

Gv4337 Total or Token Commitment (Acts 1v8)

by George Verwer

George Verwer emphasizes the importance of total commitment to missionary work, prayer, and fasting, and the need to reach unreached peoples in the world.

Duration: 43:29

Scripture: Acts 1:8, Romans 15:20, 2 Corinthians 10:16

Topics: "Commitment"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker shares his burden for reaching the unreached people of the world with the Gospel. He recounts his personal journey of being partly saved through reading the Gospel of John before he was even saved. He talks about his involvement with the Pocket Testament League and how he started showing their films and raising money to buy Gospels for distribution. The speaker emphasizes the importance of mobilizing young people to spread the word of God and highlights the need for more workers in reaching the forgotten and unreached nations. He references 2 Corinthians 10:16 to emphasize the call to preach the gospel in regions beyond.

Transcript

Okay, let's now get into the message and let's start at Acts 1:8. Very familiar, we're not going to be there long. Those of you who have been around a while know a lot of these texts. You be in much prayer.

What's the Lord trying to say through some of these same old texts? Acts 1:8. But ye shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, in all Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost part of the earth. I want you to look at two other references. 2nd Corinthians 10:16.

When I was a baby Christian, converted in high school, I'm going to share about that tomorrow night, please don't just bring friends tomorrow night. Please bring enemies. Tomorrow night is going to be partly evangelistic.

We have them coming in, I believe, from the local prison. You got any rock stars? You know, anybody that's against Prairie Bible Institute? Probably not possible in Canada, but bring them in. Tell them a complete nutcase has parachuted in from nowhere, and get them in here.

I'm going to share my testimony, how God saved me in New York City, and we're going to have an exciting time, and maybe some people will come to know Jesus. Some of our best workers on the mission field got saved and sent the same night. That's why I prefer to be introduced as an evangelist rather than a missionary, because that's really what I'm into, and we see people saved and sent the same night.

Amazing. I think of Krista Eicher. She was Krista Fisher when I first met her.

Escaped from East Germany, tried West Germany, the nightlife, Paris, the nightlife, London, another language, nightlife, Italy, more fun, kicks, games. Arrived in Madrid, thought I had a job, came to me for work. I said, I don't have any work.

Here's a book. Gave her a book by Billy Graham. She got saved and sent same week, been with us ever since.

That's 24 years. Went out to India, went up to Turkey first, then went to India, went to Bible College in India, married a young man born in India, became the director of OM. He's an MK, Ray Eicher, and they've been there ever since.

He's the director of OM India, leading three to four hundred people into battle in that land of 700 million souls. So who knows what may happen here tomorrow night. But let's look at those two other references, 2nd Corinthians 10:16, I haven't got to it yet, and Romans 15:20.

I think I'll read Romans 15:20 first. This is a very interesting little verse. Yea, this is Paul speaking.

Yea, so I have strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named. Now that's important. I want you to get that.

I was sharing how, as a young baby Christian, I learned to mark my Bible. Two things I learned that revolutionized my Bible study. Memorize Scripture and mark the Scriptures.

MM. Memorize and mark. And that helped me so much, because as a young Christian, I had so many problems, so many struggles.

And memorizing Scripture just was a major factor in God changing my life. So I have strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named. Now that doesn't mean everybody has to have that motto.

Not everybody's the Apostle Paul. Not everybody is being called to that and led into that same ministry. Some of you have been called to teach at prairie.

Fine. You don't have to, you don't have to feel intimidated because you can't say as Paul, I have strived to preach the gospel where Christ has not been named. I don't think Three Hills quite fits into that category.

You don't have to be intimidated by that. All you have to do is believe that certainly this is very important, in terms of the whole overall strategy of God. Therefore there should be many people today who can say this and are saying this.

And of course this was one of the purposes of founding this institution in the first place. Then look at 2nd Corinthians 10:16. 2nd gospel, again Paul is writing, in the regions beyond you.

And not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand. I think it's clear in some of the modern translations. Now today we have many voices, right? And one of the reasons I am in Europe, and God transplanted me to Europe just 25 years ago last month, is because I felt Europeans needed a greater missionary challenge.

To go to their own people, to go to their neighboring countries. Some of you know my friend God smuggler, Brother Andrew. Tonight you've got God's bungler, Brother George.

That's me. You know that term? The guy who blew it. I also went into the Soviet Union with Gospels hidden in the cornflakes boxes and in the walls of the car with a printing press hidden under the dashboard.

And due to my gifted stupidity, I was arrested on the second day by the Soviet secret police. And after talking to me about a holiday program in Siberia, decided to exile me from the Soviet Union or kick me out. And it was during a day of prayer, after coming out of the Soviet Union, that God brought these two words to my mind.

The early name of our work when we first worked in Mexico and Spain was called Send the Light. Interesting you chose that hymn this afternoon. But it was there in a tree, praying and worshiping God in a day of prayer and fasting, that God brought two words to my mind.

Operation Mobilization. He gave me a vision, not a technicolor stereophonic vision, but an idea that I sensed as I prayed was from him. I've been giving out tracts in Vienna and it was a long process trying to reach all Vienna with the Gospel.

And I thought, I saw this British young people's group, just sort of there having fun. They were staying in the same youth hostel. And I thought, if I could mobilize, and it was around that time that term came into my mind, that young people's group, it would be a lot easier to give everybody in the world, everybody in Vienna, the Word of God.

That's when God gave me. I was living in Spain at that time. I spoke Spanish.

I'd been laboring in Mexico, going there during my summer holidays when I was a student. But that's when I just got a great vision for Britain. Already quite a missionary country, but in those days it was weakening a little bit.

British missionary leaders were looking to America. A number of them had immigrated to America and Canada. And missions was getting stronger here.

And God gave me this burden to see Europeans playing a major role in world missions. Frenchmen, Belgians, Germans, Swedes, Norwegians, Spaniards, Italians. And that's the story of Operation Mobilization.

A story of Europeans, the first OM, there were hardly any Americans at all, much less Canadians. Europeans launching out about 200 that first summer. Then the word spread over here in Canada and the States, and we brought home over that summer one charter plane full of Americans and Canadians.

And they, of course, after that also continued to play a major role in a movement that became basically rooted in Europe. And I just want to tell you, God is doing more in Europe than many of us seem to think.

And even sometimes missionaries from Europe, I tend to feel, give a very false picture.

Because today some of the greatest missionaries I know are Europeans. And they are doing a tremendous job. They don't always have the same numbers.

But do not think that Europe is just a mission field. It is a mission field. One of the reasons I'm there.

But it is also a sending field. And today in world missions we need people who are going to work hand-in-hand as brothers with Europeans, with Asians, and with Africans, as we have seen the internationalization of world missions. I think of the words of the Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 9. The harvest is plenteous, the labors are few.

And I think that's still true today. There are many countries I would like to talk about, but I want to somehow put across that there are certain sectors of the world now that have received a lot of attention. We thank God for that.

They still need specialized personnel. But they have received a lot of attention. And I think since we are one body, even though you may be a missionary from one of those countries and feel still your country is the most important and the country of the greatest need, naturally that's where you're from, you must be willing to at least think with me about some other places.

Would you do that? Before you feel intimidated that you may lose a recruit for your country because he catches a vision for one of the countries that I am trying to represent. Who am I representing? There are many voices. Praise the Lord for all the voices.

God by His Spirit can put it all together. Next week somebody may get up and give the challenge for South America. Someone else may give the challenge for doing hospital work in Kenya, the highest missionary per capita nation almost in the world.

Praise the Lord. God can put it all together. There are different voices.

There are different challenges. Today in America, really from what I hear, the main thing we should all do is fight abortion. That's right.

We are putting more effort now, at least in the States, I don't know much so much about Canada, in the fighting abortion certainly than we are, it seems to be, in fighting world missions. And there's nothing wrong with that. I'm also wanting to fight abortion.

So there are many voices. There are the political voices that are telling us that Christians need to get involved more in politics. There are the refugee starvation voices telling us that as Christians we are old-fashioned.

If we're just interested in giving out tracts and preaching the gospel, now we got to talk about the kingdom. A lot of theological journals, aren't they now, talking about the kingdom. What do they mean by that? Some of them mean that we as, as Christians, we fundamentalists or evangelicals or whatever we want to call ourselves, we have got to get with it.

We got to think more about the whole man, the whole man. And so we feel intimidated, those of us who are old-fashioned. We're supposed to be old-fashioned.

Those of us who still feel we ought to go out around the world and preach the gospel and see people saved. Those of us who are still crazy enough to believe in giving out tracts. We even believe in giving them out so much in OM that I think we distributed about 20 million tracts last year.

That isn't the main work of OM. But you see, we believe that men are lost. There's a book on that table about the lostness of men.

If it's not there tonight, it'll be there tomorrow. It's probably in your bookshop. Something along the line of God, is that fair? That was the greatest struggle for me.

My first year, before I went to Bible College, I was at a liberal arts college that was largely anti-Bible, anti-evangelical. The perfect environment for a rebel, radical, outspoken, red-hot Billy Graham convert like me. And the more cold water, the philosophy teacher, the sociology teacher, the Bible teacher, with his 68 theories of Isaiah, poured on me, the hotter I got.

The water turned into steam, prayer meeting started, and Operation Mobilization was really had its second birth in that liberal arts college before it ever went to Moody. But I am convinced that you are going to have to wrestle through this issue. Are men really lost? And I thank God for this institution, that you stand firm on the biblical basis of the doctrine of hell.

It's not easy. We don't like it. We're human beings.

But it's what we find in the Scriptures. Dale Rotom, when he and I've been together 28 years, somebody once said, he's got the brains and Verwer's got the mouth. Hallelujah, we've exchanged a little bit over the years.

We met at that liberal arts college. What a meeting that was. You know, God can put people together and God is going to put you together in some lifetime relationships here at Prairie.

But when I got to this particular college, somebody came to me and they said, look, we want to just warn you about this little group that's having prayer meetings for the faculty. I said, oh yeah, there's a guy there, Rotom, Dale Rotom, and he's baptizing people in the showers. He's a complete fanatic.

You can be sure the first guy I was looking for was Dale Rotom. I met him walking home from church and we have been together for 28 years. He pioneered Turkey.

That's why we've got this book. He pioneered our work in the communist countries. He then took a year in the States and decided to launch back.

He's now the director of both of our ocean going ships, the MV Lagos and the MV Dulos. Has Dale got up here to Prairie yet? You must lasso him in up here. Just helps bring me into balance.

He's pragmatic, calm, level-headed, you know. He's been my Nathan. He would sit in the back when I was preaching and, you know, after the meeting people would come up to me, praise the Lord, Brother Merrill, what a great message.

Oh, praise the Lord, God's spoken to me. I'd get to Brother Dale. He'd say, George, when you have time, I'd like to have a chat with you.

I knew what was coming. And he'd take me aside. He'd say, George, you know, God's using you.

You know, he'd set me up. God's using you, you know. But, you know, what you said the other night in the meeting, you know, was it, was it really, was that exactly true the way you said it? Well, you know, sometimes those of us who are subject to excitement say things that are not, you know, exactly.

Sometimes we just dramatize a little bit. None of you, of course, level-headed, calm, farmer-type Canadians have these problems. But we do.

We do. But I can assure you, I can assure you that there are other parts of the world where the gospel is not going. And that's what I want to represent.

That's what I want to represent tonight. I don't want to leave anybody else out, but I have to do what I sense God would have me do. Who do I represent? Let me, let me tell you who I'm going to represent.

I can't represent them all tonight. I'm short of time. I want to represent the Afghan people.

I've just been among them again there in the refugee camps. Afghanistan is a nation at war. Afghanistan is a nation where hundreds of thousands have suffered or been killed.

Now there are three million refugees. And we have a feeble, struggling work. We've been working among these people 17 years.

The leader of our work, Gordon Magney, he's another one I met. We met up at Wheaton College. That was a little later on.

He's been with us 24 years. One of these dynamic, converted lovers of Jesus who came out of that Lutheran background. And he speaks the language fluently.

He was in Kabul for years. Now he's started a new work outside of OM, one of OM's little babies, called Serve, so that other missionaries can come in to serve without going through OM's training. The Afghan people.

How many churches among the Afghan people? We don't know of any. Now would you, would you remember that? Even some of you missionaries to Europe, with all of your statistics on France, all of your statistics on Italy and Spain, three countries, I am also very committed to. We don't have any church yet in Afghanistan.

And maybe in your presentation about Europe, you ought to remember there are places and there are countries today where Europe was 2,000 years ago, brothers and sisters. That's why I believe one of the challenges for Europe, for Frenchmen, for Germans, for Swedes, for Norwegian, even Spaniards and Italians, is go out to the Afghan people. And I am praying that from Prairie Bible Institute and this weekend, there will be some recruits for the Afghan people.

I represent them because they don't have any other representatives here, and I like to represent the minority groups. The second group I want to talk to you about are the Baluch people. Now some of these names may not mean much.

The Baluch people are a couple of million strong, don't have all the statistics handy. Some of them are in these cards, some of them are in other books. Praise the Lord, there's been an increased outreach to the Baluch.

Many of them are in Karachi, many of the others are in eastern Pakistan. And we thank God that a few workers are arriving. I've heard of a couple coming with Wycliffe.

There are some others with other missions. Some of those missions are represented here. But there is almost no Baluch church.

There may be a few Baluch believers gathering. See, it seems incredible, doesn't it? Two thousand years since the Great Commission. A lot of people in the United States ten years ago were upset with Ralph Winner.

A lot of missionaries, wherever I talk to them, they're upset with Ralph Winner. Sure, he may overstate his case. Maybe he shoots only one arrow, but that arrow needed to be shot.

Because so much of missionary work was being done among people who were already responding and where the church already existed. I might not agree with Ralph on everything. Maybe you don't either.

Praise God for compassionate disagreement among Christians. It's the only way you can survive. But I thank God for the vision God has given him and many others.

Some not so well known. It's not really a new thing. Brother Maxwell, who founded this institution, had that vision.

Just used different vocabulary when he wrote his old book, *World Missions, Total War*. We must continue to press toward the front. We must continue to give a sector of our missionary recruits to the unreached places, like the Baluch people.

What about the Kurdish people? There are millions of Kurds. They have no nation. They want a nation.

They have a much better cause than many other people who are claiming to want a nation. The Kurdish people in Turkey are persecuted. They're not allowed to have their language.

They're not allowed to have literature in Kurdish in Turkey. Did you know that? The Kurdish people have almost no church. What about the Turks themselves? I mentioned a book about Turkey.

When you speak about this in the United States, people think you're talking about Thanksgiving Day. They don't even grasp that there is a nation called Turkey. There are also more Turkic peoples.

This peoples group and its many subdivisions living outside of Turkey than in Turkey. Many of them in the Soviet Union. Some of them in China.

Someone we're very close to has just taken a trip into China. The facts they've brought back about Muslim peoples groups in China. Some of them I can't even pronounce them all yet.

In case some of you think I'm a peoples group expert. I'm not a peoples group expert. Too much of my time is reaching all these people to become an expert.

But I know enough to just feel so burdened about all this. And to wonder why there are not more workers, even from great places like this, that are not moving in this direction. Turkey has 40 million souls.

You know, we never wanted to go to South America in OM. We fought South America, even though I speak fluent Spanish. We fought it.

We thought there's great mission societies going to South America. When I did research on South America as a student, it was the neglected continent. God raised up tremendous missionaries to go to South America.

Raised up a tremendous church. I mean, the church in Brazil is phenomenal. The church in Argentina.

That doesn't mean there isn't more work to be done. That doesn't mean there aren't problems, extremes, and morality. My, it's just overwhelming.

But when God gave us two ships, somehow we decided to send one of our ships to South America. And when we got there, of course, we gave the challenge of the unreached people. We gave the challenge of world evangelism.

We had our prayer cards and our maps put into Spanish. You know what we discovered? Many of the South American churches are ready and ripe to become part of the worldwide missionary community. Isn't that exciting? And we, before we knew it, had several hundred Argentinians who wanted to launch out and reach Muslims.

Of course, the churches didn't want to send them, so a lot of them had to stay back in Argentina. But some are coming. Some churches are changing, and we are on the cutting edge of an advance guard move in Latin America.

That is very, very exciting. That's why the ship Lagos has gone down there to follow up on what the Dulas is doing. And I'll tell you, church leaders, many of them in South America and missionaries, are more excited about it than I am.

I was almost opposed to it for a while, because I'm so Asia-oriented and Europe-oriented and communist world-oriented. I thought, how can we add Latin America to OM's over-commitment? Somehow God has done that. Why? Because when the Latin Americans looked at these prayer cards, they read about Mauritania.

Mauritania! Does that mean anything to you? That's not a new sandwich you can get at the local restaurant. It's a nation. And there's no known believer in Mauritania.

Now, you know, am I crazy? In feeling that I must emphasize this, in feeling that I must launch my personal protest movement to protest the fact that these countries are forgotten and neglected, and very few people are going there. Battery's gone. Had me worried for a minute.

I thought he was going to tell me like a man once did, hey, your time's up, sit down. It almost became a neurosis with me for several years. But that seldom happens here.

I won't go much longer, but bear with me, please, because these nations are at stake. Do you think I come here with, you know, a little message in my Bible to give to you? This burden I am sharing with you has been on my mind and my heart almost every day for 31 years. Do you think it's easy to still give the same message I've been given 30 years ago? To still go back to Turkey as I do, and back to the Afghan people as I'll be going back in March, and go back to Pakistan and Nepal and Bangladesh.

I've only just begun to give you some of the facts about the forgotten people, the unreached people. Do you think it's easy to go back and see the tokenism, so few workers, so few are concerned, and then come

back and give the same message? It isn't. One of my books is called Hunger for Reality, and I just say that I share this burden about these people, because it is reality in my heart and in my life.

I live with this night and day. It hit me before I went to Bible college. It hit me when I was in high school.

In fact, before I was saved, I got partly saved through reading a Gospel of John. I started to give money and raise money. I didn't understand anything about prayer yet.

I wasn't saved. I was in the process, and God was using this Gospel. It was sent by a group called Pocket Testament League, so I found out about what they were doing.

They were giving Gospels out. I thought, that's a tremendous work, so I started to show their films in my totally liberal, un-evangelical, anti-fundamental church. I started to show these films and raise money to buy Gospels.

I was still a high school student. If the Bible is true, then characters like me, and I know many of you are in the same camp, praise the Lord we're together in this, then we are right. And those who speak against us, those who try to undermine us, those who try to intimidate us, those who try to subtract, you know, I don't like to be bullheaded, but they're wrong.

And a lot of the present-day drift of American evangelicalism, it's wrong, it's foul, it's less than best, it detracts from the great task that God has given us, to be witnesses in every nation, to every people's group, and to present Christ to all the people of the world. Hudson Taylor said, if to give the Gospel once is not enough, what should we say of not giving them the Gospel at all? Now, you can probably guess that an influential man in my life was Oswald J. Smith. In fact, as we sang this hymn tonight, my mind went back to Moody Church when I was a student at Moody.

Oswald Smith came to speak. He was already getting fairly old. And when he gave the invitation, it was a call to mission, it was a call to repentance.

Though Moody Church was full, no one hardly at all responded. Sometimes you have that kind of a fluke. I'm sure many were spoken to, but no one openly responded.

But when I heard the singing of that hymn, O Zion Haste, I had already been to Mexico, I'd already won hundreds to Christ, I was already considered a student leader, a man of prayer. You know the labels they put on you when you're going anywhere for God, because the church scene and the evangelical scene is such a shambles. Somebody comes along and behaves in a biblical way, we think he's a freak.

But though I was being used of God and I was esteemed as a leader and all this kind of thing and OM was being born, God just humbled me. I saw my lack of love, I saw my lack of vision, I saw my fear. I was still struggling with a lot of fear.

God was pressing me to take another team back to Mexico. I didn't really want to go. I'd never been home to my parents since the day I left at 17 years of age, to any degree.

And I went forward, I was sitting with the woman who later was going to become my wife. I was a human being, I didn't exactly want to stand up in front of her to acknowledge that I was a sinner that needed repentance and go forward. I'd been forward in these kind of meetings before, I don't need to go again.

People think I'm unstable, of course I'm not stable. You think God is going to take some hyper-super-stable, stuck-in-the-mud Alberta phlegmatic and send him out to turn Mongolia upside down for Jesus Christ? You'd rather see geese playing checkers in London. But somehow, as the invitation was given, the Spirit of God convicted me that I needed more and that there was sin in my life and I went forward.

It was disorganized and I went into the room where later the choir came in to change their clothes and I was there weeping because God had broken me. So I went into the basement of Moody Church where no one could find me and I wept my way back to Calvary. And people murmured all over the Moody Church, oh dear me, this unstable, extreme fellow.

Let's pray for him. Others made more derogatory comments. But I tell you, most people that saw this weak, struggling character, most people didn't believe it would go more than two years.

Many of them told me. People said, you can't take on the whole world. You can't live with this kind of burden, this kind of zeal, this kind of intensity.

It doesn't work. You'll blow up. You'll have a nervous breakdown.

Something's going to happen. Well, here I am. Boy, what a joy to come back.

An old clunky like me. Twenty-five years overseas. Never had a nervous breakdown.

I never even got near one. I'm not the kind, not the kind that has a nervous breakdown. I cause them.

Not funny. And we'll get to that when I talk about spiritual balance. Remember I said this message had a few extremes.

But I'll tell you, if we're going to get the job done in the Muslim world, if we're going to penetrate the unreached peoples, and I wish I had time to talk to you about our burden for the communist world, the Soviet Union, Albania, these countries where we need men, we need women, it's going to take some extreme people. I don't think the problem of the average Canadian evangelical is extremism. A.W. Tozer didn't feel this was the greatest problem in the average church.

Tozer thought to think that too much enthusiasm, too much zeal was the greatest problem in the average church was like sending a squadron of policemen out to the cemetery at midnight to guard against a demonstration by the residents. A.W. Tozer, don't go around saying that I said that. It's too extreme for me.

God is looking tonight for some extreme people. Brother Andrew once said to me, it's easier to cool down a fanatic than warm up a corpse. And I would say to you, be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Don't worry about becoming a little bit extreme in the area of prayer. The snow won't melt. Don't worry about becoming a little extreme in giving more time to the Word, more time to missionary books, more time to some of the basic spiritual things spoken about in some of these books like the writings of Andrew Murray.

Balance isn't the first problem. If you're not committed, if you're not wholehearted, if you haven't got zeal, if you haven't got intensity, if you're not on fire for God, there's nothing to balance. I always think of spiritual balance as an airplane with the two beautiful wings going down the runway.

The wings keep that fuselage in balance. And we need balance. And we'll be talking about that probably by Saturday.

But I'll tell you something more strange. You might go to an airport and you see a fuselage going down the runway without any wings. That's strange.

But I'll tell you something more strange. If you go to the runway and you see two wings with nothing in between coming straight at you, you will know you need rest. So my beloved brothers and sisters, I come to you representing the unreached people, the Turkish people, 40 million with less than 200 believers, less than 200 believers among 40 million.

I come to you representing hundreds of unreached people's groups that have no churches, in some cases don't even have any missionaries. People sometimes say, but look, we've heard about the national church. Listen, it's a big world.

It's complicated. We have everything out there. We have strong national churches.

We have weak national churches. We have countries where the national church can do the job. We have other countries where the national church doesn't exist.

Don't generalize. Don't generalize. Study.

Get to know the countries where this kind of work is needed and where the missionary task is half-completed. Get to know the countries where the missionary task has hardly even started. Don't just accept little cliches or slogans.

Study. Read. Get into books like Operation World.

Get into some of the deeper books that you have in your tremendous library. Write to mission societies. Get the facts.

Don't be afraid to ask the hard questions. But when the day is done, you will have to acknowledge that there is a segment, and we're talking about hundreds of millions. India alone, we have 700 million people and just hundreds of unreached pockets in people's groups.

India alone, the subcontinent, which I'm very much involved in, has one billion sold. One thousand million people. It took until 1930s, no 1830s, to get the first billion people in the world.

Did you know that? A thousand million. The entire world, 1830. Now we have that many in the subcontinent.

Yet today, even though places like Pakistan accept Canadians without a visa, we have hardly any Canadians going to Pakistan. And there are 90 million souls. I don't know how many unreached people's groups in Pakistan.

And the door is wide open. You can preach. You can give out literature.

We show films to Muslims. We share with Muslims. I've spent hours in the streets selling books to Muslims, brothers and sisters.

I believe God has brought me here for this purpose, to cry out to you, to recommit yourself to this task, to turn away from any tokenism, and to determine that this should be a priority. Romans chapter 10 says, how shall they preach unless they be sent? Many of you may not sense that God is leading you to go. But with the way the situation is right now, unless we get more sacrificial senders, did you get that little phrase? Unless we get more sacrificial senders and more sending churches that will really make the unreached people a major priority, then many of the young people who even want to go, they will not go.

And let me just tell you young people, some of you already heading in this direction. You're already praying about this. Let me just tell you this, and I'm going to close.

You better learn to fight. You better get in you something of what God put in me when I was a young man. Fight.

And I need time to explain that, but in summarizing, it's stickability, it's spiritual stubbornness, it's knowing where you're going to go and determining no matter how long, no matter how much suffering, how much prayer, no matter how many people you have to persuade or knock out in the process, spiritually speaking, of course, by God's grace, you are going to get there or you're going to be as Oswald J. Smith who said, if you can't go, send others. And some of you who are not able to go and the complexities are tremendous in getting people to the field today, in many cases, especially these parts of the world. Meanwhile, let's all be senders.

Let's all be recruiters. Let's not tiptoe over to the literature table, ooh, I'll have one map, and I'll have a card. No! Let's go and get a dozen, and let's start sending them to our friends, and let's start all becoming recruiters.

Let's start mobilizing more prayer for missions. Let's start spreading the word around about the facts. People are lost.

Millions and hundreds of millions have not heard. And if people like those of you who gather at a conference like this, if you don't do it, who will? Who will? What school? You tell me, because I've been around for thirty years looking, and maybe you can save me some journeys. Brothers and sisters, if you at Prairie don't have this as a priority, as a pounding heartbeat in everything you do, if you don't, I'd like to know who will.

You write to me. Let us pray. Let's just have a moment of silent prayer.

I've opened my heart. You may be intimidated. You may be hurt.

You may be scared. A little girl came up to me at the Bible school two days ago. She was so scared, she was shaking.

Couldn't sleep the night before. She heard I was coming. Oh, I'm afraid.

I'm afraid. God. God's going to call me to my, to the mission field.

What am I going to write my fiance? He doesn't want to go. May God somehow cause us to understand, anything He asks us to do, He will give us the grace to do it. God is not calling people into an evangelical overseas purgatory.

He is calling and leading people into the one of the most challenging lifestyles, one of the most challenging ways of life that anyone can ever enter into. No, no, ever a day that I regret it. So let's not get any false ideas.

Let's just pray and search our own hearts. God can bring healing. God can bring the balance.

Let's first of all make sure we're going in the right direction. World missions, total war. The ends of the earth, the commands of Christ, the passion of the Apostle Paul, not token commitment, brothers and sisters, total commitment.

Our energy, our resources, all that we can lay hold of through prayer, mobilizing others, recruiting, going, giving, sacrificing, even suffering as the Lord gives it, gracefully, the job can be done. You pray your own silent prayer. Father, You know I can't live in the light of this.

Every moment of the day I'll explode. And I thank You that there are times when You put the burden heavy upon us and then You lift it. And perhaps with me the burden needs to be lifted.

Maybe I'm again carrying too much. Maybe I'm again getting under the whole situation too much. And so I look to You.

This is Your work. I stand on the promises of Your Word to cast every care upon You. You care for me.

But Lord, I believe there are some that have never taken this burden. They've never entered in to this reality, to this vision, to this command of Your Son, the Lord Jesus. They've never grasped the vision of the unreached.

They've never been impassioned and broken by the lostness of men, by the voice of a million souls going out into hell without the Gospel. Put the burden upon them. May they wrestle.

May they know they have been in the presence of the One who has given the Great Commission in the first place. You, O Lord Jesus Christ, take us and anoint us, humble us, that we may never be the same again. O God, we know there are many other truths to bring all this into perspective and balance.

And we have these days to listen to these truths. We do sense, O God, that we've got to know where we're going. We've got to be obedient to this biblical command.

We need Your help, Lord. I need Your help. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

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