

Home Group Notes  
Mission Celebration Sunday  
Week of November 5, 2017

### **Share it**

When you think about serving Jesus in a far away place, what comes to mind?

NOTES TO LEADERS: This is a wonderful time to help people talk about the needs around the world and imagine themselves and others going to bring the good news of Jesus.

### **Study the Bible**

We have been focusing on being “Rooted in Jesus and Reaching our Worlds.” This week, we will focus on the question “Will I go?” Read the following passages and answer these questions: What is Jesus calling His followers to be or do? What will this require of us?

Mark 1:17 - NOTES TO LEADERS: From the beginning, Jesus was inviting people into a personal relationship as well as continuing His mission. To follow Him, we must know Him including His ways and His leadership in our lives. To continue His mission (fishing for people), we must trust in Him and His ways.

Matthew 28:19-20 - NOTES TO LEADERS: These famous verses make it clear that “while we are going” we are to reach others with the good news and help them follow (baptize and teach) Jesus. This will mean that this is now our purpose in life and will require a new worldview, adjustments to our lifestyle, and intentional giving of self to others.

Luke 9:23-24 - NOTES TO LEADERS: The emphasis here is on the cost of discipleship. It includes that we must deny ourselves, as did Jesus. This is required to continue His mission but we also gain “life.”

Luke 14:37-33 - NOTES TO LEADERS: (The verses should be 27-33). These verses are more specific about counting the cost of following Jesus. The assumption is that every person who is considering being his disciple should understand that it would require self-sacrifice and following Him and His ways.

John 14:12; 15:8, 16 - NOTES TO LEADERS: These verses were spoken in the upper room, as Jesus was soon to go to the cross and return to the Father. Jesus clearly reminded them of His call upon them to do what He has been doing (14:12), the bear fruit of making disciples (15:8) and so glorify God with their lives (15:16).

Acts 1:8 - NOTES TO LEADERS: In these final words before Jesus ascended to His Father, Jesus again reminded the disciples AND US that we, together, will be His witnesses. Jesus intends for us to take the good news throughout the world. This can only happen if we are intentional about going and trusting in the leading and empowering of the Holy Spirit.

Philippians 3:7-11 - NOTES TO LEADERS: Paul shared His life perspective and worldview: He counted all else in this world as worthy nothing compared to what he has gained by being in Christ. This meant that he was willing to suffer in this world because he knew the prize of life in heaven with Jesus. NOTE: I should have included verse 15 that says, *“All of us who are mature should take such a view of things.”*

### **Discuss Together**

What does it mean to “take up your cross and follow me?” (Luke 9:23; 14:27)

NOTES TO LEADERS: There are multiple applications: Intentional self-sacrifice, personal relationship with Jesus that outweighs this present life, knowing Jesus enough to know how to follow Him, and a willing obedience out of love for Jesus.

If Jesus call to “go into all the world” is for all His followers, what does that mean for us?

NOTES TO LEADERS: We all should be on mission (Rooted and Reaching) including a willingness to reach wherever God leads.

What, in our culture, works against us being willing to “go” to other places?

NOTES TO LEADERS: I’m pretty sure that people won’t have trouble thinking of many things. For example, our idolatries of ‘doing my own thing,’ and ‘freedom to be anything I want to be,’ and our love of the things of this world and the idolatries that ensnare us (comfort, security, fame, fortune, sports, beauty, safety, etc.)

What are some possible applications to “Will I go?” What might this mean?

NOTES TO LEADERS: This is very personal. I hope people will consider a real conversation about how this might apply to themselves.

How can all followers of Jesus be a part of the church going to far away places?

NOTES TO LEADERS: We can pray, encourage, support (many applications), visit, etc.

**Always a joy to be on your team,**

**Steve**