



## SDG Discussion Guide

### Missions in the New Testament

September 13, 2020

#### Guideline:

Before you begin your reading and discussion of Scripture, pray. Ask God to enlighten you, to show you where he has been at work and present in your past week through moments and people. Ask Him to guide and enliven your group in your readings and discussion.

#### For starters:

What kind of activity with people energizes you? What drains you?

Have you ever met a real challenge or a point of resistance when trying to do good? What happened, and what was that like?

See the following questions that may assist you in your discussion of the Scripture text.

1. What is a key point or take away that stayed with you from the sermon this past Sunday, September 13, "Doing Good Part 2: A New Testament Perspective"?

2. Matthew 5:16 states, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Who is the light of the world (see John 9:5)? In what ways do Christians let the light shine before others, especially during these pandemic conditions?

3. Just after the resurrection at Mark 16:15, Jesus said to them, "Go into the world and preach the good news to all creation." What could Jesus' imperative look like for the local church during these pandemic conditions? Where is the church at large doing this already? And during these times, what are the opportunities for the church at large to preach the good news to all of creation? What about sharing the good news at home -- do people need to begin with their immediate environment before going "into the world" -- why or why not?

4. Luke 24:46-48 states, "The Christ will suffer from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised you; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then at Acts 1:8: "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." Ponder and discuss these verses. How do they hit you anew this reading? What keywords stand out and why? How are you encouraged in your faith? How are you challenged?

5. How are you involved in the mission of God to bring the glory of God to the nations of the earth? Referencing the sermon, are you "going into the pit" (going on mission), or are you "holding the rope" (involved in / supportive of mission)? Either is okay, but all are called and commissioned to one or both. Ponder and discuss how God might be calling you or your group in such ways.

6. In what ways has this discussion led you to pray?

#### Prayer:

Lord, help us not grow weary in doing good. Please do reawaken and renew your people to our purpose to bring your glory to the nations. AMEN.