

Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2012 Missions – Some Insights

## Ps. Jeyakumar Isaiah

**Missions** – It's really about ordinary people on an extraordinary journey with the living God accomplishing extraordinary tasks.

We need to understand that it is God's mission and He has extended a divine invitation to each of us to be part of it.

So, it is a privilege for us to sign up for this extraordinary journey with Him and through Him carry out extraordinary tasks.

## 1. It is the Lord Jesus who commissions us/sends us out on His Mission

The Lord might use a local church or a spiritual authority for this purpose of commissioning but, it is really Him who ultimately sends us on this journey.

#### Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

# John 15:16

<sup>16</sup> You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you

#### 2. It is the disciple who is commissioned/sent out on His Mission

There is just one qualification to be sent out on this mission – be a disciple of the Lord Jesus.

A disciple is one who not only acknowledges the good teachings of the teacher but also diligently follows both the teachings and the teacher wholeheartedly

Here are some marks of a disciple:

A disciple follows the Lord willingly – Matthew 4:18-22 A disciple follows the Lord willingly despite the cost or sacrifice - Acts 21:13 A disciple lives for the Lord Jesus – 2 corinthians 5:15 | Romans 1:1 A disciple is not ashamed of the Gospel – Romans 1:16

#### 3. The disciple is commissioned with the Lord's authority and power

#### Matthew 28:18-19

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "*All authority* has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> *Go therefore* and make disciples of all the nations



# Luke 10:19

<sup>19</sup> Behold, *I give you the authority* to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

God's redemptive mission is a spiritual battle therefore spiritual authority <u>is required</u> to carry out this task. The good news is that we have been give this authority.

## Acts 1:8

<sup>8</sup> But *you shall receive power* when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and *you shall be witnesses* to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Power to be a witness comes because of the power of the Holy Spirit upon us and in us.

## 4. The outcome of the commissioning

### Acts 4:33

<sup>33</sup> And with *great power* the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And *great grace* was upon them all.

The apostles' witness was with great power (Greek – dunamis)

#### Some observations:

a) The nature of our commissioning

We too can witness with great power, since <u>Jesus has sent us on this task the way He himself was sent</u> by the Father.

#### John 17:18

<sup>18</sup> As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

#### How was Jesus sent on His task and what was He sent to do?

We get an understanding of this when we read Luke 4:18-21

#### Luke 4:18-21

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me
To <u>preach</u> the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to <u>heal</u> the brokenhearted,<sup>[a]</sup>
To <u>proclaim liberty</u> to *the* captives
And recovery of <u>sight</u> to *the* blind, *To* <u>set at liberty</u> those who are oppressed;
<sup>19</sup> To <u>proclaim</u> the acceptable year of the LORD."<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. <sup>21</sup> And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."



# Let us not settle for anything less !

b) Prayer precedes missions

## Acts 1:14 & Acts 2:1

The disciples were 'in one accord' (i.e) with one heart and one mind and in much prayer

## Acts 4:31

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

- The disciples prayed
- There was a mighty work of the Spirit
- They spoke the Word they went on the mission with boldness

## Acts 12:5

<sup>5</sup> Peter was therefore kept in prison, but <u>constant prayer</u> was offered to God for him by the church.

## Acts 13:2

<sup>2</sup> As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

- The disciples prayed
- The Holy Spirit directed the disciples
- Saul and Barnabas were sent out based on the Holy Spirit's direction

#### Conclusion:

#### Romans 10:14-15

<sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?
And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear without a preacher?
<sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Some of us are called to <u>**Go!**</u> The ones who are called to stay can <u>**Send!**</u> All of us can <u>**Pray!**</u>

As we, ordinary people embark on this extraordinary journey with this extraordinary Living God, we will carry out extraordinary tasks by His power in us and through us for His Glory!

Sermon Notes





Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance. YOUTUBE: <u>https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore</u> WEBSITE: <u>https://apcwo.org/live</u>

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