

GOD'S MISSION AND OURS IN 2024

From Pastor Mark

Pastor Phillip and I are excited to present a new series this month called, *"On Mission."* Where should we as individuals and we as a church focus in 2024? Success in God's eyes calls us back to basics: *The purpose of IBC is to exalt God by making Christ-like disciples who love God, God's Word, God's people, and God's world.* Mission is not so much what we decide to do for God as what God is doing that we can be swept up into.

I. GOD'S MISSION (Habakkuk 2:12-14)

A. Human Plans Are Futile (12-13)

1. Selfish (12)
2. Empty (13b)
3. Subject to Sovereignty (13a)

B. God's Promise Is Certain (14)

1. A Fitting Promise—*"The glory of the LORD"*
2. A Comprehensive Promise
 - a. Total—*"Filled... as the waters cover the sea"*
 - b. Saving—*The knowledge of the glory of the LORD"*
 - c. Climactic—*"To the praise of the glory of His GRACE"* (Eph. 1:6)

II. OUR MISSION WITHIN GOD'S MISSION (Matthew 28:16-20)

A. The Person Who Commissions Us (16-18)

B. The Commission Assigned Us—*"Make Disciples"*

1. Make Disciples by Bringing Them, *"As you go..."*
2. Make Disciples by Bonding Them, *"Baptizing..."*
3. Make Disciples by Building Them, *"Teaching them to observe..."* (Christ-like, Luke 6:40, 2 Cor. 3:18, Ephesians 4:16)

C. The Presence That Enables Us (20b)

III. OUR MISSION WITHIN THE CHURCH (Ephesians 3:20-21)

A. God's Work in the World Today (3:20)

B. Christ's Body Forever (3:21, 1:23)

C. The Story of Glory... What we were made for!

PRAY THAT WE AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS A CHURCH WILL BE ON GOD'S MISSION IN 2024!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR JANUARY 7, 2024

1. Share some God sightings during your finish to 2023 or start to 2024. How did God display His glory?
2. Read Habakkuk 2:12-14. Why are human plans without God futile, selfish, and empty?

3. How does knowing God's promise that the earth will be full of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord help to guide our life mission this year and every day?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31. How will being in God's Word daily in 2024 help you stay on mission?
5. If discipling is "helping someone else follow Jesus," will you set some goals and pray for God to use you to share the Gospel with someone and help someone grow spiritually this year?
6. What step could you take to help our church family be on mission this year to reach and make disciples to the glory of God?
7. Note: Life Groups will not meet on January 14 or 21. Encourage your Life Group to come hear Andrew Taylor, Candidate for Pastor of Middle School Ministries on January 14 and to attend our Congregational Meeting on January 21.