



MISSION MINDED



SESSION 6
Commissioned





WATCH

Click play above or on the link below

<https://youtu.be/-Esy66hhxy0>

THINK

Have you ever had
a job or task to do
that seemed too
big?

While we most commonly turn to the end of Matthew's gospel to read Jesus' words of commissioning, we can read similar statements in multiple places in Scripture.

Read each of the following passages. What do each emphasise? Look for what is unique to each passage. What do each reveal of the task of Jesus' disciples?

i) Matthew 28:18-20

Explicit connection to the authority of Jesus to send His disciples. They are to make disciples of all nations.

ii) Luke 24:44-49

Disciples are to proclaim the need for repentance and forgiveness of sins in Christ's name to the nations.

iii) Acts 1:3-8

Jesus promises help for the disciples. They won't be alone - the Holy Spirit will be with them as they go, empowering them in their mission.

Jesus articulates the scale of the task to the disciples - call people to repent and follow Christ in all the nations. However, they won't be alone as they go. Jesus promised in John 14:16 that He would send a Helper to His disciples after He was gone. This promise is reiterated at the start of Acts. The disciples will receive power when the Spirit comes on them and what an incredible day it was when it did.

Read Acts 2:1-13, 41-42. In what ways can you see God’s global purposes fulfilled?

Disciples are in Jerusalem with Jews from “every nation under heaven”. The disciples are able to speak in tongues and those hearing them miraculously hear them speak in their own language. Three thousand come to follow the Lord after Peter preaches.

The church is born in an amazing way at Pentecost as 3000 come to saving faith in Christ. The rest of the book of Acts details how this church continued to expand outwards and include both Jew and Gentile believers.

Read the following passages about people coming to faith. Who has been reached with the Gospel?

i) Acts 6:7

Many priests in Jerusalem are saved.

ii) Acts 8:4-8

Many Samaritans, long-time enemies of the Jews are saved.

iii) Acts 10

Cornelius, and other Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit.

iv) Acts 11:19-21

Many Hellenists (Greek speakers) in Antioch are saved.

Truly, the book of Acts reveals the fulfilment of God’s ultimate purpose in a mighty way. Different people from different nations come to Jesus in faith, and so the name of God is glorified.

Read Acts 13:1-3. What is exciting and encouraging about what the church in Antioch does?

The church lays hands on Barnabas and Saul and sends them out. The mission is multiplying as new churches send more people into the mission field.

REFLECT
How can our churches be a part of God’s global mission?

The book of Acts sees the church explode by the power of God. In its latter half we follow Paul’s missionary journeys as he reaches more people and nations with the Gospel. Acts ends quite abruptly but we know the Gospel continued to spread and the church continued to grow.

Today, there are approximately 2.5 billion Christians world-wide. The task to make God’s name known among the nations has seen much success. We will spend eternity with brothers and sisters from all across this world.

Yet there remain many who have never heard. In Asia alone, where three quarters of the world’s unreached people live, there are around 2.25 billion people who have no idea what Jesus has done for them. God is being deprived of the worship and glory He so richly deserves.

Read Revelation 7:9-10. How does this encourage you as you consider the need of the unreached billions in our world today?

People from every nation, from all tribes, peoples and languages will gather around the throne of the Lamb singing praises.

The book of Revelation is a glimpse into the hope of every Christian, painting a picture of the day we long for. One day, all those in Jesus Christ will worship around the throne of God. And who will be there with us? People from every tribe, tongue and nation. God’s purpose to make Himself known among the nations will be fulfilled to the fullest. Our Lord will, at last, receive all the glory that He’s due.

God, by His power, will bring people of all nations to Himself and He still uses His chosen people, us, the church, to do it.

REFLECT
How will you be a part of God’s great global plan to bring glory to His name?



ASIA FOCUS

Each session of Mission Minded focuses on an area of ministry in Asia supported by our parent organisation, AsiaLink. Please take this opportunity to expand your knowledge and practise prayer for Gospel ministry in Asia.

FINAL 58, SOUTH-EAST ASIA

In a South-East Asian country, where the church is heavily monitored by the Communist government and evangelism is dangerous, there is an ongoing effort to identify and evangelise the final 58 unreached people groups in this land.

Since this programme began a few years ago, AsiaLink partners have set up two training centres from which over a dozen missionary teams have been trained and equipped to reach out into poor, rural areas with the Gospel. These teams make contacts with members of these unreached people groups through schools and agricultural programmes.

Currently, over 50 local evangelists are targeting these groups. To date, through their ministry, around 240 people have put their faith in Christ with 15 churches planted among people groups previously unengaged and unreached with the Gospel. Praise God!

HOW TO PRAY

Pray for these final 58 people groups, that the Lord would open their eyes to the truth of His Word as it is shared.

Pray for these evangelists earnestly seeking to make the Lord's name known, ask for the Lord's help as they make contacts with non-believers.

Pray for those training to join this mission and for the Lord to bring more faithful men and women to this work.

**We pray you have been blessed over this six session study. Let us know what you've learned during Mission Minded.
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