

WARM-UP

- When someone assigns you a task, what is your initial reaction? Why do you think you respond this way?
- Have you ever been chosen to represent a group? Share your experience with us.
- If someone entrusted you to carry out a last will or someone's last words, how do you think you would honor this?

WORD *¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

LUKE 4:18-19

As a church, we believe God's mission is to redeem a people for Himself from every tribe, nation, and language, and to restore all of creation for His glory. Jesus came and will come back again to fulfill this mission; He said so Himself in the passage we read. As His disciples, He calls us not just to live the abundant life He has for us, but to take part in this kingdom work. How can we participate in Jesus' work and live out our Statement of Faith?

1 | Proclaim the gospel.

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

ROMANS 10:14

Through faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ, we have experienced redemption from enslavement to sin and were restored to a right relationship with God. This gospel message in us is what will also change lives, redeem others, and restore them to God. The challenge for us now is to take the gospel and proclaim it to our families, our friends, our campuses, our nation, and the whole world. Who preached the gospel to you? How have you shared the gospel with others?

2 | Make disciples.

¹⁹“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20

As we preach the gospel, we also walk with others and help each other follow God and fish for people. Jesus' last command is to make disciples by *teaching them to observe* or obey all His commands. As we teach others and walk together, we trust the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in

each of us. We do not and cannot change people, but we can lead and point them to God. Who are you walking with in your journey of faith? How can you help one another fulfill Jesus' Great Commission together?

3 | Seek God's justice and restoration in the world.

¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-19

When God created us, He intended for us to be His representatives and image-bearers on the earth. For those who are in Christ, this purpose has been reinstated in us because we have died to sin and have been reconciled to God. Now, we represent God and are tasked to be God's hands and feet. We are to be good stewards of creation and extend God's love, justice, mercy, and grace to a broken, fallen world. He has gifted us in unique ways that we may serve Him, one another, and the world to advance His kingdom. In what ways have you or your local church tangibly participated in this?

APPLICATION

- Are there any obstacles that hinder you from sharing your testimony and the gospel? How might you overcome them?
- Who are the people you are walking with and helping to know God more? Is there someone you believe God is leading you to journey with and help know Him?
- In what ways has God gifted you to be His hands and feet to the world? Where do you think He has called you to do so? How can you obey God in this area?

PRAYER

- Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, out of His love and compassion to save the world. Pray that you won't take your salvation for granted, but share it with others.
- Ask God for the grace and wisdom to be His image-bearer to those around you. Pray that you would be able to help others follow Him and bear His image as well.
- Pray for opportunities to serve so you can advance God's kingdom and participate in bringing His justice and restoration to the world. May the world see Jesus through your words and actions.



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