

SERMON
“Come and Go”
Matthew 10:1-8

7/1/90 Bessemer
6/18/17 Cook

This *episode* in Matthew identifies the first Christians

- The **First** to be acknowledged by Christ as his
- The **First** to be named as his apostles (those what are “sent out”)
- The **First** to be instructed in Christian ministry
- The **First** to be sent...with authority...to do what Jesus Christ does

They were unique...they were the first.

They weren't the only Christians...there were many others who had met Jesus and “believed”...

BUT, they are the models for all Christians.

- Responding to Christ's call
- Turning from all other gods, priorities or distractions and following
- Sitting and learning as a disciple (a devoted student)
- Receiving authority from the Son of God
- Going where they were sent to go...and
- Doing the work of the Kingdom of God.

These 12 weren't the only Christians...just the first

You and I too follow their example...we walk in their footsteps

To be a Christian is to **Come and Go**

It's much like breathing – in and out

- Both inhaling AND exhaling are required for life.

Try just one of those for a while.

Your body will quickly convince you of the necessity of the other...Both are needed

In the Christian life, both coming and going are a necessity

If “Christianity” for you is **all about “COME”**...

- Sitting at the feet of Jesus
- Feeding on the Word of God
- Singing praises in His name

If it is all and only that, Christianity becomes irrelevant...other-worldly...an end unto itself

If it's only the “religion”, it's merely religiosity...worship becomes a meaningless ritual

On the other hand- if Christianity is **all “GO”**...

- It might look “good” for a while...It might “feel” good
- BUT if it's all “GO”, it becomes “**do-good-ism**”
- It turns into a social program that's bound to—
 - Run out of steam
 - Run off the track
 - Run over its intended beneficiaries

If we “GO” without “Coming”, we are urged to witness and serve without adequate resources and motivation

If we “COME” without “Going”, **the blessings of God** get stopped up in our prayer closets...

...inside church buildings,
...and inside these vessels of clay...

The “COME and GO” must be kept in balance

- We must inhale AND exhale...both gather AND scatter

A True Christian (modeled after those first 12)

I. Comes to Christ (v. 1-4)

A) Christ called them... He calls **you!** (v.1)

- You are chosen

○ You are known, loved, and selected

- You do not come to “choose Christ” if not for Him first choosing you.

...it’s part of our theology...our beliefs- “**election**” – God chooses us!

B) Christ “*gave them authority*”(also in v.1)