

Made Adventurous, 3 July 2016 by Ps Lorna Khoo

When the Holy Spirit Comes, we are made adventurous

1. What is the difference between being bold and adventurous?

- Boldness: working within norms and traditions (imagine being in a boat on a storm). Some examples of boldness in the bible:
 - Ananias (Acts 9:22)
 - Damaris (Acts 17)
 - Erastus (Acts 19:22, Rom 16:23, 2 Tim 4:20)
- Adventurous: one step beyond boldness, taking risks outside the safe boundaries, attempting the impossible (stepping out of the boat in the storm)

2. God sometimes pushes us to be adventurous.

- In Matthew 28, Jesus called the disciples to go out into the **world** to make disciples, and they were anointed and inspired to do the work after the Pentecost.
- However, the work of the disciples was mostly focused **locally** on the Hebraic Jews and the Greek Jews.
- There were certain occasions where they did meet with Gentiles (Peter and Cornelius, Philip and the Ethiopian)
- The Pentecost experience was not enough to push them out, and other events came along that led to them **eventually** going out to other nations.
- The persecution that intensely started in Jerusalem after Stephen's death caused the disciples to scatter across the region.
- In AD70, the Jewish rebellion caused Rome to push the Jews further out into the regions outside of Israel. The disciples went pushed to areas far beyond Jerusalem.
- Paul himself experienced the push, when he started his ministry to the Jews, and then went to the Gentiles instead after the Jews adamantly refused his message.

3. We can take one step at a time to become more adventurous for Christ.

- Example of John Wesley: challenge came to him to preach in Bristol (an area predominantly of low-class workers and miners.)

- He was also challenged to preach in the open air as well (a practice that he was very uncomfortable with.)
- He took the step forward to preach, and the number of converts in Bristol grew significantly.

4. Ordinary people can be adventurous and daring for God.

- Tychicus: Acts 20:4, Romans 15:25, Col 4:7-8, Eph 6:22, Titus 3:12, 2 Tim 4:12
- Aristarchus: Acts 19:29, 20:4, 27:2, Col 4:10
- Epaphras: Col 1:7-8, 4:12-13, Philemon 23
- Anjeze Gonxhe Bojaxhiu (Mother Teresa)

5. God uses what is inbuilt us (passions, life experiences) to push us outside of our 'box'.

- Paul: his initiative, confidence, training in the Scriptures, Roman citizenship and crafting skills
– mission work, writing, church planting
- The disciples: their occupational background of being fishermen – ease with sea travel
- Mother Theresa: her spiritual training and disciplines – tiding through spiritual darkness
- Rev Dr. Gunnar Teilmann: his experiences in WWII – care and counselling

Reflect and Discuss: What has God input in you in terms of passions, life experiences, trainings, giftings, skills, social groups and language proficiencies?

6. We must be willing to move when God pushes.

- “Expect great things from God, attempt great things from God” – William Carey

7. Bottom line to a daring life: a surrendered heart.

- “No reserves, no retreats, no regrets” – William Borden

Reflect and Discuss: Are you willing to be adventurous for God? In what area(s) is God calling you to be adventurous for Him? Pray for one another.