

At Church of the King, we believe that the Gospel is most effectively preached as it is expressed through the lives of Christians every day. We are committed to giving you all of the necessary tools to be actively involved in our goal of Reaching People and Building Lives daily throughout our community.

Question: What next step can you take to be better equipped to share your faith?

**5. We are risk-takers.** As mission-minded people, we need to be people of faith and willing to take risks. If we always play it safe, we may miss out on God's best.

**Hebrews 11:8** says: **“By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.”**

Risk, faith and adventure are all a part of walking with God. Every person who has ever accomplished anything significant for God has had to take risks in the process. It is inspiring and motivating to hear the stories of how God sent people in our church from all different backgrounds with all different concerns, with all different fears, and used them greatly for His kingdom.

Question: What risk is God asking you to take?

### PERSONAL APPLICATION

What area of mission or ministry is God asking you to step out and get involved with this year?

### PRAYER

Pray for specific needs among group members. Pray for courage to obey God in whatever He is calling you into. Also ask for testimonies of answered prayers.



## REACH our World

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Ten Year Celebration** All Weekend Services | November 13 - 14 | LCC & NCC  
**Cambodia and India Mission Trips** Departing this week | Cambodia/India  
**Thanksgiving Adopt-A-Box** Beginning this weekend | LCC & NCC  
**Club456** 7pm | Friday, October 30 | Worship Center  
**Newcomers Dinner** 6pm | Sunday, November 8 | Benedict's Restaurant  
**Ten Year Celebration** All Weekend Services | November 13 - 14 | LCC & NCC  
**Men's Freedom Weekend** October 23 - 24 | Covey Rise Lodge, Husser, LA  
**Women's Freedom Weekend** November 6 - 7 | Encounter Center, Kiln, MS

### WARM-UP

Have you ever been in a situation that required that you get out of your comfort zone or take a risk in order to do something that you knew was important?

### WORD

This past weekend during our REACH Weekend, we took time to focus on what God has done, is doing, and is going to do through us in the local community and around the world. In this lesson from our REACH Weekend, we are looking at some of the values of a mission-minded person. **Get started by reading 2 Corinthians 4:1-7 together as a group.**

Paul says in verses 3 and 4 that the god of this age, or the enemy of our soul, has blinded people's eyes to the glory of the Gospel. People are living in darkness, hurting, broken, confused, and are in desperate need of the light. In verse 5, Paul begins to lay out the strategy that not only he employed, but we as believers are to employ as we seek to reach lost and dying people. Ultimately, Paul defines for all of us the reality of our human frailty in light of the surpassing greatness of the Gospel. And yet, in spite of these frailties, God's overwhelming desire is to use His people to reach others. In these seven verses we are going to highlight a few things that are important for our church if we want to continue to reach our friends, family, co-workers and ultimately, the world for Christ. Let's talk about the **Five Values of a Mission-minded person**:

**1. We are all "clay pots" or "earthen vessels." Verse 7 says: "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." (NIV)** Paul is saying to us here that God is not looking for perfect people to share the Gospel with others. As a matter of fact, God gave us the glamorous analogy of a clay pot holding the precious treasure in the whole world, the Gospel, or good news. One of the greatest challenges for all of us is the thought that we have to be perfect and have it all together before we can reach out to others. That is simply not true. **Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-28 together as a group.** God is not interested in our ability, but our *availability* to Him and His purposes. Let's not judge ourselves based on our imperfections any longer, but on the greatness of the value that we carry.

Question: What area in your life are waiting to "get worked out" before you allow God to use you in the lives of others?

**2. We are Seed Sowers. Read 1 Corinthians 3:6 together as a group.** We must remember that all of us encounter people at different points in time. We have no idea the seeds that have already been sown in the hearts of those with whom we share our faith. Often, when a person crosses the line of faith and becomes a believer, it's because someone had

planted seeds before. Some mission trips are seed-planting trips, while others yield a great harvest of souls. In either case, we are obeying God as we share the Gospel, because people are all in process.

Question: Have you ever shared the Gospel with someone and felt pressure for the results? Share it with the group.

**3. We are others-centered. 2 Corinthians 4:5 says "For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake."** The only way to truly live as mission-minded people is to be genuinely interested in others and possess a deep desire to serve them. When you meet the practical needs of people, it's amazing how open they are to spiritual conversation when they see how much you care. When we go out of our way to offer a kind word of encouragement or to offer help with a practical need, we are in effect "preaching the Gospel."

**Read Matthew 25:31-46 together as a group.** In this description of a scene in heaven, Jesus explains that when we care for others, meeting practical needs such as clothing, food and water, and friendship, it is as if we are doing those things for Christ Himself.

In simple acts of kindness we share the good news of hope in practical ways. St. Francis of Assisi is often quoted as saying, "Preach the Gospel always, and, when necessary, use words." In other words, the things we do often speak much louder than the words we say. God wants to use us everyday in very practical ways to demonstrate His love for others.

Question: Share a time that God used you to share His love with someone without speaking a word.

**4. We are equipped. Read 2 Timothy 2:15 together as a group.** What is Paul saying to Timothy, his young disciple, about being diligent and prepared? Even though God can use anybody, there is a value of being equipped to do what you do even better. We have specific classes throughout the year to train you to be a more effective witness, how to better share your faith, and to give you a world-missions perspective.