

listening prayer

prayerfully responding to the voice of God

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five sessions to deepen your experience of prayer



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session three:

praying for the mission of Jesus to be accomplished

In our busyness of doing ministry tasks, it's good to ask ourselves, "Is this *really* what Jesus wants us to accomplish in this world?"

In this session we're going to look at the MISSION and METHOD of Jesus.

Mission:

Jesus' mission is about the restoration of people to wholeness and peace.

Method:

How Jesus sends His disciples to go and accomplish the mission.

Understanding SHALOM

The Hebrew word "shalom" is typically translated into the English word "Peace."



- ▶ Shin: to Destroy
- ▶ Lamed: Control / Authority (the tongue)
- ▶ Vav: to Secure or Establish
- ▶ Mem: Water / Chaos

To Destroy The Authority Which Establishes Chaos!

Let's Apply This:

- When the peace of God is not ruling, the chaos of the enemy is at work.
- Wherever the forces of light are not at work, the forces of darkness are at work.
- Wherever the truth of God is not at work, the lie of the devil is at work.
- Wherever there is an absence of wholeness, the devil has been involved in some way.

All brokenness has its roots in the work of the enemy of God. We are either living in the reality of what the devil is actively doing in the present, or at the very least, living with residual things that come from his work in the past.

The work of Jesus is to come into that atmosphere and destroy the authority (devil) that establishes chaos.

"The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil." (1 John 3:8b NLT)

When Jesus destroys the works of the devil, what is left is the atmosphere of heaven.

Let's see this at work in the Mission of Jesus.

The Mission: Who, What and How?

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:18-19 NIV)

In this passage there are four primary conditions that demonstrate brokenness in humanity. **POOR, PRISONERS, BLIND, OPPRESSED**

Those four conditions are dealt with through **VERBAL PROCLAMATION** of God's Words.

- The POOR receive *good news* through proclamation.
- The PRISONERS receive *freedom* through proclamation.
- The BLIND receive *sight* through proclamation.
- The OPPRESSED receive *freedom* through proclamation.
- EVERYONE receives the proclamation of *The Season* or "Year" of God's Favor.

The mission is all about addressing the human condition that transcends every culture, nation, language, and socio-economic situation.

What Qualifies Ministry Engagement as Effective?

1. Does Program Accomplishment = Effective Ministry?
2. Does Social Fellowship = Effective Ministry?
3. Effective Ministry always Affects People with Christ's Love. (Shalom)

The Method: Who, What, and How?

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If someone who promotes

peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' (Luke 10:2-9 NIV)

- GO: we are sent.
- Like LAMBS among WOLVES: There is risk in going.
- DO NOT TAKE: We trust the Lord of the harvest for provision as we harvest.
- CARRY AND RELEASE PEACE: This is more than a greeting. The spiritual power of shalom.
- STAY: If the Lord is working, stay there.
- EAT: Engage with those we are ministering to.
- HEAL: demonstrate the Kingdom of God in Power.
- TELL THEM: The good news that the Kingdom of God has touched their lives.

**As we pray for our God-given ministry calling, we are praying for
people to be loved and transformed.**

Binding Intercession

Matthew 16:19 ESV I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Two Friends

Luke 11:5-13 NIV84 Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, (6) because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' (7) "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' (8) I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs. (9) "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. (10) For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. (11) "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? (12) Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? (13) If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Put Yourself in the Story:

Friend #1: Has what is needed

This is the friend you go to at midnight.

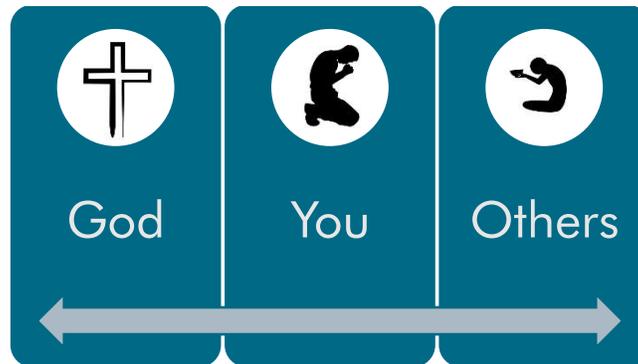
Friend #2: Has the need

This is the one on a journey that has come to you and is in need.

You: Don't have what is needed, *But you know who does!*

You are the intercessor.

- You know who has the supply
- You go on behalf of the one in need, you don't send them to your friend
- You ask persistently... *boldly*, until the bread is released
- You become part of the answer as the bread is released to you and you bring it to the one in need.



We BIND *ourselves* to *others* AND *heaven* through intercessory prayer.

Binding Intercession is:

- Creating agreements in heaven through prayer...
- On behalf of others we may not yet even know...
- To see the reality of the Kingdom of God and His will...
- Be done *for them, through us*, on earth as it is in heaven.

Praying in this way takes us far beyond seeking provision for our own needs and seeking heaven's supply to meet the needs of others. This kind of praying makes us part of the answer to someone else's prayers.