



THE MISSION BELONGS TO JESUS

PASSAGES

John 1:1-5, 14-16; Genesis 1:26-28; 3:22-24; Philippians 2:5-8; Romans 3:21-26; Revelation 5:1-5,9-10; 21-22; Colossians 1:19-20; Jn 1:35-38; Philippians 3:7-11

PREPARE

1. Before leading your group into studying the passage, take some time to study and pray through the passages yourself.
2. Consider these questions.
 - Why is it important to recognize Jesus as the creator?
 - What things are found in and through Jesus Christ?
 - Why would humanity need grace, truth, and life from Jesus?
 - What does it mean to be made in the image and likeness of God?
 - Was there mission and purpose (outward manifestation) involved in being an image bearer of God?
 - Were there any consequences in the fall of Adam and Eve and how might that have affected them as God's image bearers?
 - What does God offer through Jesus as the solution to this problem and how does he accomplish it?
 - What do we learn about missional living by watching the response of the two disciples?
 - Why might it be important to differentiate between a focus on Jesus versus a focus on our work for Jesus?

DISCUSS

1. Open the door for any initial discussion, questions, or comments about the teaching.
2. Identify the truths in this passage related to the following principles:

- Jesus is established as authoritative over all things by virtue of his position as preeminent creator and sustainer.
- The word of God is the essence and representation of Jesus to us.
- Grace, truth, and eternal life are found only in Jesus.
- People were created to bear the image and likeness of God, to relate to God as he is.
- Adam and Eve's sin broke the fundamental position they had as image bearers in relationship to God.
- God promised to restore people by intervening and providing a solution for them.
- Jesus answers the call of God to redeem and restore people to his original intended purpose.
- Jesus brings and freely gives his righteousness to people.
- Jesus provides forgiveness to people.
- Jesus buys back people to their original purpose.
- Jesus declares sinful people righteous.
- Jesus provides all of this because humanity is lost in sin and unable to meet their own need.
- Jesus alone is worthy to fulfill the judgment on sinful people
- Jesus alone is worthy to fulfill the restoration of people to their original purpose.
- Missional living is contingent upon people recognizing the centrality of Jesus Christ in the mission of God.
- Missional living is fueled by a heart that is consumed with Jesus and is pursuing him alone.
- Missional living requires us to never put our service for Jesus ahead of our pursuit to know, love, and relate to him deeply.

APPLY

1. Review the core principles from the study.
2. Share your own personal reflections/convictions related to Jesus being the centerpiece of God's mission.
3. Lead others in identifying their view of Jesus in relationship to their lives and God's mission. The point here is to spur on some thinking that will allow the Holy Spirit to bring about some conviction.