

A Model For Outreach

Acts 1:8-9, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight."

**This model encourages us to start where we presently are in life; we can share the good news with those closest to us.**

**At Home (Jerusalem):** How can you be Christ's ambassador in your home?

**At School (Judea):** Judea was the region where Jerusalem was located. The Judeans had similar religious and cultural backgrounds to the disciples. Jesus asked the disciples to take his message to people who were familiar to them.

How can you be Christ's ambassador in your school?

**In My Community (Samaria):** Samaria was a region just north of Judea, but the Samaritans weren't like the disciples at all. They had completely different cultural and religious heritage. As you take the message of Christ into your community you will have to face people who are different from you, and don't agree with you.

How can you be Christ's ambassador in your community?

**In the World (Ends of the Earth):** Jesus has called us to take His message to the whole world. Maybe God is calling you to be a missionary, maybe He's asking you to go on the missions trip this summer, or support missions with your money.

How can you be Christ's ambassador to the world?

# Does God Have a Purpose for You?

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Have you ever noticed that many people seem to be hopeless? They have gotten lost in the world's perspective of living. The world's pattern basically says, "There is no purpose for life." But we know better; we all know there has to be some meaning, something worth living for that is bigger than ourselves. People are looking for meaning in their lives, and in fact spend much of their lives searching for that meaning.

**What are some areas people pursue with their lives in order to find meaning?**

**Describe why people might look for meaning in life from engaging in the following activities.**

Political Causes.....

Animal Rights.....

Human Rights.....

Environmental Issues.....

Acts of Kindness.....

Donating Money.....

Giving Time to Worthy Cause.....

**Do you think the above activities can satisfy the deep need we all have to find meaning in life? Why or why not?**

**As people get frustrated in their pursuit to find a purpose for living they tend to turn to self-destructive behaviors to numb their pain. Make a list of 10 ways people attempt to escape their feelings of purposelessness:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

The good news is that God has a plan for our lives-and it is a mighty good one.  
Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**Does the above verse mean that we won't experience pain, or suffering while here on earth? What does it mean, do you think?**

**As a Christian, what would you say is the meaning of your life? (Find Scripture to back this answer up)**

**How are you fulfilling that meaning, or purpose in the way you are currently living your life?**

**What do you need to change about your lifestyle so that God's purpose for your life is being fulfilled in the way your live?**

The Great Commission:

Matthew 28:16-20, "Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

**One of our purposes on earth is found in the above passage, what is that purpose?**

**Why don't people take action when it comes to this clear command of Christ?**

**What is it that keeps you personally from sharing your faith with the people around you?**

Winning Converts vs. Making Disciples

If you could preach to 100,000 people a day and have 4% of your audience make a decision for Christ, it would take 4,108 years to reach the world for Christ. We need to instead use the methodology of Christ. Jesus invested His life in a small group of twelve men who, in turn, invested their lives in discipling others. If you could disciple one new believer for one year, and then the two of you disciple two more new believers for a year, and then the four of you disciple four new believers for a year, and so on, the entire world could be reached with the gospel in 33 years.

**Christ very clearly say's to "Go, and make disciples", what is the difference between winning a convert and making a disciple?**