

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Missions - week 1

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Introduction

"How then shall they call upon the one of whom they have not believed? How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? How can they hear without someone preaching to them? How can they preach unless they are sent?" One action in isolation is not enough for unreached people groups to hear about the good news of Jesus; a whole string of events needs to occur – listening, sending, going, preaching, hearing and believing. All of these require dedication and ongoing prayer support.

Bible Passage

Luke 10:2, Matthew 9:35 - 10:1, Ephesians 6:18-20, Acts 13:2-3.

Discussion

1. What does the scripture mean in Luke 10:2, 'ask the Lord of the harvest ...to send out workers'? What could that look like for you?
2. Have you considered what it must be like to live with 'no shepherd' (Matt 9:36)? How can we as believers have compassion for those who are 'harassed and helpless'?
3. Who are the Lord's people you are praying for? Who is God prompting you to pray for? Is God asking you as a group to uphold someone or a group of people specifically in prayer? Take a moment now to discuss what that could look like, when, how often and who will remind you of your commitment.
4. Acts 13:2-3 talks of a community who pray, worship and fast, after which decisions are made and action taken. Have you ever prayed, worshipped and fasted, seeking God's leading? If so, why? What did you learn? What action were you prompted to take? If not, consider if this scripture may be prompting you to do so now. Discuss together.



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Respond

The act of praying to God is not a passive act of faith. It is something vibrant, powerful and in itself can be absolutely transformational. We see, for Barnabas and Saul, their whole lives were changed when the community came together by worshipping and fasting. Millions of lives have been impacted by Jesus as a result. Discuss how unity in prayer, worship and fasting could impact your community. What is God asking you to do about it? Pray together.

