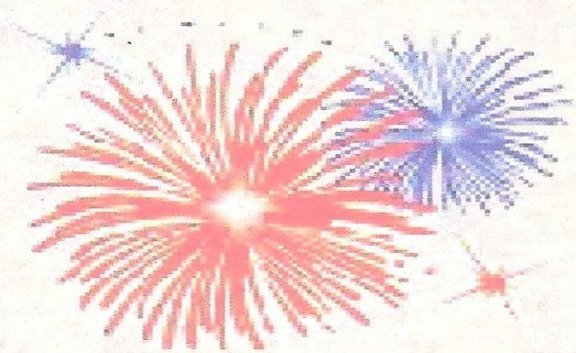




Compel Them To Come



By
Frances Hunter

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*Charles and Francis Hunter were gifted writers
who have gone on to be with Jesus,
the One they loved so much.*

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By Frances Hunter

As we race toward the last of the last days, every year seems to be more exciting than the last one! There is an increase of all that God is doing because one day very soon it will be the last day. Never have we experienced greater passion for lost souls than we feel today. Everywhere we go, everyone we talk with expresses the same heart-cry that we have heard in ourselves — GO YE, GO YE, GO YE into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature before it is too late. While we all anticipate being gloriously lifted up in the air to meet Jesus, we must realize that, from that day on, there will be no further opportunity to go out after those people who are lost and dying.

In the fourteenth chapter of Luke, Jesus told a parable about a very generous man who planned a huge banquet and invited everybody he knew. In our years of experience with large events, I don't believe the man's banquet was a last-minute idea. He would have planned for it and sent out invitations months in advance so that everyone on the guest list would have ample time to arrange

their schedules. He probably even sent out reminders because he was really excited and looking forward to all of his guests eating and fellowshiping with him. As the time neared, all the floors were polished, the decorations were perfected, and lavish preparations were completed to the last detail.

Where Are The Guests?

Finally, it was the day of the banquet. The host paced the floor anxiously as a few people began to arrive. He checked with all the chefs to make sure the meal was being prepared perfectly. He had plenty of appetizers available and music playing gaily to encourage his friends to relax and begin to fellowship as they arrived. Time began to pass, and the host realized that the banquet hall was not filling up as he had anticipated. Only a few of the people on the long invitation list were present. Can you imagine him looking out over the tables and what disappointment he must have felt as he saw empty seats all over the place?

Time was ticking away, and the host realized that shortly all of the wonderful array of foods would be done to perfection, and there were too many people missing. He immediately sent his

servant out to personally visit all the people he had invited and tell them to hurry up because everything was all ready for the banquet!

The servant went out and began knocking on doors. But the Bible says that even though the guests were to be treated royally with this wonderful feast and would experience an unforgettable evening with this great man, they all had excuses for not coming.

Let me ask you, if the governor of your state, or the owner of your favorite sports team, or some well-known celebrity sent you an invitation to come to an evening of delicious food and live entertainment, all expenses paid, would you be there? I would! But look at some of the lame excuses the people had:

But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, "I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see if I ask you to have me excused."

And another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused."

Still another said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come."

So that servant came and reported these things to his master(Luke 14:18-21).

The benevolent host was appalled. He had butchered his finest stock and hired the best chefs to prepare a feast that would be remembered for years to come. The tables were set and the meal was going to have to be served soon or it would be ruined. All those people who had been invited had shown no regard for his invitation. He could hardly believe his kindness was being refused by so many. He became furious.

Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, “Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind” (Luke 14:21).

The servant gathered up other servants to help him, and they went all through the streets bringing in every poor person and homeless person and handicapped person they could find and sat them down at the banquet tables.

And the servant said, “Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.”

Then the master said to the servant, “Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to

come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper” (Luke 14:22-24).

The word *compel* has such an interesting definition. It comes from a Greek word that means “to constrain, whether by threat, entreaty, force or persuasion.” So those servants went out and literally grabbed people by the hand and coaxed, threatened and forced them to come with them to the master’s banquet. Some of those people probably didn’t want to go anywhere, but when they ended up seated in the master’s banquet hall and began to feast on the sumptuous foods and partake in the festivities, I believe they were really glad to be there!

How Many Are Dying this Very Minute Without Jesus?

Recently, someone showed us on the Internet something that really got our attention. It was a web site that clicks off the number of people who are dying right while you are watching the computer screen. 107 people die every single minute; 6,390 people

die every hour; and in one day's time, 153,000 people leave this life, either with or without Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

The population has never been greater than it is today; and never has there been a more urgent need for the Body of Christ to compel the lost to receive Jesus in their heart! How many of those who are dying will arrive at the gate of heaven to hear Jesus say, "I never knew you; depart from Me" (Matthew 7:23)?

During the Christmas holidays, Charles and I were in the Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, which at that time seemed to be the busiest airport in the world. And the people in that airport were just racing and racing, and they were all running to catch other planes and running to go some place or another. They were racing, racing, racing. All you could see in their faces was, "I've got to get there, I've got to get there,

I've got to get there.” We were watching them as we were just sitting there, and we were saying, “ I wonder if they know where they're going? I wonder how many of them really know *where* they are going? How many of them are going to end up in heaven? How many are going to end up in hell?

Is There Really a Hell?

Years ago we were in Tulsa, Oklahoma when Lester Sumrall shared a vision that God gave him when he was nineteen years old. It was a vision he had never forgotten and one which has remained in our hearts. He was sitting next to the pulpit in a tiny country church and suddenly he was no longer aware of anything going on around him. In an open vision God showed him all the people of the world of every color and dressed in every native costume. God lifted him up until he was looking down upon humanity; and as he looked down upon the uncountable multitude, he saw the people — thousands and thousands abreast — running, running, running, running as fast as they could.

Then all of a sudden they got right to the brink of a great big cliff. And Dr. Sumrall said when they got there, God took him over so he could look down and see the expressions on their faces. What he saw left an indelible impression on his mind, which caused him to spend the rest of his life preaching the gospel. He saw looks of absolute horror on the multitude of faces as they saw below them the fires of hell. They screamed in anguish and tried to stop, but they couldn't because of the thousands behind them that just pushed them over into the abyss of hell itself. For the next sixty-five years, Lester Sumrall tried to keep as many people as he could from going into the horrors of hell.

So many times people think, "Oh well, I can't go over to India, I can't go over to Africa, I can't go to places like that." No, not everyone is called to go onto foreign soil, but you can go to the person next door and compel them to come, even if you have to drag them by the hair of their head. I want you to purpose in your heart right now to compel the lost to come into the Kingdom of God. Ask God right now to give you a greater burden for souls, for the unsaved, than you have ever had in your entire life. Promise Him that with His help

you are going to be a doer of His word and not just a hearer.

The Christian world has been flooded with more books and CDs and DVDs than ever before in history. And it is wonderful that Christians have so many teaching tools available to them to help them grow up in Christ. But God is saying, not just through Charles and Frances, but through ministries everywhere, that the time of sitting and absorbing is over. It's time to go out and begin to do the works of God. In Luke 14:24, the master said to his servant, "*None of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.*" All those people had been invited, but they did not come; and then it was too late. They would never again be asked to another banquet. There is only going to be one marriage supper in heaven. Whoever does not accept the invitation will never get another invitation, once the banquet has begun.

All I have to do when I think of somebody who is not saved, is think of Lester Sumrall running over there to the edge of that abyss and seeing all those screaming people literally being pushed into the gates of hell. There are others who have had dreams and visions and life experiences of seeing

hell. Some people today do not believe there is a hell. They wonder how God could send anybody to such a horrible place. But Jesus taught on hell. He explained that God didn't make hell for people; He made hell *an everlasting fire for the devil and his angels* (Matthew 25:41). God never intended for man to go there. He sent Jesus away from His throne and the beauty and joy of heaven to die a painful death and bear the sins of the world, so that not a single person would ever have to go into that terrible place with the devil. Then He commanded believers, each and every one of us, to GO YE, GO YE, GO YE!

Witnessing Is So Simple

Years ago, when I first became a Christian, I taught on witnessing. From the day I got saved, I went out and I thought, "The world is lost, they're all dying, they're all going to hell. There's nobody but me. I've got to save them all!"

That's what a fanatic I was when I got saved. I looked at them all and I thought, "Oh! I've got to go! I've got to run! There's nobody but me talking about Jesus."

There were others out there, of course, but I had not personally heard anyone really telling people that they were lost and they needed to accept Jesus. I had gone to church most of my life. I never heard anyone in church tell me I was lost and needed to get saved. So, on the day I got saved, God convinced me that the whole world was on their way to hell and I had to get them saved. One day I got saved, and the next day I was out there winning the lost to Jesus.

Nobody ever told me how to win people to Jesus. I never had a course on witnessing. I just did it. I went out and told what Jesus had done for me. I said, “Jesus delivered me from cigarettes! He delivered me from alcohol! He forgave all my sins! He bubbles out of my heart in fantastic joy and indescribable love for everybody!”

Nobody can argue with your testimony. When you get up there and you say, “God forgave all my sins. I am spotless. I am a brand new creation!” Nobody can argue with you.

God gave me peace in my heart that I never had before. I had followed the things of the world around. I looked for worldly excitement in wild parties and all that kind of stuff, and nothing ever

gave me peace. Nothing ever gave me happiness, but Jesus gave me joy in my heart. That's why I have to share Him with every person I meet. Everyone is looking for cleansing from sin. Everyone is looking for peace and searching for real happiness. You don't have to have a week-long seminar to tell someone what Jesus did for you, because they already know they need what Jesus has given to you!

If somebody has got to sit down and tell you how to witness, then there is something missing in your heart. Something is wrong on the inside of you. Beloved, that may step on your toes, but I hope it does. Do you know why? Because each and every one of us ought to be out there saying, "Do you know what Jesus did for me? Would you let me tell you how Jesus gave me peace? Can I share how Jesus took away all of my guilt? Did you know there are two kinds of people — those who are saved and those who are about to be... which one are you?"

One morning, many years ago, Charles and I looked out of our window and I said, "Oh, Lord, I pray for all those that are out there manicuring

their grass. I pray for all of those that are out there cutting all those little twigs off of their trees.

I pray for all those who are in bed this morning getting over a hangover. Glory to God, I just pray for them.” Do you know what God said to me? He said, “Go out and compel them to come. Go out and compel them to come.”

That afternoon, Charles and I visited our neighbor, right next door. He was bald-headed as he could be, but we made up our minds that we were going to grab hold of his hair anyway and pull him into the kingdom of God! What an incredible joy it was to hear him ask Jesus into his heart!

Don't Take Anything for Granted

This Christmas was one of the most special ones of our entire life. Last year, our first grandson, whom I had not seen in over thirty years, contacted me and we were reunited. This year, Charles and I flew to Phoenix to spend Christmas with him, his wife and their children, as well as all our other family members. My grandson's wife is one of nine sisters who all live

near each other. They all gather together every month with all their spouses and children. They are the most loving family I have ever met in my entire life. But one of the first things I did after we arrived in Phoenix and had begun to visit with them was to ask them, “Did you know there are two kinds of grandsons and granddaughters-in-law and great-grandchildren? Those who are saved and those who are about to be — which are you?” I had shared the miracles of God for about an hour and they were fascinated with them.

They all responded in unison, “We’re about to be!” And each and every one of them received Jesus in their heart. Hallelujah! Don’t just compel the stranger to come — be sure you compel your loved ones to come into the kingdom of God. Don’t take anything for granted!

You might say, “I can’t be a witness because I might turn them off.”

I’ve got news for you — they’re turned off already! Don’t worry, don’t worry, don’t worry! They’re turned off! You can only help them to get turned on.

“Well, they might think I’m a fanatic.” They think you’re a fanatic already! So don’t worry

about that. They're empty, and you're full. They know something is missing. They might think you are crazy, but when they see that joy of the Lord bubbling out, bubbling over and running all over the place, there's just something about it they are going to want. And they will begin to say, "Come on, give me some of that living water. I want whatever it is that makes you bubble over all the time."

Things of the World Can Rob People of Eternal Life

Let's look back at Luke 14:21. The servant went out to those on the guest list, and they came up with every excuse not to come to the banquet. The first man said, "I've bought a new piece of ground and I've got to take care of it."

Worldly possessions, even good ones, can literally pull you away from the things of God if you will let them. God wants you to have every blessing in the world, but He doesn't want the blessing to "have you." A lot of people don't know how to handle their blessings. The minute they begin to achieve success in their business or get a

raise and can afford some nice luxuries, they don't have time for God.

Someone who has asked God for increase for many years and then gets really blessed will often forget where the blessings came from. They say, "Oh, I've worked so hard, and I really deserve this and that. I give my employer his money's worth. I don't cheat anyone. I'm a good person. I don't mistreat my family. I don't need to go to church. I take my kids hunting and fishing and I buy my family everything they need." Hell is going to be full of men who said things like that. Hell is going to be full of sweet old ladies, too, who never got born again. They always had work to do and their "god" was in staying busy, busy, busy. They never had time to ask Jesus into their heart and depend on Him to set their priorities. Things of this world consumed these people so that they never paid attention to the invitation from the Master.

Obsession with Success Competes With Salvation

Then the next man said, "I've just bought five teams of oxen. So I've got to go out and work with them and train them."

This is an example of someone's job becoming the god of their life. They become so involved in becoming a success that they just don't have time to respond to an invitation which might take a tiny portion out of their daily planner or goal book. They don't have time for that Full Gospel Businessmen's meeting that a friend invited them to. They can't fit church into their schedule. They have better things to do than listen to the preacher pouring his heart and soul into a television crusade. Then, it's too late - and there are no more invitations.

I remember, years ago, when I owned a printing company before I got saved, my excuse to the pastor who came in every week and personally invited me to come to church was, "You Know, I have worked so hard all week long. Sunday morning is the only morning I have to sleep." Then, to show how religious I was, I said, "I'm sure God doesn't mind if I sleep on Sunday morning."

I was so determined to be a success that I had no time for the things of God. But one of the things I have discovered is, it is so easy to become a success when you do it *with* God instead of

without Him. God can make you a success faster than you will ever make a success of yourself, if you learn to depend on Him.

God has a way of speaking to your employer that you can never do. You can work really hard and you can say all the right little things that you want to, but when you have fellowship with God, you can say, “God, would you mind speaking to him? You know, God, I’ve been tithing and tithing and tithing; now, God, I need a raise because I want to give some more into your kingdom.” God will pass up all those other people that are in your firm and He will speak to your boss about giving you a raise, and your boss will never even know what happened to him. Hallelujah!

Who Do You Place First in Your Life?

Then, in Luke 14:20 was another poor excuse. The last man said, “I have just gotten married and, since we are newlyweds, I can’t come.”

We can let family get in the way of our coming to God and our progress with God. You might think, “Now, Frances, you don’t sound very much like a family person.” Yes, I am. I love my

children, and even before them, I love my husband. But God comes first in my life. And I praise God that He comes first in Charles' life. I praise God that He is first in the life of my children. That is the proper order of our affection — God, spouse, and children. When things are in proper order, your life is open to the blessings of God.

So many times we can use our family as an excuse. But I have a special word for you... “You are responsible.” The devil will tell you, “You’re going to turn your husband off if you put God first.” Don’t worry about that. If he’s not putting God first, he’s turned off already. When you get to heaven, you are responsible for yourself. You will answer to God and not your husband when you get to heaven. So God has to come before your family.

I remember when I first got saved and I started on this mad, wild love affair with God. I stood up in a church and I said, “I love God more than I love my daughter.” My daughter was thirteen at the time. And the whole church went, “000000hhhhhh” in a loud moan of shock, as if they were all thinking, “Isn’t she terrible?” No, I was not terrible, because when the Spirit of God

came into me and I realized I loved Him more than anything else that could possibly exist in the universe, He gave me a supernatural love for my daughter that was far greater than any I could ever have had in the natural.

The blessing of putting God first, even before your family, is that they all benefit when He gives you supernatural love for them and supernatural joy and patience and faith and gentleness. Your family reaps the benefit of you putting God first, and as a result they learn to put God first also. My daughter loves God just like her mother does. She now has an anointed healing ministry and God is using her to bless people because she puts Him first.

When you put God first and you let your family see the joy of the Lord in you, they are going to want the same thing. You let them see you trusting God in every situation, and they are going to learn to trust God. You don't want them to put their reliance on you as their parent — you want them to put their total reliance and total dependence on God. Then they will teach their families to do the same. When you teach your family to put God totally first, you leave them a legacy that no

amount of money can buy and no inheritance can equal.

The Master Wants His Banquet Hall Filled

In Luke 14:23, the master of the banquet — who is Jesus — was furious that all the people who were invited ignored his invitation, even after they were reminded. He said, *“Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.”*

For years, I thought that Jesus was saying to go and bring in poor people, not the rich because they didn't need it. The rich need Jesus just as badly as the poor do. Sometimes I think they need Him more, because they get satisfied with success and they get self-sufficient. I was satisfied with success before I got saved. But I was really among the poor because I was so poor in spirit. I didn't know what the love of God could do in the life of a person. I didn't know the joy that Jesus could give to a person.

The poor which Jesus calls for are those who don't know Jesus. They can be poor while living in the finest mansion. These are those who are poor

on the inside because there is a total unfulfillment in their life that they will not even realize until they come to saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The master said, “Bring in the maimed.” Many times when I think of the maimed, I think of those who have been wounded. Jesus was really giving some good advice here. He said to go to the people who are in need, and those are the people who will listen to you. Sometimes those people who are so affluent and who have everything, in the material sense, will keep shoving you off. But the word of God never returns void. You just keep on putting the word of God into their hearing, and one of these days it is going to get past their ears into their spirits, and they’re going to suddenly say, “Oh, I remember that lady twenty years ago who witnessed to me about the love of God.”

There are many ways of being maimed. It is not always a flesh wound. There can be an accident or a physical tragedy. But there can be a divorce that is imminent. There can be a situation that has torn someone’s soul apart. The easiest person to reach with the gospel is someone who is hurting. You can say to them, “Jesus has got the answer to

everything that's wrong with you." You can say, "If you're hurting, you come on with me. Come with me. I can take you to Someone who will heal your hurt"

"Bring in the lame." Do you know that the lamest person you will ever see will be strong when they walk in a covenant relationship with God. In their weakness, God's strength is made perfect. God takes the load. There is a young man who appeared on Robert Schuller's program recently, who has no arms and no legs. He was born without limbs. Yet, the spirit of God on him just makes him glow. He radiates with God's love. His life has physical restrictions we can only imagine; yet, he has a worldwide ministry, sharing God's love with multitudes. His covenant with God has made him stronger than many people who have arms, legs, and plenty of other physical strengths to go with them throughout life.

Kenneth Copeland did a marvelous illustration on being in covenant with God at a Believers' Convention. He explained that, in olden times, sometimes two parties would cut their wrists and let the blood flow together to show they were one in covenant relationship. Sometimes, to show that

the two were walking as one, they would cut a vein in the leg of one person and a vein in the leg of the second person, and then they would tie the legs together to show that the two could walk as one. So it is, when we are in covenant with God and we walk as one with God. As I listened to this illustration, I thought, “The most crippled people in the world are those who do not know the joy of walking with God.” To be truly lame is to not understand that all of the strength of God belongs to us, and all the blessings of Abraham belong to you and to me.

“Bring in the blind,” the master said. There are none so blind as those who see and yet do not see. There are none so blind as those who pass by a spirit-filled church and never see that they are empty on the inside when they could go into that little church and be filled. There are those who see the word of God and who do not see the power of the truth that is within it and do not see the relevance for today. Those are the people who are blind. Go out and bring those people in. Compel them to come with you.

Bring those people in who are hurting. Go into your neighborhood and take a look around and say,

“Who’s that person? What does that person really need most?” begin to pray for those people until you have courage to go out and get them. Sometimes it takes a little courage to go out there and compel them to come.

Then the master of the banquet inquired of his servant, and the servant said, “I’ve done as you asked. I brought in all those poor and lame and maimed and blind people, but there is still room for more.”

You Must Get Serious and Obey the Master

Do you know that heaven has been prepared for billions of people, and it is not very crowded yet? There is still room for more. Just as the earthly host had made preparations for a huge banquet with guests from all over the land, God has made preparations for every single person who has lived or ever will live. There is room for every one of them. Many have not made it, and many of those 6,390 people who die every sixty minutes will not go into the heaven that God has prepared for them. Heaven has lots more room. Go out and get the people and compel them to come.

Then the master said to the servant, “Go out into the highways.” That is your busy places. Go into the shopping mall where you see lots of people. Go into places where there are meetings. Go into cafeterias. Talk to people.

Charles and I were in Wyatt’s Cafeteria just throwing the word of God all over the place. We draw people into conversations about how good God is. If someone has a headache, we pray for them on the spot. If they have a backache, we grow their legs out. It doesn’t matter where they are — in a restaurant or an airport. When you pray for someone and they get healed, do you think they will say “No” when you lead them to ask Jesus into their life? We have never had a person refuse Jesus after He has healed them.

Don’t share doom and gloom with the people. Share the good news! Share what exciting things Jesus has done for you. Sometimes people think they don’t have a testimony. Everybody has got a testimony. If Jesus Christ lives in your heart, you’ve got a testimony because you’ve got the divine Son of God living big inside of you. You have a right and a calling to be enthusiastic and offer the people that excitement and joy!

Then the master said, “Go into the hedges.” You are going to have to root out some of those people that never seem to go into public places. Go to that lady who’s afraid to go outside of her house and talk to her. Go after that person who is uncomfortable in crowds or fearful of people in their heart and compel them to come. If you invite them to church, tell them it’s not just to be in a church building but to receive what God has for them and to hear what He has to say to them. Drag them by the hair of their head. Pick them up in your car. Don’t let them get away from what God has for them.

If someone says, “No”, what have you lost? You haven’t lost a thing by asking. A lot of people have told us “No” over the years. I think sometimes people hear Charles and me tell about so many exciting conversions that they think, “Wow, everybody that they talk to accepts Jesus.” No, they don’t. We have had lots of people tell us “No”. Do you think that discourages me one bit? Not in the least. I have done what God said to do, and I can say, “Their blood is not on my hands.”

God Holds You Accountable for Obeying Him

Let's look at Ezekiel 3:16-19. *Now it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel, therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me. When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand."*

That is a stern word from God. Now look at what He says next:

"Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul."

In other words, the blood of the one who dies in his sin is not on your hands. You have delivered your soul because you shared Jesus with them. You have nothing to lose. They have everything to lose, and you may be the one God uses to save

them. Or you may be the one God uses to plant a seed that they will remember one day which will still lead them to salvation. They have everything to gain if you will just share the love of God.

It's so Easy to Say, "God Loves You!"

Witnessing is just expressing the love of God, even if you simply say, "Do you know that God loves you in a personal way?" Nobody ever told me that God loved me as an individual. I knew that God loved the whole world — "*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*" (John 3:16). I knew that He loved the world in general, but nobody ever said, "For God so loved Frances..." Nobody ever took the Bible and made it personal and said, "Frances, God loves you. You are really special and God loves you."

The most tremendous thing in the world is to know that God loves you. So many times I hear people say, "Nobody loves me. Nobody loves me. Nobody loves me." Yes, someone does! God loves you! Even when the rest of the world gets to the

point that you might think they don't love you, oh, how God loves you. Many people don't share the love of God because they are so afraid that they will offend somebody. The love of God will never offend anybody — and what have you got to lose? When you do get someone saved, you will be hooked for life. There is nothing in this world that will set your spirit soaring like personally leading someone to Jesus!

So You Love Them Enough to Warn Them?

There is a true story about a fire in Las Vegas which started in a large, modern hotel. The fire alarms went off in the middle of the night, and people ran through the long hallways, knocking on the doors, warning the hotel guests to get out before the hotel burned.

Some of the people behind those doors answered, “What? Oh, don't bother me. They've got good fire equipment in this city. This building isn't going to burn. Anyway, I'm tired and I had a little too much to drink last night. It's too much effort to get up.”

Some of those people that didn't come out when they were warned died that night in that hotel fire. They could easily have been saved, but they didn't heed the warning.

Charles and I once stayed in a motel which had the fire alarm go off four times in one night. After the second alarm, you might start to think, "Well, there is something wrong with that equipment" We did think that, but we still got right out of bed and made sure there was no smoke and no fire. When an alarm is going off, you don't lie there in bed and wait to smell smoke. It could quickly be too late.

I want you to think about the unsaved people that you know — your neighbor, the person who lives upstairs, the person at the office. Your flesh will come up with all kinds of excuses. But you just need to share the love of God. Just tell somebody, "God loves you." That is witnessing. Tell somebody what Jesus has done in your life. Your testimony might not be real exciting, but it could be exactly what that person needs to hear. Any testimony where Jesus comes into your heart, takes away your sins, fills you with peace and faith

and hope is exciting, so you have a lot you can say to bless people.

If you're afraid to talk, think about that Las Vegas fire. What if there had been members of your family in that hotel? What if some of your friends or work place associates were in there and it was burning? Would you have stood downstairs and debated and thought, "Well, I can't go and tell them that the building is burning, because they might be offended if I woke them up in the middle of the night?" No. You would have run up there and pounded on those doors with all your might. You would have awakened them and compelled them to come out before they got burnt up. Yet we know there is an eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, which God never intended for his finest creation to go. Will we stand by, afraid to open our mouth, or will we make certain that person is saved?

Every Soul Matters to God

There is a whole world out there, the majority of which is on their way down that path which God showed to Lester Sumrall, moving, moving,

moving towards the gates of hell from which they will never escape. Some of you may think, “How can I make a difference when there are so many that are lost? I can never reach the whole world.”

There is a little story which touched my heart because it is so real and so true. A little boy was walking along the beach after a big storm. After the strong waves had receded, thousands of starfish were lying there, strewn out all across the sand, struggling with all their might because they were out of the water and they were going to die. This little boy was walking along and he would bend over and pick up a starfish and then walk into the water and toss the starfish out where it would live. Then he would come back to the dry sand, bend down and pick up another starfish, walk to the water’s edge and toss that one out into the deep where it would live. A man approached the little boy and said, “Son, you can’t begin to save all those thousands of starfish, so why bother at all? What does it matter?”

The boy gazed at the man in wonder. He held up the tiny starfish in his hand and said to the man, “It matters to this one!”

Compel Them And They Will Thank You in Eternity

Jesus said, “Compel them to come. Go out and find them and make them come in. Use force if you have to!”

Jesus told this parable as His personal instructions to us. It is not a little “iffy” suggestion. It is the heartbeat of Jesus. He is the Master, the generous host in the story, and we are the servants. In the parable, the servant went out immediately and did exactly what he was told to do.

When I first became a Christian, I went out and picked up three carloads of sinners every Sunday morning. I honked, went inside to help them, whatever it took. I didn’t accept any excuses. I compelled them to come because, from the moment I was saved, something within me did not want anybody, not one person, to go to hell.

Jesus has a massive amount of people on his invitation list, and it breaks His heart to see chairs He knows will be unfilled if we don’t go out and compel them to come in. He is counting on us to go out and get them. Like the faithful servant He wants our response to be, “Yes, Sir. I will do as

You say. The banquet is nearly ready and I'm going to help You fill up all those empty chairs!"

Father, right now, I lift up every person who is reading the words on this page. Thank You for the power of your word. Thank You for the power of the Holy Spirit. Father, thank you that the Holy Spirit gives us boldness to obey Jesus and go out and share the love of God with every person that we meet. Grant to us a greater desire to win the lost than we have ever had in our entire life, in Jesus' name. Amen.