

Joining Jesus, Session 1, Chapter 1 (plus Foreword & Introduction)

1) What do you think of when you heard the word evangelism?

How about the words missional living?

Is there a difference?

What does Pastor Finke say that missional living is?

2) Bible verse discussion

John 1:14 – Jesus came to dwell with us to share God’s love; as we dwell with others, we share God’s love

2 Corinthians 5:19-6:2 – From “We’re on a mission for God!” to “We’re on a mission with God!”

3) How do we know that the U.S. is a mission field?

A. Unchurched statistics

April 24, 2015—The U.S. has a reputation for being exceptionally religious—and it is true that, historically speaking, churchgoing has played an outsized role in American identity. Still, millions of Americans have little to no connection to local congregations.

Currently, about four in 10 U.S. adults qualify as “unchurched” under Barna’s definition (38%). Unchurched adults have not attended a church service, except for a holiday or special occasion, at any time within the past six months.

The Barna data indicate that 28% of the adult population has not attended any church activities, including services, in the past six months. That translates to nearly 65 million adults (in 2010; 75 million in 2015). When their children under the age of 18 who live with them are added to the picture, the number swells to more than 100 million people (110 million in 2015).

B. Morals, behavior – The river has moved!

C. Beliefs (after all, behaviors are simply a manifestation of beliefs)

4) So what do we do about it?

Bible discussion

Job 42:2 – No one can thwart God's plans

Isaiah 14:24 & 46:9-11 – God isn't wringing His hands in worry; He knows exactly what He wants to do.

What is God's plan?

+Romans 10:8-11

+Romans 10:14-15 – Share the good news.

+Matthew 10:19-20 – Jesus will speak through you!

Going out to get the mail, going to the store for milk, going to school to pick up your kids/grandkids, going to a Cyclone game – all have mission potential!

Jesus, how will you use this to bring glory to yourself?