



—Various Texts—

“Mission Matters: Guatemala Report”

Pastor Patrick Bowler

3-17-2024

Consult the Scriptures:

Genesis 1:1-3

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

(Other Scripture referenced: 2 Cor. 5:18; Is. 9:2; Deut. 6:6-9; Matt. 28:19; Jn. 12:24-25; Acts 6:7, 9:31, 12:24, 16:5, 19:20, 28:30-31; Rev. 22:2)

Consult the Scholars:

Tim Chester—

“The purpose of God’s mission has not changed. God’s purpose at creation was to dispel darkness by bringing light. And today the purpose of his mission is to dispel darkness by bringing light. And the means of God’s mission has not changed. At creation God brought light by speaking His word. And today we bring light by speaking God’s word.” (Tim Chester, Steve Timmis [Ed.], *Multiplying Churches* [Christian Focus Pub., 2016], p. 33.)

Discuss:

1. One of Valley Life’s six stated values is, ***Mission Matters***. Why does it *matter*?
2. What was/is God’s mission in the world? What is the church’s mission in the world?

3. Read the above quote from Chester and discuss. What stands out to you?
4. Read Genesis 1:1-3 and 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (cf. Is. 9:2) and discuss. What similarities to you see? What do those similarities tell us about God's mission in the world? How does that apply to the church today? How does that apply to your life personally?
5. On Sunday, Pastor Patrick (and others) shared about their recent trip to Guatemala. What struck you as he/they shared? What stood out to you the most?
6. **Pray** for Pastor Mitch and his wife, Amanda (and family). **Pray** for Pastor Cayetano and his wife, Velma (and family). **Pray** for the seven pastoral residents at *Christ Redeemer Church* in Los Chilitos. **Pray** for God to lead us as we consider how to best serve in Guatemala.