

Will We Be Missional?

Hebrews 11:8-16





- How do you primarily think about Christianity?
 - Involves personal conversion, relationship with God, change
 - Submissive to church body
 - Submissive to God's mission
 - Bringing people to himself through Christ
 - Making disciples

- The basic nature of Christianity is missional
- Missional is understanding that we are in the mission field
 - In a foreign culture
 - Planted in a culture that is increasingly ignorant of Christ's teachings
- Missional is understanding we are in a post-Christian world
- Missional means adopting the mindset of being a missionary without leaving your zip code
- Missional means “sent”

Hebrews 11:8-16

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; 10 for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore there was born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants as the stars of heaven in number, and innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

13 All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. 15 And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

- How was Abraham described in relation to the world?
- Abraham was sent into an irreligious or pagan world
- Sent with a strange, offensive, God-centered message
- Sent with intentionality
- Transformissional!

- Why is this important now?
 - Because for 1000 years culture reflected the Church; but no more
- Do we mourn what has passed?
 - No, because it reflects what's been true for some time
 - No, because that points fingers at God

- What are the alternatives?
 - Museum
 - Enemies
 - Death
- Neibuhr- Christ against, of, above, in, transforming- culture
- Keller- 2 Kingdoms, Relevance, Countercultural, Transforming

- What does a church look like that is missional?
 - Sent and going
 - Talk positively about local culture
 - Talk without anger or piety
 - Apply Bible to core concerns of people in culture
 - Appreciate and critique artistic culture
 - Deep, true concern for poor, down trodden, people of other races/cultures, etc
 - Do not bash Christians or other churches

- The world needs a missional church, not just an evangelistic one
 - The world isn't coming back from 125 years of secularization
 - The church is an alien in a fallen world
 - We must talk about how to talk about Jesus, sin, salvation, etc
 - Drawing people to the box isn't enough

- Missional= carrying the mission of Christ into every sphere of life
- Are you missional?
- Are we missional?
- Call me - make me - send me