



A Bible Study on Discovering our Mission

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Getting Started: Defining "Mission"

- Choose which of the following best illustrates the concept of "mission" for you:



A



B



C



D

In your group:

- Let each group member explain in 30 seconds or less why they chose the picture they did.
- Work together to construct a definition of the word "mission."
- List ways that a lack of mission affects a person/group.
- List ways that a clearly defined mission affects a person/group.

Be prepared to share your group's definition of mission and what you consider to be the most significant impact of a lack of mission and a clear mission upon a person/group.

Getting Into the Word: Understanding Our Mission

Use the passages below to discuss the question assigned to your group on the next page:

Deuteronomy 32:46-47 *He said to them, "Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—they are your life."*

Matthew 28:18-20 *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Mark 16:15-16 *He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."*

Luke 19:10 *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."*

John 4:34-35 *"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work...I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."*

John 9:4-5 *"As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*

John 10:16 *"I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd."*

Acts 1:8 *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

1 Corinthians 1:23-24 *We preach Christ crucified...Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

Ephesians 4:12-13 *...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

Colossians 3:17 *And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Colossians 3:23-24 *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

2 Peter 3:17-18 *Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*

Group A. What does God say to us about **WHAT** our mission is?

Group B. What does God say to us about **HOW** we are to carry out our mission?

Group C. What does God say to us about the **IMPORTANCE** and **URGENCY** of our mission?

Group D. What does God say to us about the **PASSION** with which our mission is to be carried out?

Making It Real: Communicating Our Mission

Philippians 3:13-14 *Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

- In your group, craft a statement that summarizes the mission of Lamb of God Lutheran Church in a brief (no more than 25 words), meaningful, and memorable way.
- What can we do to keep that mission in the forefront of our minds and share that mission with others in our congregation?

Taking It Home: Living Out God's Mission in Your Life

- Think of one key thought you want to remember from this Bible study. Then think of someone who is not here this morning, and find a way to share it with that person.
- Construct a personal mission statement that describes, in a way that is meaningful for you, how you want to carry out God's mission in your life.
- Look at the personal focus of your time, finances, and energy. Intentionally rearrange your life to reflect a noticeable focus on your mission.
- What do you see as your role in the mission that God has given to our congregation?