



THE WAYS

You're Sent, Now Go. We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families and our community and in the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

1. What types of things does the word sent imply?

READ Matthew 5:13-16

1. What do salt and light have in common?
2. What is your light and how does it shine?
3. Why does it matter that they see your deeds *and* glorify God?

Scenario: Your life is pretty planned out. Between work, time with your family, some time with friends here and there, regular housework, driving your kids, spending time at your kids activities, etc., there isn't a lot of time when you see people in need. You read the Bible and find that Jesus is always around needy people. Yet when you look at your life, you don't even know where you would find the type of need he heals in your normal week.

1. What need is there in the people you interact with weekly?
2. How can you balance being a good spouse/parent/friend with being sent? Can you?
3. Is there a call in being sent to get outside your normal week? Why/why not?
4. What could it look like for you to more actively use your life as a blessing to those in need?

In any given week you spend about 50x more time outside of the church than in the church *and that is a good thing*. Weekly that's 95 hours to talk with co-workers; love your children as Jesus does; talk with parents on the sidelines; stop your car to help someone with a flat; share a meal for a homeless person; or anything you want. Rarely, do we think of being sent as our priority. It gets drowned out by our other responsibilities, but it is in those 95 hours where the work and glory and beauty of God is experienced and declared. *You're Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY TOGETHER. (Pray God would show you what He is calling you to.)

DAILY Devotional

MONDAY: *READ:* Gen. 12:2-3. *THINK:* It is true that God wants to bless you and true that He only wants the best for you, but you are not just blessed by God for yourself. Through Abram, all nations of the earth will be blessed. God put him in a special place and blessed him to be a blessing. God has done the same with you. He has blessed you for a purpose and wants you to bless others. *You're Sent, Now Go.* *PRAY:* the Spirit would show you where you can be a blessing.

TUESDAY: *READ:* 1 Chr. 16:24. *THINK:* Our Lord has done marvelous things. Historically He has walked alongside and guided the Israelites; He has died on the cross for us; and the Spirit has come to indwell and empower us. His actions, though, are not relegated to the past. Each of us has a story to tell of God's goodness and grace that we can't keep to ourselves. Your stories of God's work could be just what someone needs. *You're Sent, Now Go.* *PRAY:* and thank God for the places He has shown himself to be good, mighty, or caring in your life.

WEDNESDAY: *READ:* Matt. 28:16-20. *THINK:* We affirm that we are sent because Jesus sent us. Just as He sent the disciples, He sends each of us to help people draw close to God and follow after Him. You don't make disciples in service days or missions trips; you make disciples in everyday life. Sent doesn't mean you need to go on a trip. It means you have to live your life, everywhere you go, as if God put you there for a reason. *You're Sent, Now Go.* *PRAY:* the Spirit would alert you and embolden you when you have an opportunity to make disciples.

THURSDAY: *READ:* James 1:26+27. *THINK:* The early church grew at an alarming rate because they took words like this to heart. They cared for the sick and needy and people took notice. What if we started just by owning one need. There are half a million orphans in the world and a million churches. If one family in every other church adopted a child, we could make a huge impact. Consider how God might be calling you. *You're Sent, Now Go.* *PRAY:* for the Spirit to show you what needs God desires you to meet.

FRIDAY: *READ:* Mark 2:15-17. *THINK:* Jesus made friends and spent time with people we would normally avoid. Imagine what his ministry would look like if he only spent his time with "Church people." We are here for each other as a church, but we are also put in the lives of people who would never set foot in a church, might be openly hostile towards faith, and are living sinfully to be a blessing to them. *You're Sent, Now Go.* *PRAY:* the Spirit would use you to care for people.

SATURDAY: *READ:* Lev. 19:9-10. *THINK:* When God first gave his law, even in unexpected places, He shows His heart for those in need. Owners are told to keep a margin for the needy to live off. You may not own a field, but you do have a life that could be packed full of stuff. When you begin to build margins, you can care for people who don't easily fit into a schedule. Love people who need it. *You're Sent, Now Go.* *PRAY:* God would use the margins you build to bless others.