

Notes to Leaders: Our focus this week: "Live on mission in your relational world and you will experience the life-giving power and presence of Christ."

SHARE

When would people say of you, "He/she is on a mission?"

Notes to Leaders: We are different when we are on a mission. It is noticeable because we are focused, intentional, and live with purpose.

LEARN

Our focus is "living on mission" to help others know, love, and follow Jesus.

What was included in Jesus call to us? ((Mark 1:17)

Notes to Leaders: Notice that each of the words of this verse have significance: "Come (personally invited, follow (be with, imitate) me (relational, not a system or religion)," Jesus said, "and I will make you (Jesus reshapes / makes us into) fishers of people (our role is to bring people into 'His boat')."

How does Jesus model "living on mission" in each setting?

- Luke 5:27-31 – **Jesus invited people in while walking through His day. He was intentional. He also reached out to someone who was a known sinner and then had meals with other known sinners. He had compassion on the lost.**
- John 4:7-15 – **Again, Jesus used his encounters with people connect, ask a question, and invite them into a 'soul awakening' conversation. He, again, had compassion for this person and invited them into a relationship.**
- Luke 7:1-10 – **Jesus encountered a person with needs and served them. He also had compassion on both the servant and the master.**
- Luke 19:1-10 – **Jesus "looked up" (we need to be expecting God to put people in our path), invited him to a meal, and again showed compassion on this known and hated sinner.**

If Luke 15:1-7 is a picture of us on mission, what do we learn about who, when, why?

Notes to Leaders: We at Trinity are viewing this passage as a call for us to search for the "ONE" lost sheep. In this parable, the Pharisees are objecting to Jesus being intentional to be with and make friendship with "the lost." The shepherd leaves the comfort of his 99 to seek out the one. Then he was overjoyed, invited others to celebrate, and even heaven rejoices.

Who: Us – we are to reach out to the lost ones

When: As lost ones are in our worlds

Why: Because this is our heart, our purpose, and our joy. (cf. John 3:29).

Living on mission requires courage and confidence. What did Jesus promise? (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)

Notes to Leaders: Jesus promised us His presence and His power in the Holy Spirit. That is, the Holy Spirit indwells us, empowers us, and brings fruit as we trust in God.

DISCUSS

When you think of living on mission, what comes to your mind? What helps? What hinders?

Notes to Leaders: This is a question aimed at self-disclosure. It will be very important to be 'real' (transparent, not trying to impress or gloss over the challenge).

Most of us do what we 'want' to do. What motivations to live on mission does God reveal to us? (See Luke 15 and John 15)

Notes to Leaders: There are many in these passages and other places. A friend once told me that we cannot truly follow Jesus in His mission without His compassion. Compassion motivates us to seek out the lost sheep. In addition, we are motivated when we understand and own Jesus' desire to glorify God and fulfill our mission. Understanding His love and grace is also a big motivator. Lastly, thankfulness moves us to reach others – knowing what God will do for them.

How did God design us to reach our world as a team? What does teamwork look like? Do you feel like you are 'on the field' with the team?

Notes to Leaders: Three unifying things include the indwelling of One Spirit, the shared word/call to follow Him in mission into all the world, and the creation of the church meant to be and serve together. For the teammates, God has given each a unique design. God's unique design includes His giftedness, personality, providential opportunities, and resources.

May the Spirit guide you as shepherd His people.

Steve