

NOT FEELIN' IT Beyond Borders: Embracing the Call to Mission May 21, 2023 David Stanislaus

Introduction:

- The first two weeks we talked about two great truths:
 - The first week we talked about God's character or nature. God loves you beyond measure, not because of what you have done, but because that is His nature.
 - The second week we talked about God's empowering presence. God wants to spend time with you, because He loves you and created you for fellowship.
- It makes sense to me, that if God loves me and wants to spend time with me, He wants that for all of humanity. In fact, the scriptures tell us that God is on a mission to accomplish just that.
- Missio Dei is the Latin term that translates to "the mission of God." It refers to the belief that God is actively at work in the world, pursuing the redemption and reconciliation of all things to himself. The concept of Missio Dei has its roots in the Bible, where God's mission is described as the restoration of a broken world to its original intended state of wholeness and harmony. This mission is seen throughout the Old and New Testaments, from God's covenant with Abraham where he tells Abram he will make him a blessing to the nations, to Jesus' commissioning of his disciples to make disciples of all nations, to Revelation where John heard a loud voice say "Look! God's dwelling place is now among

the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God." (Rev 21:1-5) Today, Missio Dei is often used to describe the church's role in participating in God's mission, by proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and serving as agents of God's healing and reconciliation in the world. It reminds Christians that they are not simply spectators of what God is doing in the world, but active participants in his mission to bring about his kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

1. Mesa Church and the mission of God

- a. Mission statement: Mesa Church exists to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus
- b. Vision statement: there's always room at the table
- c. Practice:
 - i. Know God through our weekend services
 - ii. Find freedom in one of our small groups
 - iii. Discover purpose through our growth track
 - iv. Make a difference on the dream team
- d. Mesa Church is also involved in the Mission of God around the world
 - i. Global workers supported
 - ii. Dollars given

2. Asia Pacific

- a. 40 countries in Asia Pacific, 20 with no missionaries
- b. 937 million people
- c. 890 million (95%) are without a relationship with God
- d. 1,132 unreached people groups in this area (42%) <u>https://</u> warehouse.agwm.org/repository/flipbook/worldview/2021/v7n10/
 - i. "An unreached or least-reached people is a people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize this people group

without outside assistance." (Joshua Project) <u>https://joshuaproject.net/help/definitions</u>

3. An island in Asia

- a. An unreached island
- b. We landed with the purpose of connecting and finding a way to help.
- c. First night we met people in the public square.
- d. That lead to an invitation to share in an English class.
- e. These girls will most likely never leave this island.
 - i. They will be told there is a god, but he is
 - 1. Unknowable
 - 2. Impersonal
 - 3. Inaccessible
 - 4. Silent
 - ii. He should be known as
 - 1. A God of love
 - 2. Knowable
 - 3. Personal
 - 4. Accessible
 - 5. Alive
- f. I had a conversation with a woman who asked a critical question
 - i. What will happen to my son, he is already dead
- g. It isn't my job to declare judgment, it is my job to go
 - i. We work with young people in the areas of
 - 1. Coaching
 - 2. Training
 - 3. Mentoring
 - 4. Mobilizing
- 4. Conclusion

- a. If you have experienced the God of love, and you walk in fellowship with Him, you must be concerned about a lost world. Answer these two questions:
 - i. What is your world?
 - ii. What are you doing to reach it?