

# Owning the mission Introduction

## Finding your role in God's plan for reaching the world

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### I. Introduction

A. To the church falls the greatest privilege that can be given to man

- To answer the call to be a part of God's mission
- To rescue the lost
- To restore relationships and
- To free the sin bound burden of lost souls

*Luke 24:32*

*Jer 20:9 .*

*Jer 20:11*

B. Because there is war raging across the globe

1. I am talking about the war for the souls of every human on earth
2. Because the outcome for every soul is either suffering or sanctification and we have a role to play in what that outcome may be
3. let me be clear about the eternal importance of this battle that while you must not fear it
  - a) It should grip your heart and your mind till it consumes you
  - b) It must grip the heart of every born again Christian
  - c) Every Christian must be compelled to seek out a way to add their name to the roster of those who fight to rescue and to restore those souls

C. Every one of us should be desperate to find our role in the war

D. What is at stake in the war – humanity's soul is at stake

Consider how many souls have been on the earth,

From the dawn of recorded history so far as we know it took until 1800 before the

world population reached 1 billion people living at the same time<sup>1 2</sup>

It only took another 103 years in 1933, to reach 2 billion

Then only 27 years, until 1960, to reach 3 billion.

Then 17 years, to 1977, to reach 4 billion

Then only 10, 1987, to reach 5.

By 1999 there were six billion people

and 2021 there were 7.9 billion people on the face of this globe

Now Christian YOU MUST KNOW this: Unless something happens, there will 8.8 billion people across this earth who are still crying out to be rescued; they call out:

8.8 billion of them. Enough to circle this globe nearly 100 times around

1. In this number it is estimated there are only 2.2 billion Christians (professing believers but not always biblically believers)
2. Do not miss the real point here, it is not the growth of the population that is key,
3. Instead it is the number of those who are dying every minute without hearing and having the opportunity to receive Christ as Saviour
4. Worldwide there are 108 deaths every minute which means
  - a) 6,480 an hour
  - b) 155,250 a day
  - c) They are dying because of the disease of sin
  - d) 1,088,640 a week
  - e) 56,609,000 a year

E. Everyone's mission is the same

*"The eternal purpose of God is to call out from every kindred, tongue, people, and nation, a multitude redeemed by the blood of His Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world, over whom He will crown His Son, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, King of kings and Lord of lords forever.*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/world/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ourworldindata.org/world-population-growth>

*This is the passion of the heart of God that cannot be quenched, the obsession of His mind that cannot be denied, the vision of His eye from eternity past into eternity future that cannot grow dim, and the destination to which He has committed His omnipotent, immutable, eternal being: a destination He will not abandon.” - Darrell Champlin*

F. What is the mind and heart of the typical Christian

1. The characteristics of majority Christians
  - They go to church
  - They pray
  - They are good people
  - They read their bible
  - Some are hypocritical
  
- a) It is evident that they do not see owning the mission as a staple of the believer
2. The characteristics of a mission focused Christian
  - a) Acknowledges the universal love and desire of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
  - b) Recognizes the diversity of composition found in the world
  - c) Recognizes the prime importance of Christian mission
  - d) Learns about world mission
  - e) The mission focused Christian understands mission but does not own it
3. The characteristics of a Christian who owns the mission
  - a) Recognizes his / her responsibility for mission
  - b) Prays for the world
  - c) Goes into the world ie. mission trips
  - d) Changes his / her lifestyle to better be ready to engage in mission through ministry
  - e) This Christian owns and acts on ministry to advance missions

## II. What is mission

- A. What mission is not – found on a random website that made me what to vomit, this is what it said:

God's mission is to inspire people to work with the materials he provides to bring forth new and good creations and to order the natural world. God gives people the grace to return to him. He heals the World's brokenness, and he opens the way to fully restore his original intent for the world, including humanity's role of co-creativity with him. Both the creation of the world and its redemption by God's grace are therefore the mission of God.<sup>3</sup>

Well if that is not missions then what is mission?

- B. Mission exists because God is a missionary God

*Joh 3:17*

*Gal 4:4*

*1Jn 4:9*

1. Mission begins in the heart of God as the execution of his initiative to which every human can respond
2. The expectation is that everyone (every believer) must find a way to conduct missions in a way that is dependent on God and in line with his plan
3. The message of mission is the redemptive love and grace of God for all people and it must not be overshadowed by human messengers
4. God being motivated by his great love, sent his only begotten son on a rescue mission

*Luk 19:10*

5. Christ came to seek, to save, and to give his life for the world – John 3:16
6. God's mission is Gods plan for all of humanity

*2Pe 3:9 .*

- C. The mission (Gods Mission) then is
- D. **God desires to restore his own image in lost man by means of salvation** – The most important statement you need to commit to memory from this study
- E. Our mission is to support God's mission by finding out where we can own a part of the mission

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<sup>3</sup> [What Is God's Mission in the World? | Article | Theology of Work](#)

- F. Everyone must find their place to own the mission for the battle
- G. Let me give you four definitions that may help to see the differences
1. Mission – God’s desire to restore His image in lost man through salvation
  2. Missions – The fulfillment of God’s mission by means of making disciples.
  3. 📖 Missionary – One who in the fulfillment of God’s mission is led by God and sent out by his local church to reproduce that church in another people as well as to serve in the church in what is called ministry
- H. – Ministry – The long definition
1. Consider what Paul said in Eph 3:10  
*Eph 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,*
  2. The goal of ministry is to work toward proclaiming the gospel to the world around us with our actions as well as words, that, through the work of the body of Christ the church so that “...**the manifold wisdom of God**” might be made known to the lost to lead them to salvation”<sup>4</sup>
  3. ministry could be defined as: “**what we do in order that God is glorified, his gospel is shared with the world and lives are rescued from an eternity of separation**”
  4. God has gifted every person to accomplish what is necessary that the gospel will be proclaimed as a result of our effort whether directly or indirectly
  5. Ministry is no different than mission (the short version); **ministry is mission is ministry is mission** --- God makes no distinction
  6. Both are about the task of preparing a way for the gospel to be proclaimed because there is a war raging

### III.Satan has launched a war against the soul

- A. There is a battle for the soul of man rooted in the flesh but motivated by Satan

📖 *Rev 12:9*

📖 *Gal 5:17*

📖 *Rom 8:13*

1. While we must be obligated to enter this war at any post or any position Peter tells us why we must enter this battle

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/church/what-is-ministry.html>

*1Pe 2:11-12*

- a) The two things that Peter points out here is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the human soul and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God

B. Satan has his 5 I will statements that define his strategy

*Isa 14:13-14* For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: (14) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

C. God has his 5 I will statements that define his purpose and intent in Exodus 6:6 – 7

*Exo 6:6-8* Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: (7) And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. (8) And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I am the LORD.

D. The question for you is “Do you have any I will statements that define your commitment to own the mission”

1. The apostle Paul had many of his own I will statements that clarified his occupation for Christ
2. Examples (out of over 50 time)
  - Rom 1:10 I serve with my spirit (no will word here but context is I will)
  - I Cor 4:19 I will come to you
  - I Cor 6:13 I will not be brought under the power (of lawful things)
  - Heb 2:12 I will declare thy name

E. Yes, there is a spiritual war that rages.

1. First to \_\_\_\_\_ you to sin and \_\_\_\_\_ God
2. Second he moves you to allow yourself to be \_\_\_\_\_

*1Jn 4:4*

F. Because there has been a war raging from the beginning of the scripture, at the moment of salvation you have been, recruited into this battle as Paul calls us soldiers

*2Ti 2:4*

#### IV. Mission is about winning the war

- A. The war distracts the lost from hearing the call to salvation and blinds them from the reality of God's gift of his son
- B. We know or we should know there is a war raging but just in case you have missed the declaration of war lets look at some scripture

*Joh 15:16*

*Joh 15:8*

- C. We have been chosen and we have been ordained (given authority) to go and bring back fruit
- D. The power of these verses would imply one who is called to the mission field, yet I am not focusing mobilizing you as missionaries,
- E. instead this is about mobilizing mission warriors to set a plan for your own involvement in the mission – look again at the verses
- F. In our military, approx. 1 in 10 see battle but they need support in hundreds of ways

#### V. A mission warrior understands – 4 facts of mission warfare

- A. A mission warrior is one that voluntarily seeks a place to work God's mission to win the war for lost souls
- B. They know that what is at stake in this war are the souls of literally billions of lost souls (we saw those statistics already)
- C. A warrior knows how to hear the alarm of war so they can respond

*Jer 4:19.*

- D. The alarm is sounding what will you do
  1. Its time to declare your intention for mission, will you decide to get engaged?
  2. Will you find a place to serve?
  3. Will you contribute to the success of the mission?
  4. Will you look forward to a victory over billions who will die due to a sin disease?
- E. Will you become a mighty warrior?
  1. Consider the examples of David's mighty men starting with Eleazar

 *2Sa 23:10-12*

2. This is what makes a mighty warrior?
  - a) Vs 15 – they sought to please their leader
  - b) Vs 20 – They were willing to battle in any condition
  - c) Vs 21 – they were willing to take the weapon of the enemy and use it on the enemy

## **VI. Have you received the wrong message**

- A. Two messages have been delivered to the church for a long time
  1. First was for a response to the call to go to another field as a missionary
  2. The second was a plea to fill a need in ministry
- B. Both are valid messages, but too often they strike fear into the heart and the result is very few respond to either one consider
- C. If there was more ownership of mission maybe there would be less vacancy
- D. We do need some to go out but you are not exempt from the war for souls just because you are not called on to go out
- E. We also need warriors at home to do the work in support of opening the hearts of others who may be called to go

## **VII. Your homework assignment:**

- A. Evaluate yourself asking do you own any part of the mission where the fire burns in you that will not let you go?
- B. Who invested in you in such a way that you can give them credit for your passion now
- C. Have you invested in someone in such a way that a spark lit the passion in them to own the mission