Intro: What comes to mind when you hear the word “Mission”?

* Military mission
* Mission impossible
* Hungry? Mission chips
* Missionary

As we continue looking at what it means to be like Jesus, today we are exploring what it means to be missional/live like Jesus

Very center of who Jesus is

* Phil. 2:5-8 – Jesus came down – left safety and comfort of heaven
* Christmas – celebrate this – Emmanuel
* Center of who we are at Radiant
  + Family of servant missionaries learning to be and make disciples

What does it mean to be a missionary?

* Most of us imagine foreign missions
* Pack belongings in a casket never to return – foreign culture, leave family
* Only 1 small part – Church did a disservice by calling these individuals missionaries – we are all called to be missionaries wherever we are

Mt. 28:18-20 – Great Commission

*18And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

* As you go (going) – Jesus assumes we will go -> make disciples

Acts 1:8 – Clarifies where we are to go

*8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

* Jerusalem – local context
  + All starts with where we are today
  + Work, school, activities, organizations
  + Being involved in the lives of the unchurched
  + Deceive ourselves – just because you’re around non-Xians, doesn’t mean you’re missional
    - When is the last time you had a gospel convo at work w/non-Xian?
    - Chaplain in Nat’l Guard – can’t remember the last Gospel convo with non-Xian
* Judea – Bethlehem, Jerusalem – areas w/true Jews – expand area a little – less comfortable
* Samaria – Jews avoided this area – less than desirable
  + Jesus modeled this for us throughout the Gospels
    - Very incarnation modeled this

Donald Macleod – “He (Jesus) lived where he could see human sin, hear human swearing and blasphemy, see human diseases and observe human mortality, poverty and squalor.

His mission was fully incarnational because he taught men by coming alongside them, becoming one of them and sharing their environment and their problems.

For us, as individuals and churches in an affluent society, this is a great embarrassment. How can we effectively minister to a lost world if we are not in it? How can we reach the ignorant and the poor if we are not with them? How can our churches understand deprived areas if the church is not in the deprived areas? How can we be salt and light in the darkened ghettos of our cities if we ourselves don’t have any effective contacts and relationships with the Nazareths of [our day]?”

* Ends of earth – desire is that the gospel is proclaimed everywhere
* Radiant Juneau – we want/have to be missional like Jesus
  + Great commission and Acts 1:8 – disciples who make disciples
    - We are not great at being missional. 1 of our GC’s has done this regularly and there is waning interest
    - My own GC has done 2 “mission” events, but we didn’t even rub shoulders – more prone to give money and call it good
  + If we truly understood the gospel, we would be missional
  + Our lack of mission comes from a lack of gospel saturation – lack of understanding the gospel
  + Gospel is not just a ticket to heaven = good news – happy
  + Jesus’ assumption was that when someone truly knew the good news, they wouldn’t hide it, but would let it shine
    - Like Buddy the elf – spreading Xmas cheer (loud for all to hear)
    - Not advocating for door knocking or bull horn – disown as Radiant family member – crazy uncle at Thanksgiving
* Juneau: not just pleasant areas
  + A lot of our people come from other churches
  + Growth from births and transfer
  + Have to rub shoulders with the hurting – (foster)
* Judea/Samaria: Alaska/Circumpolar North
  + Calgary, Whitehorse, Reykjavik, Mat-Su
* Ends of earth: partnerships with A29

Not meant to be a downer – kick you between the legs, just an honest look

Point of Scripture isn’t to make us feel good, but to show us how far from God we are and how much we need Him.

Looking at self – endorser reports

How amazing would it be if we truly embraced the gospel like Jesus?

How would our community be changed?

How would our lives change?

1. Who are you in relationship with? Friends/neighbors?
2. Who are you intentional with? Sports, organizations, groups?
   1. How are you using those opportunities to be salt and light?
3. Do you truly believe the gospel enough to be missional?

Every week we are reminded that Jesus lived a missional life – through communion