



**Sermon Series:** It's All About Jesus

**To be used with Session 6: The Mission of Jesus**

**Sermon Title Possibilities:** What Jesus Deploys Us To

**Scripture:** Luke 24:44-53

**Connection with Unit Theme:** To complement the Bible study “It’s All About Jesus” this sermon shows us that the truth about Jesus is too big to be kept to ourselves. We are mandated to tell people about Jesus and because of His atoning work, we ought to be motivated to tell somebody about Jesus.

**Introduction:** You know, we tell everybody we can when we find something good. If our mechanic is good, we recommend him to others with car problems. If a woman’s beautician is good, she sends her friends to the same beauty shop. If a book is good, we recommend the author to other readers. Likewise, since Jesus is so good, we ought to be telling everyone we can about Him. This message seeks to mobilize us for His mission.

### **1. The Evidence We are to Engage (v. 44-45)**

This is that Emmaus Road account of Jesus conversing with two disciples. After He had talked and communed with them, they went back to the eleven and told them about their encounter with the risen Christ. While they were reporting, Jesus showed up and assured their hearts. In our text, we see how Christ pointed us to the evidence we are to engage as Christians. The first clue is where Jesus says, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you.” The second clue is when He alludes to the whole Old Testament in the second half of verse 45. What I want to push with this point is that Jesus has commissioned us to be committed to engaging the Scriptures as disciples of Jesus Christ. To be faithful to the mission of Christ we must read, study, meditate on, memorize, and proclaim the whole Bible.

### **2. The Evangelism We are to Execute (v. 46-48)**

The next thing I want us to see is that Christ has commissioned us to be witnesses. We are told—with the disciples—to proclaim to all nations the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are commanded to preach the Gospel everywhere to all people (Mark 16:15-16). Christ said that as He was sent, so has He sent us (John 20:21). And, He has commissioned

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us to be disciple-makers who go, baptize, and teach (Matt. 28:18-20). What an awesome privilege and weighty responsibility we have.

### **3. The Empowerment We are to Expect (v. v.49)**

Our privilege is awesome, and our responsibility is weighty, but we don't have to pull it off alone. In the text, the disciples were promised the Holy Spirit—we already have the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8 teaches us that we have been empowered and expanded to witness for Jesus Christ. Now through the Spirit, He lives in us, and we can carry out our spiritual tasks in His strength. May the Lord help you and I to walk, worship, and witness in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Conclusion:** *Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions. Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"*

*The young boy paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves," the youth replied. "When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."*

*The old man replied, "But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference."*

*The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"<sup>1</sup>*

***Let's all go get one for Jesus.***

### **Author Bio**

*Reginald D. Taylor is a graduate of Crichton College, Union University, Capital Seminary, and is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the senior Pastor of The Rock Church and Assistant Professor/Director of Urban Theological Studies at MCUTS @ Union University in Memphis TN. He and his wife Dr. Tarra R. Taylor has one son—Reginald D. Taylor II—and three grandchildren Micah, Yara, and Aviyah.*

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Straube, <https://eventsforchange.wordpress.com/2011/06/05/the-starfish-story-one-step-towards-changing-the-world/>

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