Harvester Christian Church

Life Groups | **PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY**

FOLLOW THE LEADER | COMMITTED TO THE MISSION OF JESUS

**WEEK 3**

The word “disciple” means “learner.” To be disciples of Jesus means, in part, that we are learning to live like He lived. In this series we have been putting forth a longer, more comprehensive definition of “disciple.” A disciple is one who knows and follows Jesus, is being changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus. In previous lessons and sermons we discussed what it means to know, follow, and be changed by Jesus. This week we turn our attention to what it means to be committed to the mission of Jesus.

**The Mission of Jesus**

Any discussion about being committed to the mission of Jesus should start with a clear understanding of what sort of mission Jesus was on. Please read and summarize the following verses that talk about what Jesus came to earth to accomplish. These can be understood as his “mission statements.” Look at the context of each verse to help interpret its meaning.

Mark 2:17

Mark 10:45

Luke 19:10

John 4:34

John 6:38

John 12:27

John 18:37

I Peter 3:18

Considering all of the above verses, please write a sentence or two that sums up the nature of the mission of Jesus.

We can learn as much about the mission of Jesus by examining the way He lived His life as we can by studying His teaching. Spend some time this week reading in the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John). As you read look for specific examples of how Jesus lived out His stated mission of seeking out people who were lost, forsaken, or rejected. As you find them, write them down in the space below.

**Taking His Mission as Our Own**

Now that we’ve established the nature of Jesus’ mission on earth, it’s time for us to consider what it means for Christians today to be committed to that same mission. Please read and summarize the following verses that describe some of the various ways in which we can live out His mission.

Matthew 25:31-46

Matthew 28:18-20

2 Timothy 2:2

**Weekly Challenge**

We are asking you this week to spend some time thinking and praying about the people God has placed in your sphere of influence. If we commit ourselves to living out the mission of Jesus, these are the people who stand to benefit greatly.

Who is it that is overlooked and needs some love, attention, or help? What are you willing to do about it?

Who is it that could use words of encouragement and prayer? What are you willing to do about it?

Who is it that needs to hear the good news about Jesus? What are you willing to do about that?

**Group Discussion**

Is there anything else you wanted to talk about from the lesson or homework?

Please describe a time in your life when you were very “mission focused,” meaning you had a specific goal or purpose in mind and were driven toward accomplishing it.

From your reading this week, what are some things that stood out to you in regard to the mission of Jesus?

What are some things in life that might stand in the way of us living out the mission of Jesus?

Jesus said, “My food is to do the will of the one who sent me.” What do you think He meant by that? Why would He describe His purpose in life as “food?”

If our mission is to live out the mission of Jesus (loving people, spreading the good news, etc.), how would you say you are doing in that regard? What do you think would help you improve in that way?