

to be SENT: Purpose

MARK 1:14-17

Some important points from the last week:

- ⇒ Approximately **95%** of us came to Christ primarily through the influence of someone we know.
- ⇒ **OIKOS**: “household, sphere of influence”
- ⇒ God has given me anywhere from 8 to 15 people whom He has **supernaturally** and **strategically** placed in my relational world. God wants to demonstrate His love and grace to them all through me.
- ⇒ Jesus didn’t ask me to change the world. He only asked me to **change my world**, the world I’m already in.

1. Jesus wants you to live _____.

To **repent** is to turn away from what you’re doing and embrace wholeheartedly what God is doing. In other words, it means to trade in your old way of life for God’s new way of life.

2. Jesus will _____ your life.

3. Jesus will send you out to _____.

4. Kingdom living without mission is too _____.

- > Where did we get the idea that we could follow Jesus and not be on mission?

Scripture References (In order of use): Mark 1:14-17

Reference Works: 8 to 15: The World is Smaller Than You Think (Tom Mercer); Common Sense is the New Brilliance (Tom Mercer); Concentric Circles of Concern (W. Oscar Thompson) The Purpose Driven Life (Rick Warren)

Discussion Questions

1. The sermon opened with the story of the brothers who started Life is Good, Inc. What is it about a story like that — ordinary people finding purpose in their work — that resonates with so many people? What does that tell us about a longing God may have built into all of us?
2. Read **Mark 1:14-17**. Is there anything from the sermon you would like to discuss?
3. What does “repent” mean? How does Patrick’s broader definition of repentance challenge or expand the way you have typically thought about it?
4. In your own words, what is the difference between agreeing with the gospel and actually believing it? Where do you think most people get stuck?
5. What does it look like in practical terms for a person today to be living a life that is too small, even while following Jesus?
6. Patrick quoted Dr. David Garland, who says the call to fish for people “*should shatter our comfortable world of middle-class discipleship*.” What do you think middle-class discipleship looks like in West Texas culture? What makes it so easy to settle there?
7. Where did we get the idea that we could follow Jesus and not be on mission?
8. Think about the moment Jesus interrupted your life — whether that happened suddenly or gradually. What was it about Jesus that compelled you to respond? How has following Him changed the direction of your life?
9. Patrick observed that many of us came to Jesus primarily focused on what He would do for us personally — forgiveness, healing, friendship, eternal life. Is there anything wrong with that? At what point does a faith centered on personal benefit become a faith with a hole in it?
10. When you honestly evaluate your current life, would you say you are following Jesus primarily for your own sake, or have you joined Him in His work? What evidence supports your answer?

Daily Devotions

Day 1: The Kingdom Is Now

Reading: Mark 1:14-15

Jesus announced that the kingdom of God had come near -- not as a distant promise, but as a present reality. The kingdom is not a place on a map or a moment on a calendar. It is a life lived under the rule of God, available here and now. To enter it requires two movements: turning away from the smallness of a self-directed life, and stepping fully into what God is doing. Many people understand the good news intellectually but have never truly entered it. Today, ask yourself honestly whether you have stepped through the door or are still standing at the threshold. In what areas of your life are you still holding the controls rather than surrendering to God's rule?

Day 2: The Interruption You Needed

Reading: Mark 1:16-17

Simon and Andrew were not failing. They were working, providing, belonging. Life was functioning. And yet Jesus walked into an ordinary morning and interrupted everything with an extraordinary invitation. This is the pattern of the kingdom. God rarely calls people out of chaos. He calls people out of comfort. The interruption is not a disruption of your life's purpose -- it is the beginning of it. Jesus did not ask these brothers to abandon who they were. He asked them to let who they were become something larger. The skills, the relationships, the daily rhythms you already possess are not obstacles to your calling. They are the raw material of it. When has God interrupted your routine in a way that, looking back, was clearly His invitation to something greater?

Day 3: Following Is Only the Beginning

Reading: Matthew 4:18-22

There is a profound difference between admiring Jesus and following Jesus, and an equally profound difference between following Jesus and being sent by Jesus. Many believers have made the first step. Fewer have made the second. But the invitation in Mark 1:17 contains both movements in a single sentence: come, and I will send you. Following without being sent is an incomplete obedience. It produces a faith that is inwardly rich but outwardly silent. As one voice in this sermon rightly observed, a faith with no outward expression has a hole in it. The life of the kingdom was never designed to be contained. It was designed to overflow into the lives of people around you. Are you primarily following Jesus for what He provides for you, or are you also joining Him in what He is doing for others?

Day 4: Repentance Beyond Sin

Reading: Romans 12:1-2

When we hear the word repentance, we instinctively think of moral failure. But the call to repent in Mark 1:15 is broader than that. It is a call to turn away from any way of living that falls short of what God intends -- including a life that is decent, comfortable, and entirely self-focused. Romans 12:1-2 describes this same turning as the offering of your whole self, and the renewing of your mind away from the patterns of the world around you. Repentance is not only for the broken. It is for the comfortable. It is the willingness to say that a good life is not good enough when God is offering a purposeful one. Is there an area of your life that is not sinful but is simply too small -- a place where you have settled for comfort rather than calling?

Day 5: Your Life as Mission

Reading: John 20:21

In John 20:21, the risen Jesus speaks words that echo His earliest invitation to Simon and Andrew. The Father sent Him, and now He sends His followers. The mission does not belong to pastors, missionaries, or people with certain spiritual gifts. It belongs to every person who has received the good news. Your workplace, your neighborhood, your family table, your circle of friends -- these are not distractions from the mission. They are the mission. The same God who strategically placed Simon and Andrew beside the Sea of Galilee has strategically placed you exactly where you are. The question is not whether you have been sent. The question is whether you are going. What would it look like for your daily life to be consciously oriented around the people God has placed in your relational world?

Deacons on Call

Brad Friesen and Archie Harris

Weekly Events

- **Worship:** Sundays at 9:45 AM
- **Small Groups:** Sundays at 11 AM
- **Deep Dive:** Wednesdays at Noon and 6:45 PM
- **First Kids:** Wednesdays at 5:30
- **First Youth:** Wednesdays MS at 5:30, HS at 6:45



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Message Notes and Devotional

TODAY'S MESSAGE
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SEPTEMBER 20, 2026