

Focus, part 4 – 10/31/21

Pastor Rick - OUR MISSION!

Message Summary:

So what IS God's mission?

Genesis 12:2

John 3:16-17

Mark 10:45

Acts 1:8

1) Where to Go

Acts 1:8

2) What to do?

Now when we think of sharing your faith or being a witness what comes to your mind?

C4 Approach to winning people (not effective): Convince, Convict, Coerce, Control

A Better Approach:

1. Show-up!

Mission is first and foremost showing up to life and to what God is doing in the world!

John 5:17

We are invited to participate with God in His work in the world!

2. Slow Down

Fight busyness and self-centeredness.

“Heaven is in the Ordinary”

The doctrine of incarnation requires a high doctrine of the everyday and the ordinary!

3. Shut-up and Listen!

People of mission are better listeners than talkers

It is not enough to show-up and slow down. You never resemble Jesus more than when you have your mouth shut! --Ignatius of Antioch

Mission is more about “speak Lord your servant is listening” than “Listen Lord your servant is speaking!”

Maybe less talking is more when it comes to the mission!

Heart-- ART of HEARing is the EAR of the HEART!

The first duty of love is to listen—Paul Tillich

4. Wake well!

Ephesians 5:14

“Stay awake, be alert, watch!”

“watch and pray”

To watch means to be awake, to be mindful. All throughout Scripture there is this concept be watchful, be attentive, wake-up!!

Maybe that is what we need more from the church today--More watching, praying, listening, caring, serving, compassion and empathy!

The best people on mission are those who have deep compassion and love enough to bear each others burdens...

Maybe being people of mission are more about being the good news versus telling the good news.

Discussion Questions:

1. What stands out to you from the message?
2. What progress were you able to make this past week on replacing negative thoughts with what is true, admirable, noble, etc.? Review Phillipians 4:8.
3. What encouragement do you receive from the Scriptures shared in this message?
4. Share about a time you shared your faith recently. How did it go? What would you do differently?
5. Which of the four steps comes easiest to you? Which is hardest?
6. What changes do you need to make to live more on mission?
7. End your group time in prayer to live more focused on Christ and on mission. Pray for a time to meet up with a friend, neighbor or co-worker and just listen to their story.