

21T09 What or who is a Missionary)

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get your coffee or tea. Get comfortable and let's talk. If what I say is nonsense, then it's definitely from me. If anything I say brings you wisdom, then that's just God using me.

Today I'd like to ask you a question. What or who is a missionary?

Missionary is defined as..... a person undertaking a mission and especially a religious mission

I'm going to give you a tool for identifying missionaries. (*hold up mirror*) You should have one of these around your home. If you are a Christian then you can use one of these tools to identify missionaries. Here it is... a mirror. Hold it up in front of your face and God will reveal who his missionary is. You got it. It's you. If you are a Christian then you are His missionary.

Root word of missionary is of course Mission. Mission is defined as a specific task with which a person or a group is charged. but who's Mission are we on Well Jesus' mission of course.

We joke around our house that we are amateur missionaries. Because we don't get paid. Now this is not slam of professional missionaries who are paid to be missionaries. But we believe, every Christian is a missionary, an amateur Missionary. and we believe, the most effective missionaries are typically bi-vocational, meaning they have other jobs that pay for their existence or provide opportunities for mission.

Christian Missionaries are God's witnesses to the world. I like how the Amplified version puts it in Acts 1:8 (AMP) ⁸But you will receive power and ability when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be **My witnesses** [to tell people about Me] both **in Jerusalem** and **in all Judea**, and **Samaria**, and even to the **ends of the earth.**"

Jesus will tell you your mission. Remember a Christian is a follower of Christ. Follow is an action word. We must do the "actions" Jesus is telling us to do. Or in other terms. Get up and "do something" your Lord is asking. He has already placed it on your heart. Just do it. Be a witness for Jesus. But Where? Well Jesus told us. First, "in Jerusalem", that is right here where we live. Our families, Our friends, at work and at the store. "in all Judea", or here in our community, our town, our country through actions that reveals Jesus to them. "in Samaria", in places we are hated. Samaritans and Jews did not even speak or look at each other. They hated each other because of ancestry. Jesus is telling us to engage with those who hate us. Let Jesus worry about the outcome. We just need to "follow" and do as our "Leader" leads. Jesus tells us to do, then we do. And lastly "even to the ends of the earth". This is getting way out of your comfort zone. God wants us to be more than we think we can be. I think that covers everywhere and everyone don't you think. We are told to be His witnesses everywhere and to everyone. Even those who hate us.

So how are we going to be missionaries to everyone everywhere. Jesus gives us some indication in the Sermon on the Mount. Right after the beatitudes in (Matt.5:13-16) ¹³*You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.* ¹⁴*You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.* ¹⁵*Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in*

the house. ¹⁶Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

We are as Jesus said to be the “Salt of the earth” or “the Light of the World”. The words we use and our actions should be reflecting Jesus. As Christians, we should make anywhere we go, anything we do better with us than without us. Salt makes food taste better. It’s a flavor enhancer. Light makes it easier to move around in the dark.

What are we supposed to be doing on our Christian Mission to everyone, everywhere? How do we make ourselves needed and wanted by the communities we are serving? Well, The great commission is what the what, in Matt. 28:18-20 *¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* The message from Jesus is very simple. Go, make and teach.

Sure professional missionaries are important. But you don’t need to quit your job or move to a foreign country to be a missionary. God is calling every follower, every Christian to be a missionary, an amateur missionary. We have each been given a mission. To be Jesus’ witness everywhere, to everyone, even those who hate us. In everything we do. We are to make the place we live, work and visit better when we are there. We have a commission to Go everywhere, Make disciples or follower of Jesus by evangelism and then teach these new Christians how to be followers of Christ. That’s what a missionary is. Every Christian should be a missionary all the time, everywhere to everyone. Just say yes to Jesus and start following. So, yes I am a Christian, a follower of Christ. And, yes I am an amateur missionary, I’m on Christ’s mission. And I love it.

Let me close with a prayer.

Thank you Jesus for your words. Your encouragement to be on mission for you. Thank you for reminding us you care for everyone everywhere and we are your missionaries to carry out your Mission to reach all people everywhere.

Help us to be salt and light to this broken world. Help us to put you first in everything we do.

I pray for the listener, that they may hear you and the mission you have for them. Help them to say yes to your urging and share in this abundant fulfilling life of service to you.

In your name Jesus. Amen

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me. I want your feedback so let me know what you think

See you next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.