



What Do We Believe?

Lesson 46

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Lesson 46: Missions: God Calls and People Go

Scriptures:

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5, 6; Isaiah 6:1-9; 58; Matthew 9:35-38; 28:18-20; Luke 2:41-50; 4:16-21; 10:1-60; 24:44-49; John 14:12-15; 15:7-11, 16; Acts 1:8; 13:2, 3; Ephesians 3:8-13; Hebrews 12:1, 2; Revelation 22:17

Lesson Goals:

To guide the learner to an understanding of the call of God
To guide the learner to understand missions and God's part in our mission
To guide the learner to understand the mission of the church

Scripture Memory:

As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. John 20:21

The Lesson:

Do you like to run errands? "Well," you say, "it depends on the kind of errand you are talking about. If someone says, 'Hey, go get some ice cream.' that's really good. If someone says, 'I need you to go to run to the service station and get gas in the car.' That's really not much fun." Okay, would it make a difference who asked you? Like, is it easier to do the task if your mother asks, rather than your ugly brother? You're most likely to say, "Sure. Mom is usually asking for the good of the whole family. My brother probably just wants someone to do his dirty work!"

Now, seriously, we know that you don't have an ugly brother. We also know that doing things that we are asked to do can be frustrating. It can seem that our personal time is being claimed by someone else. Some people see the call of God to be just that...an imposition. When we think of all that we really need to do to follow God's will for our lives, it can seem that it takes a lot of time and effort. Actually, it should! Because, when we become children of God, we have a new life...a new lifestyle.

We become adventurers into God's plan. Remember Abraham? God told him to leave his homeland, friends and relatives, and go to a new place. God promised that He would make Abraham a blessing to all the families of the earth.

Salvation is not all about us! It is about becoming God's child and being just like Jesus. And, what did Jesus do while He was on earth? He told His parents early in His life that He had to be in God's house, about God's business. (Luke 2:49) He knew, even when He was a child, that His life would be about helping the world to see God. In everything He did, every day of His life, He kept pointing those with whom He came into contact to God. Ultimately, He gave up His life to help all of us relate to God personally.

What do we believe about missions? Just look at Jesus. He said that God had sent Him and that He was sending us the same way. A person on mission is one who has given herself or himself totally to God and is following the leadership of Jesus in all of his or her life.

We have previously said that the church is the mission of God on earth. The Great Commission was given to the disciples after Jesus lived a perfect life, died for the sins of every human, and came back to life to prove that death is conquered. He had completed His mission. It is now up to the church to announce the completion of that mission and what that meant. It is now up to the church to carry on the ministry that Jesus began. He stated the purpose of His mission in the fourth chapter of Luke. He mentioned preaching the Gospel to the poor, pardon for prisoners, sight for the blind, setting free the oppressed, and the proclamation of the "year of the Lord." The lifestyle, the way of life, the everyday living of every Christian should...must...reflect that kind of life.

The church, believers in Christ when they are gathered, worships the living God as revealed in Jesus. The church challenges members to minister, equips them for ministry, and sends them out in Jesus' name. The church in the world means individual Christians are proclaiming Jesus in **every** act and **every** word. A Christian, understanding this, cannot with good conscience live any other way.

Life Application:

How about you? Is that how you are living?

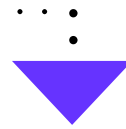
Maybe you say, "No, I don't share about Jesus. I don't really know Him." Well, I have good news for you! You can know Him. You can relate to God personally because Jesus lived a perfect life and died for your sins. His death was enough to pay the price for your disobedience and He rose from the dead, conquering death. If you are willing to turn control of your life over to the God of the Universe who loves you enough to have sent His only Son to die in your place, then you can be saved. "Saved from what," you ask. Saved from sin, for Him.

And maybe you're not proclaiming Jesus in every act and every word of your life, yet you claim to follow Him. How can that be? When you choose to follow God, obedience should follow. If you have been trying to do things on your own, won't you run to God right now, in prayer, telling Him what you've done? He already knows, but once you've told Him, ask for His forgiveness.

Or it may be that you are a believer and you do proclaim Jesus in all that you say and do. There is a verse in the Bible that says, "Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up." (Galatians 6:9 NIV) That first part makes sense, but what about the rest? It means that what you do and say for God will one day be rewarded.



Planning for Lesson 47
Religious Freedom



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity - Make Invitations.** Use large, blank index cards. On one side, write the memory verse and illustrate it, being sure to practice as a class. On the other side of the “invitation,” print something to the effect of “What: Adventure for God, Who: anyone who believes , When: Now” Be creative!

- ◆ Listen to Stephen Curtis Chapman’s “The Great Adventure.” Discuss the lesson and how being on mission for God is, or can be, an adventure.

- ◆ Sing “Trust and Obey (When We Walk with the Lord),” “We’ve a Story to Tell,” “Come, and Go With Me,” “Get All Excited,” “Go (Matthew 28:19-20),” “I Have Decided,” “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus (especially last verse),” “We Have Heard the Joyful Sound,” “Rescue the Perishing,” “Share His Love,” “Pass It On,” “Tell the Good News,” “Let Others See Jesus in You,” and “People to People.”

- ◆ **Dig Deeper:** Read the supplemental Scriptures from John 14-16. Discuss the implications of these verses. Where does the ability, or power, come from? How would your life be different if you lived this way? How would that affect others around you?

- ◆ **Dig Deeper Still:** Read Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8. Talk about the assumption of these verses - obedience; “you must go,” “you will be my witnesses.” (Read Hebrews 11 if time permits, discussing the adventure we are on!) Then read Hebrews 12: 1-2. What will it take to finish well?



**As the Father
has sent me,
I am sending you.
John 20:21**

Word Works

Explain the adventure we are own with Christ by writing words that begin with the letters in “adventure.”

**A
D
V
E
N
T
U
R
E**

Word Search



P	S	E	N	S	P	I	H	S	R	E	D	A	E	L	C	T	E
A	R	S	A	N	I	S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N	N	H	V
S	D	O	G	F	O	N	E	R	D	L	I	H	C	E	C	G	A
R	T	O	C	O	U	O	S	E	R	I	V	R	E	R	T	J	N
D	D	T	R	L	I	V	A	H	E	I	D	V	L	G	D	O	D
O	N	S	T	C	A	Y	R	E	V	E	A	H	W	O	R	O	E
F	E	A	H	G	Q	I	D	G	E	N	H	P	O	R	G	S	P
T	G	P	E	O	T	T	M	G	G	R	B	O	N	E	A	T	I
R	S	E	C	O	N	O	R	J	O	D	A	L	K	W	S	L	H
I	I	C	H	F	T	S	L	E	E	D	E	I	F	I	T	E	S
G	O	N	U	A	I	I	P	D	S	S	L	F	O	L	O	B	N
E	V	E	R	Y	W	O	R	D	X	A	U	E	E	L	N	O	O
A	V	I	C	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S	S	G	R	D	N	I
E	A	D	H	H	D	N	A	M	A	D	A	T	A	S	O	I	T
L	M	E	D	S	I	W	F	O	E	G	A	Y	S	E	M	M	A
U	D	B	S	T	L	K	E	C	I	V	R	L	S	G	G	A	L
S	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	B	A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E
M	E	S	S	A	G	E	O	F	K	N	O	W	M	E	R	C	R

adventure

mission

lifestyle

obedience

relationship

children of God

salvation

like God

the church

proclaim Jesus

every word

every act

Word Search



P	S	E	N	S	P	I	H	S	R	E	D	A	E	L	C	T	E
A	R	S	A	N	I	S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N	N	H	V
S	D	O	G	F	O	N	E	R	D	L	I	H	C	E	C	G	A
R	T	O	C	O	U	O	S	E	R	I	V	R	E	R	T	J	N
D	D	T	R	L	I	V	A	H	E	I	D	V	L	G	D	O	D
O	N	S	T	C	A	Y	R	E	V	E	A	H	W	O	R	O	E
F	E	A	H	G	Q	I	D	G	E	N	H	P	O	R	G	S	P
T	G	P	E	O	T	T	M	G	G	R	B	O	N	E	A	T	I
R	S	E	C	O	N	O	R	J	O	D	A	L	K	W	S	L	H
I	I	C	H	F	T	S	L	E	E	D	E	I	F	I	T	E	S
G	O	N	U	A	I	I	P	D	S	S	L	F	O	L	O	B	N
E	V	E	R	Y	W	O	R	D	X	A	U	E	E	L	N	O	O
A	V	I	C	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S	S	G	R	D	N	I
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L	M	E	D	S	I	W	F	O	E	G	A	Y	S	E	M	M	A
U	D	B	S	T	L	K	E	C	I	V	R	L	S	G	G	A	L
S	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	B	A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E
M	E	S	S	A	G	E	O	F	K	N	O	W	M	E	R	C	R

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