Back 2 Basics: Christianity 101

Missions

The **Great Commission** is not **optional**!

8 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20.

Acts 1:4-8 (CSB)

“While he was with them, he commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father’s promise. ‘Which,’ he said, ‘you have heard me speak about; for John baptixed with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days.’ So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?’

Acts 1:4-8 (CSB)

He said to them, ‘It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.’”

Acts 1:8 and Missions

- God never called us to be ***fans*** of missions.
- God has called us to be ***followers*** who live on mission.
- Acts 1:8 brings words of **promise**, **identity**, and **strategy**.

I. Missional Promise

- Promise: You WILL receive power.
  - **Duynamis**, supernatural power that reveal God's limitless ability.
  - **Exousia**, Right, privilege, jurisdiction to act. Delegated to people by God for his redemptive purpose.
  - **Kratos**, mighty, perfect power exerted by God.
- When Holy Spirit comes on you.
  - *But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.* ***14*** *He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.* ***15*** *All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."* John 16:13-15
- God is missional.
  - *I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.* John 10:16
  - *For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.* Romans 8:29
- God doesn't give us **command** without a **promise**.

II. Missional Identity

- Knowing who you are is valuable.
- God never wants us to be unsure of who we are.
  - *Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.* Deuteronomy 31:6
  - *I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.* John 14:18
- "Who am I?" according to Acts 1:8.
  - Jesus calls us HIS witnesses. MY witnesses…
  - What if you began your day with this truth? ***I am Jesus' witness.***
- God doesn't give us **promise** without **Identity**.

III. Missional strategy

- Acts 1:8
- God doesn’t give us **identity** without a **strategy**.
- He lays out in Acts 1:8 a missional strategy…

Acts 1:8 Strategy

1. In **Jerusalem…**our daily context.
   - Lowe’s market
   - Post office
   - McDonald’s Drive-Thru
   - Kokernot Park
2. In **Judea…**our larger region.
   - Brewster County
   - Presidio County
   - Jeff Davis County

Acts 1:8 Strategy

3. In **Samaria…** “forbidden” place we avoid, dislike. Place/people God is unexpectedly working in.

4. To **outer ends of the earth…**Other nations/cultures beyond our Samaria.

- Europe, Africa, South America, Asia.

Apply:

1. Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Sending gospel gifts to our ***Samaria / Ends of the earth***.
2. Puerto Rico, Summer 2027. Joining God in going ***to the ends of the earth.***