

## Life Group Discussion Questions

**Sermon Series:** Why Do We Do That?

**Sermon Title:** Live Missionally

**Sermon Date:** 10-13/19

### THE GOSPEL GAIN:

*We live missionally to fulfill Christ's mandate to make kingdom-minded disciples.*

The purpose of our study on missionally living is to explain the origin and purpose of the mission given to the church by Jesus after His resurrection. When we consider the reality that God is fully sovereign and that all authority has been given to Him, we should be hopefully confident in our obedience to reach our lost family, friends, neighbors, community and world.

### Gathering Together (Icebreaker)

The reality is, in order for anyone to have become a true disciple of Jesus, someone else was fulfilling Christ's mandate to share the Gospel – a stranger, pastor, friend, song-writer, Bible or Christian book publisher, camp counselor, radio host, Sunday School teacher, etc.

- Tell your Life Group about the person(s) who obediently told you about Jesus and His love:
- How did said person(s) go about sharing the Gospel with you?
- Growing as a disciple of Jesus is an ongoing, life-long transformation. Who has helped you on your spiritual journey and how?

### Growing Together (Truth/Equipping)

Have four people in your Life Group each turn to one of the following passages and read them in succession. Then answer the questions together.

Read: **Matthew 28:18-20** -

Read: **Mark 16:15-16** -

Read: **Luke 24:46-49** -

Read: **John 21:21-22** -

- What is the main message of each text?
- What do these passages have in common and how are they distinct from one another?
- What is lost if we only consider one passage and neglect the instruction in the others?
- Why do you suppose that all four gospel authors chose to record the mission of the church?

**Read Acts 4:13-31** – Peter and John were preaching the gospel in their community but were arrested, threatened and ordered not to preach in Jesus' name. What can we learn from their response to significant opposition in spreading the gospel? What can we apply to our lives?

- in v.13 –
- in vv.19-20 –
- in v.24 –
- in v29 –

**Read Acts 8:26-40** – This is the first time we see Christian missions in action.

- What are some helpful principles and insights that we can glean from this text on how to spread the Gospel? Pay special attention to vv.30-31 and v.35.

**Read Isaiah 6:1-8** –

- How is the glory of God conveyed in this passage?
- After catching a vision of God's glory, what is Isaiah compelled to do?
- What should our response be when Jesus asks us who will go?

Have someone read the following quote from A. W. Tozer – *"The Knowledge of the Holy"*

*Almighty God, just because He is almighty, needs no support. The picture of a nervous, ingratiating God fawning over men to win their favor is not a pleasant one; yet if we look at the popular conception of God, that is precisely what we see. [Twenty-first] century Christianity has put God on charity. So lofty is our opinion of ourselves that we find it quite easy, not to say enjoyable, to believe that we are necessary to God. But the truth is that God is not greater for our being, nor would He be less if we did not exist. That we do exist is altogether of God's free determination, not by our desert nor by divine necessity. Probably the hardest thought of all for our natural egotism to entertain is that God does not need our help. We commonly represent Him as a busy, eager, somewhat frustrated Father hurrying about seeking help to carry out His benevolent plan to bring peace and salvation to the world... The God who worketh all things surely needs no help and no helpers. Too many missionary appeals are based upon this fancied frustration of Almighty God. An effective speaker can easily excite pity in his hearers, not only for the heathen but for the God who has tried so hard and so long to save them and has failed for want of support. I fear that thousands of young persons enter Christian service from no higher motive than to help deliver God from the embarrassing situation His love has gotten Him into and His limited abilities seem unable to get Him out of. Add to this a certain degree of commendable idealism and a fair amount of compassion for the underprivileged, and you have the true drive behind much Christian activity today.*

- What are your reaction to this quote? Do you agree or disagree and why?
- Tozer believes that we have lost the high view of God's sovereignty over all salvation and fail to truly understand the self-sufficiency of God. If the Bible is correct and God truly is all-powerful, all-good and all knowing, why do you suppose He gives the mission of spreading the gospel to the Church, full of broken, finite, limited people like you and me? Why not just do it Himself?

**Getting Real with One Another** (Accessibility)

- When it comes to living missionally in our communities, why do you suppose so many of us Christians feel such fear and reservation in sharing the love of Jesus with lost people?
- What factors limit you personally from sharing Jesus more boldly where you live, work and play?
- How does a solid theology of God's sovereignty over all things alleviate those fears/concerns?
- What is one practical way that each member of your Life Group can live missionally this week?

**Group Prayer Time** (Supplication)

- Share some prayer requests with one another and then pray for one another.
- Pray we would relentlessly strive to develop a passion for God and compassion for people.
- Pray that our faith family will continue sending and supporting global missionaries.
- Pray that God would raise up men and women from Oakwood to go and serve in local and global missions.