

MISSIONAL LIFE AT THE BRIDGE

Jeff Loven, Missional Life Pastor January 31, 2016

Definitions

Mission: a strongly felt aim or calling; important assignment.

<u>Missions</u>: events, programs, projects, and systems designed to advance the mission (especially by "sending").

Missionary: a person sent on a mission.

Missional: a living demonstration of the mission.

Mission: Why do we exist?

Helping people $\underline{\text{find}}$ Jesus Christ and $\underline{\text{follow}}$ Him fully.

Matthew 28:18-20



Vision: What is our preferred future?

Everyone on Mission, developing generations of world-changers.

Theology: What do we believe about God?

The <u>Missional Life of God</u>, in Jesus Christ, flows <u>through us</u> to the world. *2 Corinthians 5:14-21*



Philosophy: What is our guiding principle?

Love your God. Love your neighbor. Matthew 22:34-40



Strategy: What practices best help us live out our theology and philosophy?

Missional Life at The Bridge helps us discover, develop, and deploy.

What does this mean for me, right now? Step In. Step Up.

NEXT STEP: This week I will daily ask God to prepare my heart to Step In and Step Up in Missional Life at The Bridge.



Lesson Aim: To help people live missionally while finding Jesus and following Him fully.

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your time together.

Ice Breaker- Jesus said that we are to love God and love our neighbor. Share a time when you had an opportunity to do something fun with a past or present neighbor.

1. The strategy for missional outreach at The Bridge is to Discover, Develop and Deploy. This is the same way that Jesus did ministry. How did Jesus set the example for this missional strategy?

2. Take some time to reflect and discuss how the same strategy that worked then works today. How should our church and our personal lives reflect this strategy?

3. **Read Philippians 2:2.** How does this verse relate to living on mission? How does this bring joy to God and what benefits do we get from being united in love, spirit and mind?

- 4. Often times when we think of a missionary we think of someone who is sent to a location, usually overseas, where they do an activity for some set amount of time, then return home. Jesus speaks frequently in the New Testament that we are to be a light to the world, and that our DAILY lives should reflect being missional. How can we be a light in the world?
- 5. What prevents some Christians from reaching out to others in friendship or with missional purpose?
- 6. How might missional living change the culture of our church, city or even world?
- 7. In **Matthew 5:43-44,** Jesus says that we should not only love our neighbor, but also, we are called to love and pray for our enemies. How would we change in our missional focus if we were to actually pray for those people that we don't like or are at odds with?

8. What prevents some Christians from actually praying for their "enemies"? Discuss how unforgiveness might interfere with missional living.

Close in prayer as God leads you.

Memorizing Scripture is a key tool to resist temptation, make wise decisions, strengthen us under stress, comfort us when we're sad and to witness to those who don't know Christ. **Memory Verse(s)** of the Week: Acts 7:34