

## *“Setting Sail - Port of Call”*

Acts 1:1-11

Pastor Jeff Burkholder

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**In order for CBC to have a successful voyage we must...**

**1. Understand our mission to be witnesses.**

Being witnesses involves who we are, how we live, and what we say.

“The words of verse 8, a variation on what is often called Jesus’ ‘Great Commission’ provide a purpose and direction for all of Jesus’ followers. In light of the value that God’s followers place on knowing him, what could be more important than helping others know him? Introducing someone else to God would bring that person into a relationship that would have eternal benefits.”

*The Journey Bible, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 1996, p. 1424.*

**2. Understand our destination, both locally and globally.**

“Jesus had a plan for his disciples—a plan to take over the world. But instead of overthrowing the Roman Empire militarily, he would conquer the hearts of men and women—one by one. His ‘army’ would be those who knew him. Their ‘weapon’ would be the message of forgiveness and new life offered by Christ himself. These ‘commandos’ would relay God’s commands and take captives with God’s compassion—first their neighbors, then individuals across town, and finally people in other countries. Eventually they would tell the whole world about Jesus.”

*The Journey Bible, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 1996, p. 1424.*

**3. Understand our need for a captain, the Holy Spirit.**

“If the Christian life is simply a matter of doing our best, there was no need for God to send the Holy Spirit to help us. After all, our best is our best. How do we improve on that? Since God is omniscient, as we certainly believe He is, He knows when we have done all we can do. Why complicate matters?”

Jesus let it be known, however, that God was looking for more than our best. He was looking for a life-style and attitude that we could never attain through our own efforts...

Think about this. If we don't need any help, why send a Helper? The promise of a Helper presupposes that we need help. The promise of a Helper was Jesus' way of tipping us off to one of the most profound truths concerning the Christian life—it's impossible! The quality of life Jesus expects from His followers is unattainable apart from outside intervention.”

From *The Wonderful Spirit-filled Life* by Charles Stanley,  
as found in *The Inspiration Study Bible*, Max Lucado,  
Thomas Nelson Publishing, Nashville TN, 1995, p. 1292.