

3-8-26 Discussion Questions and Devotional

1. What is your 'one thing' that drives your daily decisions, and how does it align with God's mission of bringing all people back to himself?
2. When you reflect on your walk with God, do you tend to focus more on successes, failures, or the lessons learned in trials? How does this perspective shape your faith journey?
3. Paul considered everything as loss compared to knowing Christ Jesus. What are the things in your life that you would struggle to consider as 'dung' for the sake of the gospel?
4. In what ways does your life and circumstances currently mirror Christ? Where do you find yourself resisting the call to walk as Jesus walked?
5. The sermon suggests that meeting someone's immediate need may be more important than simply sharing a gospel presentation. How does this challenge or affirm your approach to evangelism?
6. What is your specific field of mission? Is it your workplace, family, neighborhood, or somewhere else, and how are you currently serving as God's chosen instrument in that space?
7. How well do you understand the beliefs, questions, fears, and frustrations of the people God has placed in your circle? What steps could you take to better understand them?
8. Paul returned to Lystra with the same passion after being stoned there. What persecution or rejection has caused you to retreat from sharing your faith, and what would it take to return with renewed conviction?
9. Are there people or groups you have unconsciously viewed as enemies of faith rather than people enslaved by the true enemy of darkness? How might this realization change your approach to them?
10. If living on mission means not being afraid of the consequences of boldly sharing the gospel, what specific consequences are you currently afraid of, and how does faith in God's work through suffering address that fear?

5-Day Devotional: Living On Mission

Day 1: Faith That Moves Mountains

Reading: Acts 14:8-10; Hebrews 11:1-6

Devotional: Paul recognized faith in the lame man before healing him—not just faith for salvation, but faith that God would equip him for what lay ahead. This is the faith that moves us beyond comfort into kingdom work. Like Paul, we must develop eyes to see where God is already working and faith to step into those moments. What "lame" areas of your life need God's healing touch? Where is God calling you to exercise faith today? Living on mission begins with trusting that God will equip you for the work He's calling you to, even when it seems impossible. Faith isn't about having all the answers; it's about trusting the One who does.

Reflection Question: Where do you need to exercise faith that God will equip you for His mission today?

Day 2: Meeting Real Needs

Reading: Acts 14:11-18; James 2:14-17

Devotional: Paul didn't just preach at the lame man—he met his deepest need. The gospel becomes most accessible when we demonstrate it through action. Sometimes the greatest thing we can do isn't simply share a gospel presentation, but live out the gospel teachings of Jesus in practical ways. What needs do the people around you have? Are you willing to get your hands dirty meeting those needs before speaking a word? The crowd in Lystra was moved not just by Paul's words, but by his compassionate action. Living on mission means being attentive to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of others, trusting that meeting real needs opens doors for eternal truth.

Reflection Question: What practical need can you meet today that might make the gospel more accessible to someone?

Day 3: Suffering for the Kingdom

Reading: Acts 14:19-22; Philippians 3:7-11

Devotional: Paul was stoned and left for dead, yet he returned to the very place of his suffering to strengthen disciples. His one thing—knowing Christ—was worth more than his life. This is the mark of a true follower in the way of Jesus. We live in a culture that avoids suffering at all costs, but kingdom work often requires walking through hardship. Paul didn't dismiss his suffering; he used it to demonstrate that following Jesus means enduring many hardships to enter

the kingdom. Do you have faith that God can do mighty work through your suffering? The question isn't if hardship will come, but whether we'll remain faithful when it does.

Reflection Question: How can God use your current struggles to advance His kingdom and strengthen others?

Day 4: Understanding Your Mission Field

Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:19-23; Matthew 28:18-20

Devotional: Paul understood the Lystrians' culture well enough to speak truth into their belief system. He didn't compromise the gospel, but he made it accessible by addressing their specific worldview. Not everyone is called to be a global missionary, but everyone is called to live on mission. Your field might be your workplace, your neighborhood, your family, or your school. Living on mission requires that you understand the beliefs, questions, fears, and frustrations of the people God has placed in your sphere. Learn what they value. Discover what questions they're asking. Then show them how Jesus is the answer they've been searching for. You are God's chosen instrument right where you are.

Reflection Question: Who has God placed in your sphere of influence, and how can you better understand their needs?

Day 5: Your One Thing

Reading: Philippians 1:20-21; Luke 9:23-25

Devotional: "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Paul's one thing was so clear, so compelling, that nothing could stop him—not stoning, not rejection, not suffering. What's your one thing? Have you aligned your heart with God's mission of bringing all people back to Himself? Living as a follower in the way of Jesus means walking in His footsteps—full of grace and truth, unashamed of the gospel, willing to suffer for the kingdom. It means recognizing that people aren't the enemy; the powers of darkness are. It means having faith, mirroring Christ's life, and never being afraid of the consequences of bold obedience. Align your one thing with God's one thing, and watch Him work powerfully through your life.

Reflection Question: What is your one thing, and does it align with God's mission to reach the lost?