Going The Second Mile

Ken Chapman · Matthew 5:40–41

INTRODUCTION

- There are times, spiritually speaking, when the shortcut's not the best way. When the easy route is not the route we should take.
- And there are times our Lord taught us where we should intentionally go further.
- Being rooted and then built up in our faith means that I accept the challenges of Christianity.

1 Jesus Went a Little Farther

Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 12:2; John 15

- He went a little farther and fell on his face and prayed, saying, Oh my Father, if it's possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.
- By going deeper into that garden, he was accepting the consequences of the chain of events that were about to transpire.
- Looking unto Jesus, the author and the finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame.
- He dismissed the shame and went anyway. And endured the cross and the humiliation and the suffering and the death that went with it.

2 Whoever Compels You to Go One Mile, Go Two

Matthew 5:40–41

- If anyone sues you and takes away your tunic, give him your cloak also. And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.
- That's doing more than what's expected of us, and more of even what's demanded of us.
- This was an unfriendly Roman government who was compelling them.
- A Roman soldier could compel a Jewish citizen to walk with them and to carry their rucksack a mile. No more, but a mile.
- His point was, do twice as much as what's demanded of you. That's the way he lived his life.
- If you're going to be a citizen in my kingdom, you need to have that same attitude.

3 The Second Mile Christian Doesn't Look for a Way Out

James 1:22; Philippians 2:12

- The second mile Christian doesn't look for a way out of doing what needs to be done.
- Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.
- People of the world aren't deceiving themselves. They know what they're doing. They just don't care.
- Do I go to church where the truth is taught? But then go out there and just live my life as if the truth wasn't taught on Sunday.

- As you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
- I've got to be the one who makes the application in my life.

4 What's the Least That We Can Do?

1 Corinthians 15:58

- If we're honest with ourselves, this is too often our mentality. What's the least that we can do?
- How much do you want me to do, Lord? What I'm really asking is, how little can I get by with?
- We bring that mentality to a Lord who went further, who despised the shame and endured the cross, who laid down his life.
- Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- Literally, the word means to overthrow, to go beyond, always going beyond in the work of the Lord.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Let's go the second mile. Go the second mile with yourself. Go the second mile with others, and go the second mile with God. Go a little farther into your garden of Gethsemane and love him with all of your being.**

MY NOTES