



MISSIO DEI

Missio Dei is Latin for “the mission of God”. The Bible tells us the story of God and His mission to redeem this world through Jesus. We need to give up our agendas and join God on His mission not tell God ours.

The whole Bible renders to us the story of God’s mission through God’s people in their engagement with God’s world for the sake of the whole of God’s creation.

Ephesians 4:11-16

New International Version 1984 (NIV1984)

¹¹ It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.



Sermon Notes

Celebrate ~ Connect ~ Contribute

You were created for GLORY

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” Gen. 1:27

We are only SHADOWS of God’s image

The Degrading effects of Sin

“For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.” Matthew 13:15

“At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.” Titus 3:4-5

We are being RESTORED to be like Christ

We will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. Ep 4:15

Live in Christ

“Trust in God, trust also in me.” John 14:1

Learn from Christ

Come with me. I’ll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. Mt 4:19

Lead to Christ

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ) John 1:41



Discover | Trust | Share

GOD'S GOODNESS | GOD'S WISDOM | GOD'S KINDNESS

ROMANS 1:1-7

Paul is overjoyed by this to the point he considers himself the lowest of the lowest slaves unworthy to receive Christ, yet he has Christ's grace anyway. Paul fully realizes that this grace is totally undeserved and he cannot wait to tell the world about it no matter what may happen to him!

MONDAY

Why does Paul call himself a "bondservant" (1:1; 9:3)? (A *bondservant* is the lowest form of a slave in Greek times; they rowed the boats of war with a whip at their back.)

TUESDAY

This *bondservant* means total surrendered devotion; Paul gave up his career, status, family and all of his material positions to serve Christ. How does this make you feel? Appreciation, jealousy, he was an idiot, or who cares?

WEDNESDAY

Is there something that needs to be removed from your life so you can grow closer in your relationship with Christ? (Sin is anything that gets in the way with our relationship and growth in Christ. The word sin literally means missing the mark/target; it is an ancient archery term.)

THURSDAY

Read Gal. 1:15; 2:20 How does this relate to the Roman's passage?

FRIDAY

A real committed disciple of the Lord has a will that has been sacrificed to God's will and thus is totally at the disposal of our Lord! Paul's slavery was his freedom. Do you agree or disagree with this statement and why?

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

Henri Nouwen says, "**Listen to the church.** I know that isn't a popular bit of advice at a time and in a country where the church is often seen more as an obstacle in the way than as the way to Jesus. Nevertheless, I am deeply convinced that the greatest spiritual danger for our times is the separation of Jesus from the church. The church is the body of the Lord. Without Jesus there can be no church; and without the church we cannot stay united with Jesus. **I've yet to meet anyone who has come closer to Jesus by forsaking the church.**"

TO listen to the church is to listen to the Lord of the church. Specifically, this entails taking part in the church's liturgical life. Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost: these seasons and feasts teach you to know Jesus better and better and unite you more and more intimately with the divine life he offers you in the church.

Question: Is there anything I can do to make myself spiritual?

Answer: As little as you can do to make the sun rise in the morning.

Question: Then of what use are the spiritual exercises you prescribe?

Answer: To make sure you are not asleep when the sun begins to rise.

(Anthony de Mello)

We Were Once More Than We Are Now

We all-men and women-were created in the image of God. Fearfully and wonderfully made, fashioned as living icons of the bravest, wisest, most stunning Person who ever lived. Those who have ever seen him fell to their knees without even thinking about it, as you find yourself breathless before the Grand Canyon or the Alps or the sea at dawn. That glory was shared with us; we were, in Chesterton's phrase, "statues of God walking about in a Garden," endowed with a strength and beauty all our own. All that we ever wished we could be, we were-and more. We were fully alive.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Gen. 1:27)

When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers- the moon and the stars you have set in place- what are mortals that you should think of us, mere humans that you should care for us? For you made us only a little lower than God, and you crowned us with glory and honor. (Ps. 8:3-5 NLT)

I daresay we've heard a bit about original sin, but not nearly enough about original glory, which comes before sin and is deeper to our nature. We were crowned with glory and honor. Why does a woman long to be beautiful? Why does a man hope to be found brave? Because we remember, if only faintly, that we were once more than we are now. The reason you doubt there could be a glory to your life is because that glory has been the object of a long and brutal war.

(*Waking the Dead*, 13-14)