

A woman's face is partially visible through a series of diagonal wooden slats that create a striped effect across the image. The slats are light brown and set against a dark background. The woman's eyes, nose, and mouth are visible through the gaps.

GO

A 40-DAY JOURNEY
TO THE NEVER REACHED

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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INTRODUCTION

You are about to go deeper into the word GO like never before. These videos and study-group questions will help you and the members of your small group embark on a spiritual journey similar to the 40 days Jesus and His disciples were together following the Resurrection.

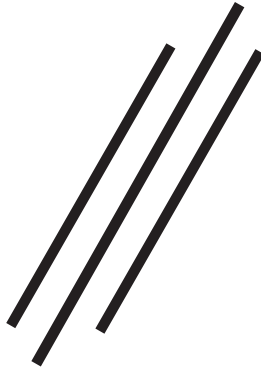
During the time between His resurrection and ascension, one word seems to jump off the pages of God's Word—the word GO. That word appears in 32 separate places in Scripture, with 8 different imperatives admonishing the reader to GO. Why was the act of going so important to the Lord? And where is He telling us to GO? We sincerely hope you will find those answers and more as you study together.

During these next eight small-group sessions, our prayer is that the command of Christ to GO will be deeply planted in your hearts. Our walk with Christ was never meant to be stagnant or stationary. These studies will put you "on the GO," not just geographically but spiritually as well.

Our other prayer at Asia Pacific Missions is that the command to GO will take you to those who are both near and far. The furthest from us are the never reached. They are the peoples of the world who have not only never heard the gospel in their lifetime or in past generations but in all of human history.

This study works best while reading the devotional, *Go: A 40-Day Journey to the Never Reached*, as a companion to the videos. Please order your copy right away.

May the Lord bless your time together as a group in this 40-day walk with Jesus.



GO QUICKLY

Matthew 28:1-7 -----

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.

Then go quickly and tell his disciples *that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you."* (ESV)

1. What is one thing you can do more quickly than other people?

2. What activities or responsibilities in your life give you a sense of urgency—even to the point of discomfort?

3. Based on the passage above, list a few circumstances that created urgency and caused the women to **go quickly** to the disciples.

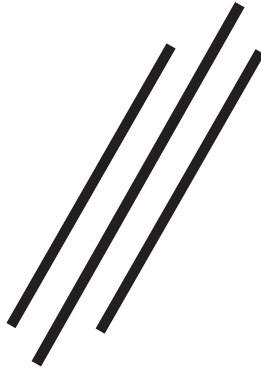
4. Why do you think modern-day believers sometimes do not feel the urgency to **go quickly**?

5. How does the reminder of people's mortality motivate your urgency?

6. How does your urgency affect your desire to share the gospel personally, give to missions initiatives at your church, or join a local or foreign outreach?

PRAYER

- Ask God to help the members of your group feel a sense of urgency to fulfill the Great Commission and not get distracted by life's daily activities.
- Pray for the people in your life and around the world who are perishing without Christ, that someone would **go quickly** to share the gospel with them.



GO TELL

Matthew 28:8-10 -----

*So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; **go and tell my brothers** to go to Galilee, and there they will see me." (ESV)*

1. Share about a time when you had to deliver information—like family news—that only you knew.

2. What's something you enjoy now that you initially resisted trying?

3. List a few of the competing views of God and salvation that exist in today's society.

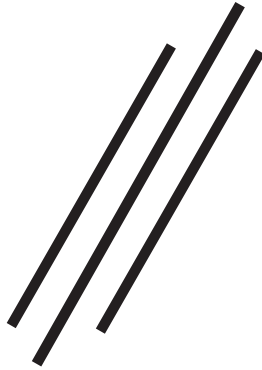
4. How did you feel when reading the story of the girl who had never heard of Jesus?

5. How do you find a balance between words and actions when it comes to this idea of **go tell**?

6. What barriers do you need to overcome to effectively share the gospel with the people God has entrusted to you?

PRAYER

- Ask God to give the members of your group the boldness to **go tell**—not about the rules Christians follow but about Jesus' death and resurrection.
- Pray for people around the world who have never heard of Christ.



GO IN

John 20:1-8

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, **but he did not go in**. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, **also went in, and he saw and believed**; (ESV)

1. Have you ever been in a race? Share about your experience.

2. Some people may spend time considering faith from a distance—like John’s approach to the empty tomb—while others may quickly leap into faith—like Peter’s approach. Which approach do you most identify with when it comes to **going in**? Why? What about your friends and family members?

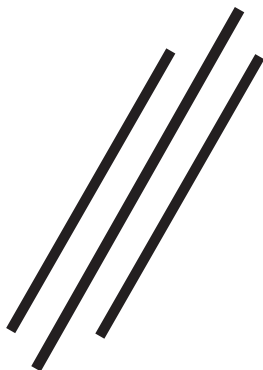
3. What may be holding you back from growing in your relationship with Christ?

4. What does it mean to experience the resurrection power of Christ?

5. What (if anything) makes you hesitate to embrace God’s call to missions?

PRAYER

- Ask the Lord to help you to experience the resurrection power of Christ.
- Pray for people in your life and around the world who are like Peter and John—either ready to **go in** as soon as they hear the good news or standing at the edge waiting to **go in**.



GO BEFORE

Mark 16:1-7 -----

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." (ESV)

1. Has someone ever cut in front of you in a line? Have you ever intentionally let someone go in front of you in a line? How did each situation make you feel?

2. Life is full of changes—new jobs, new homes, new schools, and many other new things happen all the time. How is your reaction affected when you realize Christ has already gone before you in every change?

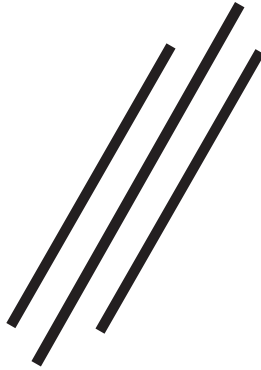
3. Jesus knew Peter had failed but still went before him, meeting him in Galilee. What impact can our failures have on us as we grow in obedience to Christ?

4. In your opinion, what are the qualifications for being an overseas worker? In what ways (if any) do you consider yourself to be unqualified?

5. In global missions, God will **go before** us to any assignment. How can that truth affect our willingness to obey and follow Jesus' call?

PRAYER

- Ask God to forgive you of any failures and recommission you to share the gospel.
- Pray for all the places where Jesus has already **gone before** and is waiting for us to meet Him. Pray for more workers to go to difficult places.



GO TOGETHER

John 21:1-3 -----

*After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "**We will go with you.**" They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. (ESV)*

1. Share about the biggest family vacation or reunion you've experienced. How many people attended? What interesting things happened because so many people were involved?

2. What do you find most frustrating about doing things with other people rather than on your own? What do you find most rewarding?

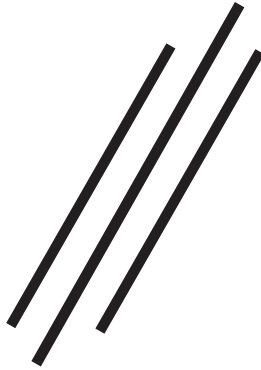
3. Without getting too specific, what sorts of interpersonal challenges arise in the church community as we serve God together?

4. What unique gift do you bring on the journey to reach people who need Jesus? How does your gift function in the body of Christ?

5. How can your team more effectively **go together**, moving forward as a group?

PRAYER

- Ask God to help you recognize your gift and appreciate all the other gifts in the body of Christ.
- Pray missions teams around the world will experience success and unity as they **go together** to the never-reached.



GO FURTHER

Luke 24:28-35 -----

*So they drew near to the village to which they were going. **He acted as if he were going farther**, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread. (ESV)*

1. What's the farthest place on earth you have been from your current meeting place? Ask the person who has gone farthest to share their story. *[Maybe give a prize to the person who has gone the furthest].*

2. Think of a friend or family member who is resisting God although He wants to take them farther. How can you intentionally invest in his or her life today?

3. **Going farther** refers to more than a physical distance traveled; it also encompasses your journey of walking with Christ. How can time spent with the Lord inspire you to go farther, just like the men on the road to Emmaus?

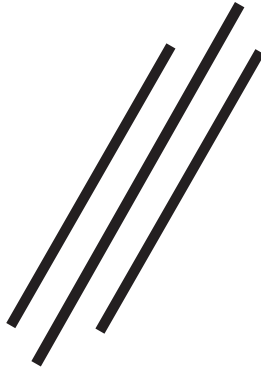
4. While serving Christ, either at home or overseas, have you ever reached your stopping point? What caused you to reach that point?

5. What would **going farther** mean in your walk with Christ? What (if anything) is hindering you?

6. The never-reached are farther away than we can imagine—geographically, culturally, religiously, and linguistically. What do you think it will take to get the message of Christ to them?

PRAYER

- Ask God to help you **go farther** relationally, spiritually, and geographically to reach people with the gospel.
- Pray for the never-reached groups that are farthest from the Lord, that God would help you or someone like you to reach them. Pray for workers who may believe they have reached their limits but simply need an encounter with the Lord.



GO ANYWAY

John 21:15-19 -----

*When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you **where you do not want to go.**" (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me." (ESV)*

1. Think of a place (not necessarily related to ministry) you didn't want to go, but you went anyway. What motivated you to **go anyway**?

2. Missionary Jim Elliot wrote, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose." What would be hardest for you to sacrifice to **go anyway**, unreservedly following God to the ends of the earth?

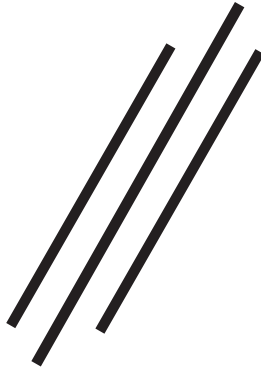
3. Some are called to go, while others are called to send. What is Jesus calling you to do?

4. What sacrifices are required of all followers of Christ—both missionaries and senders?

5. We don't make sacrifices to pay our debt of sin—Christ has already done that for us—so what compels us to obey we are asked to sacrifice for God's work?

PRAYER

- Seek the Lord about what may be holding you back from **going anyway**.
- Pray for more people to unreservedly follow God to the never-reached so all may hear.



GO WAIT

Acts 1:1-5 -----

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

*And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to **wait for the promise of the Father**, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” (ESV)*

1. Share about a time you experienced something you had waited a long time for.

2. What sorts of things do you have the most difficulty waiting patiently for?

3. Share about a life interruption that put your plans of a deeper relationship with God on hold.

4. Sometimes holding patterns in your life mean God wants you to pursue Him more passionately. How can this realization affect your ability to wait patiently?

5. Share about a time you waited on the Lord before stepping out in service to Him. What were the results? What might have happened if you had refused to wait?

6. We will never reach the never-reached without the **go wait**. What effect can the power of the Holy Spirit have in this process?

PRAYER

- Ask God for the power of the Holy Spirit and the wisdom to seek Him in life's interruptions.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's power to be poured out on missionaries working now among the never-reached.

NOTES

NOTES



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