



Jesus calls us to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20), but how do we start?

123Go! is a simple, practical guide to ignite your heart for evangelism.

Over six days, you'll reflect, adjust, and take action.

Day 1 | Why 1-2-3 Go!

Read:

- Matthew 5:13 -16
- Romans 10:13 - 17
- Matthew 28:18 - 20
- Devotional

The Great Commission is not a suggestion, it is a command!

Most of us remember in childhood our parents or teachers saying phrases like "I did not *ask* you, I told *you*." Some who are grown and now in those positions may have recently utilized the phrase. Clean your room. Brush your teeth. Take out the trash. Finish your work. On their best days, the authority figures in our lives were preparing us to navigate a world of obligations and opportunities.

In our society, deeply formed by expressive individualism, we gawk at the concept of obligations. Opportunities are splendid as they provide us with options for us to create and recreate ourselves into whatever image we desire to conform to for that given week. Obligations, on the other hand, we are warned, will shackle us to a monotonous routine, draining us of spontaneity and forcing us into the dull, soul-numbing role of a mass-produced, assembly-line replica.

In Disney's *Frozen*, Queen Elsa grew tired of the obligations placed on her and famously decried them in her hit song 'Let It Go', it's a song of liberation from obligations and a single focus on opportunities; it has become a favorite song and anthem for many in our culture today. What is striking though, is that few have taken the time to reflect on how in 'letting it go' Elsa destroys her kingdom and almost kills her sister. The

true beauty of the story lies not in her escape from responsibility, but in her eventual realization of the value of obligation—especially the obligation to love, which is ultimately demonstrated through Anna's self-sacrificial act.

Likewise, the gospel of Jesus Christ comes with obligations. Jesus fulfilled the law; there is nothing more we must do to earn His love or secure our salvation. Yet, this does not mean we are set free into a world of endless opportunities without divine expectations. In His final words to His disciples, Jesus gives a direct command:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations."

Jesus is not asking his disciples, he's telling them. The Great Commission is not an opportunity to consider; it is an obligation to obey. Yet, like brushing your teeth, it is an obligation for our good. The opportunities lie in how we fulfill this command—there is freedom and creativity in the method (Romans 10:13-17). But the reality that we are commanded to **go** is not up for debate.

Pray

Lord, Help us embrace Your command to go and make disciples. Give us the strength to obey, trusting that in fulfilling Your will, we find true purpose. Empower us to love and serve others, sharing the hope of Jesus in all we do.

Day 2 | Your 1 Degree

Read:

- Romans 9:1 -3
- Matthew 28:18 -:20
- Devotional

What is your heart temperature for the lost?

"The heart of the matter is a matter of the heart."

- Rick Warren

Christians regularly give a variety of excuses for not sharing their faith; fear of rejection, fear of conflict, feeling unqualified or unprepared, etc. But perhaps the true most common reasons are thoughtlessness and apathy. We don't think much about those who do not know the gospel, and even when we do, we tend not to think their eternal state is of such great importance that it is worth spoiling the conversation or creating awkwardness in the relationship.

The historian and philosopher Hannah Arendt who witnessed and wrote on the trial of an infamous Nazi officer, coined the phrase 'the banality of evil', as she watched the trial expose the former officer's thoughtlessness: "[There is] a strange interdependence between thoughtfulness and evil... the activity of thinking as such...could be of such a nature that it 'conditions' men against evil-doing."

Penn Jillette, the magician and entertainer of the duo Penn & Teller, and outspoken atheist has famously said that he has no respect for Christians who don't share their faith. "If you believe that there's a heaven and a hell, and people could be going to hell or not getting eternal life or whatever, and you think that it's not really worth telling them this because it would make it socially awkward—how much do you have to hate somebody to not proselytize."

So, what's your heart temperature for the lost? It's time to be thoughtful about this. If you had to rate your heart for the lost on a scale from 1 to 10, what would you rate it? This is not meant to be an activity to bring about shame but awareness! Have you thought at all about those who don't know Jesus this week? If you have, have you done anything about it? Have you made plans to do something about it? By making a habit of checking your heart temperature for the lost, you are working against thoughtless and apathy.

What is your 1 Degree?

Pray

God over all people, conform my heart to mirror yours. Bring to my mind those who do not yet know you and cause me to yearn for their salvation as you do.

Day 3 | Your 2 Percent

Read:

- Matthew 28:18 - 20
- Luke 14:34 - 35
- Devotional

How can you adjust your daily routine by just 2% to engage others with the gospel?

Small shifts can make a big impact. A shift of **2** degrees in either direction when flying a plane to New York from Chicago could cause the plane to land instead in Washington, D.C., or Boston, depending on the direction of the shift. To shift the plane by **2** degrees is small, but not so for the impact on the passengers.

In the same way, small adjustments in our daily lives—whether it's taking a few moments to listen to someone's story, offering to pray for someone, or inviting a neighbor to coffee—can have a profound effect on those around us. The difference between a life of quiet indifference and one that actively engages with others for the sake of the gospel might just be a shift of **2%**. By adding just a little salt to a recipe you change the flavors entirely (Luke 14:34-35). It could be as simple as saying “hello” instead of staying silent or inviting a coworker to join you for church. Over time, these small

shifts accumulate into something much greater than we could have imagined.

Just like the plane, you may not always see the immediate results of your efforts, but trust that God is at work in the small things. Every moment you take to engage with someone about Jesus, however small it may seem, is part of a bigger journey toward their hearts.

So, ask yourself: **What 2% shift can you make today?** A 2% shift in your routine might be just what someone needs to hear the good news of Jesus. Start with one small step, and let God use it to impact someone's eternity.

Pray

Lord, Help me make small shifts in my daily routine to engage others with Your love and the gospel. Guide my actions and words, even in the smallest moments, so that I can be a light to those around me. Use these small steps to make a big impact for Your Kingdom.

Day 4 | Your 3 People

Read:

- Matthew 28:18 - 20
- John 17:20 - 21
- Philippians 1:12 :-14
- Acts 26
- Devotional

Identify and commit to praying for three people in your life who need Jesus.

I recognize that I am not the person most people desire to sit next to on an airplane. If I am headed to a conference or another event, I relish the opportunity to sit in the middle seat because it means I have two opportunities for a conversation partner. Don't get me wrong, I won't force a conversation on someone who wants to sleep, read, or watch a movie, it's just that I've found most people, when asked questions, enjoy sharing their opinions. For this reason, I have a myriad of questions I like to ask my airplane seat mates:

Are you headed home or headed out? What do you do for a living? How did you end up in that field? Do you enjoy it? How do you manage disappointment and frustration?

At times the conversation begins with a book they're holding or they may drive the conversation into categories I never would have foreseen. Either way, as someone who likes to get up and move, throughout the flight I feel like the Apostle Paul under house arrest, chained to a Roman soldier to keep him from fleeing. I actually do not enjoy flying, but it seems to be that Paul did not enjoy house

arrest and yet used his house arrest as an opportunity for the gospel to go forward (Phil. 1:12-14), he even used a court trial to proclaim the good news of Jesus (Acts 26). 2-3 hours on a plane watching a crummy movie I likely won't finish does not seem to compare to the opportunities on either side of me.

But if you're like me, most days we are not on airplanes. We are passing our neighbors in the hallway or on the street, placing a coffee order with the barista, sitting next to a co-worker in a meeting, or standing with another parent on the side line of a game or at the playground. We interact with all sorts of people on a regular basis, some of whom we don't even know their names. The **3** in 1-2-3 is **3 People**. Who are **3 people** who don't know Jesus who you can commit to praying for and building a deeper relationship with. It could be your neighbor, co-worker, or chiropractor. Write down their names. Pray for them. Ask the Lord how he might use you to make Jesus known to them. Once you have those **3 people**, you can begin to direct your **2 percent** in their direction, and measure your **1 degree** based on your heart for them and others. You might have ten people who are on your prayer list that you are seeking to share the gospel with, that's great! But be sure to have at least **3**, and if you don't know who those three would be, make that the focus of your prayer.

Pray

Lord, direct my mind toward 3 people in my day-to-day life who do not know you. Help me to see them as you see them, and long for their salvation as you do. Guide me in knowing what steps you would desire for me to take in sharing the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection with them.

Day 5 | *Pray, Prepare, Pursue*

Read:

- Matthew 28:18 - 28:20
- 2 Corinthians 4:5 - 4:7
- Acts 26:15 - 26:18
- 1 Peter 3:15
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Matthew 9:37 - 9:38
- John 6:44
- Devotional

Seek God's guidance, equip yourself with His Word, and step out in faith.

In evangelism it's important to recognize that we do not preach ourselves (2 Cor. 4:5-7), it is God who draws people to Jesus, not us (John 6:44). This being the case, Christians are not tasked with becoming expert apologists, philosophers, or debaters. We are tasked simply with ***praying*** for the lost (Matt. 9:37-38), being ***prepared*** to explain the hope within us (1 Pet. 3:15), and ***pursuing*** those who do not yet know Jesus (Matt. 28:18-20).

Praying

Before stepping out to share the Gospel, we must begin with prayer. Jesus instructed His disciples to pray for laborers in the harvest, and we should do the same. Ask God to open hearts, remove spiritual blindness, and draw people to Himself. Prayer aligns our hearts with God's will and reminds us that salvation is His work, not ours.

Preparing

While we are not required to be scholars, we are called to be ready. First

Peter 3:15 exhorts us to always be prepared to give an answer for the hope within us. This means immersing ourselves in God's Word, growing in our understanding of the Gospel, and being able to share it clearly and simply. Our testimony, along with Scripture, is a powerful tool in pointing people to Christ.

Pursuing

The Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) calls us to actively go and make disciples. Evangelism is not a passive endeavor—it requires intentionality. Pursuing the lost means building relationships, engaging in conversations, and stepping out in faith even when it feels uncomfortable. Whether through small daily encounters or long-term relationships, we are called to share the love of Christ with those around us.

Evangelism is not about our ability but about our obedience. We pray because only God can change hearts. We prepare because we want to be faithful stewards of the Gospel. And we pursue because Jesus first pursued us. As we step out in faith, let us trust that God is at work, drawing people to Himself, and using us as His messengers of grace and truth.

Pray

Lord, thank You for the privilege of sharing Your Gospel. Remind me that evangelism is about obedience, not my ability. Only You can change hearts, so I ask You to soften and draw those around me to Yourself. Help me prepare to share the hope within me with wisdom and boldness. Give me courage to step out in faith, trusting that You are at work through me. Use me as a messenger of Your grace and truth.

Day 6 | **Go!**

Read:

<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 28:18 - 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 7:2 - 53
<input type="checkbox"/> John 4:7 - 30	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17:22 - 31
<input type="checkbox"/> John 9:24 - 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Devotional

With courage and obedience, take the Great Commission personally and start making disciples.

Supposedly a woman once approached the famed 19th century Chicago evangelist D.L. Moody and said, "I don't like the way you do evangelism." He asked her how she did evangelism, and when she answered that she didn't, he replied, "I like the way I do evangelism better than the way you don't do evangelism."

Sometimes Christians can get so bogged down in discerning the right method for evangelism that they don't ever give it a try. Go to any seminary or bible college and you will find more students debating the best means of practicing apologetics than students who have actually shared the gospel with someone who didn't know Jesus in a given week.

One thing the New Testament makes clear to us is that there is no "one right way" to do evangelism. The wrong way to do evangelism is not to do it. Though I am not personally a street preacher or a tract giver, it does not mean that the Lord cannot or does not use these methods to draw people to himself. But below are three biblical methods that you might consider today as you go...

Come And See... | Invitational

The woman at the well had a life-changing encounter with Jesus. She could have expounded on that encounter with her neighbors and those in town, but instead she simply said "come and see..." (John 4:7-30). Your "come and see" might be an invitation to a church service, a special event, or a

bible study. Where Christ is magnified and exalted it is right to say "come and see."

I Was Blind, Now I See... | Testimonial

The ex-blind man, healed by Jesus, was brought to be questioned by the Pharisees (John 9:24-27) and in the process of telling his story of healing to those who are cross-examining him, he asks "Do you want to become his disciples too?" Sharing your story can be a powerful way to share the gospel, asking "Can I tell you about something very important to me?" or "Can I share how my life was changed?"

Hear This Story... | Biblical

The evangelist Steven believed that the history of God's actions was all the context that was needed (Acts 7:2-53), and so he retold the story of Israel from Abraham to Jesus in a way that he believed his people would understand. For Stephen, this approach ends in his martyrdom, but in a modern western context, the worst it will get is likely ostracism. Asking "would you be interested in reading the Bible together?" can be a great entryway for this method.

Have You Thought About...? | Philosophical

There are some for whom a philosophical apologetic will be the best method. Paul quoted poetry, Greek mythology, philosophers, and even utilized contemporary object lessons (Acts 17:22-31). Paul noted their interests and made their interests into issues that found resolution in Jesus.

The point here is simple. There is no "one right way." Just go! 1-2-3 Go!

Prayer

Lord, give me the courage to obey Your call and share the Gospel. Help me not to overthink the method but to simply go and make disciples. Open my eyes to opportunities, my heart to compassion, and my mouth to speak truth in love. Whether through invitation, testimony, Scripture, or reason, use me to point others to You. Let me trust in Your power, not my own, knowing that You are the One who saves.