

Think On These Things...

"WHERE DO WE START?"

"...and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

The other day my son and I resolved to rake up all the leaves around the house. We were both excited to get out and do a little yard work. I fueled up the leaf blower while he journeyed to the shed to retrieve a rake. We met in the backyard, and as we looked around we were mesmerized by the amount of leaves that were there. Overwhelmed by what I saw, I asked my son, "Where do we start?" Without hesitation he said, "Why don't we just start where we're at!" I thought to myself, what a novel idea! Why didn't I think of that? So, taking the advice of my eight-year-old son, we began right where we were and before long we had completed the task we had set out to do.

"Where do we start?" How many times do we as Christians ask that very same question relative to kingdom labor? We look around and are quickly overwhelmed by the amount of work before us. We see the masses of people in need of evangelizing (**John 4:35**), erring Christians in need of restoring (**Gal. 6:1-2**), elderly folks in need of assistance (**Acts 6:1ff**), repairs that are needed on the building where the saints meet (**Neh. 1:1ff**), etc., and we wonder to ourselves where to begin. And while we sit and contemplate our starting point, the needs continue to mount and go unattended. The best place to start is right where we are. Instead of looking out in the distance at all the work there is to do, just look straight ahead and begin working those areas closest to you. If we'll all do that, the work can and will be completed!

-Terry R. Townsend