

## C3 LEADERS' QUESTIONS

F2022-WEEK 5

10/2/22

### Getting Started with a Warm-Up:

- At the Great Commission, Jesus commanded his disciples:

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations (Or all people), baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* (Mt. 28:19-20 NLT)

He indicates that making disciples consists of 1) “...*baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*”; and 2) “*Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you*”. He also assures them of his presence while they are performing missionary work stating, “*And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*”

With that said, what factors do you suppose are holding back followers of Christ in performing missionary work domestically and internationally?

- If you have had the opportunity to be involved in a long-term or short-term mission assignment can you please share how the experience affected your walk with God.

### Getting Down to Business:

The following questions are following this format: Scripture/Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

#### 1) Scripture/Observation:

- A. Read Acts 4:1-12. What other evangelistic events in the New Testament provide examples of missionary-type work? How do these examples give further

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evidence that the gospel message of salvation is exclusively through Jesus and is vital for everyone to know?

*1 While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees. 2 These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead. 3 They arrested them and, since it was already evening, put them in jail until morning. 4 But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totaled about 5,000.*

*5 The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem. 6 Annas the high priest was there, along with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other relatives of the high priest. 7 They brought in the two disciples and demanded, "By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?"*

*8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, 9 are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? 10 Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. 11 For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says, 'The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.' 12 There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:1-12 NLT)*

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**V 1–4: ARREST** Peter and John are arrested and placed in custody because the Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection, are grieved by their preaching the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. God blesses their testimony and about 5,000 men come to believe. **V 5–12: ADDRESS** Taken the next day before the officials of the Sanhedrin, with Annas and Caiaphas among those who are present, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit to preach God's word to them. He proclaims Christ crucified and risen again from the dead. He shows them that Jesus' resurrection was always foreseen as 'the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone'. He underlines that salvation is only in Christ, the One who has been crucified and raised again on that first

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resurrection Lord's day. (Bible Panorama commentary, accessed 9/30/22, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+4&version=NLT>)

- B. Read Luke 15:3-7. Describe how important it is that we have a heart for individuals who are lost and separated from the love of God. What should be our motivation for searching for these lost individuals? (Hint: Contrast what our motivation should be to that of "missionaries" who have a false gospel.)

*3 So Jesus told them this story: 4 "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. 6 When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' 7 In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away! (Luke 15:3-7 NLT)*

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V 1–7: LOSTNESS: THE SEEKING SHEPHERD The Pharisees and the scribes criticise Jesus because of His association with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus responds in parables by giving three illustrations of how important it is to seek what is lost. The first concerns the sheep that has strayed and the shepherd who goes to seek it. Jesus says that in heaven, one saved sinner will produce more rejoicing than the ninety-nine who have already come to repentance. Jesus Himself is the seeking Shepherd giving His life for the sheep. (Bible Panorama, accessed 9/29/22, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=luke+15&version=NLT>)

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- C. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1. How does missionary work glorify God? In what way does Jesus provide the ultimate missionary example? (Hint: Compare “*I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don’t just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.*” (1 Cor. 10:33 NLT) with “*For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.*” (Mk 10:45 NLT))

*31 So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 32 Don’t give offense to Jews or Gentiles or the church of God. 33 I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don’t just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved. 1 And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 NLT)*

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In 10:31-11:1 Paul concludes and summarizes his discussion of food sacrificed to idols (chs. 8-10), expanding the implications of the issue to include not only eating and drinking but whatever you do (10:31). Ultimately, his concern is not to restrict his hearers' freedom, but to turn them from preoccupation with their rights to two decisive principles. First, everything must be done “for the glory of God” (v.31). Second, nothing must be done to cause another to sin (v.32; cf. 8:9). His restriction of his personal rights in the interests of others is the basis for his concluding appeal: “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ” (11:1; see Ro 15:1-3). (Asbury Bible Commentary, accessed 9/29/22, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians+10&version=NLT>)

**2) Application:** How do you think MBC can be more involved in missions? How do you think you personally could be more involved in missions? (Hint: support through tithing [eg. Compassion International, Samaritan’s Purse], invite missionaries as guest speakers, and participate in local outreach events and short-term mission trips)

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**3) Prayer:** As you pray to God make these requests: for him to stir your heart for those lost and in need of Christ; that he will place individuals in your path so you can testify in the name of Christ; and to lead you towards making disciples.

*“God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him”. (John 3:17 NLT)*