission of making disciples of the Nations has also become the mission of the Church in China.⁹³⁴ Even the newest converts in the underground Church get the immediate burden to tell everyone of the great Savior of China and the world. [Every Christian is encouraged to witness daily and do the work of an evangelist.⁹³⁵] Therefore they do not just rely on a special few as missionaries but the entire underground Church of China is a throbbing missionary movement spreading the glorious Gospel of our Lord.

In many countries, we have special times to promote the need for missions and the spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Yet do we have the same burden for this mission as the early disciples did? May we learn that the entire Church, meaning every one of us, is a missionary called to spread this Good News to everyone in the Nations of the world.⁹³⁶

The underground Church in China has flourished and grown under the continual guidance and dynamic leading of the Holy Spirit of God. May God birth a similar movement all over the world apart from any specific denomination or church. May God

raise up all in the body of Christ to be active,⁹³⁷ unified⁹³⁸ and growing⁹³⁹ in the Good News of our risen Lord.

In China there is an urgency to share the Good News with others. The thinking is simply that they have received such a wonderful Gospel, so how could they keep silent and not share it with others. You can almost hear the believers saying: "Hurry Up! Hurry Up! Let's share this Good News with everyone!" It is not surprising therefore that God birthed in the hearts of these simple Chinese rural farmers a strategy to share the Gospel to every closed country westward of China. Some Chinese believers are going out without any provision or money but trusting in the Lord so that they can share the Good News with others.

We have much to learn from this example of the urgency to share this Good News given to us in God's Son. The Holy Spirit is reminding us to learn from the Chinese Church and encouraging each one of us to start witnessing.

Remember, you are witnessing to a living soul where the Word says: "What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?"⁹⁴⁰ The soul has a greater value than all the gold, all the diamonds, all the oil, all the money in the world. Furthermore, all the angels in heaven rejoice when a sinner comes to God.⁹⁴¹ Moreover, there is a soul

winner's crown laid up for you in heaven which is a great reward for eternity.⁹⁴²

Now please pray and to start with think of five people that do not know Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you an opportunity to give your witness to one or more of the five people. The Holy Spirit will prepare the way.

“Go, not come: The Great Commission says we are to go, not invite people to come to us. We must go to where the lost are, and train the new believers to also go to the lost, into factories, homes, shops and neighborhoods. We must make disciples of all, not just a few. We typically choose whom we want to share the gospel with, trying to pre-judge who might accept it. But God said to share with everyone. We cannot predict who will believe and whom God will use to birth a movement.”⁹⁴³

After you give a witness Satan will immediately come and tell you, that you have failed. He wants to discourage you from ever trying again. We must understand that there might be good soil or bad soil.⁹⁴⁴ Please also understand that maybe you will be planting a seed, or perhaps you are watering a seed or sometimes God will even allow you to *harvest* a soul.⁹⁴⁵ Only the Holy Spirit can change a man's heart—not you. The Holy Spirit will bring the new birth—not you.

In *Luke 10* our Lord gives us some clear steps to follow: “After this the Lord appointed seventy-two

others and sent them two by two ahead of Him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”⁹⁴⁶

We can see in the Word of God, Jesus was led of God to send out workers two by two.⁹⁴⁷ He also encouraged His disciples to pray for workers⁹⁴⁸ in the harvest of souls. Jesus also speaks of the “man of peace”⁹⁴⁹ who is the open door in a local area of where God is working. Simply be open to where God is leading and already working by His Holy Spirit. Lastly, pray for the sick or needs of people. Jesus gives this as a way to see the Good News of the kingdom of God come into a local area. As God touches peoples needs and brings a miracle this will open many hearts to the Lord.

We are God's servants as we witness in love, and with our voices and our very lives. Won't you start now before the night is upon us?⁹⁵⁰ It is Jesus' command and He says to you and me: "If you love Me, keep My commands."⁹⁵¹ And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation."⁹⁵² As one young Chinese believer said: "I love to tell everyone about Jesus. And we must work while we still have the opportunity, because Jesus is coming back soon!"

[Editor's Note: The revival in China continues. Many underground Churches still have an abundance of converts and new Christians joining. The tremendous move of God's Spirit in the rural underground Church in China is evident despite men. As happened in great revivals of the past, men took control and quenched the Holy Spirit. Some of this is starting to happen in the Chinese underground Church. But on the whole there is still a fervency and purity in the Chinese Church that is not found in the West. We must understand that the Church in China is not perfect. Some leaders are now permitting disunity between house Church networks. So one must make it clear that this is a *movement of God* and thus we have much to learn from God working among these believers. It is also true that when men start to add to what *God is doing*, disunity follows. Let us pray that the Lord continues the great revival in China in all areas and that the

Holy Spirit does not withdraw despite imperfect men.]