



#5140

## GO YE! GO YE!

(Begin by singing *Here I Am, Lord* or *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling* LW 318, TLH 496)

**Proclaimer:** Go ye! Go ye!

**Reluctant Witness One:** Who? Me? I don't know enough about the Bible to witness.

**Proclaimer:** All you need to know is the basic Gospel message of the Bible. Jesus died for our sins. Believing in Jesus Christ, we receive eternal life. Salvation is a gift from God. There is nothing that we can do to earn heaven ourselves. Ephesians 2:8-9 explains it all: *For it is by grace you have been saved. Through faith and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.* Memorize and understand this verse and you will be able to witness effectively for your Savior.

(Sing chorus of *Go into the World* - #101 *All God's People Sing*)

**Proclaimer:** Go ye! Go ye!

**Reluctant Witness Two:** Who? Me? I get all tongue-tied when I try to speak to people I don't know.

**Proclaimer:** Then witness to people you do know. Do you have family, friends and neighbors who don't know Jesus as their Savior? Speak to them. In John 14:26 Jesus told his disciples: *But the Counselor the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.* Jesus promises to help us know what to say.

(Sing chorus of *Go into the World*)

**Proclaimer:** Go ye! Go ye!

**Reluctant Witness Three:** Who? Me? I am not young enough or healthy enough to go to a foreign country and live in the conditions I have heard some missionaries speak about.

**Proclaimer:** Then give of your money to support those who are able to go there. Some missionaries depend on direct donations to support themselves and their families while preaching to those who live far from here. Fill those Mite Boxes and say a prayer for missionaries each time you drop in some money. Paul often requested that the believers pray for him and in the fourth chapter of Philippians, he thanks the church at Philippi for the gifts they sent him. In verse 18 he says, *I have received full payment and even more; I am amply*

*supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. Our gifts to missionaries today are just as needed and appreciated. (Sing chorus of Go into the World)*

**Proclaimer:** Go ye! Go ye!

**Reluctant Witness Four:** Who? Me? I don't know anybody who does not go to church. Everyone I associate with goes to church somewhere.

**Proclaimer:** Then witness to those within your church who perhaps need some encouragement. Most Christians have ups and downs in their faith. During those down times, they need to have someone reassure them of God's love and goodness. Ask your pastor for suggestions for Scripture and devotional materials to share with those who are ill or lonely. Many times even those who seem to be just fine need to be reassured of God's love. In Hebrews 3:13-14 the Bible tells us, *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.* So we are commanded to share God's love even with those who already know Him. We need to strengthen each other daily so that we will all grow stronger in our faith in Jesus.

Each and every one of us knows someone who needs to hear God's Word. God has commanded us to witness both at home and away. When we think of how much God loved us, that He gave his only Son to die for us so that we can go to heaven and live eternally with Him, we are so excited and so grateful that we cannot help but tell others and share the good news with everyone we meet. In Acts 4:20, even though Peter and John had been arrested for preaching and teaching about Jesus, they told the Sanhedrin, *For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.* Since we do not need to fear imprisonment for witnessing for Christ, we should be even more eager and willing to share the Good News' with others.

**Prayer:** (by Proclaimer and Witnesses) Dear Father in heaven. We ask Your forgiveness for each time we have failed to witness of Your great love for us sinners. We pray that You will send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts to strengthen our faith and our love for You so that we, too, can honestly say, "We can't help but speak of the great things God has done for us!" Help us to share the Good News with everyone around us so that all may know that Jesus died for our sins and that He has a place waiting in heaven for those who believe in Him. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

(Sing entire song *Go into the World*)

*(Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version)*

GO YE! GO YE! - written by Miriam Neumann

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