

Missions Sunday

All Christians Are Sent

Grace Fellowship Church, Dave Wernz, June 28, 2020

Our focus with Missions at Grace Fellowship is biblical counseling training and least-reached people groups. That's our whole business.

In spite of the challenges, risks, and overt resistance, God's Kingdom is advancing, His Word is being proclaimed, and men, women, and children are hearing for the first time, the truth about our risen King Jesus!

[See Romans 10:13-15]

I. Every Christian is sent.

Genesis 45:7-8 "And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God..."

John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."

[See John 17:13-21]

If you belong to Jesus, you've been sent by Jesus - just as sure as He, Himself was sent to us.

Who will He send you *to*?
What will He send you *with*?

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

We are ambassadors sent from God *to* the world, *with* a message of hope: "We can be reconciled to God!"

II. What you're sent with is more important than who you're sent to.

If you want clarity on who God is sending you to, start by clarifying the message He has sent you with.

Learn the Gospel and become experts in the process of salvation. Don't just know your message, become fluent in it. Know it inside and out and know how to explain it.

III. The flag you carry is more important than the badge you wear.

2 Corinthians 5:14-16 “For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh...”

[See Philippians 3:3-9]

Philippians 2:5-8 “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.⁸ And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Even Jesus had to embrace humility and let parts of His identity fade into the background. How much more so will we?

Not all the badges we wear are things we want to hold on to—such as shame and dishonor from a life of rebellion.

Remember there is no sin that you have done, or has been done to you, that can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

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Being a sent one is a lifestyle, a paradigm. It’s a career, not a hobby. But it’s also a great honor, not just a heavy obligation.

IV. Next Steps

- 1) Pray – about being an ambassador to the world.
- 2) Practice – working your way towards gospel fluency.
- 3) Pray – for other people’s spiritual well-being.

V. Cautions

- 1) Don’t try to be an ambassador of reconciliation if you have not been reconciled with God yourself.
- 2) Every Christian is sent, but not every Christian is a missionary.

“If you wish to build a ship, do not divide the men into teams and send them to the forest to cut wood. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea.”

~ Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

If you have questions or want to get involved, e-mail Dave at missions@graceky.org.