

JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION -#7

And

The Implications for Our Lutheran Church – Anytown, Iowa

Based on the book JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION, by Greg Finke.

Foundational Work: Ephesians 2:1-10

1. How dead were we? Does Romans 1:18-20 help?
2. What reveals God?
3. We were as dead as _____. (Romans 6:3-4)
4. So what's the good news in this passage from Ephesians?
5. What is sanctification and how does it tie into our being made alive in Christ?

Chapters 15 & 16 Review and Discussion

1. The author talks about looking around your neighborhood to see who is ready for a blessing. Can you put a name to any such person in your "neighborhood?"
2. On the bottom of page 119 (last paragraph) the author roughly translates Ephesians 2:10 into doing good for people. Quoting from the book, "We weren't planning it, but we were _____ for it." How does this change your view of "interruptions?"
3. On page 120, the last line lays out that some of the best good we can do is to let others do something good for us. What good have you allowed someone to do? What good have you refused?
4. The last question that Pastor Finke poses in chapter 15 (p. 123) is "How can we help make the kingdom and grace of God a little more real to people nearby?" Any ideas in your neighborhood? How about in the church's neighborhood?

5. Sometimes we are better at praying **for** someone than **with** someone. Why? Have you ever prayed with someone who brought up a problem or concern? How did you feel? How did they feel?

6. On page 126, the author cautions against praying complicated prayers with someone. Why? What does he note is important about praying with someone on the bottom of page 126 and top of 127.

7. On page 130, a list of things to consider when ministering through prayer is presented. Which of these have you done? Which of these do you fear?

8. As a reminder, Pastor Finke lays out the 5 practices he suggests on page 131. They are: _____ the kingdom, _____ from Jesus, _____ with people, _____ good, and ministering through _____.

9. The devil always suggests time as a problem for our ministering to others. On page 132 (paragraph 2), the author brings up an important point. “The key to joining Jesus’ mission is realizing we don’t have to find a way to come out of our hectic lifestyle...Our hectic life style is our missional life.” What are your thoughts about that? Do you believe your hectic lifestyle could be God-given for a purpose?

HOME WORK FOR NEXT WEEK: CHAPTERS 17 & 18