

All of Jesus for All the World

Jesus wants the world – all the world – to know him fully, as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer and Coming King. How we can participate in bringing ourselves, our problems, other people, or even the world, to the feet of Jesus so that all the world can know Him?



INTRODUCTION

Missionaries Andy and Lora Brake shared some of their stories and experiences. They challenged us to follow Jesus' example by showing mercy to "outsiders."

STARTER QUESTION

A lot of us are on social media. How can we use our social media activity to spread God's word? Is it even possible to use our social media to spread God's word so that it can spread quickly throughout the world?

INTO THE WORD

1. Revisit Matthew 15:21-31. What did Jesus want the disciples to learn? What can we learn from how Jesus interacted with the Canaanite woman?
2. Lora shared Matthew 28:16-20. Revisit those verses. How does Jesus explain the importance of doing missionary work?

APPLICATION

3. Think of a time when you felt God put you in a position where you could have helped someone or acted in some way but hesitated, possibly because it forced you outside of your comfort zone. What are some ways that you can overcome this to be a faithful servant of God?
4. What are some skills and/or talents that you have that could be used to glorify God and spread the word of Jesus?
5. Not all of us have the resources to go to other countries to serve as missionaries. What are ways we can do missionary work within our own communities?

PRAYER

Dear Father God, in this great time of uncertainty of all the things happening in our land and across the world, we have certainty that you are with us. We have certainty that your love and mercy are surrounding us and protecting us from all harm. We ask Father God that you be with the missionaries serving around the world. We ask that you protect them as they come and go. We ask that, if it is your will, this pandemic be gone. We say thank you for all the blessings you've bestowed and will bestow on us in the future. Your grace and mercy have brought us through great trials and tribulations, Father. May all of us cling to our faith in whom you are. May you lead and guide us to where you would like us to be and what you would like us to do. We love you, Lord. Amen.

Suggested Answers

Question 1) Jesus was most likely teaching the disciples with his initial reaction, imitating what they must be thinking or maybe similar reactions they had witnessed. The disciples thought the woman was being a nuisance and they wanted Jesus to alleviate the problem (the Canaanite woman versus her plea for help). Jesus did show her and her daughter mercy when He healed her daughter. We should learn that Jesus wants us to reach out to everyone, even those who have different beliefs.

Question 2) As Lora explained, Jesus wants ALL the world to know Him fully as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer and the Coming King. To do this, Jesus instructs the disciples to make disciples in all nations and to baptize them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus also told them to teach the new disciples to obey in the same way He had commanded them.

Question 3) A couple of important ways we can overcome our mindset and act in faith is to focus on the way that God shows mercy to the world. Jesus calls us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. He then points to the Father and gives a practical example of how God acts that we can follow: "For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." (Matthew 5:45) Secondly, we need to trust God in the situation that we can do what He asks us to do. Philippians 1:6 tells us this when speaking of our "partnership in the gospel," that "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

Question 4) Building houses, cleaning, making crafts, speaking, leading Bible study, writing letters, hosting a podcast, etc. In other words, you can share the word of God doing everyday tasks as well as engage in activities organized by our church family or go on a mission trip, etc. Evangelism can be achieved in many ways and is not limited to the pulpit.

Question 5) Maybe posting a bible verse to our social media pages, sharing a testimony, etc. Donating time and/or money to worthy causes. Consider the same answer as given above for question 4.