

ANCHORS 8¹

Real Responsibility: the World

Tonight, this study is going to look at a passage of Scripture to get a bigger picture of how we can take real responsibility in the area of missions. We find that God's desire to be glorified and exalted by every tongue, tribe, and nation is expressed regularly throughout Scripture, and that He expects the Church, by His Spirit, to make it

happen! In the Old Testament, the command to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" (Genesis 1:28, Genesis 9:1) is given to God's people as the means of spreading His glorious image to every corner of the world. In Genesis 12, God tells a man named Abram to leave his country and go to a new land, promising him that "all peoples on earth will be blessed" through Abram and his descendants because of his obedience. The New Testament further reveals that God's gift of salvation and eternal life is for all people (John 3:16). Matthew 28:18-20 is known as the "Great Commission": the call to spread this message to every people group across the globe. The Church is God's plan in achieving the evangelization of the world, and the reuniting of the lost to their Father in heaven. With your group it will be important to challenge each person to understand his/her role in the mission of global evangelization. The ideas of "Pray. Give. Go. Welcome." are taken from the mission statement of Chi Alpha Expeditions.

Pre-Article Questions:

1. Have you ever traveled outside of the United States? What was your favorite place to visit?
2. What's your best travel story? (near death experience, crazy travel story, etc)

Romans 10:11-15: NIV

11 As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame."¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³ for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Matthew 28:16-20, NIV

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Study Questions:

1. From Romans, what seems to be Paul's main point in this passage? Does this point come across as more of a mandate or an option?
2. How is it possible that all would hear? What would it take for this to happen?
3. What do you think it means to be "sent"? Do you think this message is to a specific few, or every person who follows God? Where do you see this in Scripture? (Ex. Isaiah 6:8, Isaiah; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Colossians 1:28)
4. After reading the "Great Commission" passage in Matthew 28, how do you think we practically live this out to the ends of the earth?
5. In what ways were you encouraged to hear Jesus' words about being with us always, to the very end?
6. Describe a person in your life who has been close to you and discipled you? How did their consistency, love, care, and challenges help you grow in your faith or inspire you in your work?
7. How does this passage encourage or challenge you to want to make disciples among the nations? What will be the challenges you might have to overcome in order to do this here at this university?
8. The Chi Alpha Expeditions' mission statement is "Pray. Give. Go. Welcome." How do you think each of these ideas tie into global missions?
9. What would global missions look like if one of these components were missing?

Prayer Partner Assignment:

Choose one of these three options to complete as a group. 1. Pool your money, or have a fundraiser, to send a financial gift to a missionary. 2. Attend an XA international student outreach event (talk to staff to see what's happening!), or a University program like "language buddies". 3. Each adopts a country for the week in prayer, praying at least 10 minutes a day. Print out and carry the flag of your adopted country as a reminder of the lost.

Closing

Take some time as a Life Group to reflect on all God has taught you through this study this semester and close in praying together for God to place a heart and burden for the lost and making disciples among the nations