

Session 3 Viewer Guide

DISCUSS

Use the following questions to discuss the video teaching.

The gospel is the central message of the Bible, and gospel mission is a central feature of that message. From cover to cover, the Bible tells the story of the God who created, crafted, saved, and blessed us for the spread of His glory in the world. Because the gospel is true, the story must be told.

- 1) On the video David Platt described missions as "the spread of the glory of God in the world." How does this definition challenge your understanding of what it means to carry out missions?

We tend to think of missions only as traveling cross-culturally to meet physical needs and share the gospel. Missions is actually much broader. Each of us glorifies God in the unique station in life where God has called us. In that sense we're all on mission.

Though we're all called to be on mission, God has also called uniquely gifted Christians to take the gospel to places that have little or no access to the gospel. The common element in both callings is the desire for God to be glorified in all the earth.

- 2) J. D. mentioned that in John 16:7 Jesus taught that it was good for Him to leave. Why was Jesus' ascension to heaven better for our mission?

Because we all have the same Spirit and the same Word Jesus had, none of us are exempt from participating in His mission. Every disciple is called to be a disciple maker.

- 3) Read Matthew 28:19-20. How would you define what it means to make a disciple? What components of disciple making did Jesus identify?

The Great Commission centers on one central command: "Make disciples" (v. 19). Disciples are created when we go into the world and share the gospel. Discipleship continues as disciples are brought into the church through baptism and are taught to obey all Jesus commanded. We tend to

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think about discipleship, like missions, as a church program. Yet J. D. said on the video that 75 percent of discipleship occurs informally.

- 4) What informal opportunities do you have to show someone what it means to follow Christ? How have you learned to follow Jesus?

Jesus changed the entire world by spending three years investing His life in twelve men in a relatively small location. That was His entire plan. Yes, it involved intentional teaching, but much of Jesus' method of discipleship involved showing the disciples what it means to follow God by simply living His life with them. Jesus' plan for taking the gospel to the nations is disciple making.

- 5) Read Romans 1:14-16. How did Paul describe His urgency to share the gospel?
- 6) David Platt mentioned several times on the video that Christians need to live with an open hand. What would change about your life if you allowed God to fully determine the course of your life?

Paul was obligated to take the gospel to people hadn't heard. He was eager to preach, and he was unashamed. Every believer is responsible for giving God a blank check with his or her life and to go where He wills. We all have a calling to make disciples and the capacity to carry out that calling ... The question is, what will you do with it?

- 7) On the video David Platt identified three places each of us can begin making disciples: at home, at work, and at play. What opportunities exist for you to make disciples in these three areas?

God loves the people around you so much that He has placed you in their lives with a supernatural power to share the gospel. Many of us will be called to make disciples where we are. Yet with billions of people in the world with no access to the gospel, many of us will be called to go to them as well. David shared stories about people in his church who are living with an open hand and allowing God to use them. The beauty of making disciples is that we can participate in a process that will extend far beyond us. Committing ourselves to spread God's glory allows us to take part in a plan with eternal significance. Stop and consider how you'll respond to God's call.

- 8) Is there an area of the world you feel a burden to pray for, give money for gospel work there, or visit on a short-term mission trip?