



Why Missions?

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Lesson Goal

Students will be able to answer the question: Why the church and every Christian should be involved in Missions?

Lesson Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Give verses on why missions
2. Name the four reasons for missions
3. Explain why they should be involved in missions

Key Verse

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Application

1. Jesus commissioned us to take the gospel to the world .
2. He is our God and Creator.
3. We are His ambassadors.
4. People need to be saved.



Teacher Planning Sheet

Prepare

Objectives/Truths to cover this week

- _____
- _____

Personal Application

As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to

- _____
- _____

Three ways students need to apply this passage are

- _____
- _____

Point

Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.

- _____
- _____

Proclaim

Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.

Presentation Ideas

- _____
- _____

Praise/Music Ideas

- _____
- _____

Practice

Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.

- _____
- _____



Lesson

In Joshua chapter one, we read of an amazing historical account of God commissioning the Children of Israel to do what He has been promising. God speaks to Joshua and all the children of Israel. He gives them a mission; He tells them to arise and go. God had been promising this land and now, it is “go time”. He gives them the authority to go, the clear boundaries of the mission and the promise that He will go with them. This is a tremendous privilege, if an earthly king commissions or calls on anyone to do something, it is a privilege. How much more when God calls on someone to do something. Can you image being a part of this army that was going into the promised land? Why is it called the promised land? Because God had been promising it for hundreds of years. This was the second attempt. The first of attempt failed, due to lack of faith. The current commissioned ones had parents that could have been the ones who accomplished the mission, however they lacked faith. This generation was going to accomplish the mission, they were going to complete what God had promised. In this historical event it was clear that not just some of the tribes would need to be involved, all of them would need to be involved. The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh were reminded that all need to be involved, not just some. This was a call to action. Look at their response in verse 16: “And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.” What is our response in our day?

Commissioned by Jesus:

Why missions? We have a mission in our generation, as it has been in every generation since Jesus commanded. It is called the great commission. Just like the Israelites in Joshua chapter number one, we are called to arise and go. This commission is stated in all four gospels and reiterated in Acts. (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-49, John 20:21, and Acts 1:7-8) Open your Bibles and read each variation and think about what God has called you to do: called all of us to do. The land was promised for hundreds of years, and the promise of salvation was given immediately after the fall. Genesis 3:15 states, “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” The seed is promised, God will redeem us from the curse of sin. All throughout the old testament the coming messiah is promised. Isaiah explains how He would be wounded for our transgressions, He would be bruised for iniquities. He was coming to die for us, the promise of the seed was going to be fulfilled. Jesus came and fulfilled His part. He has crushed death; however, this message must now get out. He commissioned us to do it! Jesus said, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18–20.



Notice he first states very clearly, I have all power, meaning I have the authority to say what I am about to say. Then He says, "Go ye", this is the commission, he did not say stay ye, but go! He sets the boundaries of the whole world, we are not just to stay local, but the whole world must be reached. He also gives us the promise, "I am with you." He will go with us; He will never leave us nor forsake us.

He makes it clear that this is not just an evangelistic effort, but that churches need to be established to accomplish the mission. Go ye and teach all nations, this means share the gospel. Then when they get saved, you baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Once saved you do more teaching, which is discipling: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. This is all done in an assembly, a church. When churches are planted then the commission is fulfilled in that part of the nation.

Mark says it this way, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Go ye! Preach the gospel, proclaim the good news! To every creature, the sense is it does not matter how you feel about them, if I created them, you share the gospel with them. Don't think about color, language, or other potential barriers, preach the word.

In Luke, the Holy Spirit reminds in Luke 24, "And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." The passage says it behoved Christ, in other words, it was necessary that he suffer for us. The sentence does not end there, as it was necessary for Him to suffer, die on the cross and be risen again, it is necessary for repentance and remission of sins be preached in Jesus name among all nations. Jesus did the necessary, will you and I do the necessary?

In John, the Holy Spirit said it this way, "as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." How did the Father send Jesus? He had Him leave His place of glory in heaven and come to this earth and become a man. Like it says in 2 Corinthians 8, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." Then He said, "even so send I you". Jesus was willing to leave His place of comfort and He is asking you to leave your place of comfort. Will you obey His command and be a sent one? A labourer for Christ? The labourers are few and the job is not done.

Finally, in Acts 1:8, we are told more about all nations, "And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." We don't all leave and go to one place, but we reach all places simultaneously, as the Lord directs.



How will you respond to your Lord? Will you be like the Israelites? “And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.” Jesus, All that you commandest me, I will do! Whithersoever thou sendest me, I will go! Why missions? Because Jesus commanded us.

Jesus deserves the glory

God wants everyone to know that He is the LORD Jesus is creator! He is God! He humbled Himself and died on the cross for all. He is a great God! He is a mighty God! He is worthy of worship and everyone in the world should be worshipping Him. He wants the glory, He wants the worship, and He wants the honour. In the book of Ezekiel, He says over and over “that they may know that I am the Lord”. He is not arrogant, but He is a jealous God. Deuteronomy 4:24 says, “For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.” He is right to be a jealous God, as He alone deserves worship, praise and glory. In the book of numbers when all the Israelites except Caleb and Joshua lacked faith, He said “all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.” Numbers 14:20-24. In Isaiah 42:5-8 it says, “Thus saith God the LORD, He that created the heavens, and stretched them out; He that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; He that giveth breath unto the people upon it, And spirit to them that walk therein: I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, And will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, And give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; To open the blind eyes, To bring out the prisoners from the prison, And them that sit in darkness out of the prison house. I am the LORD: that is my name: And my glory will I not give to another, Neither my praise to graven images.” God is proud of the fact He created everything and for people around the world to say it came by time and chance robs God of glory. He gives every living thing their breath moment by moment, He gave them a soul, they have life because of Him. Does He not deserve glory for that alone? This is a mission’s verse, the righteous one (Jesus) is coming and He will give light to the Gentiles. He wants to open the blind eyes and bring people out of darkness. He does not like praise going to graven images. It is praise that belongs to Him. In Acts 26:18, Paul understands the responsibility has been given to us. We are to tell those in darkness that there is a God, He died for you, stop worshipping dumb idols and worship the worthy One. In Revelation 4:11 it says, “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” God created everyone to give Him glory and honour and power.

We need to get the message out, so God who is worthy receives that glory. According to 1 Peter 4:14, He receives glory when we go and tell the message no matter the outcome and we can be happy about that. Why missions? Because God deserves and wants praise and worship from His creation. Will you go and tell those that have never heard, so that God can receive the glory that is due His name?



We are Ambassadors for Jesus

In 2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 14, the tremendous meditation of Paul states “For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.” If Jesus died for me and saved me from hell, I ought to live for Him. He continues to say not only should I, but the job has been committed to me. We are ambassadors for Jesus Christ. We are His representatives to the world. We are the watchmen, as described in Ezekiel 3:15-21 and 33:1-9. We are to tell the world that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them! There is hope of eternal life, we have the message and we need to tell this world. If we don’t, their blood is on our hands. Paul understood this, as he stated in Acts chapter 20, he said, “Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.” And “Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.” In Luke 2, when the Angelic messengers brought the good tidings of great joy, they specifically said, “which shall be to all people.” We are messengers to and we need to get that message to everyone.

Why Missions? Because we have the message and if we don’t tell them, then it is on us! Are you willing to go and tell of the wrath to come?

People will spend eternity in hell

The horrifying truth is that everyone will die, and they will either be in heaven or hell. The Bible is clear, Jesus is “the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”. Also, that a man must be born again, if not he cannot see the kingdom of God. Hell is described as a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth. It is a horrible place described in Luke chapter 16, “And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father’s house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.” It is a horrible place where the worm never dies, and the fire is not quenched.



This should move us with compassion for our fellow creatures. Jesus had compassion on the multitudes, He said, "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Matt 9:36-38. He knew what the problem would be, we would not have compassion, which is why He requested we pray. Maybe that would move us to compassion, maybe we would start thinking about those around us and fact they will perish if not harvested for the kingdom? Are you praying for the lost? In the end the Bible is clear if one's name is not in the lamb's book of life, then a person will be cast into the lake of fire. "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev 20:11-15.

That verse should be burned into our conscience and move us fulfill the mission God has called us to. Why Missions? Because people are dying and going to hell!! Are you willing to go tell those that have never heard? Will you have compassion?

Application:

What can I do?

Pray –Matthew 9:36-38, Luke 10:2, Romans 10:11-17

Labourers – Eph 6:19, Col 4:3

For the lost – John 3:3-21, Acts 26:18, 2 Cor 4:3-4

Give Offerings - Malachi 3:6-12

This grace to provide for servants of the Lord - 2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15,

Take care of missionaries - 3 John 5-8

Plant churches - Matthew 28:18-20

Evangelize - Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-48

Like Jesus went, giving up your comfortable place - John 4:34-38, 20:21 , Acts 1:8



Why Missions?

Mark 16:15

Name _____

1. Write Mark 16:15.

2. What do we call our mission? _____

3. What is the definition of our mission? _____

4. According to Matthew 28:18-20, who has all the power? _____

5. What promise do Jesus give in Matthew 28:18-20? _____

6. What are the four reasons why we should be involved in missions?



What Can You Do for Missions?

Even now there are things that you can do or help others do to further missions and the spread of the Gospel.

Use the Bible verses fill in the blanks listing what you can do for missions.

P _____ - for I _____ (Matthew 9:36-38) and for the
I _____ (Acts 26:18, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4).

G _____ (Malachi 3:6-12)

P _____ C _____ (Matthew 28:18-20)

E _____ (Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-48)

Great Commission

(Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-49,
John 20:21, and Acts 1:7-8)

What are three things God gives us in the great commission?

What else is involved in the great commission other than sharing gospel? _____

Does God deserve the praise of every person? _____

What should be burned in our hearts and minds when we see people? _____



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God has given you the whole world as a
mission field!

Where will you go?



Go Tell the World!

Matthew 28:19-20

Before Jesus went up to heaven, He told His disciples to go spread the Gospel. Jesus' words were for us, too. He wants us to share with other people how they can become Christians!

Can you find your way to the different children of the world?

