

# THE MISSION OF GOD *Small Group Discussion*

## ONE THE MISSIO DEI

### DISCUSSION OVERVIEW

This discussion will focus on the Missio Dei, or God's mission and purpose for the world, the church, and his people.

### SERIES OVERVIEW

What is the mission of God? In other words, what is God trying to accomplish? To better understand that, we will look at how God wants to move the gospel forward in the world. This small group study will examine the roles that Jesus, the church, and we ourselves have to play in fulfilling God's mission in the gospel.

### POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What other scripture comes to mind when you think of God's mission?
- How does our culture respond to the gospel?
- What makes this challenging?
- Where does Christ come into play / redeem this?
- What is the role of the Holy Spirit in this?
- What makes having a mission so important?
- How does this affect our small group?
- How has God called us to be a faithful presence in other's lives?

**LOOK** *What do we see around us and in our lives?*

**When you think about a "mission" what comes to mind? How would you define it? Is there a company, team, or group that has a clear mission that you value? Why?**

**BOOK** *What does Scripture say about this?*

Ephesians 3:2-13

<sup>2</sup> Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. <sup>4</sup> In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup> His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup> according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup> In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. <sup>13</sup> I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

### Q1 What is God's mission?

*Potential answers: To display his glory. To draw people to himself. To save sinners through Jesus.*

### Q2 How do you see God's mission at work here?

*Potential answers: God made the gospel available to all people, revealed it by the Holy Spirit, and gives grace to see it proclaimed in the world.*

### Q2 How do you see God's mission at work in our church?

*Potential answers: Preaching, inviting people to small groups, community engagement, community events.*

### Q3 How do you see your role in God's mission?

*Potential answers: reaching people in my spheres of influence, connecting with my neighbors.*

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**God's mission is accomplished as his gospel moves forward through Jesus and the witness of his people, the church.**

## **Missio Dei (God's Mission)**

*God desires that people would know him and be saved.*

## **Christology (Jesus)**

*Jesus comes to make God known and to die for sins that we might be saved.*

## **Ecclesiology (The Church)**

*Jesus calls his people to himself to gather together as the church, and worship God, nurture believers, and witness to the world of his good news.*

## **Missiology (People on Mission)**

*Jesus calls the church to advance God's mission through the gospel in the Holy Spirit's power as more and more people become fully devoted followers of Jesus.*

## **THE GOSPEL** *The Good News of Jesus*

**What role does sharing the gospel play in God's mission?**

*Potential answers: As we share the gospel, God's mission is accomplished by more people coming to know Jesus.*

**What part of God's mission are you encouraged to share with someone this week?**

*Potential answers: It is cool to see that God wants to make his wisdom known.*

**Where do you see growth opportunities for our church to join God on his mission?**

**Where do you see growth opportunities for you to join God on his mission?**

**What does it look like to look to Jesus for power, guidance, and perseverance as we work to pursue God's mission?**

*Potential answers: We can't pursue God's mission without the help of Jesus. He gives us strength, joy, and boldness.*

## **Accountability/Reflection**

*Share together and pray for each other.*

**TOOK** *What will you take away from today's discussion?*

*Possible questions to consider:*

**Consider what God is telling you *stop, start, change, or continue* regarding God's mission through the gospel.**

**What keeps you from pursuing God's mission? How can looking to Jesus encourage you in that area?**

**In what ways can we as a small group be encouraging one another to remember the gospel and share it with others?**