

Life On Mission - Week 4 Handout

Week 3 Review

A Brief History

- Christianity emerged from a people oppressed by worldly power
- In 380 AD, Christianity becomes the official religion of the Roman Empire
 - **Christendom** refers to the _____ with the Christian faith.
- Last 150 years: Christendom is crumbling, but has left us with Colonialism’s latent legacy
 - _____ FOR THE CHURCH 😊
- _____ was the Western Church’s approach to Mission beginning in the mid-1400s
 - Supported by the “Doctrine of _____”

Life On Mission for Jesus/Disciples: Mission as _____	Scriptural support	Christendom/Colonial Distortion: Mission as _____	Examples of its legacy today
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go out as people of peace, looking for people of peace. • Mission as hospitality - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke 10 commission of the seventy-two • Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well (Jn 4) • Peter & the non-kosher Gentiles (Acts 10) 	The ends justify the means Side benefit: self-enrichment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission starts with joining people, not “othering” them. • Breaking down barriers that divide and diminish “the other” 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Us vs them dehumanization; • expands boundaries/territory 	
Mutual submission: Go as learners and participants		Go as the saviors - as the ones who have things figured out - with nothing to learn	

Another 21st Century Example — CUT FOR TIME

<https://vimeo.com/238679240> _____

Table Discussion B

~~2. What stands out to you about how this Church approached Life On Mission in a Christlike, rather than Colonial, fashion?~~

~~3. Are there any ideas that have been percolating for you in this vein that you'd be willing to share with the table?~~

On Suffering for Others

Hebrews 2:10

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.

Philippians 2:8-11

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!
⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Colossians 1:24

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.

Philippians 3:10-11

¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 5:3-5

³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

1 Peter 3:15-17

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

Life On Mission for Jesus/Disciples: Mission as Communion	Scriptural support	Christendom/Colonial Distortion: Mission as Conquest	Example of its legacy today
Suffering unites us with Christ & one another rather than being the worst thing that could ever happen to us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus' suffering opens the way to eternal life for all (Heb 2:10) and glory for himself (Phil 3:10-11) • Paul's suffering accomplishes something for the Colossians (Col 1:24) • Paul's suffering unites him to Christ (Phil 3:10-11) • Suffering trains us in faith (Rom 5:3-5) • Better to Suffer for doing good (1 Pet 3:17) 	Suffering was out of the question and would've been considered an absence of God's blessing.	

Table Discussion C

4. What could be some examples of *suffering for the sake of others* we might endure in seeking to live on mission (as Jesus & his disciples did) in our current context?

Conclusion: On being "The Church in the Wild"