



## **Key Phrase #10 I WAS MADE TO LIVE ON MISSION**

***...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."  
Acts 1:8 (NIV)***

The dictionary defines "Mission" as an important task assigned to a group of people who are sent to a foreign country to effectively change the culture of that country.

In a previous Life Group session we considered the Key Phrase, "This World is Not My Home". Hebrews 11:13 and 1 Peter 2:11 make clear to us that we are strangers, aliens and exiles- foreigners in this world. Our culture is different from this World's culture, we think differently than the majority of people in this world, our values are not the same. So why are we here? Why does God leave us in the midst of a culture that is so hostile to His purposes?

Our mission is to carry on Jesus' ministry of reconciliation: restoring the relationship between God and His people, between God and His Creation ("all things").

So how does God plan to accomplish this mission of reconciliation? As the Holy Spirit wrote in Ephesians 2:10, "we (plural, all of us) are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." God, the master builder, created us with the gifts and talents that He knew would be needed to accomplish His will and then placed us in the Body of Christ at the time and place of HIS choosing so that we would be able to perform the "good works" that He ALSO planned beforehand! WE WERE MADE FOR A MISSION!

How do we do our part to join in this mission? Once again, God uses the gifts and talents that He has provided to the Church, the Body of Christ, to equip, to train and to enable EACH member fulfill his or her role. We read in Ephesians 4:11-16, "And He (Jesus) gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ... [and] speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love."

Every individual, every single person in the Body of Christ (including you and me) has a role to fulfill in building up the Body and strengthening it so that it (the Body of Christ) can accomplish God's Mission. It may be a small part. It may appear insignificant to people. Or it may be a role that is greatly looked up to by people, one that receives a lot of acclaim. But none are more important than another in God's eyes. Every person has an active, vital role to fulfill.

Jesus said in John 7:38, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" He (or she) who believes! Every believer is included. God's intention is for EVERY believer to be a channel of His Living Water!

What is YOUR role? What part do you play? As you pray and seek God for the answers to those questions, He will guide you in the purposes that He created you for. Do you have compassion for souls, or a strong desire to see healings, or for building up the Body of Christ, or for teaching children, or protecting and caring for the helpless and weak, for seeing justice done, or to see growth in Righteousness or Holiness, or to see unity in the Body of Christ, and so many more, are all strong indicators of the purpose for which you were created.

Proverbs 18:16 says, "A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before great men." If you are where you belong, others will recognize God's gifts and talents in you and will open doors for you to work. And more likely than not, you will need time to develop those gifts, to grow in love, to purify your heart and motives, to humble yourself and develop a servant's heart; and all this is done in fellowship with other disciples of Jesus. We have been made to be dependent on each other. This is God's way of fulfilling His mission through us: each part supplying what it's supposed to and strengthening all the other members of the Body of Christ to fulfill God's ultimate goal of Reconciliation of all things in Christ by manifesting Jesus through His Church.

### **Discussion Outline**

- Review the Key Phrase
- Take time to ponder, pray, and answer the following questions.
  - If I really believed this (key phrase) how would it change my life?
    - In what ways am I walking in this truth and in what ways do I struggle?
    - What tensions would this solve? What tensions may it create?
  - Find a Scripture or Biblical Principle that reflects this truth.
- Write down any thoughts you need to change and any steps you can take to walk in this truth?
- Pray for one another.

### **Additional Questions**

**Do you live with a sense of mission? What has God called you to? What has he created you for?**

**What are some reasons we use to excuse ourselves from working in God's Kingdom? What can we do to overcome those excuses?**

**Pray for each other to clearly see God's mission for each person and how we can support them in accomplishing that mission.**