

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).*

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## WHEN JESUS SAID “GO”

*John Edwards*

On a number of occasions Jesus said, “Go”. This small word can change the whole world. Let’s take a look at some instances when Jesus said, “Go”.

### GO THE EXTRA MILE.

Jesus taught, “*And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain*” (Mt. 5:41). This is about people going beyond the call of duty (Lk. 17:10).

**GO AND LEARN.** Jesus told the Pharisees, “*But go ye and learn what that meaneth...*” (Mt. 9:13). Learning is important! There are many things God wants us to learn. We must learn to fear God (Dt. 4:10), learn God’s law (Ps. 119:73), learn of Christ (Mt. 11:29), and learn to be content (Phil. 4:11).

**GO PREACH.** Jesus gave the word “go” to the apostles. “*Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature*” (Mk. 16:15). The apostles went and the gospel reached “*all the world*” (Col. 1:6, 23). We must also go that the lost may see!

**GO DO LIKEWISE.** After telling about the good Samaritan

(Lk. 10:30-35), Jesus instructed, “*Go, and do thou likewise*” (Lk. 10:37). This has to do with going “*about doing good*” (Acts 10:38). We must not forsake others in time of need!

**GO AND BRING FORTH FRUIT.** Jesus commanded, “*...that ye should go and bring forth fruit...*” (Jn. 15:16). The Lord expects His people to be fruit-bearing. We bear fruit by abiding in Jesus (Jn. 15:2-5). Are you in Christ?

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## “I MUST BE ABOUT MY FATHER’S BUSINESS”

*John Edwards*

Jesus said, “*How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?*” (Lk. 2:49). This statement teaches us some valuable lessons.

**“I”.** Jesus was personally involved in the Father’s business. We need to learn that the Father’s business is an individual affair. Some are so concerned about what others are doing that they neglect their own responsibility. I must make sure I am doing that which is right.

**“MUST”.** This is the strongest word in the English

language. Jesus did not say, I might, could or should. He said, “*I must*”. This statement shows the importance of the Father’s business. We need to be firmly determined to do the will of God.

**“BE ABOUT”.** These words indicate there is work to do. Jesus did not even allow family ties to keep Him from being about (Lk. 2:48). We must not allow anything to keep us from doing the Father’s work. The apostle Paul urged Christians to be about. He said, “*...be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...*” (1 Cor. 15:58).

**“MY FATHER’S”.** Jesus had a personal relationship with God. He referred to God as “*my Father*”. Can you call God your Father? When you obey the gospel, you become a child of God and He is your Father (2 Cor. 6:18). We need a close relationship with God.

**“BUSINESS”.** The Father has a business. The Father’s business is the soul-saving business! We must remember this is His work and He has no hands, but our hands to do His work today. Are we actively involved in the Father’s business?

Will we say as Jesus said, “*I must be about my Father’s business*”?

## **“SEEMETH IT BUT A SMALL THING...”**

*John Edwards*

Take your Bible and read Numbers 16. Moses asked Korah, who led a rebellion against Moses and Aaron, “*Seemeth it but a small thing...?*” (v. 9). Korah and his men were not content with God’s size. Let’s take this phrase and make application.

**FOR ELDERS TO OVERSEE THE FLOCK AMONG THEM?** God has limited the oversight of elders. Peter exhorted elders, “*Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof...*” (1 Pet. 5:1-2). To some elders this is too small. There are elders today who seek to oversee work beyond “*...the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers...*” (Acts 20:28). Elders must be content with God’s size.

**FOR DEACONS TO SERVE THE CHURCH?** God has arranged for men to serve the church as deacons (1 Tim. 3:8-13). A deacon is a servant. Deacons serve the local church

under the elders and assist them in their work. But, for some deacons this seems like a small thing. Some try to take over the eldership and do the work of the elders. Deacons must be content with God’s size.

**FOR PREACHERS TO PREACH THE WORD?** God has charged preachers with the responsibility of preaching the word (2 Tim. 4:2). This is a sacred charge! Yet, some preachers think this is small. Some seek more authority than God has given them. Many preach everything but the word. Preachers must be content with God’s size.

**FOR THE CHURCH TO CARE FOR ITS NEEDY?** The work of the church involves the work of benevolence. This work is very limited in the Bible. Benevolence is limited to needy, worthy saints (Acts 2:44-45; 11:27-30; Rom. 15:25-26). To some this may seem too small. Some churches have turned to unlimited benevolence. Helping everybody in this way is not the business of the church. The church must be content with God’s size.

**FOR THE CHURCH TO**

**WORSHIP AS CHRIST DIRECTS?** Since Christ is the head of the church (Eph. 1:21-23), we must worship as He directs. Christ has directed that we teach (Acts 20:7), pray (Acts 12:5), sing (Eph. 5:19), observe the Lord’s supper (1 Cor. 11:23-29), and give (1 Cor. 16:1-2). To some this seems like a small thing. Today, many folks want to add things they like and want to worship. We must be content with God’s size.

**FOR THE LORD TO SAVE ONLY THOSE WHO OBEY HIM?** The Lord is “*...the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him*” (Heb. 5:9). To some this seems too small. Many think God is too good and loving to send anyone to torment, and believe in a universal salvation. I must be content with God’s size and be obedient that I might be saved!

The rebellion of Korah was not a small thing. The earth opened her mouth and swallowed them up (Num. 16:32-33). Whenever we go beyond the authority of Christ, “*Ye take too much upon you...*” (Num. 16:3).

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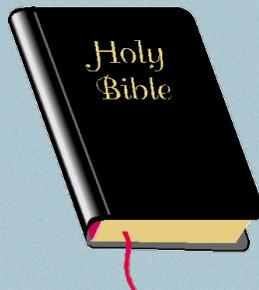
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[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,  
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