

A CALL TO REACH YOUR WORLD

Purpose: The purpose of this session is to challenge you to join a spiritual movement to help reach your world for Christ.

Objectives: This session will help:

1. Motivate you to involvement in God's movement.
2. You understand God's purpose on earth and your part in it.
3. You understand the role of training and the need for it so you can help reach your world.

Key Verse: Matthew 4:19

I. Introduction

What are some movements around the world that have tried to change the world? Perhaps these groups have tried to get their products all over the world. We have all eaten at McDonalds. They had sold billions and billions of burgers. What about Coca Cola? They are in most of the countries around the world. People everywhere know about Coca Cola.

Other movements have attempted to change the world. Think about communism. It began with Lenin and 17 men. World domination was the goal. Obviously, we are not praising communism, but we are identifying the movement's impact. What are some other movements that have had an impact upon the world?

We have been called to a far greater cause with an infinitely greater benefit to mankind. God has called us to build His kingdom in the world by establishing His rule in the hearts of men.

II. Establishing the Kingdom of God

- A. Jesus came to establish God's Kingdom (Matthew 6:10; Luke 4:43; 8:1).
- B. He gave us the responsibility and privilege of joining with Him in establishing God's Kingdom (Luke 9:2, 60, 62; 16:16; Matthew 24:14; 28:16-20).

In the first century the apostle Paul did evangelism in Ephesus, he disciplined those who responded to the gospel, and then he sent them to reach others. Within two years over 200,000 people in ten cities heard the gospel and seven churches were formed. This is a spiritual movement. Paul is a fine example for us. In fact, he commanded people to mimic him, just as he mimicked Christ. (1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7; 3:7-9)

III. Paul is an Example of a Man Set on Establishing the Kingdom of God

When Paul saw the elders from Ephesus for the last time he reviewed his ministry in Ephesus (Acts 20:17-38). There are four things from Paul's example that we can imitate in our ministries:

- A. He identified with the people to whom he ministered. He was involved in their lives (Acts 20:17-19). They weren't just a task.
- B. He imparted truth. He actively taught them the truth, the "whole will of God" and trained them for ministry (Acts 20:20,21,24,27).
- C. He implanted values and responsibilities. Paul explained why he did what he was doing (Acts 20:22-24).
- D. He sacrificed his own well-being for their good. Ministry can't be done leisurely. It requires diligence and hard work. Paul summarizes his own ministry as sacrifice and hard work (Acts 20:28-38).



Paul knew that if the Kingdom, the movement, was to grow and endure, then leaders with the same heart and passion and an ability to develop others for ministry were needed. So, wherever he went, he trained others for ministry. He:

- A. Brought people to a deeper maturity in Christ;
- B. Taught them how to share the good news;
- C. Taught them how to build others to join in the work;
- D. Taught them how to reach a target area and audience.

People who are effective in ministry are trained, both personally and spiritually. Jesus trained the twelve. Barnabas trained Paul. Paul trained Timothy. Timothy trained others. And here we are today.

IV. Closing

The movement of the Kingdom of God began 2000 years ago with a group of largely uneducated, working-class people. They turned their world upside down, or better yet, right side up. We are here today because of them. And if Christ chooses to tarry, a thousand years from now another group of people will be challenged to carry on the work.

God will not ask if you reached the entire world by yourself. "Your world" consists of the 100,000 people you will meet face to face in your lifetime. How is it going? Have you been faithfully sharing the gospel in a simple, relevant way? Are you seeing men and women come to Christ and begin to live transformed lives? And are you seeing these men and women join in the task of personal evangelization?

Some of you will choose today to reach your world for Christ and become involved in the greatest movement the world has ever known. Will you: Commit yourself to that? Commit to being trained for ministry? Commit to teach and equip others for ministry? Commit to suffer hardship? Today, over two billion people identify themselves with Christ because other people down through the ages have made this commitment. Will you help reach the next generation?

Discussion Questions:

1. In this lesson what motivates you to involvement in God's movement?
2. What do you understand to be God's purpose on earth and our part in it?
3. How has this lesson helped you understand the role of training and the need for it so you can help reach your world?