CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

WEEKS 2-4
LEADER GUIDE



WEEK 2

WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

READ

Take some time in advance to read and consider the Bible study questions and come up with personal examples to encourage discussion.

DISCUSS

We hope those who participate in the study walk away knowing, feeling, and doing differently as a result of amazing discussion.

GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

BIG IDEA

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is one of the most popular medieval buildings in Europe. Located in the region of Tuscany, Italy, its construction began in 1173 for the sole purpose of showcasing the city's military power thev conquered as surrounding Mediterranean cities and conducted raids of their treasure. Pisa, which in Greek means "marshy land", is an area with soft soil composed of clay, sand, and shells. As a result of the shifting soil and unstable ground, the tower began leaning almost immediately during its initial construction. This condition worsened as construction continued due the soft architectural to ground, miscalculations, and poor planning. After much restructuring, the tower was finally stabilized at a 3.97 degree slant. While the structure exceedingly beautiful and detailed on the outside, inside it is nothing more than a hollow cylinder, with stairs that go to the top and 7 bells in the top chamber. Unlike many other structurally weak buildings, the Tower of Pisa has been preserved and not destroyed, though now only seen as a

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historical phenomenon and tourist attraction to make money.

One of the most important questions in building construction is "will it last?" In order to build a structure that will stand the test of time, it must have the correct foundation and be built with the proper materials. The same is true in our lives. Our faith must be built on a firm foundation. Without it, we are flawed from the start, much like the shifting soil and unstable ground. We must also be built with the right materials. We must build our lives with eternity in mind, focusing on the things that have eternal value, rather than just putting on a facade that looks amazing on the outside, but is of no real value on the inside. Much like the final inspection of a building, the true test of our faith will come when we stand before God on judgement day. Will your work withstand the fiery judgement, reaping heavenly rewards, or will you be the only thing to escape the flames? This week, we will look at what we can do to build lives with eternal values and rewards in mind, and not just to obtain "fire insurance".

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CHURCH ON THE

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<u>Passages</u>	we'll	review:

1 Corinthians 3:10-15; Ephesians 4:11-16

OPENING

What stood out to you from the message this week? What led you to really think? Did anything challenge you?

Who is someone who has greatly influenced or impacted your life, and how?

WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

What jumped out at you from the video in this session? What are some of the key points that impacted you more than others?

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EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

READ

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

What are some of the foundations on which we seek to build our lives? What are some of the ways we might be tempted to build our lives on something other than Jesus Christ, the true firm foundation?

(Open for discussion. We often build our lives on personal achievement or worth, our own wisdom, possessions, or power. We can also focus on other people, programs, or practices that seem to be good, but draw attention to something other than Jesus Christ.)

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Why is it so important for Jesus to be the foundation of our lives?

(Open for discussion. Jesus is the only foundation that will last. It is only because of God's grace and Jesus' death and resurrection that we have the opportunity to live a life with real meaning and purpose. A building is only as strong as its foundation. The doctrines that we build on must be based on God's wisdom, not man's. Everything we do should follow the pattern that Christ set for us!)

A building's foundation is paramount in determining its size, shape, and structure. Without a strong, firm foundation, it will crumble during difficult times or under extreme pressure. However, the job isn't complete with only the foundation! The right materials must be used in order to insure its stability and strength.

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How should we understand the imagery of fire in these verses? How does fire test the quality of an item?

(Open for discussion. This fire isn't a test of our salvation, but rather it is used to determine our eternal, heavenly rewards. Our salvation is secure in Christ alone, but the rewards we receive will be determined by how we live our lives until He returns. The fire will test the true value of our work for God, not serve as a punishment.)

What are some examples of wood, hay, and straw in the context of our lives as followers of Christ?

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CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

(Open	for	discu	ssion.	Wood,	hay,	and	straw
repres	ent t	he th	ings in	life th	at are	t e m p	orary,
ordina	ry, u	gly, c	heap,	or com	m o n p l	ace; l	hings
that a	are d	often	easy	to att	ain, b	ut wi	ill be
quickl	y (consu	m e d	when	faci	n g	God's
j u d g e n	nent.	They	are no	t neces	sarily	thing	s that
are ev	il, bu	ut thi	ngs tha	at are	not pr	o d u c t	ive or
useful	in G	od's	work, d	or thin	gs tha	t seel	k only
to pro	vide e	entert	a i n m e r	nt or tid	ckle th	e ears	s.)

What are some examples of gold, silver, and — precious stones?

(Open for discussion. Gold, silver, and precious stones represent the things that are permanent, beautiful, valuable, and rare in God's perspective. Only He can produce true, godly wisdom that will survive His judgement, and only the things of God can withstand the fire used to test the quality of our work.)

GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

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How	does	Paul's	image	ry of	buildin	g on a
f o u n d	lation	help u	s to ur	ndersta	nd our	role in
God′s	work	? What	practio	al step	os can v	we take
to en	sure	that ou	r lives	are bu	uilt on	a solid
f o u n d	lation	and th	at our	work w	ill be p	leasing
to Go	hnah	withsta	nd Hic i	ııdameı	n	

(Open for discussion. Paul reminds us that we	
all have a specific part to play in God's plan.	
Our job is to use what He has given us to grow	
in Him and also help others to grow as well!	
God will reward those who work to build His	
kingdom according to the results of their labor.	
We must be spiritually mature, doctrinally	
sound, and sensitive to God's will in our lives.	
This comes through growing with other	
Christians and being led by those who are more	
mature, whether it be through LifeGroups,	
Study Groups, MicroGroups, or other	
discipleship opportunities.)	

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EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

We must all be mindful of how we labor for Him.	NOTES
All work doesn't earn equal pay. Some work will	
be considered worthless when put before God	
as the judge. In the end, our work will show	
itself for what it really is. We must be sure that	
in everything we do, we focus on glorifying God.	
God gives us His Spirit, His Word, the Church,	
and fellowship with other believers to use as	
tools to build in a way that will have a lasting,	
eternal impact! It is only as we dig into His	
Word that we can discover the true treasure He	
has for us!	

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Ephesians 4:11-16

Paul reminds us that God has raised up leaders
within the church to prepare His people to grow
in Christ and to learn to serve Him and minister
to one another. As a result, we will exhibit
Christlikeness as we live as Jesus did, and we
will be able to stand firm in Him as we mature
and build up our faith in Christ.

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GROWING IN

CHRISTLIKENESS

GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

CHURCH ON THE

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NOTES

Why do people often think of growth as something only necessary for those who are new believers in Christ? Is this true? Discuss.

(Open for discussion. Spiritual growth is not only for new believers in Christ; it is for everyone! While we are all at different levels in our spiritual maturity, no one knows everything. We all have room to continue growing in our relationship with God and with others as we become more like Christ! Just like a marriage, the relationship, once established, shouldn't remain stagnant. The more effort put in, the more beautiful the relationship will be!)

GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

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How did Paul describe the way in which we grow in Christ? Can we fully and completely grow in Christ without the church? Why or why not?

(Open for discussion. We are all a part of the body of Christ. Just as the human body cannot function properly when one part is injured or diseased, so it is with the body of Christ. God has given each person specific giftings to use in order to help others grow and mature in their relationship with Him. Every person's gifting is necessary in order for others to grow in their maturity in Christ.)

What is affected by our own spiritual growth, or lack thereof? What is the responsibility of each one of us in order to see spiritual growth take place at CrossPointe Church?

CHURCH ON THE

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(Open for discussion. As we grow in Christ,	NOTES
others are able to grow as well. When we don't	
grow in Christ, then others' growth is also	
hindered. God has a responsibility for each	
person that follows Him, more than just sitting	
in church to be fed and then living life apart	
from it otherwise! We all have a responsibility	
to grow in Him and be a part of helping others	
grow, too! In addition, when we grow together	
as the body of Christ, we can help and	
encourage one another in our struggles and	
difficulties, helping us to be all that God	
desires us to be! We must each use the gifts	
God has given us, no matter how minor we may	
think they are, so that we can be all He has	
created us to be.)	

What are some ways that we can encourage and support one another in our individual journeys of spiritual growth?

(Open for discussion)

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

PRAY

Consider the following as you pray together:

- Is what you are engaging in leading you toward Christ or away from Him? Are you building on the only real and lasting foundation (Jesus Christ), or are you building on a faulty foundation, such as wealth, security, success, or fame?
- On a scale of 1 (straw) to 10 (gold), how would you rate the construction of your spiritual house? Do the works in your life reflect Christ as your foundation? Is there any area in your life where you need to reevaluate your building materials and motivations?
- Are you actively seeking to grow in your understanding of God's Word and your relationship with Christ, or have you become complacent in your walk with God?

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WEEK 3

WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

READ

Take some time in advance to read and consider the Bible study questions and come up with personal examples to encourage discussion.

DISCUSS

We hope those who participate in the study walk away knowing, feeling, and doing differently as a result of amazing discussion.

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

BIG IDEA

This week, we will be looking at how God views our investments in His Kingdom through service. An important reminder is that we are not saved by the works and things we do for God, but by His unearned gift given through trusting in Him. In James 2, we see that works are the natural outpouring of a life changed by Jesus. Our love and appreciation for Him, as well as our trust that His Word and promises are true, cause us to want to serve Him. We do things for the ones we love knowing it will make them happy, and reason that is enough.

In the parable of the talents we get a glimpse into the mind of God and how He would like us to use our time, giftings, and resources. It is important to remember here, that a 'talent' in this context is not talking about an ability, but a large sum of money, one of which represents around twenty years worth of labor for an average laborer.



EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

SERVING IN THE CHURCH,
CITY, AND WORLD

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<u>Passages we</u>	ittreview:			
Matthew		Ephesians	2:10;	
Deuteronomy	y 10:12-17			
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		rom the messa	age this	
			•	
	allenge you?	io routty time	ik. Did	
anything on	attongo you.			
WATCH	ı			
Make sure e	veryone can s	ee the screen	and the	
audio is at a	comfortable	level.		
What jumped	dout at you 1	rom the video	in this	
session? Wh	at are some	of the key poir	its that	
imnacted vo	u more than o	thers?		



SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

READ

Read Matthew 25:14-27

What	does	this	passage	show	about	h o w	Goo
views	what	He ha	as given t	o us?			

(God gives us gifts and resources to take care of ourselves, but also to multiply what He has given us for the Kingdom. We are to be active participants, investing our lives in our Master's work.)

How was the perspective of the man with only one talent skewed here?

(The master's words here illuminate something about him, that he was wicked and lazy. He viewed his given work and master improperly with fear, like he was given a burden instead of an opportunity.)



SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

God has not only forgiven us, but given us incredible amounts of grace, meaning favor we didn't earn. He has given us giftings and resources, and in this story even the smallest amount the master gave was enough to live on for about twenty years. Comparing the first two servants with ten and five talents and the worthless third servant, what kind of person is God wanting us to be in the Kingdom?

(He wants us to be active participants, using what He has given us to grow the Kingdom and to increase the love, truth, and joy He has put in us.)

Read Ephesians 2:10

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SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

(Open for discussion)

What are some things this verse tells us about	NOTES
the work God wants us to do?	NUTES
This warms talle up a few things, firstly that	
(This verse tells us a few things: firstly, that	
we were made new again in Christ for the	
purpose of good works. God is making all things	
new, and He is using us and our actions as a	
part of the process! Also, we are called to 'walk	
in' these works that God prepared beforehand.)	
How does knowing that God is the planner of	
our good works impact your perception of	
them?	
(Open for discussion)	
1 Corinthians 10:31 says: "So, whether you eat	
or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory	
of God." Why do you think it tells us to do all	
things for the glory of God? What is the effect	
of this kind of mindset?	

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

What does the example of Jesus show you about serving others and serving the Lord?

(Open for discussion)

Matthew 5:16 says: "In the same way, let your
light shine before others, so that they may see
your good works and give glory to your Father
who is in heaven." Your good works may change
someone for eternity and you may be the vessel
in which someone encounters the glory of God!
All we have to do is walk with God and be
faithful when He calls us to do something, both
in serving in the church consistently and in the
works He lays out for us outside the church,
too. Remember this as well: Walk with God and
seek out His glory daily, and let that be the
feast that gives you the strength to keep going.
Nothing else can sustain you for the long haul,
and it is definitely worth your time! Also, serve
well, but leave time and energy to glorify God
with some hobbies and time spent on healthy
relationships as well.

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EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Deuteronomy 10:12-17

As	the	peop	le of	Israel	prepar	ed to	cross	the
Joi	dan	into I	he Pr	omised	l Land,	Moses	remir	n d e d
t h e	peo	ple o	fthe	c o m m a	n d m e n	ts God	had g	iven
t h e	m.	Нe	also	remi	n d e d	them	o f	the
req	uire	ment	s God	placed	on the	m as H	is peo	ple.
W h	at d	id God	requ	ire fro	m the p	eople	of Isr	ael?
W h	y dio	d God	requi	re som	ething	in retu	rn?	

(The people were to fear the Lord [in reverence and worship], walk in His ways, love Him, serve Him with all of their heart and soul, and keep His commandments. These expectations weren't meant to be a burden on the people, but were intended for their good. God's expectations for His people were meant to help them live godly lives.)

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WEEK

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SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

What does it mean to serve God with all of our NOTES heart and soul? How is it different from simply following the rules?

Open for discussion. When we love God with all of our heart and soul, we are giving Him our complete, undivided devotion, not just a partial ______ commitment. It is more than just external obedience; it is internal, from the heart, in order that we can do His will. When we merely follow the rules, we are only acting out of obligation, but not because of the right heart attitude. It is more for outward appearance and approval of man than for honoring God.)

God's chosen people were circumcised as a part of their covenant relationship with Him, in order to remind them of the privilege and responsibility they had as a result of this relationship. But this wasn't something that others could see: it was between the individual and God.

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SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

How	can	w e	"circumci	se our	hearts"	a n d
over	c o m e	the	spiritual	stubbor	nness in	our
lives	? Why	ist	his so impo	ortant?		

(Open for discussion. We must remember that it isn't about anything we say or do, but about the way we live our lives, and why we do the things we do. God cares more about the state of our heart than any other outward action that others can see. When we serve God with a joyful, circumcised heart, we are cultivating a heart of worship that reflects both His greatness and His glory to the world around us. In our response to Him, we can also serve others.)

What should be our driving force for loving God and serving others? How have you benefitted personally as a result of willingly and sacrificially serving God and others? Share with your group.

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SERVING IN THE CHURCH, CITY, AND WORLD

PRAY

Consider the following as you pray together:

- Take time this week to evaluate your motives for the things you do. Is it because of outside pressure and the expectations of others? Or is it because God has called you to serve Him in this way?
- Do you feel that God is distant or disconnected in your life? If so, are you loving and serving Him with all of your heart and soul? Is your service to God motivated by love or simply out of obligation or routine?
- What are the skills that God has given you to be a blessing to others? Are you organized? Social? Handy? Perceptive?
- Are you serving at the church or somewhere else for God's Kingdom regularly?

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WEEK 4

WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

READ

Take some time in advance to read and consider the Bible study questions and come up with personal examples to encourage discussion.

DISCUSS

We hope those who participate in the study walk away knowing, feeling, and doing differently as a result of amazing discussion.

LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

BIG IDEA

Catalyst is a term found in both science and literature. In science, it is an agent that increases the rate of a chemical reaction without being consumed itself. In literature, the catalyst is the pivotal event or moment in a story that serves to ignite the main action and propel the characters in the story's central conflict. This catalyst can be a person, specific occurrence, an event, or а journey. This incident is the beginning of a reaction that sets chain into significant life change resulting in conflict, a change in the story, and a new direction. The catalyst doesn't just affect the protagonist, but everyone involved. It influences everything they do in the story from that point on.

In the narrative of the early Christian church and it's global expansion, one such catalyst was the church at Antioch. Located in modern day Turkey, Antioch was the third largest city

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LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

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the Roman Empire, after only Rome and Alexandria. It was a major trade center of the road networks that connected the East to the Greco-Roman world, including the Silk Road and the Royal Road. As a result, it was a melting pot of many diverse cultures and languages, resulting in its people being very open to new ideas, including Christianity. As a hub of the Roman Empire, Antioch had the stability and security that other places didn't. became the base location for Paul's missionary journeys as the road networks used in trade made the spread of the gospel much easier! In this week's study, we will look at the work of missionaries in the early church and learn what it means to live a "sent life".

<u>Passages we'll review:</u>

Acts 13:1-5; Isaiah 49:1-7

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CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

OPENING

What stood out to you from the message this week? What led you to really think? Did anything challenge you?

What is the furthest you have travelled from home? What was different about being in a different place or culture?

WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

What jumped out at you from the video in this session? What are some of the key points that impacted you more than others?



LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

READ

Read Acts 13:1-5

Τh	e ch	urch	in /	Antio	c h	hada	a ver	y div	/erse	group
o f	lead	lers.	The	y w	ere	from	all	diff	erent	parts
o f	the	knov	vn v	worl	d a	the	tim	e. Ho	ow di	d this
c h	urch	bec	o m e	SO (live	rse?	How	is i	t sim	ilar to
Cr	ossP	ointe	Ch	urch	?					

(Being a hub of the trade routes linking the East to the West, Antioch was a very diverse city, with people from many different traditions, ethnic groups, and cultures. It was made up of both Jews and Gentiles. CrossPointe is also made up of a diverse group of people, brought here through the military, university, or other career opportunities. There are people with many different ethnic backgrounds and from different walks of life.)

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LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

What was taking place at the time the Holy Spirit spoke to the church in Antioch? What were they doing? What does this reveal about its leadership?

(Open for discussion. When the Holy Spirit spoke to the leaders of the church at Antioch, they had been fasting and praying. They weren't frantically busy with events and planning, but had an attitude of worship as they devoted time to God for prayer and fasting. They sensed the need for God's direction in leading the work of the church and spent time together in prayer and fasting seeking God's will on how to reach the lost and further His Kingdom work. As a result, they understood what the Holy Spirit called them to do.)

LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

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EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

What calling has been placed on all who follow Christ, not just those He called from the church at Antioch? What does this demonstrate for us about God's initiative in missions?

(Open for discussion. Everyone has been given a mission and responsibility by God. We are all called to share the gospel message with those who haven't heard it, all over the world. While our responsibilities will not all be the same, we are all a part of this mission! In every situation, God is the initiator in missions. He desires that all people have the opportunity to hear the gospel message and enter into a relationship with Him. He calls and equips people to do the work, whether it be to go out and spread the gospel around the world or to support those who do. Our responsibility is to act on that calling and be a catalyst in the world around us!)

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EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

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What are some of the potential challenges and rewards of being sent out on mission, whether locally or globally?

(Open for discussion. Challenges: lack of support financially, in prayer, or personal needs; loneliness or isolation; lack of counsel or accountability; self-dependence; question or doubt calling. Rewards: glorifying God; humility and dependence on God; fulfillment in doing God's will; eternal blessings; seeing people led to a personal relationship with Christ.)

LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

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God	set	apa	rt l	t w o	o f	the	lead	lers	from	the
chur	ch a	t Anl	tioc	h foi	r a s	peci	al p	urpos	se - t	o be
miss	iona	ries	to t	he G	enti	les a	nd t	ake t	he go	spel
mess	age	to th	he r	est o	of th	e kn	o w n	worl	d. Wh	y do
y o u	thin	k G	o d	a d d r	ess	ed t	he	entir	e ch	urch
lead	ershi	p, a	nd	not	jus	t Ba	rnat	as a	nd S	aul?
Why	is it	so i	i m p c	ortar	nt fo	r mi	ssio	narie	s to	have
a sei	ndina	oro	e o m	miss	ioni	na a	rnun	hehi	nd th	e m ?

(Open for discussion. God called the church at Antioch to be global Christians. While Paul and Barnabas were the ones to be released from their duties at Antioch and sent to other nations to spread the gospel message, the rest of the church at Antioch had the opportunity and responsibility to support those who were being sent out to spread the gospel. We have the same responsibility. We can do this through public support, reassurance, accountability, or resources. We can also benefit from it as it reminds us of the importance of missions, builds unity within the church, glorifies God, and allows us to be a part of God's bigger plan.)

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LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

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John Piper wrote, "There are only three possibilities in life: to be a goer, a sender, or disobedient." Do you agree? Why must missions be the focus of everyone in the church? How can you actively participate in missions, even if you can't go?

(Open for discussion. The Holy Spirit will work through everyone in the church body to equip and enlist those who are called to go out. Some are called to go and do the work. Others are called to give, pray, teach, and encourage those who are sent. If we don't do one of those things, then we are not obeying Christ's command given to us in the Great Commission and we are being disobedient, as well as missing out on the opportunities God has for us to grow and experience Him.)



EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

What can we do to grow in our passion for missions here at CrossPointe Church? What can we do to better serve and support the missionaries we are a part of?

(Open for discussion)

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Isaiah 49:1-7

What was God's ultimate purpose for His ——
Servant? How was this fulfilled through Christ ——
Jesus?

(God's ultimate purpose was for His Servant to bring the gospel message to the rest of the world, to be the light of the world. Jesus fulfilled this purpose when He gave Himself as the sacrifice for our sins. Through His death and resurrection, everyone, both Jews and Gentiles alike, has the opportunity to experience His salvation.)

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LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

H o w	doe	s the	Serva	ant's	mis	sion	ali	gn w	ith	the
call	we	have	been	give	n to	spr	e a d	the	gos	pel
mess	s a g e	? W h	at doe	s it n	nean	to t	e a	light	to	t h e
natio	ns?	How	are w	e tha	t lia	ht?				

(Open for discussion. We are called to continue the work that Christ Jesus and His disciples started. Paul and Barnabas began this work as they carried the gospel message to Jews and Gentiles alike, beyond the borders of the promised land to the ends of the earth. We have the responsibility to continue that work today as we live the "sent life" on mission.)

Have you ever felt like you were working	toward
something with no results? How did you	handle
those feelings? Share with your group.	

(Open for discussion)

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LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE

NOTES

How can this passage encourage us as we face challenges and hard times?

(Open for discussion. We can remember that even Jesus faced challenges and difficult times. Many religious leaders sought to humiliate Him and even put Him to death. Others only wanted what He had to offer with no commitment on their part. In His death, He was separated from God because of our sin. Yet He continued on His mission in order to bring glory to God and draw others to Him. If Christ endured all of that, we should, too! As we seek to lead others to Him, we can look forward to our heavenly rewards.)



LIVING MISSIONALLY AND BEING A SENDING CHURCH

"The place God calls you to is the place where your greatest joy and passion meet the world's greatest need." (Frederick Buechner)

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Consider the following as you pray together:

 God has called each of us to live a "sent life", with the purpose of making Him known to the world. Take time this week to reflect on what is your greatest joy and passion and how it might meet the needs of the world.

CHURCH ON THE

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

•	For what purpose in life can you say you are
	"set apart"? How do you understand God's
	purpose for your life?

• Would you consider yourself a missionary? Where do you currently see God providing you with an opportunity to share your faith story? What steps will you take this week to become better equipped to share the gospel in your community?

•	Whenever	you	face	challe	enging	times	and
	even q	uesti	o n	your	pur	pose	or
	effectiver	ness,	we	must	reme	m b e r	that
	Christ has	s call	ed us	to be	the "l	ight o	fthe
	world." (G o d	has (chosen	u s	to be	His
	represent	ative	s to a	a lost	and dy	ing w	orld.
	Pray that	you	can li	ve in a	a way	that br	ings
	glory to H	im an	d dra	ws oth	ers to	Him.	



EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL AND MISSIONAL PURPOSE!

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