

Thom Rainer writes that there are times when churches offer objections towards “going” on mission in the communities where God has planted them.

1. That is not my spiritual gift
2. That is what we pay our pastor and church staff to do
3. I don’t have time
4. I don’t want to impose my beliefs on others
5. I am an introvert

Instead of giving an excuse in fear, may we be bold to give a response in faith as Peter did in Acts 4,

Acts 4:19–20 (HCSB)

¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it’s right in the sight of God for us to listen to you rather than to God, you decide; ²⁰ for we are unable to stop speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Thom Rainer encourages Christians as the bride of Christ and members of a local church to:

1. Pray for opportunities
2. Invite people to church
3. Be intentional in our efforts
4. Be prepared when the time comes

I’d like to add to that that there are four things to be mindful of as a follower of Christ as a member of a local church (Parkway Baptist Church).

1. **See the Command**—Biblical—Matthew 28:18-20
2. **Obey the Call**—Divine—2 Timothy 1:9
3. **Face the Challenge**—difficult—John 15:18
4. **Rest in Christ**—possible—Matthew 19:26; Philippians 4:13

In the words of the hymn writer, William J. Reynolds penned it this way (*Share His Love, stanza #3*):

*We show the love of God each day we live,
Reveal Christ's presence in our lives;
And how the Holy Spirit guides us day by day,
For God so loved the world His only Son He gave. [Refrain]*

*Share His love by telling
what the Lord has done for you,
Share His love by sharing of your faith,
and show the world that Jesus Christ
is real to you ev'ry moment, ev'ry day.*

May we glory in God and go for the sake of His glory with the saving message of His Son, Jesus Christ (*the Gospel*).