

# The Mission of God

Long Beach Alliance Church • October 19, 2014 • Pastor Scott Trickett

***“You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am He. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.”***

***~Isaiah 43:10 (ESV)***

## **1) The Arrogant God?**

- A) The God of the universe desires to be known and worshiped by all the nations of the Earth. God has designed man’s heart to be in a relationship with him that is primarily marked by worship! It is essential (Psalms 96, 97, 98, 100, 115, 117, 148, 149, 150).
- B) When God calls his people out of Egypt, it is for the purpose of serving Him, worshiping Him, and making sacrifice to Him (Exodus 7:16, 8:1, 9:1).
- C) God refers to Himself as a jealous God not allowing the worship of any other thing in creation. His decree is that we may only bow to Him (Deuteronomy 5:9, Ex. 20:5).
- D) God, who created all things, knows what is the absolute best for us: to be able to worship God and love Him with every fiber of our being. This desire is wired into our hearts from our very beginning and it is one of the biggest areas Satan likes to corrupt.

## **2) God's Power in Manifold Display**

- A) God calls His people to be holy because He is holy (Leviticus 19:2) and He reiterates this same command in Matthew 5:48 when Jesus says that we must be perfect because the Father in heaven is perfect.
- B) Living distinctively is the world's best hope for getting a view of the one true living God! As we reflect the glory of God, the darkness is dispelled; the great reputation of God is made known to all of those who get the opportunity to view our love relationship with God at work. This is such an attractive form of mission. God began it with Israel, and it is a vital part of mission strategy today.
- C) Where the gospel goes and God's kingdom grows, humanity flourishes and God's creation is cared for.

## **3) Going to the Darkest Places**

- A) Jesus commanded "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).
- B) Bringing the good news about Jesus to the remaining places on earth is really an impossible task. The places that are left are the most severely resistant to the Gospel and in fact are violently opposed to the trafficking of it in their lands. What are we to do?
- C) Reviewing God's miraculous saving work will give us great courage in answering His call to make disciples of every nation. The Bible is a book containing the truest events in all of history!
- D) God is already at work in these places and He is waiting for us to join Him!

# Growth Group Guide

***“The Mission of God” (Isaiah 43:10-11) october 19-24, 2014***

## ***Take Off!***



What is a hobby, interest, or topic you just can't stop talking about? Why do you enjoy it so much?



Why does God want every nation and people group to worship Him? Is that arrogant?



Read Leviticus 19:2, 9-18. How would these laws shape Israel's identity? Why did God want His people to stand out?



What is the most compelling reason for missions? What are some mistaken motivations for missions work?



### **Take It Home!**

***How can we live out these ideas from the Bible?***



How do you “enjoy” God? How can the joy and freedom you have in Christ help others become more curious about Him?



Have you seen a Christian’s holy lifestyle make others curious about God? How is God calling you to be holy in order to share Him well?

### **Take It Further!**

***Want to study more? Read here outside group time***



Read Psalm 67. Who are the “peoples” and “nations?” What causes them to praise God? How can this shape our missions mindset?