

SERMON DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS

OCTOBER 25, 2020

God So Loved The World - Pastor Ron Schafer

WARM-UP

1. Read John 3:16. Pastor Ron opened the message today by reflecting on this verse in the Gospel according to John. It may be the most well-known passage in the entire Christian Bible by both believers and non-believers. What exactly does it say to you? Do you think this one verse represents what the New Testament writers in the first century called 'The Gospel' – the Good News? What makes this verse 'good'?

DIGGING DEEPER

Today, as we close out the month-long focus on missions and missional work in The Christian and Missionary Alliance, Pastor Ron shared some of the Alliance 'DNA' established by the Alliance's founder, Pastor A.B. Simpson. Missions and missional work are our foundation, and we see that in evidence, now 140 years long, across the globe.

GORDON AND CHERYL SERVING WEST AFRICA – READ: Philippians 1:3-6

2. Gordon and Cheryl serve in West Africa and shared their hearts for the Lord, rejoicing in new life – bringing Jesus to new believers. In this passage, what does Paul's message to the church in Philippi say about their belief and bringing the Word of Jesus to others? Do you see this working in your life or the life of EAC? How?
3. Gordon and Cheryl also shared their rejoicing in new opportunities – new teaching, new health care, new education – meeting people's needs. Gordon characterized it as, "You never regret saying 'yes' to God... so listen carefully to what He says." How do you see EAC's mission and work reflecting our collective efforts of meeting these kinds of tangible needs? How have you been involved in these ways? Has it made a difference in your life personally?

ROSS AND ASHLEE BALLARD SERVING FRANCE – READ: Matthew 28:16-20

4. Ashlee commented about the significant needs in France – a spiritually dark place these days – there is an undercurrent of spiritualism, but the wrong kind – dark – the kind that leads to a dead end, literally. She mentioned the need for and the power of Jesus' words in the Great Commission. Does this passage in Matthew of Jesus' command to His disciples ring true for you today? If so, how? And what can EAC's role be in supporting Ross and Ashlee in their work in France?
5. Pastor Ron closed with a description of the Alliance Great Commission Fund for supporting missionary work around the world. What makes the GCF unique in its approach for missionaries? Do you see how giving to this Fund can mean so much for those sharing the Gospel around the world?

PRAYER

Pray over Matthew 28:16-20 and ask the Holy Spirit to show and instruct you in the ways that you can share the Gospel, either directly or indirectly through the work of others around the globe. Pray that the Holy Spirit would give you ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts to respond to His call to you as a disciple, particularly with those whom He places in your paths where you live, work and play.

In case you missed the service, here are the EAC, Facebook, and YouTube links:

<http://edgewateralliance.org/media/sermon-videos>

<https://www.facebook.com/edgewateralliance/>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWvQTWUv1FD_qsUJUZn93kw