



OPEN

In the Bible, we see that God is at work in the world, and he wants us to join him. After the resurrection, the Gospel of John says Jesus appeared to the disciples to show them he was alive, to dispel their fear, and to then commission them with his Spirit to carry on his mission. Jesus said, *"Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."* Our English word *mission* comes from the Latin word *missio*, which means 'to send.' As the Father sent him, now, Jesus sends us into the world to be his representatives and to carry on his work. As was shared in the message this week, taking up Jesus' mission as our mission is a 'command,' not a suggestion (Matthew 28:18-20). God's Word tells us that our mission in life is to be a continuation of Jesus' mission and has eternal significance. The cost of embracing God's mission for our life here on earth is abandoning our own agenda and accepting God's agenda. It requires a shift from self to others, from thinking just locally to globally, and from being focused on only the now to a more eternal perspective. Together, let's embrace Jesus mission!

REFLECT

- In John 20:21, Jesus talks about being sent by the Father. How was Jesus sent? For what ultimate purpose?
- In your own words, 'where' is Jesus sending believers?
- What is the connection between Jesus commissioning the disciples and in the next verse 'breathing' on them the Spirit? What is the connection between the two?
- In Matt. 28:18-20, what things are included in the mission?

DISCUSS

- People embrace all kinds of missions in life. What are some of the notable names of history or culture known for their mission in life? For example, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- As we talk about embracing God's mission for our life on earth, what are some of the things that keep us from sharing about Jesus with others?
- Within Jesus' mission of telling others about him or doing things to represent him, Jesus gives each of us a 'life message.' A 'life message' is our personal testimony and things God has taught us (lessons) we can share:
 - Take 2 minutes to share your testimony - your journey, your before/after, the difference Jesus makes.
 - What is one life lesson God has taught you? Share.
- Part of our God-given mission is a God-given passion for something that reflects God's heart or will. Do you have a passion to do something 'in the world' that is connected to the mission of the Good News of Jesus? If so, what is it? Share with the group.

APPLY

To help us more faithfully embrace Jesus' mission for our life, commit to the following:

- 1) Memorize this week Matthew 28:18-20
- 2) Who comes to mind to take a next step of sharing your faith with or a God-given life lesson?
- 3) What is one way you could exercise this week or this month a God-given passion God has given you?

PRAY

- Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to live out Jesus' mission and to give you boldness in your faith.
- Share the name of an unbelieving friend you can commit to praying for as a group.