

THE LIFE

HOW WE FOLLOW JESUS AT MISSION CITY



MISSION CITY
BIBLE CHURCH

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The 5G Life: How We Follow Jesus at Mission City

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► INTRODUCTION

The shoreline had become a crossroads when two words echoed across the waters of Galilee.

Follow me.

They were life-altering words. One brief, cataclysmic statement if there ever was one. The very words these fishermen had longed to hear since they were young men.

In the world of first-century Judaism, boys were immersed in the Scriptures from an early age. They learned the Torah, discussed its meaning, and were trained to know and love God's word. The most promising students advanced under the guidance of respected rabbis. Those who demonstrated exceptional understanding were invited to continue learning, following closely behind a rabbi as his disciple.

But many boys never heard that invitation. At some point, they were told, in one way or another, that they were not among the best. Instead of being received, they were rejected. Their future would lie elsewhere in the family trade, the fishing boats, the fields, or the marketplace.

Now, imagine being one of those boys. You had watched your friends move on while your own dream quietly slipped away. Maybe you learned to live with the disappointment. Maybe you buried it beneath work and responsibility. But somewhere deep down remained the lingering suspicion that you simply didn't have what it took, that you weren't "good enough."

When the Bible introduces Simon, Andrew, James, and John, in Mark 1, that is where we find them. They are fishing. Mending nets. Hauling ropes. Repairing boats. Running the family business. And there is a strong possibility that years earlier they had experienced the sting of rejection. At some point, another rabbi had looked at them and decided they were not disciple material.

Then Jesus walks onto the beach. Through the noise of crashing waves and working fishermen, he calls them by name.

"Simon, Andrew, James, John."

And then he says the words they never thought they would hear: "Follow me."

Don't miss the significance of that moment. Jesus is not calling the religious elite. He is not choosing the scholars, the experts, or the most qualified candidates. He is calling ordinary men with ordinary jobs and ordinary stories. Real people with real disappointments, failures, questions, and scars.

But he calls them anyway.

That is often where many of us get stuck. We know our failures. We remember our regrets. We carry the weight of shame, discouragement, and disappointment from seasons we'd rather forget. We assume we need to clean ourselves up before we can truly follow Jesus.

But the beauty of Jesus' call is that He already knows everything about us. He knows every chapter of our story because He has already written it. He knows our victories and our failures, our strengths and our weaknesses, the things we have overcome and the things we are still hiding.

Nothing surprises Him and nothing disqualifies us.

And still, he comes to us and says: "I know who you are. I know where you've been. I know what you've done. And I want you. Follow me."

This is what the 5G Life is about. It is not five more things to add to your spiritual to-do list. It is not another program for becoming a better Christian. Jesus has already reconciled us to God through his life, death, and resurrection. We are saved by grace through repentance and faith.

The 5G Life is about what happens next. It is about learning to walk with Jesus. It is about allowing his call to shape how we live, how we love, and how we serve. It is about responding, day after day, to the same invitation first spoken on the shores of Galilee, the invitation that perhaps you need to hear again.

"Follow me."

Welcome to the 5G Life.

MARK 1:17-18

¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him.



GOD TIME

An intentional pursuit of God daily



GATHER TIME

A love for God's family in gathered worship weekly



GROUP TIME

Pursuing growth and accountability within a community of believers



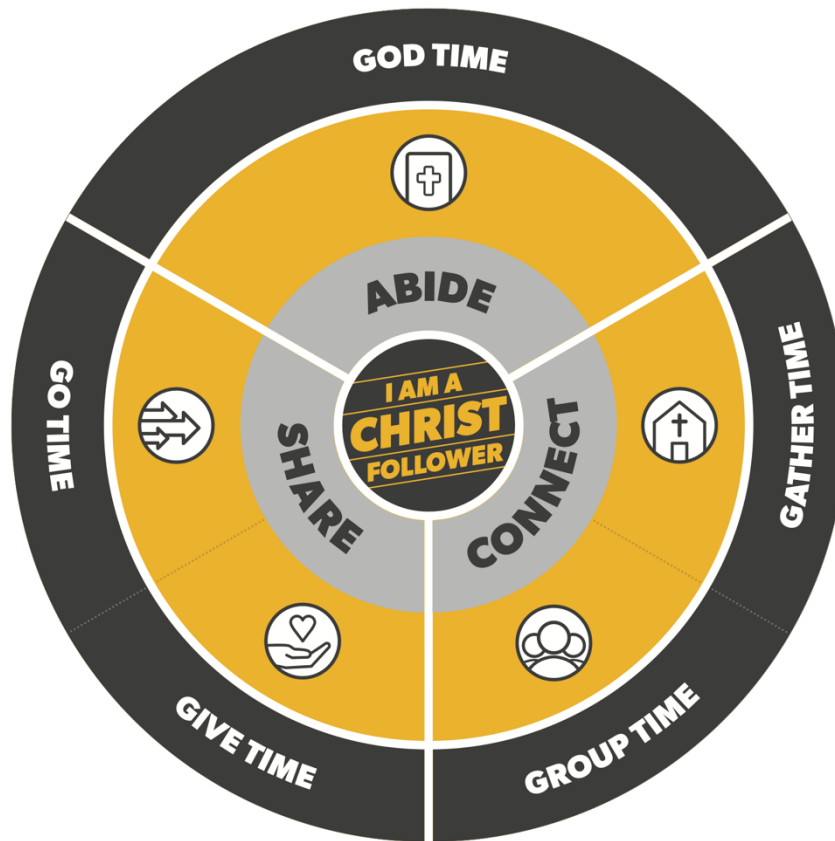
GIVE TIME

A resolve to steward the gifts God has entrusted to me



GO TIME

Time spent weekly and annually seeing the gospel spread locally and globally



A CHRIST FOLLOWER **ABIDES** WITH GOD, **CONNECTS** WITH THE CHURCH, AND **SHARES** WITH THE WORLD.

ABIDE

It's impossible to follow Christ without abiding in Him.

JOHN 15:4

CONNECT

God has designed His church as a body. In order to follow Christ, I must engage in His family.

ROMANS 12:5

SHARE

A true follower of Christ cannot hoard their faith. They are compelled to share and multiply it in others.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20

► SERMON NOTES

SERMON ONE: “LIFE ON PURPOSE”

Luke 9:23-25

BIG IDEA:

► SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW I WILL APPLY THIS SERMON:

WEEK TWO



GOD TIME

I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE
BRANCHES. WHOEVER ABIDES IN ME
AND I IN HIM, HE IT IS THAT BEARS
MUCH FRUIT, FOR APART FROM ME
YOU CAN DO NOTHING.

JOHN 15:5

► THE PATTERN

It's remarkably tempting to live a Christian life without depending on Christ. That's why Jesus exposes the futility of that approach:

JOHN 15:4

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Jesus doesn't say you will bear less fruit on your own. He says you will bear no fruit on your own. To abide means **to stay, to anchor, to remain in His presence**. The practical application of this is what we call "God Time," extended time spent with God daily in His word and in prayer.

It's not a checkmark on our to-do list; it's a lifeline for our survival.

God has spoken clearly through the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, leaving us a divinely inspired message that is entirely trustworthy and wholly sufficient for our lives (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Spiritual growth will not happen by accident. We must remain connected to the vine.

► THE PROBLEM

The world tells us that productivity equals worth. We live in an attention-fractured, notification-driven culture that feeds on what is fast, flashy, and immediately rewarding. We have been conditioned to scroll instead of reflect, consume instead of meditate, and move on instead of linger. We tell ourselves we're too busy, too tired, too distracted, or that we'll get serious about God when life slows down. Quietly, we have been trained to expect instant gratification while losing our appetite for anything that requires patience, discipline, and depth.

Reading the Bible and praying are the opposite of all these things. They cannot be rushed. They cannot be microwaved. They require stillness in a world of noise, focus in a world of distraction, and faith to endure in a world obsessed with immediate results.

► THE PIVOT

BIBLE READING

You cannot unlock supernatural truth with a natural mind. God Time stands on the pillars of Bible reading and prayer, but the transforming power comes as the Holy Spirit fuels your understanding of what God is saying. First Corinthians 2:14 reveals the stakes:

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

If you're confused by what you're reading in the Bible, don't stop. Pivot. Make it a discipline to pray for the Spirit's help before you even read the text. The Spirit will empower your careful observation of the passage as you ask key questions like: who, what, where, when, why, and how.

There's also a difference between passive and active engagement with God's word. For example, listening to others' observations in a podcast is good, but God has fresh application He has designed just for you as you wrestle with Scripture for yourself. Truthfully, some passages will still be difficult to understand, but as time goes on, your delight in the word will grow, your insights will sharpen, and the living and active word of God will continue to shape your life to be more like Jesus.

PRAYER

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4, He didn't say, "If you pray." He said, "When you pray." This subtle shift uncovers a critical truth: prayer isn't a rigid obligation where we say the same things over and over again. Instead, Jesus intends prayer to be a natural and expected rhythm of a vibrant spiritual life. Far from forcing us into a repetitive daily or weekly script, Jesus offered a masterclass in deep, intimate, and powerful communication with our Heavenly Father.

He instructs us to "pray like this." He gives us a blueprint, not a small box. He also gives us the freedom to express ourselves, with all the personality He has given us, while staying anchored in ultimate truth. A simple pathway to praying the way Jesus taught is included on the next page.

MARK 1:35

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

► THE PATHWAY

A helpful way to get the most from your Bible reading is called “the H.E.A.R method.” Use these principles for each passage you read from God’s word:

H: HIGHLIGHT THE VERSES THAT STAND OUT TO YOU

What verses is God using to speak to me?

What title best summarizes this passage?

E: EXPLAIN WHAT THE PASSAGE MEANS AS BEST YOU CAN

What does this passage teach about God?

How does this passage fit the context of this book?

What is the Holy Spirit communicating here?

A: APPLY WHAT GOD IS SAYING HERE TO YOUR LIFE

What does this passage mean for today?

What does this passage mean for my life?

R: RESPOND IN SPECIFIC WAYS TO WHAT YOU’VE READ

Write a prayer of response, or . . .

Write a personal call to action.

God is most honoured in our praying not because we have a plan, but because we pray His word back to Him. With your Bible open to your daily reading passage, pray that section back to God using this simple pattern for prayer (from Matthew 6:9-13):

REVERENCE

Worship God for who He is and what He has done (Matthew 6:9)

RESPONSE

Confess and repent of sin as God reveals it through this passage (Matthew 6:10)

REQUESTS

Ask God for all you need (Matthew 6:11-12)

READINESS

Declare your dependence on God’s promises for the battles ahead (Matthew 6:13)

► DIGGING DEEPER

HOW TO MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

FIRST LETTER MNEMONIC

Write the first letter of each word in the passage (with punctuation). Use those letters as mental cues to remember each word in the passage (see the example below).

EXAMPLE:

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16)

F G s l t w, t H g H o S, t w b i H s n p b h e l (John 3:16)

REPETITION

Recite verses and passages repeatedly to internalize the words and their meaning.

HANDWRITING

Copy verses by hand to help remember them through active engagement with the text.

SET IT TO MUSIC

Create tunes and rhythms to aid memory of a passage.

REVIEW IN PRAYER AND MEDITATION

During God Time and throughout the day, think extensively about the passage to embed it deeper in your heart.

DIVIDE PASSAGES INTO SMALLER SECTIONS

Break larger passages into smaller sections to earn more frequent wins when memorizing a passage.

PSALM 119:11

¹¹I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

COLOSSIANS 3:16A

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly

► SERMON NOTES

SERMON TWO:
SERMON PASSAGE:

BIG IDEA:

► SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW I WILL APPLY THIS SERMON:

WEEK THREE



GATHER TIME

AND LET US CONSIDER HOW TO STIR UP ONE ANOTHER TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS, NOT NEGLECTING TO MEET TOGETHER, AS IS THE HABIT OF SOME, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER, AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY DRAWING NEAR.

HEBREWS 10:24-25

► THE PATTERN

The history of God's people is fundamentally a story of community. From the beginning, God delivered His people not just from bondage, but for relationship, both to Him and to one another. From the Tabernacle and the Temple in Israel's earliest days (Exodus 25:8-9; 1 Kings 8:16-17) to the Synagogue where Jesus launched his ministry (Luke 4:16), to the birth of the Church (Acts 2:1-13), God has always reserved sacred space for His people to be with Him. When Jesus fulfilled the law through his life, death, and resurrection, and the Holy Spirit came, the definitive mark of God's people was no longer a physical location; instead, they became a living movement. Thus, *Gather Time* remains critical to the life of the Church:

Gather Time is the local church coming together in a physical space, at a specific time, for the primary weekly meeting centered around the preaching of God's word and the worship of Jesus Christ.

► THE PROBLEM

We make time for what matters to us. Yet too often, the weekly worship gathering loses out to lesser priorities. The excuses are familiar:

- "I'm so busy through the week, and Sunday is my only day to sleep in."
- "I paid a lot of money for that cottage, and the weekend is my only time to get there."
- "My kids are travelling every weekend for sports."
- "I can worship God on my own time, in my own way, and by myself."
- "It's too beautiful outside to sit indoors for so long," or its evil twin, "It's too nasty outside to leave the house!"

And on the list goes. To be sure, there are legitimate reasons that can make church attendance difficult, like health or mobility or unavoidable situations. But usually the real culprits are comfort, convenience, and a culture that encourages us to put our own preferences first.

JOHN 4:23-24

²³"But the hour is coming and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

► THE PIVOT

What we often forget is that the weekly worship gathering is no ordinary event. It is a sacred appointment with our Creator that is layered throughout by the supernatural presence of God. It is here, through prayer, worship, and the preaching of His word, that God meets with His people. There are blessings, encouragements, and moments of deep personal transformation in the corporate gathering that simply cannot be replicated anywhere else in our lives.

► THE PATHWAY

Every gathering we miss because of misplaced priorities slowly reshapes our hearts. Over time, holy habits are hollowed out and replaced by lesser routines that dull our sensitivity to God's work in our lives. How, then, do we make the weekly worship gathering one of the main priorities in our lives?

PRAY:

Ask God to grow your desire to be with Him and with His people. Repent of laziness, indifference, distraction, or other sins that have kept you from receiving this gift of God's grace in your life.

IDENTIFY:

What are the obstacles in your schedule that regularly pull you away from church? What steps you can take to address them? Furthermore, what are the obstacles in your heart that are holding you back from committing to being with God's people? Are you evaluating church based only on what you get from it or what you like about it, rather than worship, service, and growth?

DECIDE:

Make the gathering with God's people your first choice for every Sunday, not the last resort. Choose to treat Sunday differently. If you really are as busy as you think you are, then why not take the day of rest God offers and replenish your soul in Him?

CHANGE:

Alter the way you think about church: it's not an obligation, but rather a gift of grace for your good. Adjust the way you think about your place in our church: you are called by God to be a team member in the action, not a spectator on the sidelines.

► SERMON NOTES

SERMON THREE:
SERMON PASSAGE:

BIG IDEA:

Handwriting practice area consisting of 20 rows of dotted lines for notes.

► SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW I WILL APPLY THIS SERMON:

WEEK FOUR



GROUP TIME

BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS
AND SO FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST.

GALATIANS 6:2

► THE PATTERN

Before the cosmos released its first breath, relationship existed in the perfect, unbreakable bond of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:26). The Trinity is our flawless example of community. Driven by radical grace, God chose to share that love with humanity. He created us, but not in some cold, distant way. He carved His very image deep into the recesses of our souls. He made us so we could know Him both now and forever (Genesis 12:1-3; Isaiah 45:18-23).

Even more, He made us with a need for our lives to weave together with one another in different ways (Acts 2:42-47). For God, deep and lasting relationships are not a casual recommendation or an optional choice. It's a non-negotiable priority for His children. In fact, He issues an urgent command in Hebrews 10:24-25 when He says:

And let us consider how to stir one another up to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

► THE PROBLEM

"Life is just so busy right now."

It's the ultimate shield. And it's partly true. Between the relentless grind of work, rushing kids to their activities, and trying to keep the household together, we feel pushed to our limits more than we'd care to admit. But if we're honest, "busy" is often a convenient mask for a deeper problem. It's an easy excuse to keep our distance. We steep our lives so full of things to do so we won't need to think about some of the higher leverage essentials that make us who we are.

Consider: what if we actually aren't too busy for community? What if we're just afraid?

Afraid of being known: Letting people see the unfiltered, non-Instagram version of who we are.

Afraid of being hurt: Remembering the nightmare of how the last small group experience went.

Afraid of being pushed: Worrying that God might use this group as a mirror to reveal the things within us that we'd rather keep hidden. These fears are subtle lies devised to isolate us. But isolation is a quiet trap, and fear is a brutal dictator.

► THE PIVOT

Group Time isn't about squeezing another commitment into your calendar. It's about building your life around what God says is most important.

The Bible gives us more than fifty distinct commands about how to live out our faith together. In other words, Christianity can't be lived alone. Your faith won't thrive if other priorities are squeezing it out. Gathering with the church is one of God's gifts of grace to us (Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 10:24-25). Personal devotion is essential, but life in the body of Christ is non-negotiable.

► THE PATHWAY

If you're not in a small group, your next step is obvious: join one. But maybe some mental and spiritual shifts need to happen first. Before you sign up, examine your heart against these questions:

DO I NEED TO SHIFT FROM BEING A CONSUMER TO BEING A CONTRIBUTOR?

My Shift: Stop asking what a group can do for you. Start asking how you can purposefully step into God's design for community in your life.

DO I NEED TO SHIFT FROM BEING CALENDAR-DRIVEN TO VALUE-DRIVEN?

My Shift: Realize your commitment to your small group is not something you do if you have extra time. It's a group of believers you commit to walk with through life for your good and for God's glory.

DO I NEED TO SHIFT FROM FEAR TO FAITH?

My Shift: Trade the anxiety of past wounds and the possibility of future fears for present trust in God and His promises to you (Proverbs 3:5-6). Believe that He will use this community in all their (and your) glorious imperfections to deepen your relationship with Him and others.

Don't join a small group because of guilt, pressure, or the desire to impress. For your sake and that of the people across the living room, align your heart with God's good purposes for community. Pray for a willing spirit, walk by faith, and take your next step in your walk with Him.

► SERMON NOTES

SERMON FOUR:
SERMON PASSAGE:

BIG IDEA:

► SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW I WILL APPLY THIS SERMON:

WEEK FIVE



GIVE TIME

HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN
SON BUT GAVE HIM UP FOR US ALL,
HOW WILL HE NOT ALSO WITH HIM
GRACIOUSLY GIVE US ALL THINGS?

ROMANS 8:32

► THE PATTERN

Stewardship did not begin with a bank, with a budget, or with a business. It began with a Garden. God spoke creation into existence, pinned the stars against the night sky, and lifted Adam from the dust, only to hand him a profound mandate that remains today: enjoy and steward it all (Genesis 1:28-31; 2:15, 19-20).

That first conversation between God and man reveals the heartbeat of biblical stewardship: we are only temporary caretakers of eternal investments (Matthew 25:14-30). God owns everything and has trusted His gracious and creative work to our care for a limited time. Every dollar in our bank accounts, every minute on our schedules, and every breath in our lungs is on loan from the Creator. He not only owns everything, but he also establishes the boundaries for how it should be used. Therefore, true biblical stewardship is not content with asking, “How do I want to spend my money?” but rather asks, “How can I leverage all of God’s resources in my life to advance the Kingdom work of Jesus Christ?”

► THE PROBLEM

Martin Luther once said that all believers must undergo three conversions: the conversion of the heart, the conversion of the mind, and the conversion of the wallet. Sadly, Luther noted, not all three conversions happen at the same time.

We’ve made it too easy to excuse poor stewardship. We say, “I’ll give more when I have more.” This may be legitimate in certain seasons of life. But often, the increase has always been there. We’ve just used it to further personal comfort instead of Kingdom advancement.

We’ve privatized our finances so much that we find it distasteful for anyone to broach the subject, especially at church. We’ll lay bare our entire financial life to a secular financial planner, but when our pastor or small group leader talks about tithing, some people start looking for a new church. We hide behind the worn-out phrase, “My giving is between me and God.” And while that’s biblically true (2 Corinthians 9:7), it too often shields us from accountability, and it becomes a smoke screen to hide how little we actually contribute.

But stewardship isn’t just about money. It’s also about the talents and the time God has given us. We say, “I don’t really have anything to offer.” But what if God isn’t looking for what you think is valuable, and instead is simply calling you to deploy what He has already given you to build His church and advance His kingdom?

Sadly, Luther was right. The heart and the mind are necessary for conversion, but until the transformation reaches our wallets and our calendars, we are still very much a work in progress.

► THE PIVOT

Stewardship is not a money issue, or a time issue, or a gifting issue. It's a discipleship issue. It's a spiritual thermometer of our hearts. The way we steward our time, treasures, and talents reflects the depth of our surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ and our passion for His kingdom.

Stewardship, in all areas of life, matters for at least two reasons. First, good stewardship shows that we understand the grace we've received:

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Second, good stewardship—and financial giving particularly—mirrors the heart of God,

ROMANS 8:32

who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Ultimately, stewardship is about trust. It means acknowledging God as the Owner of all things but also believing He is our good and gracious and willing Provider. Do we believe that God will meet all our needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19)? And can we rest satisfied in that promise, even if God meets our needs in ways we don't expect?

PSALM 24:1

¹The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

PSALM 50:10-11

¹⁰For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.

► THE PATHWAY

A life of God-honouring, sustainable stewardship begins from the inside out. When we manage our time, treasures, and talents from a place of biblical purpose, we stop focusing on what we have to give up, and we start focusing on what we get to build. It's about cultivating deeper, better desires. Consider your current "Embrace vs. Eliminate" ratio below, and add to the list as God leads you:

EMBRACE: Contentment in Jesus Christ (Philippians 4:11-13)

ELIMINATE: Greed for the things of the world (Luke 12:15)

EMBRACE: Giving your first and best to the Lord (Proverbs 3:9-10)

ELIMINATE: Worldly consumerism (Hebrews 13:5)

EMBRACE: A Kingdom-driven budget (Matthew 6:33)

ELIMINATE: Consumer debt (Luke 14:28)

EMBRACE: Love, humility, and servanthood (Philippians 2:3-4)

ELIMINATE: Extreme individualism (Proverbs 18:1)

EMBRACE:
ELIMINATE:

EMBRACE:
ELIMINATE:

► SERMON NOTES

SERMON FIVE:
SERMON PASSAGE:

BIG IDEA:

► SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW I WILL APPLY THIS SERMON:

WEEK SIX



GO TIME

AND JESUS CAME AND SAID TO THEM, “ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE END OF THE AGE.”

MATTHEW 28:18-20

► THE PATTERN

In his end-time vision, the Apostle John witnessed a spectacular reality. He captured a definitive glimpse into the heart of God for humanity:

REVELATION 5:9-10

⁹And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

Later, in Revelation 7:9-10, this vision further erupts into a thunderous global anthem. This was God’s blueprint from the beginning. He commanded us to “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it” (Genesis 1:28). Scattered through the remainder of the Old Testament are promises of a coming Messiah to save us from our sins. And following the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ, our Messiah, God emboldens us to embrace His mission with the power of His message and the promise of His presence:

MATTHEW 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

► THE PROBLEM

From our perspective, this assignment often feels distant and impossible. Our world is too divided to know this kind of harmony, too broken to know this kind of peace. Sometimes we look at the scale of this mandate and think, “I’m too far away to make any real difference.”

More often, though, our biggest hesitations are not time, money, or distance. We delay because of barriers that are deeply personal and far closer to home:

THE FEAR OF REJECTION

We dread the sting of hostility and persecution, and we don’t want to come across as self-righteous to the people we genuinely care about.

THE DECEPTION OF CULTURAL CREEP

We've internalized the worldly view that 'what works for me may not work for everyone.' (This, too, is a result of fear.)

THE SNARE OF SPIRITUAL INSECURITY

What happens if someone asks me a question I can't answer? Will my wrong answer push them farther away from God? At the very least, many of us feel under-equipped for a task with such eternal consequences. (This, too, is a result of fear.)

THE SETTLING FOR A LESSER WAY

We've become satisfied with 'letting our life do the talking.' But a Godly lifestyle and a verbal witness are meant to walk hand-in-hand. (This, too, is a result of fear.)

THE MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE MISSION

We've convinced ourselves that missions only happens across an ocean rather than seeing our everyday surroundings as our primary sending ground. (This, too, is probably a result of fear.)

► THE PIVOT

We go because God came.

Jesus Christ launched the ultimate rescue mission by descending into a broken world as God in the flesh (John 1:1-14). His atoning work redeems and reconciles humanity to God, through repentance and faith, and brings glory to our Heavenly Father.

God's descending and our deployment exist for the same reason: His supreme glory.

PSALM 96:3

³Declare His glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

PHILIPPIANS 2:10-11

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth, and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We also go because God sends us (Matthew 28:18-20). Every Christ-follower is part of this eternal and unstoppable movement. It is destined to one day culminate with the breath-taking heavenly choir from Revelation 5, a gathering from every culture and every generation, shouting endless praise to the King.

► THE PATHWAY

So, how do we go? How do we take our first steps or our next steps into God's great mission?

First, look beyond your fears. Whatever anxieties or insecurities weigh heavy on you, God has promised His peace and His presence, which is greater than any fear that immobilizes us.

JOHN 20:21

²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

ACTS 1:8

⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

We are all sent, therefore, we must all move. But that movement will look different for everyone. For some, obedience means crossing an ocean with the gospel of Jesus Christ. For others, obedience will be crossing the street. Jesus' point is that we make intentional moves toward unbelievers with the hope of the gospel as "goers" (those who take the gospel to new frontiers, globally and locally), as "supporters" (those who commit prayer, finances, and practical encouragement through the local church), and as "pray-ers" (those who engage in the spiritual warfare of kingdom advancement through extraordinary, earnest prayer for the global harvest).

Over generations, Christians have used several proven tools to help guide missional conversations with unbelievers:

THE GOD, MAN, CHRIST, RESPONSE OUTLINE

God has created all things. He is perfectly holy and worthy of our worship. Because of His perfection, He must punish all sin.

Man, though created in God's image, is sinful by nature. We are separated from God due to our sin and we are subject to His judgement.

Christ is fully God and fully man, lived a perfect and sinless life, and died in our place and for our sins to satisfy God's holy and rightful wrath. He rose from the dead to defeat sin and Satan, and to give us eternal life and the forgiveness of our sins.

Response: God calls all people to repent of their sin and trust in Christ to be saved.

HELPFUL EVANGELISTIC QUESTIONS

- Do you ever think about spiritual things?
- Do you consider yourself a spiritual person?
- How would you describe your spiritual beliefs?
- What gives your life meaning and purpose?
- When you think about 'God,' what comes to your mind?
- How can we make sense of everything that happens in our lives?
- How can anybody really know what is right and wrong?
- What do you think happens after we die? Are you ok with that?

SHARE YOUR TESTIMONY

Tell the story of how God broke through the hardness of your heart and gave you faith to believe in the finished work of Christ as the full payment for your sins. Write it out in full and rehearse it, if you need to, so you're prepared for the next time someone asks about your relationship with God. And remember: God is always the hero of your story. Don't share your testimony in a way that leaves the impression that you saved yourself; you didn't. God saved you—from beginning to end!

"The Church is a rescue station on the brink of hell, not a country club for saints. We are here to snatch brands from the burning, to invade enemy territory, and to reclaim what belongs to the King" (C.T. Studd). We are all called to go. The only wrong move is to stand still and do nothing. Which lane is God calling you to step into today?

► SERMON NOTES

SERMON SIX:
SERMON PASSAGE:

BIG IDEA:

► SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW I WILL APPLY THIS SERMON:

FOR MORE INFORMATION & RESOURCES



We exist to glorify God through the fulfillment of
the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment

MATTHEW 28:19-20; MATTHEW 22:38-39



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