

SERMON: Accomplishing Our Purpose
SERIES: Missions Weekend
SPEAKER: Keith Copley

September 23, 2018

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³ though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. What is our purpose?
- II. How is accomplishing our purpose possible?

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

Our purpose is to image God and make disciples who image God. We are called to demonstrate God's life among the nations.

1. Read 1 Timothy 1:17. How does this creed relate to our purpose in life? What does this verse teach you about God? About you?
2. Read 1 Timothy 1:12-13. Accomplishing our purpose is motivated by gratitude. How aware are you each day of God's grace and mercy in your life? What makes this easy? Difficult?
3. Read 1 Timothy 1:14. How does grace produce faith and love in our lives? In what way is our purpose (image bearing and disciple making) an act of faith in Christ Jesus, and not a "good work" that earns us standing with God?
4. Read 1 Timothy 1:15. Paul was refreshed by the word of God. Paul saw two truths in the word of God: He is a great sinner, and Jesus is a great Savior. Why is it so important to keep these two truths constantly in balance in our lives?
5. Read 1 Timothy 1:16. Paul believed his purpose in life was to display the perfect patience of Jesus Christ. How is this related to the two truths from verse 15? How does verse 16 connect to image bearing and disciple making?

Pray: Pray the creed of verse 17. Confess areas of your life where you are not displaying the grace of God. Call out for the mercy of God and receive his grace.