Go, But Don't Go It Alone

John 14:11-19

¹¹ Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it*.

¹⁵ "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also.

Jesus told his disciples that when He left, they were going to enter into a new experience of God's power and grace.

Through belief in Him and by simply asking, the Father would send the Spirit to be with them, just as He had been with Jesus.

Jesus said that the life of the Spirit would be His life, the presence of the Spirit His presence, and they would never be alone.

John 20:21

²¹So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

If we can see how the Father sent Jesus, we will learn a great deal about how He desires to send us.

Luke 1:35

³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.

First of all Jesus was sent into the world, and was born of God at His natural birth.

John 3:6-7

⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

Jesus ensures that we are truly born again before He sends us. The new birth, alive and bearing fruit, is essential.

Matthew 3:16-17

¹⁶ After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* lighting on Him, ¹⁷ and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Luke 4:14

¹⁴ And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district.

This was the beginning of the ministry of Jesus. He was not the same person as He had been before.

1 Samuel 10:6

⁶ Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you mightily, and you shall prophesy with them and be changed into another man.

This is how Jesus will send us: having been born again, sealed with the Father's love and favor, endued with power from on high, and changed into another man or woman!

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

This is the Great Commission; Jesus sending His disciples into the world to make disciples, as He had done with them.

It seems quite an overwhelming task. But that is not the end of the Commission!

Acts 1:4-8

⁴ Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," *He said*, "you heard of from Me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; ⁸ but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Testimony- moody

Luke 11:13

¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

John 7:38-39

³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified

Jesus has been glorified, the Spirit has been given, and a surrendered asking is all that is left for a believer to receive this gift!

We do need to go, and go we will, but we must not be willing to go it alone. We need the power of the Spirit!

Moody Testimony

One evening, at the close of one of D.L. Moody's messages, two women approached him and told him that they were praying for him. This occurred on several of the evenings that followed, and finally he became a little perturbed about it. "Why do you pray for me? Why don't you pray for these unsaved?" he asked.

They told him that they were praying for him to receive power. He didn't know what they meant, but those words kept bothering him, so finally, he went back to them and asked what they were talking about. They told him that he needed the "baptism of the Holy Spirit." After they explained what they were talking about, he said he wanted to pray with them rather than have them just praying for him. He prayed fervently for this baptism and power. He continue to pray for it on his own.

Not long after that, he was walking the streets of New York and his prayer was answered. In the midst of all the hurried flurry of the city street, he felt the power of God coming upon him. He rushed to a friend's house nearby and asked to

have a room to himself. He stayed in that room for hours and the Holy Spirit came, "filling my soul with such joy that at last I had to ask God to withhold His hand, lest I die on the spot from very joy."

D.L. Moody then went on to be a more effective evangelist who no longer "struggled on" in his own strength. He preached to crowds of tens of thousands and led many more to Christ, without the striving of his earlier days. In his own words, "The sermons were no different, and I did not present any new truths, and yet hundreds were converted. I would not be placed back where I was before that blessed experience.