

NO FENCES

Acts 1:8, Matt 28:19-20, John 17:13-18

Identity, 6

How many sermons have you heard about missions? Is this one of those topics you feel like you have thought enough about? I know for many of us, missions seems like one of those issues we are familiar with and don't need to think about any more.

As everyone who had the opportunity to hear Ben's teaching about missions on Sunday knows, there is a whole other side to it that many of us have missed. Part of this problem is undoubtedly due to the limited focus on overseas trips as the entirety of what it means to be missional. This is where Ben really helped us. He walked us through several passages in the Word where God shows us what it truly means to be missionaries for Christ. It isn't about something we do or some place we go. It is about how we think of ourselves and those around us. Let's rise to Ben's challenge and adjust our thinking to be the missional community of God we have been designed to be.



As always, we have several great quotes to begin our group discussion. Read both of the following quotes and then begin your time together by discussing your answers to the following questions.

The church is good people standing in front of good people, telling them how to be good people. – Mark Twain

Wander through your Athens. Look at the idols in [your] culture. Let it break your heart; burden your heart, until you say 'Give me my Athens or I die!' And then, with a knowledge of your culture, take the Gospel. And because of your obedience...the name and the fame of God is more widely known. – Ed Stetzer

What do you think Twain is getting at?

What is he saying about the focus of the church?

What is our Athens? How is it ours?

How well do you really know your culture? Describe it.

What does it mean to be "Missional"?

It's just an adjective form of the word... "missionary"

It's not something you do; it's a change in... who you are

Then what does it mean to be "Missionally-Driven"?

It's learning to see the world around you as... your mission field

TCBC addresses this corporately in 3 ways: One Reach, City Reach, Global Reach

The problem: many Christians... do none (or one) of these individually

Acts 1:8; Matt 28:19-20 – God calls us to reach... the nations

"Go" means... across the world and next door

The key to discipleship is... relationships

John 17:13-19 – Reaching the nations starts... right where you are

v.13-14: God arms us with... all we need for His work

v.15: God intentionally... leaves us here

v.16-17: God gives us... our mission

v.18: Then God sends us to... the world around us

v.19: Bottom line: Christ gave Himself to God's mission... and we must do the same

So... what will you do to become Missionally-driven?

What is a missionary?

What are your first thoughts when you hear missions?

What are your earliest memories re missions?

What experiences have you had with missions?

How would you summarize Ben's message?

How does our thinking need to change re missions?

What does it mean for us to *be* missional?

What does our mission field being all around us mean?

How are we supposed to be missional as believers?

What exactly will this look like?

Where and who are the nations (cf. Matt. 28:19-20)?

What is the nature of discipleship?

Who is your mission field?

What are you going to do about it? Be specific.

Prayer

Pray for those who are not plugged in and connected yet at TCBC. Ask God to give you discernment and insight into how you can reach out to and welcome people into your life. Praise God for loving each of us.