

Go Into the Whole World

By

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Theme:

This play conveys the fact that we are to go into the whole world and make disciples among all men and how it's impossible for us to do it alone. Supporting the Great Commission Missions Program (or other missions programs) is a great way to play our part in spreading the Gospel throughout the world.

Biblical Reference:

Mark 16:15

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.

Approximate Running Time:

5-10 minutes

Cast of Characters:

Josh: A confused Christian young man. He comes to Beth for some advice on how to apply some scriptural truths he's just discovered. He's very genuine and enthusiastic with his argument.

Beth: A confident Christian young woman. She isn't afraid to help Josh think through the concept he's working through. She is patient and kind to Josh as he presents his case to her.

Scene:

Beth is on stage as the scene opens. She could be reading her Bible or be sitting at the piano or organ. Josh enters and seeks her advice. The scene could move to center stage or stay where Beth is situated.

Josh: Beth, you're just the person I was looking for.

Beth: You were looking for me?

Josh: Yeah, I've got a question for you. Do you have a minute?

Beth: Sure, what's your question?

Josh: I was reading the Bible yesterday and..

Beth: You were reading the Bible?

Josh: Yeah, pastor told me it would be a good thing for us to do so I thought I would give it a try. Did you know that average people can actually read the Bible and understand it?

Beth: Yeah, I knew that.

Josh: It's amazing. Anyway, I was reading this one passage and I just can't believe that God wants us to take it literally. I know that we're supposed to do the things that are in the Bible, but this is just impossible. I just don't get how God could tell us to do it.

Beth: Do what?

Josh: I read that we're supposed to go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all men.

Beth: Yeah, it's called the Great Commission.

Josh: You've heard about it?

Beth: Of course I've heard about it.

Josh: Then you must know that it's just impossible. I mean is God serious?

Beth: Yeah, God is serious.

Josh: But how can I do it? I just don't think it's possible. I mean, do you know how many people there are in Rome alone? Even if I preached like three or four times a day, every day, it would take me a few weeks to preach to everyone here in Rome, and who's to say they'd be willing to come hear me preach. I'm sure there would be a lot who wouldn't come to the church to hear me preach. That would mean that I would have to go to them. I would have to go door to door, preaching to just a few at a time until the whole town heard about God - and who knows how long that would take me.

Beth: That is certainly an interesting approach.

Josh: But that's just one town. Do you know how long it would take me to get through New York State? I mean I was looking at a map the other day and there's like hundreds of towns in this state and I would have to go to every one of those towns and preach in some public place and then follow up with going door to door just to find out if they came to the public place - and if they haven't, then I would have to preach to them individually. Do you realize how long that could take?

Beth: [*Playing along.*] It could take years.

Josh: Exactly. And then I've only gotten through one state. Do you know how long it would take me to get through the Northeastern United States? How about the Midwest? Then I'd still have the southwest, the northwest, the panhandle, and Texas. Did you ever see how big Texas is on a map?

Beth: Yes, I have.

Josh: It's huge. It would take me years just to get through the state of Texas alone. And I haven't even mentioned Alaska, Hawaii, or Puerto Rico.

Beth: Hawaii would be fun, but Alaska's even bigger than Texas.

Josh: I know, and it's not easy to get around Alaska. I'd have to get me a dogsled and a team of dogs. Then I'd have to learn how to drive them before I was even ready to go door to door..

Beth: It could take you months just to learn how to drive a team of dogs.

Josh: I know.

Beth: And so far you've only preached in this country. What's next?

Josh: Canada. I've been thinking about it and I think I'd probably go to Canada next. They're our neighbors to the north and I wouldn't have to learn another language. But it wouldn't be easy. Did you know their country is about the same size as ours?

Beth: Yeah, and the towns in the North Country are really spread out like they are in Alaska. At least your dogsled would come in handy.

Josh: That's a good point.

Beth: Where to next?

Josh: I think I'll head to the Bahamas. I'm sure I'll have enough of the cold tundra and I'll be ready to head to where it's nice and warm.

Beth: What about South America? What about Europe, China, Russia, or Australia.

Josh: You see, that's just my point. The world is a pretty big place and I'm just one guy. How in the world am I supposed to do what God tells me and go into the whole world and preach the gospel? I only know how to speak English. Do you know how many languages people speak in the world today?

Beth: Thousands.

Josh: I'm really not that good at learning new languages. I don't even know how to speak Spanish. How am I supposed to fulfill the Great Commission?

Beth: Do you really want to know?

Josh: Yeah. Do you think you know?

Beth: Yeah, I know. You see, God wasn't talking to just you. He knows that you can't cover the whole globe on your own. He knows that it takes a lot to understand different cultures, not just languages. He knows that it takes time to reach people for Himself.

Josh: But then how can he possibly ask us to do it?

Beth: It's not just us. It's a team effort. You don't have to go into the whole world because there are people who are willing to work alongside of you.

Josh: Do you mean like other people who are willing to take the big trip with me so that they can cover the other side of the street?

Beth: No, I mean thousands who are willing to go to different states and different countries and preach the gospel everywhere they go. I'm talking about people who are trained to speak other languages and understand other cultures. I'm talking about people from all walks of life who have heard the Great Commission and want to play their part, just like you.

Josh: If this is a team effort, and I don't have to go to every country in the world myself, then how do I know what part I'm supposed to play?

Beth: There are two parts for you to play. First, you're supposed to play your part in the culture that God's called you to witness to. It could be here in Rome or it could be somewhere across the world, but you should start here first and see if God's calling you to go elsewhere.

Josh: But God said that we are supposed to go into the whole world. How am I [*emphasize I*] doing that if I stay here in Rome?

Beth: And that's where your second responsibility comes in. You can play a part in the ministry of missionaries all around the world by supporting them financially.

Josh: How do I do that? Do I find out where our missionaries are and send them money?

Beth: Well, you could do that, but that would be really hard. One of the great things about the CMA is that they've done all that for you. When you give to the Great Commission fund and you're giving money to all of the missionaries that the CMA supports throughout the world. You become an integral part of their team by supporting them financially and you're helping to fulfill the Great Commission in the process.

Josh: So, I don't really have to go door to door to the entire world?

Beth: I hate to burst your bubble, but I don't really think that's possible. Do you know how long it would take for you to do something like that? Besides, it's much more practical to support the Great Commission Fund and be a part of the team.

Josh: I am so relieved to hear that. There's only one problem?

Beth: What's that?

Josh: I was really looking forward to learning how to drive a dog sled.

Beth: Well, I'm sure you could plan a vacation and take a class.

Josh: Great. Hey, I've already got my plane tickets.

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