

## BRINGING OUR WORLD TO CHRIST

What does it mean to be a Christian? To some believers it means being comfortable in a small church. I believe that such an attitude is something God may hold us accountable for. Why? First of all, the church is not a club that just talks about life-saving, it is a soul-saving station, and the church does not belong to you or me. The second reason is because there are thousands of souls who are lost and headed for hell. We are talking about eternal punishment, and somehow we ought to be begging people to listen to us.

An old hymn goes like this. "Out of the ivory palaces, into a world of woe, only His great eternal love made my Savior go." The ivory palaces the song writer was speaking about was heaven. Jesus left the beauty of heaven because of His great love for you and me. Many Christians have their own "ivory palaces" otherwise known as church buildings, and they can't seem to get out of them and into a world that needs them.

Is your church noted for love? Any church that wants to evangelize their corner of the world must be a unified army of lovers, because without sincere, true love, that can be seen and not just talked about, it can't happen. What is the church's primary reason for existence? It is not for the collection of the saved, but for the needs of the lost who are not part of the church. What was Jesus' purpose on this earth? He said it was to seek and save the lost, and if this family is His church, His body, then our ministry and purpose has to be the same. God has someone He wants you and me to influence this week, and our prayer ought to be each morning, "God use me today! Open my eyes and warm my heart."

Years ago, the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago had a fascinating display. It showed a checkerboard with 1 grain of wheat on the first square, 2 on the second, 4 on the third, then 8, 16, 32, 64, and so on until they could no longer fit the seeds on the square. The display posed the question, "At this rate of doubling each successive square, how much would you have on the checkerboard by the 64<sup>th</sup> square?" The answer was nine septillion (in other words) enough grain to cover the entire subcontinent of India 50 feet deep. If we became an army of Christian soldiers, and if each soldier worked to win just one, just imagine what could happen.

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