
Discussion Guide

Prepare

Have you ever been on a mission trip? What was it like? What did you do? What did you accomplish and how did you feel afterwards?

The Passage

¹³ “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.” John 7:13-19

1. Reflect on Hebrews 12:3: *“For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame.”* Does Jesus response to his mission surprise you? Is there a connection between mission and joy? Is there a connection between knowing your purpose in life and joy?
2. Reflect on Ephesians 2:8-10: *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

Do you think as Christians we all receive a specific mission in life that or do we all receive merely a general mission for God: Do good works. Share the Gospel. Show compassion to the poor?

3. What mission(s) has God built you for? Why is that important to know? Is it just as important to come to peace with what God has NOT built you for? What has God NOT built you for?
4. Do you think most people are too selfish with their use of time or too selfless with the use of their time? Isn't this the big complaint within the church, that 20% of the people do 80% of the work and 80% of the church does 20% of the work?
5. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? Did you get to live out your dream(s)? If not, what happened?
6. Who was your favorite Marvel/DC/Comic book hero and why? Did you have more than one hero? Is there a hero you still enjoy following? What is your favorite “save-the-world” movie and why?

"Missions"

John 17: 13-19

9/25/22

7. How do you feel about your life? Are you fulfilling God's purpose(s) for your life? Have you discovered your mission in life or are you still searching for it?
8. What's the connection between being saved and being sent by God? Share times where you felt sent by God on a mission. What did you do? What was the experience like? How did you feel afterwards?
9. *"Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."* Jeremiah 29:7
What are you doing to seek the peace and prosperity of Klamath Falls? If you aren't sure what to do, how would you find out?
10. Luke 24:19 says that Jesus was powerful in both word and deed, that's how God sent Jesus out. Do you think the church is powerful in both word and deed or do we tend to favor one over the other?
11. How important is holiness to the mission of God in the world?
12. Reflect on the statement: *"The best thing each of us can do to heal the miseries in Klamath Falls is to go home and look at our lives and find where we aren't living a consistent Christian life."*
Is that an overstatement or close to being on the mark? Has the conduct of the Church or Christians hurt the mission of the Church?
13. I'm reading a book by Andy Stanley, *"Not in it to win it."* His contention is the evangelical cause was dramatically hurt by the conduct of prominent Church leaders and conservative Christians before and after the 2020 election. Do you agree with that thesis?
14. Further questions to pose or reflections on the sermon?