



One Mission: Go

- Purpose:**
- 1) To help group members take ownership of their missional responsibility.
 - 2) To challenge group members to consider options for participation in missions.
 - 3) To challenge group members to participate in Westwood's On Mission Celebration.

Accountability from Last Week: Say "Last week we talked about financial support of missions. Do any of you have anything to share about how God gave you direction on supporting missions?"

Missionary Testimony: The church will seek to provide this. (If a prearranged guest is not available, see the link to the additional material called Testimony, and ask the questions of someone in your group who has participated in a mission trip.)

Starting Point: Ask and discuss the Beginning Questions on the Learner Guide. OPTION: Ask and discuss this question: "Is it possible for the Great Commission to be fulfilled if no one were to ever GO?" (See notes on John 20:21 below.)

Scripture: Review the **SCRIPTURE** on the Learner Notes. Share from your insights, research, and these possible comments.

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| John 20:21 | Take away: | Investigate how Jesus was sent: in the flesh, to share the gospel, to invest in men who would continue to share, etc. We are sent in the same manner for the same purposes. |
| Acts 1:8 | Take away: | Discuss the context of this message—Jesus' final appearance with the disciples before He ascended into heaven. One task of the Holy Spirit is to empower our witness. We have responsibility where we are now, to the far corners of the earth, and everywhere in between. |
| | Questions: | Do you remember how we are defining our Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria? |
| 2 Tim. 2:3-4 | Take away: | We are instructed to be disciplined, focused and intentional. |
| | Question: | Our military and media are currently discussing the speed at which forces can deploy to Afghanistan. Compared to the military, how well can Christians deploy on mission? What are the differences? What can we learn from this comparison? What hardships can we expect? |

Optional/Additional Scripture: See also Romans 10:13-15, 2 Peter 3:9, Rev. 5:9-10 (for further study)

Focus: Share insights from the **FOCUS** section. Please cover both the "not about us" and the "find your place in missions" paragraphs (the first and last).

Truths to Remember: Review the statements from the **TRUTHS** section, adding these or your comments or questions:

1. Lost – If we really believed this, or ever stopped long enough to think about it, our behavior would likely change.
2. Ownership – **Q:** What keeps us from having ownership of missions? Do we each have different assignments?
3. HOW – If Jesus is Lord, and we're His army, there really isn't much debate about His general plan. **Q:** How do we find His specific plans for our part of the mission?
4. Obedience – None of us feels competent. **Q:** How do we overcome feeling incompetent in order to be obedient?
5. Freshness – Ask if anyone can be a witness to this truth. If not, ask members how they think this would be true.
6. Home – **Q:** What would make this true? (i.e., The church that reaches across the globe, reaches more at home.)

Questions for Discussion: As time allows, choose some of the questions in this section to review. Circle your "must use" Q's.

1. Affect of going: < group answers > (Missions becomes personal and praying/giving likely increase.)
2. Accepting financial support. < group answers > (We shouldn't allow pride to keep us from accepting help. God gave some people the gift of giving to His work, and we shouldn't deprive them the blessing of involvement.)
3. Affects of prosperity: <group answers> Our wealth allows us so many competing interests and may keep us from learning to walk in faith which a mission trip requires.
4. 10/40 Responsibility: <group answers> (If nothing else, we can pray. We can keep an eye out for God's work.)
5. Maturity & witnessing: <group answers> (Christ expects us to grow and share with others.)
6. Creating margin: <group answers> (Spend time daily in Bible study & prayer. Allow God to help prioritize our lives.)

Just for Thought: Brainstorm ideas about what your group can do locally. Ask: "What are your thoughts about doing taking a week to do a national or international trip together as a group?"

Life Challenges: Share information about our On Mission Celebration. (See details below.) Challenge them to participate to help clarify the part God would have them play. Share the personal challenges and home work from the Learner Guide.

Close – Ask "If you had the time, the money, and all other obstacles removed, what would you like to do for God?" and "Is there any chance that if we take some steps, God will move to overcome the obstacles?"