

March 11, 2012
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Monday

[Luke 14:23](#) "The master said, 'Go out into the highways and along the hedges, and compel them to come in, so that my house may be filled.'"

Perhaps we have just forgotten. Perhaps we are simply disobedient. Perhaps we are complacent. Be that as it may, the commands of the Lord to "go out," and to "bring them in," are clear and sure. We find the command in parables. We find the command in the great commission (go and make disciples). We find the command in *Acts* (and you shall be my witnesses to the uttermost parts). We find the command displayed in the life of the Apostles and early church. **STREET SHOE SUNDAY** will be a clear indication that we care, we are obedient, we remember.

Tuesday

[Acts 1:8](#) He said to them, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses."

You and I will not be effective witnesses even if we determine to band together in the strength of a team effort. Nope. It won't happen that way. The only effective witness of the Gospel is that which is empowered by God! Now here's the good news. Every believer is promised God's power in witness. "**You shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit is come upon you and **you shall be my witnesses!**" What you cannot do of your own strength God will accomplish **in His strength** through you. The "through you" is essential. God has chosen to win the world through your witness empowered by His Spirit! Now GO!

Wednesday

[Matt. 10:5](#) These twelve Jesus **sent** out after instructing them...

[Luke 10:1](#) The Lord appointed seventy others, and **sent** them in pairs...

Look at the pattern of God's story. He called the 12 and he sent them out. Through them He accomplished a great witness and miracles. He called the 70 and He sent them out. Guess what? They reported that they saw Satan humiliated by their witness. Then he called the whole church and sent them out. The whole book of *Acts* is a recounting of God's power and salvation accomplished through that witness. Now, you are a part of the church and God is calling you and sending you. The pattern is clear. Those obedient will see the work and wonders of God.

Thursday

[Luke 10:17](#) The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

Check this out! When the 70 returned they were astonished that even the devil's army was subject to them—in Jesus' name! This is the power and authority with which the obedient witness is sent. Remember, you are the church and the gates of hell will not, *will not* prevail against you. This is not a flippant statement. This is a war. There is a strong and powerful enemy. He has captured much territory that belongs to our God. Though the enemy is strong and powerful, your God is omnipotent, all-powerful, and mighty to save. God wins! And so will you!

Friday

[Josh. 1:16](#) They answered Joshua, saying, "All that you have commanded us we will do, and **wherever you send us we will go.**"

One generation died in the wilderness. A different generation entered the Promised Land and enjoyed its bounty. What was the difference? The first generation could not see past the challenges of entrance. Though knowing the promises of God, they refused to follow the command of the Lord to "GO!" The second generation saw all the same difficulties, maybe even more, but they focused upon their God rather than their difficulties. God said, "GO! Therefore we will GO!" Attitude and action are both important. The second generation encouraged one another to obedience. The first generation had discouraged one another with their words of woe. The second generation won. The first generation was lost to the wilderness.