



OVER THE HORIZON-- CELTIC CHRISTIANITY AND BEYOND

November 19 /20, 2025

Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:44-47; Acts 1:8; Romans 1:8-17

Gonzalez, chapters 25-27

1. How did Celtic missionaries like St. Patrick and St. Columba embody the call of Matthew 28:16–20 and Acts 1:8 in their lives? How can we follow their example in our own context today?
2. The Rule of Columba emphasized prayer, study, and work integrated into daily life. How might we incorporate these disciplines into our modern routines?
3. Celtic monks practiced “white martyrdom,” leaving home and comfort for Christ. What does this tell us about the relationship between self-sacrifice and spiritual growth? How is this relevant in our lives?
4. In Romans 1:8–17, Paul emphasizes the spread of the gospel across cultural boundaries. How did the Irish monks embody this principle, and what can we learn about cross-cultural mission today?

5. Celtic Christianity used art, poetry, and music as expressions of theology. How can creative expression deepen our understanding of God and communicate faith to others?
6. Celtic Christianity was God-centered rather than nature-centered. How does this differ from modern assumptions about “Celtic spirituality”? How should we balance appreciation of creation with focus on God?
7. Monasteries like Iona emphasized hospitality and pastoral presence. How can our communities or congregations practice a similar ministry of presence and care today?
8. Celtic missionaries combined preaching, teaching, service, and hospitality. How can we integrate these elements into modern forms of evangelism and mission?
9. The Celtic monks’ lives were rigorous, demanding endurance and discipline. What lessons can we draw about perseverance in our spiritual life, especially when faith feels difficult or challenging?
10. What aspects of Celtic Christianity—mission, prayer, scholarship, artistic expression—resonate most with you personally? How can these inspire the way you live out your faith today?