

## Witnesses

What is our purpose? Why are we here? What are God's people supposed to be doing? What is our calling from God? Jesus tells us what we are supposed to be doing many different times in the Gospels, as we carry on His work in the world today. In the book of Acts we also hear one very clear statement about our life-mission from Jesus.

*“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses telling people about me **everywhere**—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)*

Everywhere! That pretty much covers it all, doesn't it? All places, all times, all groups of people, etc. That would include the “villes” of Grasonville, Stevensville, and Centreville. And the “tons” of Easton and Denton. And the “towns” of Queenstown and Chestertown. As well as places like Haiti and India.

Everywhere! I guess we should throw in there other people too, like our families, our friends, our neighbors, our co-workers, our teammates, our political allies, and the like.

Everywhere! While were at it, shouldn't we also include our enemies and others we don't much like?

I think we get the idea. Witnesses... Everywhere!

The amazing thing is that this ragtag bunch of nobodies from nowhere actually did it and changed the world! They began a love and truth movement that has endured time, cultural

rivalries, geographical distances, persecution, martyrdom wars, apathy, and misunderstanding.

You see, when the Holy Spirit animates and motivates Jesus' people, we are compelled by His love to care about others. We then don't think in terms of “us and them” any longer. Rather, we seek to reach out and include, to reconcile and serve—to bless others. We strive to not count men's sins against them, but to forgive and accept others. To teach and train others to be Jesus disciples too. All others. Everywhere! (2 Corinthians 5)

Two of the Gospels end with Jesus telling Jesus His disciples to “Go....”

Go do what? Be witnesses of the Good News!

Go to whom? Everyone!

Go where? Everywhere!

But it'll only work if we are yielded to, guided by, and empowered with the Holy Spirit. Are you allowing Him to carry you through life and direct your steps?

*“You are not controlled by flesh but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.... those led by the Spirit are sons of God.” (Romans 8:9-14)*

### Prayer

Father, I'm a mess without you! I tend to be selfish. I tend to stick to my own concerns. I tend to seek what is easiest and most comfortable. I hang around people just like me. And, all the while, the World dies!

Empower me, Father. Embolden me through your Holy Spirit to Go.... to Go along everywhere in life being a witness of Jesus and the eternal kind of life only He can give.

I ask this through my Risen Lord, Amen.

Scott