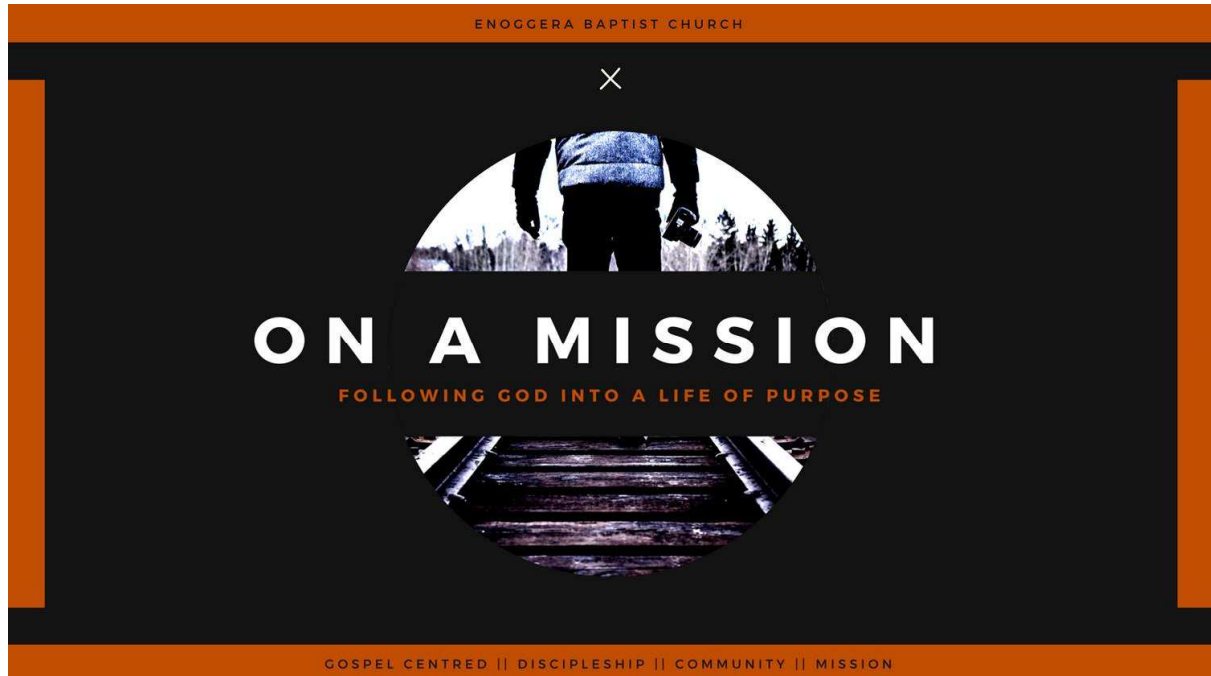




ENOGGERA BAPTIST CHURCH
Jesus changes lives

ON A MISSION



On A Mission

2 Corinthians 5:20 - We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

NOTE FOR LEADERS

This document is intended to be used as a discussion *guide*, rather than a curriculum. As small group leaders, please feel free to lead through the topic as most appropriate for your group.

HOUSEKEEPING

Things going at the moment:

- **Membership Course**– After both morning and night church starting this week (March 10, 17 & 24)
- **Prayer Night** – 27th March Wednesday night – no small groups!
- **Man Camp** – March 15-16 (Register on our website!)
- **e-Newsletter** – Subscribe on our website at the bottom of the home page



REFLECT

This is a time to generate some discussion around the ideas in the sermon. Some ideas include:

- Ask the group to debrief for those who missed the sermon on Sunday.
- What stood out? Do you have any questions?
- Were there any special moments of clarity where God spoke to you clearly?
- Why is this important and worth discussion?

THE BIG IDEA

As we kick off 2019, we wanted to take a few weeks to recalibrate together what it means to live a life of purpose. This series: “On a Mission – Following God into a Life of Purpose” aims to help us see our everyday lives as essential in what God is doing in this world.

#1 What Really Matters: In Part 1, considered the reality of heaven and hell. In light of the bigness of eternity and its cosmic implications, our lives take on a very different flavour. How does the knowledge of eternity change my today?

#2 Ambassadors for Christ: In Part 2, we turned to 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 and heard Paul remind us that the love of Christ controls us to bring the message of grace to the world as Christ’s ambassadors.

#3 Come & See / Go & Tell: Finally in Part 3, we considered the dynamic of both personal and corporate evangelism. How do we balance the personal “go and tell” with the corporate “come and see”?

EXPLORE

Let’s unpack each of the three ideas together.

#1 WHAT REALLY MATTERS

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Revelation 20:11-15

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life.



And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

This week focused on letting an eternal perspective control our life's priorities.

1. What things seem the most immediate and urgent in your lives that when you place in light of eternity, really aren't?
2. Read Revelation 20:11-15. Get the group to share the big ideas of the passage. [**Leaders Notes:** Here are 4 realities we see in here: (1) this life is not forever, (2) God will judge everyone, (3) everyone will receive an eternal destination, either heaven or hell, (4) the book of deeds matters.]
3. What things should be at the top of our "urgent" list of priorities? How do we keep these things a priority and war against the really loud insignificant stuff clamouring for our attention?
4. How can we best prepare for "that day"?

#2 AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

¹⁴For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This week focused on embracing the title and role of being Christ's ambassadors

1. Read 2 Cor 5:14-21. Get the group to pull out the big ideas of the passage.
2. What does it mean to be an ambassador?
3. How do we be good ambassadors in our world today?
4. Consider the privilege it is that God is making his appeal *through* you!



#3 COME & SEE / GO & TELL

John 1:43-46

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

This week focused on letting an eternal perspective control our life's priorities.

1. Have a go at trying describe the differences between the Come & See and the Go & Tell dynamics [**Leaders Note:** Attractional vs Missional, Corporate vs Personal, Program vs Organic, Event vs Relationship]
2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of both?
3. How might you and your group might grow in the "go and tell" side of things?
4. How might your group and our church grow in the "come and see" approach?

PRAY

Close time in prayer.

Pray that God would work in our hearts by his Spirit through this series. Thank Jesus that it is through the gospel that we are given a purpose in this life, and the power to make an eternal difference.

Pray for the witness of our church and its many ambassadors!

NOTES

REVELATION 20:11-15

20:11–15 *The Judgment of the Dead.* At history's end, God will execute perfect justice based on the heavenly records of people's deeds and will abolish the old cosmos to prepare for the glorious new creation (21:1–8; cf. 2 Pet 3:10–13).

20:11 great white throne. Represents the holiness and purity of God, the sovereign judge (4:2–3; Ps 11:4; Dan 7:9). **The earth and the heavens fled.** Recalls 6:14; 16:20; the destruction and passing away of the cosmos make way for "a new heaven and a new earth" (21:1).

20:12 the dead, great and small, standing before the throne. The final judgment of the righteous and wicked; cf. 11:18; 14:14–20. **books were opened.** Alludes to Dan 7:10. **book of life.** See note on 3:5.



20:13 sea ... death and Hades. Personify the realm of evil and disorder (cf. 1:18; 13:1). God justly rewards or punishes each person according to what they have done (v. 12; 22:12; Ps 62:12; Matt 16:27; Rom 2:6–11).

20:14 second death. Eternal, conscious torment (Isa 66:24; Mark 9:47–48), from which believers are delivered (2:11).

20:15 Unbelievers whose names are not “found written in the book of life” will experience everlasting punishment, reserved for the devil (v. 10), his followers (19:20; 21:8) and his realm of death and Hades (v. 14).¹

2 COR 5:14-21

5:14–15 all ... all ... all. These probably refer to all people without distinction, while “those who live” (v. 15) are those who are “alive to God in Christ Jesus” (Rom 6:11). **all died.** In the death of Christ, all underwent the death deservedly theirs because of sin. The scope of redemption is universal since God’s offer of salvation excludes no one, but the application of redemption is limited since not all people appropriate the benefits afforded by this universally offered salvation. Some, however, restrict the three cases of “all” to Christians. In this view, Paul is saying Christ died for all those who through faith embrace God’s provision of salvation. They will see the “all” here as the same as the second “many” in Rom 5:15, 19.

5:16–6:2 *The Messengers of Reconciliation.* Although only God brought about reconciliation (5:18), he appeals to people through his co-workers, who are Christ’s ambassadors, to be reconciled to him (5:20).

5:16 Before his conversion Paul regarded Jesus “from a worldly point of view” as a false messiah whose followers needed to be destroyed (Acts 9:1–2; 26:9–11). Since his conversion, he views people not primarily in terms of ethnicity but according to their relation to Jesus the Messiah. The Jew-Gentile division is now less important for him than the believer-unbeliever distinction (Rom 2:28–29; 10:12–13; Gal 3:28; Eph 2:11–22).

5:17 the new creation has come. When “anyone” comes to be “in Christ” by faith, this signals the restoration and fulfillment of God’s purposes in creation (cf. Rom 8:19–23; Eph 2:10). Or it may mean there is a “new” act of “creation” on God’s part when he makes his light shine in the believer’s heart (2 Cor 4:6). The translation given in the NIV text note—“that person is a new creation”—refers to the radical reorientation of life that comes through regeneration. When a person becomes a Christian, God totally restructures their life, altering its whole fabric—thinking, feeling, willing, and acting. In this “new creation,” however understood, one set of conditions or relationships has passed out of existence and a new set has come to stay.

¹ Moo, D. J. (2015). [The Letters and Revelation](#). In D. A. Carson (Ed.), *NIV Zondervan Study Bible: Built on the Truth of Scripture and Centered on the Gospel Message* (p. 2622). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.



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5:19 God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ. In the person and through the work of Christ, God “was reconciling the world” of human beings “to himself.” It is also possible to translate this clause as “God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself”; i.e., it was only because all God’s fullness dwelt in Christ (Col 1:19; 2:9) that God accomplished reconciliation.²

² Moo, D. J. (2015). [The Letters and Revelation](#). In D. A. Carson (Ed.), *NIV Zondervan Study Bible: Built on the Truth of Scripture and Centered on the Gospel Message* (pp. 2368–2369). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.