

# Misguided Mission

1

2  **The Mission**

1. Make disciples

3  **Matthew 28:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, *go and make disciples* of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> *Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.* And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

4  **The Mission**

1. Make disciples
2. Reflect Christ to the world

5  **Ephesians 5:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. <sup>2</sup> Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

6  **Good Church Activities**

- Music
- Hospitality
- Audio/Visual Crew
- Facilities Management
- Finance Team
- Event Committee
- Softball Team
- 

7  **Matthew 7:21-23**

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. *Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.* <sup>22</sup> On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' <sup>23</sup> But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'"

8  **Good Community Service**

- Serving the Poor and Hurting
- Improving Race Relations
- Pursuing Gender Equality
- Coaching Young People
- Stressing Equal Opportunity
- Beautifying the Community
- Supporting Important Causes
- 

9  **2 Timothy 2:2-4**

<sup>2</sup> You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. *Now teach*

*these truths to other trustworthy people* who will be able to pass them on to others. <sup>3</sup> Endure suffering along with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup> *Soldiers don't get tied up in the affairs of civilian life*, for then they cannot please the officer who enlisted them.

10 

The world is hungry for righteousness and justice. Those things are found only through knowing God and seeing His character. Therefore, carrying out the good deeds and church activities displayed by Christ and urged by the New Testament writers is of no lasting benefit if we don't tell the truth of the Gospel.

11 12  **Definitions**

Disciple – devoted follower of Christ

Preacher – proclaimer of the gospel

Evangelist – *see*, Preacher

Evangelical – of or related to preaching the gospel

Witness – one who has seen or experienced an event

Missionary – someone on mission to share the gospel

Church Growth – making more disciples (Acts 2)

Church Planting – gathering disciples together (Acts 2)

13  **Acts 2:44-47**

<sup>44</sup> And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. <sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. <sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— <sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. *And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.*

14 

It is unwise to try to draw a more narrow definition of mission, because, for God's people, *everything is mission*. When we tell the church otherwise – that the "front lines" are over there and not here – we only encourage the sort of behavior we oppose. If you tell people they aren't missionaries, don't be surprised if they don't act like missionaries.

- Ernest Goodman

15  **1 Peter 2:5, 9**

<sup>5</sup> And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, *you are his holy priests*. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, *you offer spiritual sacrifices* that please God.

<sup>9</sup> *...for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.*

16 

You are the preachers.

You are the missionaries.

You are the disciple makers.

...and you're not alone.

17  **Matthew 28:20**

And be sure of this: *I am with you always*, even to the end of the age.”

1 2  **The Mission**

1. Reflect Christ to the world; and
2. Make disciples.

Why are we failing to make disciples?

3  **The Problem**

1. We forget who God says we are.
2. We're complacent in our salvation.
3. We don't love our neighbors.
4. We fear opposition and rejection.
5. We're too busy.
6. We lack training and role models.

4  **2 Peter 1:12-13**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them and are standing firm in the truth you have been taught. <sup>13</sup>And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live.

The gospel is not just "Jesus saves" or "Jesus loves you." It's not just the first four books of the NT, either. It's the whole picture. We need to be reminded of the truth of the gospel...

5  **The Solution**

1. Be reminded of the truth of the gospel:
  - a. God is the beginning and end of all things, including creation;
  - b. God is love and light, holiness and peace, truth and comfort, justice and wrath;
  - c. The jewel of God's creation – humans – rejected Him because of pride, dooming themselves to a world of sin and destruction and, ultimately, death, hell, and eternal separation from God;

6  **The Solution**

1. Be reminded of the truth of the gospel:
  - d. There is nothing fallen humans can do to get back into fellowship with God – we are sinful and He is holy;
  - e. God, in His great love for us, continually pursues us to be in relationship with Him;
  - f. To purchase our souls back from sin and hell, God became human, in the form of Jesus Christ, to pay the penalty for sin on our behalf;

7  **The Solution**

1. Be reminded of the truth of the gospel:
  - g. Jesus was God in the flesh - born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, embodied grace and truth, and fulfilled all the prophecies about Himself;
  - h. Jesus willingly gave Himself up to be tried and convicted of false crimes and to be tortured, crucified, and killed in horrific fashion;
  - i. Jesus rose from the dead, visited with his disciples and hundreds of eye witnesses, and ascended to heaven where he lives and reigns;

8  **The Solution**

1. Be reminded of the truth of the gospel:
  - j. We can be rescued from God's judgment and restored to relationship with Him by believing that Jesus is the way, accepting the gift of salvation that only he can provide through his grace, and surrendering our lives to his lordship;
  - k. When we trust Christ and surrender to Him, God's Holy Spirit lives in us and provides us the power and freedom to do God's will, instead of living in sin;

#### 9 **The Solution**

1. Be reminded of the truth of the gospel:
  - l. Jesus will return to earth for his church, which consists of all the people who surrendered their lives to Him, both dead and alive, and will take them to live with God for eternity; and
  - m. Eternal life with God is perfection, without sin and pain and suffering.

*That's the gospel!*

#### 10 **The Solution**

2. Be reminded of what's at stake:
 

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. (Romans 3:23)

And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. (Hebrews 9:27-28)

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

#### 11 **The Solution**

3. Love, read, and study the Bible and let it transform your mind.

#### 12 **Romans 12:30**

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.

#### 13 **Romans 12:2**

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

#### 14 **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. <sup>17</sup> God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

#### 15 **2 Peter 1:16-18**

<sup>16</sup> For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw his majestic splendor with our own eyes <sup>17</sup> when he received honor and glory from God the Father. The voice from the majestic glory of God said to him, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard that voice from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

16  **2 Peter 1:19-21**

<sup>19</sup> Because of that experience, we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, <sup>21</sup> or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.

17  **The Tools**

Everyone wants answers to these questions:

1. What is the origin of life?
2. What is my purpose?
3. What does the future hold?

The Bible answers them ALL.

18  **The Tools**

The Bible contains the oldest written historical record, and its claims related to human history are observable, testable, and accurate. The writers of the Bible were eye witnesses living at the time of other eye witnesses. They witnessed supernatural events that fulfilled specific prophecies. Most importantly, the writers profess that their writings are inspired by The God who proved his unconditional, impartial love at the cross.

19 

The unique message of the Bible sets it apart from other religious texts. The Bible teaches that mankind is inherently evil and deserving of eternal death. If man were responsible for the content of the Bible, the view of humanity would not be so dark. We tend to make ourselves look good. The Bible also teaches that humans can do nothing of themselves to fix themselves. This goes against human pride, too.

20 

The Bible was written over a period of about 2,500 years, with at least 40 human writers, most of whom did not know each other and were from varying backgrounds. And despite covering controversial subjects, it carries one harmonious message.

21 

You should not believe the Bible just because it says it should be believed. But if the claims of the Bible are found true whenever they are proven during historical and scientific discovery, then the internal claims of the Bible are more compelling.

22 

Many people say science and the Bible are incompatible. They aren't. The Big Bang theory and macro-evolution (all life originates from a single organism in a chemical soup) are incompatible with the Bible. And science.

Scientific method requires observation, experimentation, and repeatable results. The theory of evolution is religious. It requires blind faith.

23 

And Jesus' life? Hundreds of witnesses and they all same the same thing – he lived, he worked

miracles, he was crucified and died on a Friday, and he walked out of the grave on a Sunday. But more than that, Jesus' life fulfilled 300 messianic prophecies. If just one or two of those had been fulfilled, it would be astounding.

And then those witnesses ? They changed the world in three languages across three continents and maintained their stories through persecution, torture, imprisonment, and execution.

#### 24 **The Solution**

4. Live a life that's a reflection of Christ, in accordance with his word.
5. Pray.
6. Go.

#### 25 **The Tools**

1. Pray for opportunity, wisdom, and ears to hear.
2. Ask a lot of questions.
3. Listen twice as much as you talk.
4. Invest time and be patient.
5. Don't be afraid to admit when you don't know something.
6. Remember that spiritual conversion is God's job, not yours.

#### 26 **The Tools**

<http://multiplymovement.com/>

<https://answersingenesis.org/>

<https://www.str.org/>

#### 27 **Matthew 28:20**

And be sure of this: *I am with you always*, even to the end of the age."