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*Background*

When Jesus’ walked the earth, the land of Israel had fallen under the control of the Roman empire. The Jews had lost their national independence. Virtually all Jews expected that when the Messiah came, he would deliver Israel from Roman oppression and become king over the Jewish nation reunited and sovereign as it had been under Kings Saul, David and Solomon, and again under the Maccabees and their Hasmonean descendants. Now here was the resurrected Messiah speaking with them about the kingdom. The disciples knew of no reason the Messiah could not set up the kingdom immediately since His messianic work signaled the end of the age. Remember, Jesus preached, “The kingdom of God is near” (Mark 1:15; Luke 22:29-30). People assumed He was talking about this earthly, physical kingdom, and they were partially correct. Before Jesus ascends, the disciples wonder out loud about the imminence of this kingdom. In answering His disciples, He answers the question, “In what business is the church?”

**The Question: In what business is the church?**

1. **The \_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (6-7)**
2. **It's \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_ \_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (8)**

**Pray**

“Jesus, You died upon a cross And rose again to save the lost Forgive me now of all my sin Come be my Savior, Lord, and Friend Change my life and make it new And help me, Lord, to live for You.”

“God, give me today an opportunity to speak with someone about Jesus, the wisdom to see it, and the courage to take it.”

**Jesus’ Story**

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**Baptism**

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