



## OPEN

This is the fourth week of The Core series where we are reexamining the four core values of Wellspring. Core values are the underlying principles that influence who we are and what we do as a church. This week we look at Mission.

As with the other core values, mission flows from God himself who is a *missionary God*. As we follow the story of scripture we see that the Father sends the Son, who sends the Spirit, to empower a sent people, to bring the presence of God to the nations of the world. Building off of last week, we have been *Spirit-filled*, to be *Spirit-equipped*, so that we can participate in the *Spirit-empowered* mission of God.

## READ

- Read Matthew 28:16-20 (cf. Act 1:8, John 20:21-22)
  - This passage is known as the Great Commission. Summarize in your own words the mission Jesus called his disciples into.
  - How were they going to be able to accomplish this mission?
  - What encouragement/confidence did Jesus give them?
- Read Matthew 25:35-40
  - The mission of Jesus includes both proclamation and practical ministry. Describe the type of practical ministry Jesus desires.

## REFLECT

- The ministry and mission of Jesus often occurs at the intersection between people's *physical needs* and their *spiritual needs*. What are some examples of Jesus meeting the physical and spiritual needs of people? Where have you witnessed this with others in your life?

## • READ 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 and discuss:

- Describe a time when you were present with someone and had a chance to be Jesus' *ambassador*.
- What are the biggest challenges you face in being present with people?
- In *The Pursuit of God* by A.W. Tozer, writes: **"God's presence is the central fact of Christianity."**
  - What do you think of this quote? Where do you see this truth evidenced in the Bible?
  - Where do you see God's presence in the world today?
- We talked about being 'incarnational' with people on Sunday just as Jesus is incarnational with us (Matt 28:20). What's one way you can be present with someone who doesn't know Jesus this week?
- In Luke 10:3,4 Jesus tells the 72 to *go in pairs*. Why do you think he told them that? How does *mission* and the *life* of the Church work together?
- Think back to Matt 25:35-40. How have you been involved with 'the least of these'? Describe your experience.
- Read Isaiah 58:7, 10 and compare the list of people here with the list in Matthew 25:35-40. Where else in the Bible does it speak of showing kindness to the poor?

## APPLY/PRAY

- Share a time when you participated in the mission of God to bring Jesus to others. How did that build your faith?
- Have you ever gone on a short-term missions trip? If so share how Jesus was made known to you, and through you to others.
- Think about an international worker (missionary) you know. Pray for them as a group.
- Pray that Wellspring would step into more missional opportunities this year on a *local* (community, city, workplace), and *global* (short term missions, praying and supporting our IW's) level .