

It Matters

Mission Matters

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1. Mission Matters Because _____

Matthew 28:18-20 "Jesus came and told his disciples, 'I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.' ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ 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." (NLT=New Living Translation)

- Jesus entrusted the mission to the church
- Jesus entrusted transformation to the church

Matthew 5:13-16 "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." (NLT)

- Jesus also warned the church not to lose _____
"It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless"

2. Mission Matters Because The _____

1 John 5:19 "We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one." (NLT)

Acts 26:17-18 "...Yes, I am sending you to the Gentiles ¹⁸ to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God's people, who are set apart by faith in me." (NLT)

- There is a spiritual battle for control raging around us
"...the world around us is under the control of the evil one." (NLT)

- The only lasting solution in this world is _____
"...so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness..." (NLT)

Jeremiah 17:9 "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?" (NLT)

3. Mission Matters Because We're _____

Ephesians 4:1 "Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God." (NLT)

- Following the mission ensures we live our calling
- Following the mission protects us from alternatives

○ People follow _____ instead of Jesus

Hebrews 13:9 "So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas. Your strength comes from God's grace..." (NLT)

Colossians 2:8 "Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ." (NLT)

○ People follow human _____ instead of Jesus

1 Corinthians 3:21 "So don't boast about following a particular human leader..." (NLT)

4. Mission Matters Because _____

James 1:25 "But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it." (NLT)

- Obedience to the mission results in blessing
- Faithfulness to the mission is a pathway to greater influence

Luke 19:16-17 "The first servant reported, 'Master, I invested your money and made ten times the original amount!' "Well done!" the king exclaimed. 'You are a good servant. You have been faithful with the little I entrusted to you, so you will be governor of ten cities as your reward.' (NLT)

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Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you feel many believers in Jesus do not see a personal responsibility or call to participate in the mission Jesus gave the church?
2. What happens if the church loses its influence in the world? In other words, if the church ceases to be salt and light?
3. Why does the world need the mission? How is the world still under Satan's control and influence? How do we see this in our world today?
4. How is the mission of making disciples every believer's calling? If we do not accept this calling, what things do we use as substitutes for it?
5. How can we have greater influence for the Kingdom of God in this world. Discuss Luke 19:16-17. Read the entire parable.