

Sermon-based Growth Group
"Bethany Church Summer Missions Recap"
Questions
July 30, 2023

Introductory Discussion: What from Sunday's service did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling?

1. In *Genesis* 12:1, "The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you." At first, what does God tell him about where he is going?
 - a. When does Abraham find out where he is going?
 - b. Why do you think God waits to reveal the details?
 - c. How can you relate this to the call to go on a short-term mission?
2. In 2 Corinthians 12:9, The Lord tells Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is perfected in weakness." We can imagine all of the difficulties that our short-term missionaries face. How does this promise apply to them?
 - a. Can you see that elsewhere in your life?
3. Matthew 6:33 says, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you." How does that promise teach us to live our lives on mission?
4. Daniel 3:8-20 tells the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Read verses 17-18. Do Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego know what will happen to them when they are thrown into the fire?
 - a. Why do they go?
 - b. At what moment do we realize that God is with them in the fire (verse 25)?

- c. What does that tell us about when you are on mission, at what point do you realize that God is with you?
- 5. Luke 12:11-12 says, "When they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." You may not be in danger, but how could this promise help you to prepare to live on mission?
- 6. According to James 2:15-16, "If a brother or sister is without clothes and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, stay warm, and be well fed," but you don't give them what the body needs, what good is it?" Why is it important to also meet the tangible needs of those we serve?
- 7. Matthew 9: 37 says, "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest." Today, what is your role in the "harvest"?