

# Welcome to The Ministry!

## THE TRUTH ABOUT “FULL-TIME” MINISTRY

1 Peter 2:9/ 1 Corinthians 12:27/ 2 Corinthians 5:20/ Colossians 3:17

## THE PASSAGE

Mark 6:7-30 & Luke 9:1-10

## HOW TO REPRESENT JESUS WELL

- (1) Get out of the **HOLY HUDDLE**.  
Mark 6:7/ Matthew 5:13-15
  
- (2) Keep the **MAIN THING** the **MAIN THING**.  
Mark 6:12-13/ Luke 10:17-20/ Mark 8:36-37/ Ezekiel 18:23
  
- (3) Look for **OPEN DOORS**.  
Walk away from **CLOSED DOORS**.  
Mark 6:11/ 1 Peter 3:15/ Proverbs 18:13/ 1 Corinthians 16:8-19
  
- (4) Use both **WORDS**, and **MUSIC**.  
Mark 6:12-13/ 1 Peter 2:12/ 1 Peter 3:15-16/ John 9:25
  
- (5) Leave the **RESULTS** to **GOD**.  
Mark 4:1-20/ Mark 6:10-11/ Mark 6:16-28/ Proverbs 21:30-31

# Life Group Study Questions

For the week of May 5, 2019

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## MY STORY

1 What was your response when you heard Larry say, "Every Jesus follower is in full-time ministry?"

2 Can you remember a time when you had the opportunity to explain to someone how they could become a Christian? What was that experience like for you?

Would you do anything differently if you got to do it over again?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1 When we think about being in full-time ministry, we can usually come up with a lot of reasons why we aren't qualified or equipped enough to do what we think it takes. Moses was a lot like us in this regard. When you read about his call to ministry, you see him trying really hard to get out of his God-given mission. Read the following passages and list each of Moses' excuses along with God's response.

(NIV – New International Version)

**Exodus 3:11-12** - <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you<sup>al</sup> will worship God on this mountain."

**Exodus 4:1-5** - Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The LORD did not appear to you?'" <sup>2</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" "A staff," he replied. <sup>3</sup> The LORD said, "Throw it on the ground." Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. <sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. <sup>5</sup> "This," said the LORD, "is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you."

**Exodus 4:10-11** - <sup>10</sup> Moses said to the LORD, "Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue." <sup>11</sup> The LORD said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"

**Exodus 4:13-16** - <sup>13</sup> But Moses said, "Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else." <sup>14</sup> Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. <sup>15</sup> You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. <sup>16</sup> He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him."

In light of our calling to be "salt & light" to the world around us as part of our ministry, can you relate with any of Moses' excuses?

How could God's responses to Moses give someone who has similar doubts, hope or courage in their calling to ministry?

We heard this weekend that music (i.e. loving actions) lends credibility to our Gospel message. Throughout history, the sacrificial love of Christians has had an incredible impact on people who don't know Jesus. One author's brief summary of Rodney Stark's book on the tremendous growth of the early church captures how love impacted this growth:

*"Stark was puzzled at how a marginalized, persecuted, often uneducated group of people were able not only to survive, but thrive....He concludes that a key reason was their willingness to sacrifice themselves out of love for each other and for their world. This sacrifice released an explosion of light and heat the world had never known."* - Shaunti Feldhahn in *Y2K: The Millennium Bug*

What's *your* initial reaction to this quote?

What are some hurdles people face in showing sacrificial love to those who don't know Jesus?

What guidelines or tips do you see in Colossians 3:23-24 and 1 Peter 2:12 that could influence our effectiveness in serving others?  
(NIV – New International Version)

**Colossians 3:23-24** - <sup>23</sup> *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

**1 Peter 2:12** - <sup>12</sup> *Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

3 Larry mentioned that an important part of our ministry assignment is representing Jesus well. What do the following passages add to your understanding of the ministry God desires all Christians to be involved in?

(NIV – New International Version)

**Matthew 9:35-38** - <sup>35</sup> *Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."*

**Matthew 28:18-20** - <sup>18</sup> *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

What role do you see yourself playing in the mission described in these passages?

## TAKING IT HOME

1 Looking back on this week's sermon and study, what's most important for you to remember?

2 Can you think of anyone in your life that God might be calling you to serve as a way to help them see Jesus?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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