



# The Work God Gives Me to Do

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## Kick Start:

How did God speak to you through this message?

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## Main Point:

Jesus' first recorded words are significant: *"I must be about My Father's business."* Even at a young age, our Savior knew He had a unique kingdom mission from his heavenly Father and a divine desire to do His Father's will. By consciously being about His Father's work, Jesus forever changed our lives.

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## Introduction:

Each time believers partake of the bread and cup, we're to remember what Jesus lived and died for and recall the grace and forgiveness that cost Him His blood. We're also called to remember that Jesus came to do His Father's business (Luke 2:46-50). What was this "business" and how can we be about it today?

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## Message Outline:

### *I. To Show Us the Father*

God wants to be known and calls us to respond to what He reveals of Himself. Knowing Jesus is essential for a relationship with God. His life and works reveal God's character. As Jesus reflects the Father, believers are called to reflect Christ in their lives, demonstrating His love and truth to the world.

***John 14:6-11***

***John 12:44-50***

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## Talk About It:

1. *"I must be about my Father's business"* was the motto of Jesus. How can we make that our motto today?
2. How can John 14:9 strengthen our faith in God's presence today?
3. What does it mean to believe in Jesus?
4. How have you experienced God revealing Himself to you, whether through His Word, creation, or circumstances?

### *II. To Make Us One with the Father*

John 17 allows to listen to a conversation between God the Son and God the Father. Jesus wants believers to enjoy a oneness that he shares with the Father modeled on love. The effectiveness of our witness is determined by our unity.

***John 17:11; 20-23***

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**Talk About It:**

1. What are some practical steps we as believers can take to ensure that our lives reflect the unity and love that Jesus prayed for?
2. How well have Christ's followers done at demonstrating the unity Jesus prayed for? How can we do better?
3. How should Jesus' desire for unity among believers influence your attitudes toward church divisions?
4. How does the unity of Jesus and the Father, in their roles and purposes, encourage you in your own life and relationships?

### *III. To Seek and Save the Lost*

God has always pursued us, even though we may not have naturally sought after Him. God's pursuit is exemplified in Jesus, who came "to seek and to save the lost." God's pursuit reminds us of His great love for us.

**Luke 19:10**

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**Talk About It:**

1. How has recognizing God's active pursuit of you impacted your personal relationship with Him and what encouragement does it give you?
2. What steps have you taken or can you take to seek and save the lost?
3. What practical steps can we take to be more responsive to God's pursuit?

### *IV. To Be the Light that Chases Away the Darkness*

God's light shines through the darkness of sin and death and gives us hope. Believers are called to shine His light, reflecting Him to the world.

**John 12:46-47**

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**Talk About It:**

1. How does Christ's light shine in the darkness?
2. In what areas of your life do you see Christ's light overcoming darkness?
3. How can our lives shine the hope and truth of Jesus' light to those who don't yet believe?

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**Conclusion:**

As we strive to do God's business here on earth, we ask that God does His business in our hearts. We want to cooperate with His transformation of our lives—becoming more like Him. Jesus accomplished so much when He died for us and today we remember and cherish it.

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## Make It Practical:

### ABOUT THE FATHER'S BUSINESS

*And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"* —Luke 2:49

*Says one, "How can I do God's business? I have no talent, I have no money; all I earn in the week I have to spend, and I have scarce money enough to pay my rent. I have no talent; I could not teach in a Sunday-school." Brother, have you a child? Well, there is one door of usefulness for you. Sister, you are very poor; no one knows you, you have a husband, and however drunken he may be, there is a door of usefulness for you. Bear up under all his insults, be patient under all his taunts and jeers, and you can serve God, and do God's business so." "But, sir I am sick, it is only today I am able to get out at all; I am always on my bed." You can do your Master's business, by lying on a bed of suffering, for him, if you do it patiently. The soldier who is ordered to lie in the trenches, is just as obedient as the man who is ordered to storm the breach. In everything you do you can serve your God. Oh, when the heart is rightly tuned in this matter we shall never make excuses, and say, "I cannot be about my Father's business." We shall always find some business of his to do. Be about your Father's business with all earnestness, because that is the way of usefulness. You cannot do your own business and God's too. You cannot serve God and self any more than you can serve God and mammon. — Charles Spurgeon*

**Find your place in the kingdom of God. Reflect our Savior and serve your Father wholeheartedly by being about His business.**

#### **Show Others the Father – John 14:6-11**

Humanity's main purpose is to glorify God. We're created in God's image to reflect His character by loving Him and others. **(Matthew 22:36-39)**

#### **Make Others One with the Father - John 17:11-23**

Jesus prayed that believers "may all be one," just as He and the Father are one. He asked that this unity would show the world that God sent Him and that His love is in His people. The keys to unity include humility, putting others first, and following the example of Christ. **(Philippians 2:3-5)**

#### **Seek and Save the Lost - Luke 19:10**

The wonderful mission of Christ teaches His followers that no one is too sinful or too far gone to be saved. we all have a role to play in the Great Commission. As you go out this week, think of all the people in your life who do not know Jesus. "Go" by telling them about Him, praying that God would save them. **(Matthew 28:18-20)**

#### **Be the Light that Chases Away the Darkness - John 12:46**

Christians are sometimes tempted to isolate and submerge themselves in a Christian subculture of their own making and not get too involved in the world. God has placed you in this time and culture to shine a bright light in its darkness. Live in a way that provokes questions, offers hope, and points clearly to the King who rules by grace. **(Matthew 5:14-16)**

#### **Cast Out the Ruler of this World – John 12:31**

Satan may have great strength, yet he is no match for the power of God working in the believer's life. This reality reminds us of the power we have in Christ to overcome the temptations and schemes of Satan. With the Holy Spirit dwelling in us and the truth of God's Word at our disposal to read, hear, and keep, we have everything we need to stand against Satan. **(John 4:4; James 4:7; 1 Corinthians 10:13).**

#### **Draw all People to Himself - John 12:32**

Our conduct plays a role in how the unbelieving world sees Christ. We are warned about hypocrisy: saying one thing but living differently. In our Christian walk, we must be careful not to be like the Jews in who lived

contradictory lives to what they preached. As believers, we are called to put off the flesh and live for the things of God. We are called to love God and love others. We are called to grow in Christlikeness by surrendering to Him and allowing the Holy Spirit to transform us. (**Romans 2:17–24, Ephesians 4:22-24**)

#### **Taste Death for Everyone - Hebrews 2:9**

Suffering is a reality in our world. It's a reality caused by sin, which brought about death and all its related ill effects. Suffering breaks the heart of God. But suffering is not something we need to endure alone and not something without purpose. Christ is with us in our suffering (John 16:33). God sees the sufferings of His children and enables us to bear up under them. He also redeems and uses our suffering for His good purposes (Romans 8:28), and God also provides other Christians to walk beside us when we suffer (**Romans 12:15; 2 Corinthians 1:3–7; Galatians 6:2**).

#### **Bring Many Sons to Glory - Hebrews 2:10**

Jesus became human and suffered death so that believers could be free from the fear of dying. We are Jesus' brothers and sisters, and he understands what it's like to struggle, suffer, and be tempted. He calls for you to come and receive rest. One foot of distance is too much. He wants us to come near. All of us. Celebrate your position as Jesus' brother or sister and invite someone else to come into the family of God. (**Matthew 11:28**).

#### **Break the Power of the devil and the Slavery of Sin – Hebrews 2:14-15**

Believers have also been set free from the dominating power of sin over our own hearts and conduct (**Romans 6:6, 17-18**). Having received the Spirit of God, believers are given new hearts that desire to love and obey God. We are no longer bound to sin and can live in a way that honors God and reflects the hope we have in Christ's return. (**Romans 8:15; 2 Corinthians 5:17**).

#### **Become a Merciful and Faithful High Priest – Hebrews 2:17**

As our High Priest, our Lord is our Advocate represents us before the throne of God and forgives us when we sincerely confess our sins to Him. We approach God not because we are perfect, but because He is faithful. When we pray for others, we join in God's work of blessing, protecting, and transforming lives. Our prayers may move the Lord to act in ways we will never see, but they always matter because God hears and responds. Jesus has made the way for us to come close to God, and now we get to carry others into His presence, trusting Him to do what only He can do. (**James 5:16**)

#### **Praise our Passover Lamb – 1 Corinthians 5:7; Revelation 5:1-14**

We fall to our knees giving worship and praise came because the Lamb took the scroll from the Father's hand. God's great eternal plan would now be fulfilled and creation would be set free from the bondage of sin and death. One day the Lamb will break the seals and put in motion events that will eventually lead to His coming to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. Look up, your salvation draws near. (**Luke 21:28**)

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#### **Prayer Points:**

- We thank you for giving up the glories of heaven to be about your Father's business.
- Continue that business and make us like Jesus.
- Help us to be about your business.
- Forgive us if we're bored, exhausted, or exceedingly dissatisfied with my own affairs.
- Help us not to waste our life in any way.
- Help us to see our calling and be your ambassador
- Help us to bear fruit, spread Good News, and be a good steward of all you've given us.
- Pray for the needs of the group