

SOIL & SPIRIT

SOIL AND SPIRIT: I HAVE A PURPOSE

Pastor Robb Schmidgall – Nov. 20-21, 2021

We are created ON purpose, FOR a purpose, to SHARE a purpose.

The 3 part trajectory of our A1:8 Missions Series has been:

Part 1 – God is a missional God

- Living on missions is about embodying the love of the Father that is a sending God, and a sent God (John 3:16)

Part 2 – God activates a missional church

- It's not that God has a mission FOR His church, it's that God HAS A CHURCH for His mission!
- The mission is to heal, restore, and reconcile the world unto Himself as we live from God's love.

Part 3 – We are a missional people

- Ordinary people, empowered by God's Spirit, doing what Jesus did, wherever they go.

Acts 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."*

POWER (Greek: dunamis, from where we get the word dynamite)

"The early church did not offer a theology of the Holy Spirit. The theology would come later. They offered the Holy Spirit himself, the experience of His power. The hungry man wants real food, not attractive pictures of food." -Anthony de Mello

1. The Power has a PURPOSE.

"...and you shall be my witnesses..." – Acts 1:8

- The DIRECTION of the power is OUTWARD. It is meant to be shared.
- The PURPOSE of the power is to TESTIFY. To experience shalom and then take it out into the places where we live, work and play. It is the Kingdoms of Heaven becoming the Kingdoms of Earth!

The church itself cannot and will not survive with a COME AND SEE mentality... rather we must live by a GO AND BE mandate!

2. The Power is for a PLACE.

We need to consider our physical context, our place.

This is an invitation to INHABIT your context.

3. The Power flows THROUGH a person.

The power is not meant to be JUST FOR YOU. It is meant to be SHARED.

John 7:38, ***“Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”***

- I am not meant to be a reservoir, trying to contain something that isn't meant to be contained.
- When we hold on to something that was meant to pass through, we become bloated, stagnant, and miserable.

4. The Power transforms a PEOPLE.

The transformation power of the gospel message explodes when experienced together.

Our western view of life lived individually, with individual responsibility for self alone doesn't jive with the gospel message.

Jesus teaches us to pray with a communal mindset: read the LORD'S PRAYER and note all the plural versus singular pronouns.

The gospel is a communal experience and message.

- The power that transforms does so in the sharing of it outward. It transforms us AND those around us.
- The Father invites us into a CO-MISSION with Him to heal, restore, and reconcile people to Him, helping people find their way BACK to God as WE live from His love.
- It is in the sharing of that mission that we experience a fulfillment that we would not otherwise experience.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: Am I living on mission?

“God isn't dazzled when you GO ACROSS THE OCEAN, but He is when you GO ACROSS THE STREET.” – Bob Goff

LIVING ON MISSION APPLICATION:

- Live with INTENTION
 - Pick a place: where you work, live or play
- Look for ENGAGEMENT
 - Good missional theology believes that wherever you go, God has already been at work. Look for what He is already doing and engage.
- Love from the SOURCE
 - Realize this power and love does not come from us but it comes from above.

Don't just know of His love, EXPERIENCE it. And don't just experience it, SHARE it!

A Prayer to Pray: Our Father in Heaven, what a privilege we have to get to be your servants throughout the world. Teach us that what You have given us is not just for us but to share with those that we meet every single day and throughout every interaction. From the cashier at the grocery store to our neighbor to our own family. No one is out of your reach because of your power and your Holy Spirit that you graciously share with us. Let us remember that we are not alone in this world and that the privilege of knowing you is for us to share with everyone around us. All this we pray in Jesus name, Amen.

For more info about following Jesus, go to ncc.re/followJesus