

Saved to Serve HIM – Part I

(Adapted from Raymond Woodward's *Life Course 401*)

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them”
(Ephesians 2:10).

The Bible requires even the newest believer to be a witness. Experience shows that new believers will be much more effective in winning others to the Lord if they prepare themselves by making a personal commitment to membership in a church family, to the habits of Christian maturity, and to a ministry within the Body of Christ.



Every person on earth is either a missionary (saved) or a mission field (unsaved).

“The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me – to tell people the Good News about God's grace” (Acts 20:24, NCV).

I should commit the rest of my life to being a messenger of God's Good News to other people, using my time, my talents, and my treasure for His Kingdom, regardless of where it leads or what it costs. God saved me to serve Him.

God receives glory when I serve Him.

“I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do” (John 17:4, NIV).

It is my ultimate goal in life to serve Him.

“We make it our goal to please him” (2 Corinthians 5:9, NIV).

“Our goal is to measure up to God's plan for us” (2 Corinthians 10:13, LB).

JESUS' MISSION ON EARTH

“God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16, LB).

“God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself” (2 Cor. 5:19, LB).

1. SHINING (passive witness)

“I have come as a Light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer wander in the darkness” (John 12:46, LB).

2. SEEKING (active witness)

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10, NIV).

3. SPEAKING (direct testimony)

"This is why I was born and came into the world: to tell people the truth" (John 18:37, NCV).

4. SHARING (indirect testimony)

"I came to give life – life in all its fullness" (John 10:10, NCV).

WHY JESUS' MISSION SHOULD MATTER TO ME

1. IF I WANT TO BE LIKE JESUS, MY LIFE MISSION MUST INCLUDE HIS LIFE MISSION.

"In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world" (John 17:18, TM).

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21, NIV).

2. JESUS EXPECTS ME TO CONTINUE HIS MISSION.

"You are to go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere" (Mark 16:15, LB).

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8, NIV).

3. SHARING THE GOSPEL IS MY RESPONSIBILITY.

"You must warn them so they may live. If you don't speak out to warn the wicked to stop their evil ways, they will die in their sin. But I will hold you responsible for their death" (Ezekiel 3:18, NCV).

"Telling the Good News is my duty - something I must do. And how terrible it will be for me if I do not tell the Good News" (1 Corinthians 9:16, NCV).

4. SHARING THE GOSPEL IS MY PRIVILEGE.

"And God has given us the privilege of urging everyone to come into his favor and be reconciled to him... This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others. We are Christ's ambassadors." (2 Cor. 5:18, LB)

"I am proud of the Good News, because it is the power God uses to save everyone who believes ..." (Romans 1:16, NCV)

5. I'M GRATEFUL FOR WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR ME.

"Remember that in the past you were without Christ ... You had no hope, and you did not know God" (Ephesians 2:12, NCV).

"For Christ's love compels us ..." (2 Corinthians 5:14, NIV).

6. PEOPLE ARE LOST WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST.

"Only Jesus has the power to save! His name is the only one in all the world that can save anyone" (Acts 4:12, CEV).

"Anyone who calls on the Lord will be saved. But before people can ask the Lord for help, they must believe in him; and before they can believe in him, they must hear about him; and for them to hear about the Lord, someone must tell them" (Romans 10:13-14, NCV).

7. GOD WANTS EVERYONE TO BE SAVED.

"God wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4, NIV).

"God does not want anyone to be lost, but he wants all people to change their hearts and lives" (2 Peter 2:9, NCV).

8. GOD'S TIMETABLE FOR HISTORY HINGES AROUND THE CHURCH COMPLETING OUR MISSION.

"The Good News about God's kingdom will be preached in all the world, to every nation. Then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14, NCV).

"Jesus said to them, 'You don't need to know the time of those events that only the Father controls. But the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me ...'" (Acts 1:6-8, CEV).

9. I WILL BE REWARDED BY THE LORD IN ETERNITY.

"Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and the Master you are serving is Christ" (Colossians 3:24, NLT).

"Those who turn many to righteousness will shine like stars forever" (Daniel 12:3, NLT).

10. I WILL REJOICE IN ETERNITY WHEN I SEE PEOPLE I HAVE WON TO THE LORD WITH ME IN HEAVEN.

"Jesus said, 'In the same way there is more happiness in heaven because of one sinner who turns to God than over ninety-nine good people who don't need to'" (Luke 15:7, CEV).

"What gives us hope and joy, and what is our proud reward and crown? It is you! Yes, you will bring us much joy as we stand together before our Lord Jesus when he comes back again" (1 Thessalonians 2:19, NLT).

KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT MY MISSION IS TO THE LORD, WHAT SHOULD MY RESPONSE BE?

"I want to carry out the mission I received from the Lord Jesus – the mission of testifying to the Good News ..." (Acts 20:24, NCV).

Study Questions

1. List and briefly define the four (4) parts to Jesus' mission on earth. Support each answer with Scripture.

- 1) _____

- 2) _____

- 3) _____

- 4) _____

2. List the ten (10) reasons why Jesus' mission should matter to me. Write out (with proper reference) one verse of Scripture to support each reason.

- 1) _____

- 2) _____

- 3) _____

- 4) _____

- 5) _____

