

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

On Mission with God

John 17:15-20

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PowerPoint Presentation included: NONE

SermonAudio Blurb: Jesus did not save us for us to sit on our rear ends and relax. He saved us to send us, just and His Father sent Him into this dark world. But too often we as Christians fail to see this, or to take this responsibility seriously. That is sin and it must be repented of by God's people. In this message Pastor Henry tries to begin to unlock the meaning of being missional. It is being sent out with the gospel to a dying world.

I. Introduction.

- A. We continue today with this short series describing what a missional life and a missional church looks like.
- B. What comes to your mind when you hear the word "missionary?"
- C. John 17:15-20:
 - 1. Here we have one key passage that is a huge hammer to the false idea that others are the missionaries.
 - 2. Jesus is approaching his death in just hours. This is the great prayer of Jesus on behalf of us. And it is the last time He will pray in this manner that is recorded.
 - 3. And here we get to see what is His passion as both God and Savior.

Propositional Statement

Jesus' prayer gives us a clear picture of what God expects of all who call themselves "Christian." It strips away the many lies that we tell ourselves and others and propels us into the world we live in to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ. God saves us to send us. It is that simple and that profound.

II. God Saves Us to Send Us.

- A. Why? Because God is a sending God (18).
 - 1. Here we see the glory of the gospel.

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2. A biblical church—a God honoring church—is a sent church that equips people to be sent.
 3. More than that, a biblical Christian is a sent Christian.
 4. God sends us and he expects us to go.
- B. Where? Vs. 18—“into the world.” But this is often not someplace “out there.” It is simply your world.
1. Where, then, does the church belong? Where do you belong?

 2. Notice the protection that is given to the Christian in this work (15).
 - a. 1 John 5:19.
 - (1) When we walk in God’s protection we are not ‘of’ this world, even though we are ‘in’ this world. It is only when we walk foolishly, then we become tools of the evil one and we climb up on his lap.
 - (2) Ephesians is a good example of this:
 - (a) Ephesians 2:1-2—this world walks/conducts itself according to Satan.
 - (b) Ephesians 4:17ff.
 - i) So a missional person walks in this world differently.
 - ii) Notice vs 20, for it shows that the gospel is the defining truth that motivates a Christian in his life.
 - b. Understand this well, the mission we are to be on is the same one Jesus was sent to do.
 - (1) John 20:21.

 - (2) Acts 1:7-8.

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(3) Acts 9:15.

(4) We too are His chosen instruments to bring the
gospel where we find ourselves.

3. Some basic conclusions:

a. First, we cannot let the sinfulness of the world keep us
from being in the world. There is a divine protection
involved here.

b. Second, the real question for each Christian here is only
this, where and to whom am I being sent as a missionary.

C. How? This passage gives us at least **seven different points** to
consider:

1. First, by seeing ourselves as people who belong to God's
kingdom (16).

2. Second, we must learn to truly follow Jesus (18-19).

3. Third, this missional life is to be done in true "community" (vss
21, 23).

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7. Seventh, kingdom focused (24).

D. Who?

III. Conclusion.

A. How do we do this?

B. We embrace a sent life.

C. We embrace the centrality of the gospel in life and word.

D. We embrace the people around us as those we have come to serve and to save.

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- E. When the world sees this coming from our lives in a consistent manner there are one of two reactions:

Benediction

May the God who gave us the Word sanctify us in it so that we might find ourselves strengthened in the truth, humble of heart, able to encourage one another toward love and good deeds, especially as we see the day of our Lord's return drawing nearer. Amen.