

A Legacy of Mission

Lesson 07 in the series, "Legacy: Building For the Future"

Mission: a specific task with which a person or a group is charged

Our Mission: To create a place of belonging, to proclaim the Gospel, to empower people for ministry, to equip people for mission and to worship extravagantly

1. To equip people for mission.

"The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. These were his instructions to them: 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves.'"

Luke 10:1-23 (NLT)

Note: God has given us the Holy Spirit to equip us for our mission.

"...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NLT)

Note: Our mission is critically important.

"Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others. ... Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. ... And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, 'Come back to God!' For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ." 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 (NLT)

2. To create a place of belonging.

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9:9-12 (NIV)

Note: Only in Christ can people find true belonging. True belonging is being fully known and being fully loved.

"God makes a home for the lonely..." Psalm 68:6 (NASB)

Note: Creating a place of belonging means accepting and welcoming people who are different than us.

"Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong. For instance, one person believes it's all right to eat anything. But another believer with a sensitive conscience will eat only vegetables. Those who feel free to eat anything must not look down on those who don't. And those who don't eat certain foods must not condemn those who do, for God has accepted them. Who are you to condemn someone else's servants? Their own master will judge whether they stand or fall. And with the Lord's help, they will stand and receive his approval."

Romans 14:1-4 (NLT)

3. To proclaim the Gospel.

- **G**od created us to be with Him.

“...I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” 2 Corinthians 6:16 (KJV) *See also: Lev. 26:12, Jer. 32:38*

- **O**ur sins separate us from God.

“It’s your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.” Isaiah 59:2 (NLT)

- **S**ins cannot be removed by good deeds.

“We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind.”
Isaiah 64:6 (NLT)

- **P**aying the price for sin was accomplished through the blood of Jesus and his death on the cross.

“He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins.” Ephesians 1:7 (NLT)

- **E**veryone who trusts in Jesus has been made holy and has been adopted into God’s family.

“Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.”
Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)

- **L**ife with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 (NLT)

“God so loved the world that He gave the only begotten Son, that everyone who is believing in Him may not perish, but may have continuous life.” John 3:16 (LSV)

Tommy Green • 05-30-21 • tommy.green@gracefm.org