

*We exist to make disciples who delight in God and make Him known  
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

## *Why Missio Dei Fellowship Exists - Pt 2*

### **Selected Passages**

**Keywords:** missional, gospel, glory of God, non-believer, evangelism

**PowerPoint Presentation included:** NONE

**SermonAudio Blurb:** At the top of every sermon note is the mission statement for Missio Dei Fellowship. It is woven into every part of the day to day processes and actions of the church. But having a mission statement and owning that statement are two very different things. In these two sermons the people of Missio are exhorted to carefully consider the what, why and how of their mission statement.

#### **I. Introduction.**

- A. Read Mission Statement.
- B. Last message I introduced you again to our mission statement. We are all called to be making disciples of Jesus Christ.
  1. Those who delight in God.
  2. To do this requires that we rightly understand God as *He* has revealed Himself in the bible; rather than an image of God that is not consistent with His self-revelation.
  3. I drove home in several different ways the fact that the bible is unabashed in describing Him as sovereign.
  4. Yet the bible explicitly shows God's control over humanity in every way. Frankly it is seen almost on every page of the bible.
    - a. Almost every page of the bible shows mankind completely dependent upon God to simply exist.
    - b. And so it is with the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Who killed Him? Listen to how Peter tells us the answer: "*Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death*" (Acts 2:22-23).

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5. This entire issue is complex and you cannot just shrug away events and passages because you do not agree. This cuts both ways and is a constant problem with online debates.
- C. At the same time, Missio does not exist to make disciples/followers of just Jesus.
1. We are called to make disciples of God, who eternally exists in three persons.
  2. And this only can happen when we are faithful to call people to trust in the true God as He reveals Himself rather than how we wish Him to be.
- D. So, we exist to make disciples who delight in God . . . . But how?

## **II. We exist to make God known through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

- A. This is a necessary reality that flows out of the first one. We are to be a people who look around and see places where we are to be working.
- B. What will motivate you to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ?
- C. This is the mission of the Church.
1. Matthew 28:18-20.
- D. This is not reserved for a select few. It is the mandate of the Church.
1. Every generation comes, and the mandate is given over and over.

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2. Even when a nation is reached, it must be reached again and again.
- E. Five points to remember regarding evangelism:
1. The method—proclamation.
    - a. Luke 24:48.
    - b. Paul tells the men he disciplined and trained to become elders in Ephesus, *“For I did not shrink from declaring/announcing to you the whole counsel of God”* (Acts 20:27).
    - c. We go to the people around us and ultimately we declare God’s message to them.
    - d. Acts 8:26-35.
      - (1) Has the written word (28).
      - (2) Wise enough to grasp he cannot understand it on his own (31).
      - (3) The core of the message was Jesus (35).
      - (4) Here is my point, there certainly will be those who come to faith via reading the Word, but this is not the norm. It is through someone proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to them that will bring them to faith.
    - e. Romans 10:8 (turn).
  2. The means—you.
    - a. Romans 10:13-15.
    - b. Remember always the words of Jesus in John 20:21.
  3. The message—the gospel.
    - a. Romans 10:9-13.

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- b. 1 Corinthians 15:1-3.
  - c. You can speak of it thematically—God, sin, Jesus, Salvation.
  - d. You can speak of it by using the biblical storyline—Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration.
4. The command—repent/believe/follow (the call of Christ, the message in John).
- a. Romans 10:10-11, 13.
  - b. Luke 24:46-47.
  - c. Over and over Jesus would call people with the simple but radical command, “Follow Me.” This is poignantly seen in Matthew 8:21-23.
    - (1) Jesus says, “Follow Me.”
    - (2) The disciple, “Let me first go bury my father”
    - (3) Jesus, “let the dead bury the dead, you follow Me.”
  - d. “If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall My servant also be; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him” (John 12:26).
5. The goal—to make disciples.
- a. The goal is not to get a person to confess Jesus Christ as Lord.
  - b. It is not to get a person “saved.”
  - c. It is to make true followers/disciples of Jesus Christ.
  - d. Colossians 1:28.

### **III. Simple Suggestions to Consider:**

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- A. One on One.
- B. Ask questions more than talk.
- C. When a person shares a struggle offer to talk and give your perspective if they wish.
- D. Be aware of your surroundings.
  - 1. Not during work.
  - 2. If tension is present suggest to take them out for coffee.
  - 3. Times of crisis often are not the time to talk, but they give you an excellent time to show mercy and love.
- E. You must open up your calendar.
- F. You must open up your home.
- G. You must understand that this is your calling.
- H. You must understand that the first time a person hears the gospel cannot be when they are invited to church.

## **IV. Conclusion—how this works out at Missio.**

- A. If you and I were sent to deep bush country of Cameroon to bring the gospel to the people how would we do that?
  - 1. For some it is vague speech that shows a great fear of man over God.
  - 2. For other it is confrontational.
  - 3. For others it is theological arguments.
  - 4. Or it is the passing out of tracts.
- B. But for a true missionary, it is engaging that culture as a fellow human.
  - 1. Seeking to get to know the people. Seeing that evangelism is not some separate event but rather seeing it holistically.
  - 2. We begin to realize that trips to the market are not merely for food. Food shortages are not a reason to stock up.

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3. You over look many things because they are not central to the gospel.
  4. You give up many things because they hinder your opportunity to bring the gospel.
- C. Our call is not to be jerks. Not to be moralists. Not to be mean spirited.
- D. Our call is to be like Jesus, friend to sinners. How are you doing with this high and holy calling?

## **Benediction**

**May our God cause you to rejoice in the Lord, to be made complete in all aspects, and to be comforted by the Spirit. May He move in and among us to be like-minded in the Word and to live in peace with one another. Amen**