

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

JESUS CAME TO SAVE ALL PEOPLE

Luke 4:42-43 “And the people sought Him and came to Him, and would have kept Him from leaving them, but He said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.”

Wherever Jesus went when people heard He was in their community they came in great numbers to hear Him preach, teach and to receive healing, restoration, and His encouragement. Luke says in today’s two verses from chapter four that “the people sought Him and came to Him, and would have kept Him from leaving them. . .” (verse 42)

Wouldn’t you want to have Jesus stay in your community too? He spoke with authority like no one had ever witnessed before. There was no disease He couldn’t cure. He could restore the use of body parts that had not worked for years. With Him staying in their community their life would have been so much better than it was.

“ . . .but He (Jesus) said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.” (verse 43) In His all-embracing love God sent Jesus to earth to save all people, not a select few or a couple of communities. All people, not just the people of Nazareth or Capernaum needed to hear the Good News message Jesus proclaimed and taught.

Jesus did not come into the world to save just you, your family, loved ones, friends and acquaintances. The Good News, the Gospel, the saving word of the Holy Scriptures you have received and meditate upon daily are not just for you. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 says, “First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

God has called you to faith in Jesus for your personal salvation. But He also has called you, chosen you in order to have you share with others what He has given

you. Jesus says, “Go and make disciples of all nations. . .” (Matthew 28:18) He further says, “. . . you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) This is how the ministry of Jesus goes forth “to other towns as well” even to this day and until His return.

Prayer: Fill my heart, O Lord, with Your Good News and lead me to those with whom You want me to share it. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Church of God, elect and glorious, Holy nation, chosen race;
Called as God’s own special people, Royal priests and heirs of grace:
Know the purpose of your calling, Show to all His mighty deeds;
Tell of love that knows no limits, Grace that meets all human needs.

God has called you out of darkness Into His most marv’lous light;
Brought His truth to life within you, Turned your blindness into sight.
Let your light so shine around you That God’s name is glorified
And all find fresh hope and purpose In Christ Jesus crucified.

Once you were an alien people, Strangers to God’s heart of love;
But He brought you home in mercy, Citizens of heav’n above.
Let His love flow out to others, Let them feel a Father’s care;
That they too may know His welcome And His countless blessings share.

Church of God, elect and holy, Be the people He intends;
Strong in faith and swift to answer Each command your Master sends:
Royal priests, fulfill your calling Through your sacrifice and prayer;
Give your lives in joyful service— Sing His praise, His love declare.
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