

## ***How the Mission of Jesus Shapes Our Mission***

*Outposts Sunday School Class, CMC, Summer '25*

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Three Marks of the Mission of Jesus that Must Control and Shape Our Mission:

1. A Controlling Concern to \_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:34)

2. A Controlling Concern to \_\_\_\_\_ (John 6:26-27;  
Mark 10:45; Luke 5:32)

3. A Controlling Concern to \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 4:38-44)

- Consider Jesus' anticipation that the proclamation of the Gospel would "*go global*":  
**John 10:16; Mark 14:9; Matthew 26:13**

### ***A Clarification on Mercy Ministries vs. Missions*** **(from CMC Philosophy of Missions Document)**

Throughout church history, some have elevated activities like social action or humanitarian aid to be necessary to the Great Commission.<sup>1</sup> Such efforts may meet temporal needs and express individual Christian compassion, but they do not rise to the biblical priority of making and maturing disciples. Mercy ministries encompass efforts that are neither mandated by nor essential to the Great Commission. Thus, we seek to make a distinction between missions and mercy ministries.

Mercy ministries in the NT typically prioritize the household of the faith (Gal. 6:10; Ac. 2:44-45; 6:1-7; Eph. 4:28; Jas. 1:27, 2:15-16; 1 Tim. 5:3-15; 1 Jn. 3:17). However, we recognize such ministries can provide opportunities to share the gospel with unbelievers. These ministries should always centralize evangelism and connection to a healthy local church. Meeting a person's *temporal* needs without pointing them to Christ leaves their greatest *eternal* need unmet. We should always remember that the *one* thing that *only* Christians can do is proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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<sup>1</sup>David M. Doran, *For the Sake of His Name* (Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary, 2018), 43-58.

## Recommended Resources:

### BOOK:

***For the Sake of His Name*** by Dave Doran

- *specifically, chapter 3 on “The Task of the Great Commission” where Dave Doran traces the history of the Lausanne Movement and offers biblically balanced critiques.*

### ARTICLE (you can search online):

***Regaining Our Focus: A Response to the Social Action Trend in Evangelical Missions*** by Joel James and Brian Biedebach

- *two missionaries in Africa trace the effects of the social action emphasis in missions in Africa and offer biblically balanced critiques.*