

Missions

The Triune God's Sovereign Mandate for the Church

Main Text: Colossian 4:2-6

What's our picture/concept of missions?

What's the definition of missions?

Colossians Context:

- Colossae is a young church that is vibrant and has become known for their faith & love, but they're still vulnerable to false teaching.
- Paul is writing to them to refute the teaching of false teachers and instead show the preeminence of Christ.
- **Col 1:** Christ is Lord over Creation, the Church, and redemption.
- **Col 2:** We have complete fullness, forgiveness & freedom in Christ.
- **Col 3:** Theology & truth applied should lead to radical Gospel living.
 - Believers in Christ are called to be on mission for Him right where they are.

God's Sovereignty in Missions: (Col 4:3^{a-b})

Big Idea: The Triune God of the Bible initiated and instituted the concept of missions

Supporting Texts:

- John 3:16-17
- John 17:8 & 18
- John 6:37-40 & Hebrew 9:14
- 2 Peter 3:9

God sovereignly sent Christ; and Christ sent the church.

God's Message for Missions: (Col 4:3^c)

Big Question: What is the *mystery of Christ*?

Supporting Texts:

- Rom 10:13
- Gen 12:3
- John 4:22
- Eph 3:3-9; Rom 11:25

- Romans 1:16, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”*
- Rev 7:9-12

Our Responsibility in Missions: (Col 4:2, 4-6)

Big Question: How can we “be on mission for God” according to Paul?

1. Pray Much

- Eph 6:18
- 1 Pet 5:8

2. Live Godly Lives

- Phil 1:27

3. Proclaim Him

- Act 1:8; Eph 4:11-12
- 1 Pet 3:15

Psalm 34:8^a -- *“Taste and see that the Lord is good.”*

Conclusion:

- **Missions:** Ultimately defined by our Triune God who sent Jesus to provide and proclaim the way of salvation, for all who believe.
 - God has in turn sent us to be on mission for Him
 - Mat 28:19-20; Act 1:8
- **The Message:** Preach the Gospel of Christ, our resurrected Savior.
- **Our responsibility:** Be on mission for God through prayer, Godly living and proclaiming Christ
 - 1 Pet 3:15

Response:

- Do I know where God has called me to serve? Is He calling me to serve somewhere other than at home? If so where?
- What do I need to do to better prepare myself to be on mission for God, wherever He calls me to?