

40 days of focus

april 13. 2008 am

What on earth am I here for? [Be sure we sing Mighty to Save at the beginning and at the altar ministry]

Evangelism

We studied last week about the primary purpose of life on earth, which was to be made in His image.

Gen.1:26-31

Then **God** said, "Let us make **man** in our **image**, after our likeness. And let them have **dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷ So **God created man** in his own **image**, in the **image of God** he **created** him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And **God blessed** them. And **God** said to them, "Be **fruitful** and **multiply** and **fill** the earth and subdue it and have **dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

We were created for God!

We were created in His Image! 1:26, 27

1-to walk with him 3:8

2-to have dominion 1:28c

3-to be fruitful and to multiply 1:28b

5-to grow 1:29b

6-to have and to be blessed 1:28a

Romans 8:28-30 (ESV)

^{8:28} And we know that for **those who love God** all things work together for good, for those **who are called according to his purpose.**

²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to **be conformed to the image of his Son,** in order that he might be the firstborn **among many** brothers.

The next few weeks we will discover these specific creative giftings or abilities that God has given to each of us.

There are 5 basic reasons:

1-you are here to evangelize

2-you are here to disciple

3-you are here to serve

4-you are here to fellowship

5-you are here to worship

These are basically saying: Matt. 22:37-40

1-love the lost/evangelize

- 2-love to disciple/disciple
 - 3-love to others/serve
 - 4-love to others/fellowship
 - 5-love God/worship
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What is Evangelism?

This week will deal with our first area of focus, evangelism.

What is evangelism? It means good news or a good message. (Euangelizo)

Acts 1:8 (ESV)

^{1:8} But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

God has called us to specific regions.

Our realm of evangelism is Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the end of the earth.

Discuss these areas specifically.

Jerusalem-

Judea-

Samaria--

Earth-

What did Jesus say?

Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)

28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 24:14 (KJV)

^{24:14} And this **gospel** of the kingdom shall be **preached** in all the world for a **witness** unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

What does this mean?

Gospel-(euaggelizo); a good message—

Preached- to *herald* (as a public *crier*), especially divine truth (the gospel) :- preach (-er), proclaim, publish.

Witness-(martus); something *evidential*, i.e. (genitive) *evidence* given

He said, Go to all Nations!

We are called to **to preach**_____.

We are called to **be witnesses**_____ .

We are called to **nations**_____.

Why? Because Jesus was sent to seek and save that which was lost.

Luke 19:10 (KJV)

^{19:10} For the Son of man is come to **seek** and to **save** that which was lost.

We are to **seek** the **lost**.

God does not want anyone to **perish**, but that all should come to **repentance**.

2 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

^{3:9} The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Perish- to *destroy* fully (reflexive to *perish*, or *lose*), literal or figurative :- destroy, die, lose, mar, perish

Repentance- metanoeo); (subject) *compunction* (for guilt, including *reformation*); by implication *reversal* (of [another's] decision)

God's Heart of Compassion

Matthew 9:35-38 (KJV)

^{9:35} And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

³⁶ But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with **compassion** on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

³⁷ Then saith he unto his disciples, **The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;**

³⁸ Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Jesus had **compassion** on them.

We need to have **compassion** toward the lost!

Compassion- to have the *bowels* yearn, i.e. (figurative) *feel sympathy, to pity* —

Why?

Mt. 9:36 – include verse

He saw a world that was faint and **scattered** like sheep that had no shepherd.

Fainted-just existing

Scattered- to *fling* (properly with a quick *toss*)

The Action of Compassion

John 4:34-35 (KJV)

^{4:34} Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

³⁵ Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

There is a harvest, it is now!

We just need to look!

The parables of the lost

The Lost sheep,

Luke 15:4-10 (KJV)

^{15:4} What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he **lose one** of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and **go after that which is lost, until he find it?**

⁵ And when he hath found *it*, he layeth *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing.

⁶ And when he cometh home, he calleth together *his* friends and neighbours, saying unto them, **Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.**

⁷ I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

The Lost Coin

Luke 15:8-10

⁸ Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she **lose one piece**, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and **seek diligently till she find it?**

⁹ And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbours together, saying, **Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.**

¹⁰ Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

The Lost Son

Luke 15:11-32 (KJV)

¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

¹⁹ And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

²⁰ **And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.**

The Lost Son

²¹ And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

²² But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put *it* on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on *his* feet:

²³ And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill *it*, and let us eat, and be merry:

²⁴ **For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.** And they began to be merry.

³² **It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.**

The Lost Ones

There are sheep and coins that are lost.

We need to find them!

There are lost **sons** that will return. When they return we must have **compassion** on them!

We need Passion to find the lost and compassion to forgive and receive those that return.

Compassion leads to our commission!

Luke 14:16-24 (KJV)

^{14:16} Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade **many**:

¹⁷ And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, **Come; for all things are now ready.**

¹⁸ And they all with one *consent* began to make **excuse.**

Compassion leads to our **commission!**

Luke 14:

²¹ So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, **Go out quickly** into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

²² And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

²³ And the lord said unto the servant, **Go** out into the highways and hedges, and **compel them** to come in, **that my house may be filled.**

Go & Tell

Let us “Go and tell them to Come!”

This is one of the reasons we were created, **to tell the good news to those who are lost.**

Let us go into the harvest, for it is ready!

Jn. 4. 34-35