

North Carolina Conference Missions



In Christ, Transforming the World.
By Christ, Being Transformed.

Mission Work Teams!

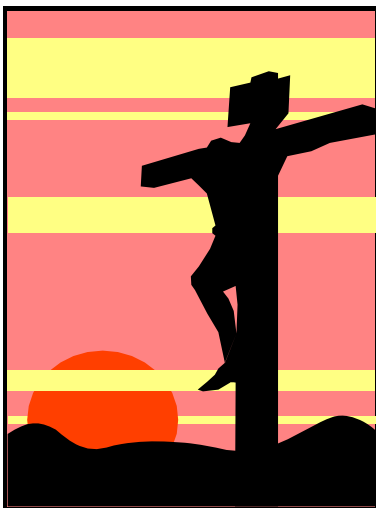


Name _____

**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here I am, Lord; send me!”**

Like the prophet Isaiah, you too have been called by God, and you have responded by agreeing to spend the next week of your life in service to others. We hope that your time given in this activity will be one of growth in your faith, as you have the opportunity to learn more about how we serve God and Christ through our service to others.

The following pages will give you a chance to take a journey inward as you are taking a journey outward. You do not engage in missions -- just to be active -- you engage in missions to SERVE GOD! So it is very important that you spend time each day reflecting on why you are doing this activity and who it is that we serve. We hope that the material in this package will help you as you seek to understand the “why” and “who” of servant hood.



Learn to Serve, Serve to Learn

The best service experiences always include adequate time for preparation, so that all people involved are treated respectfully. Take this time to explore the meaning of Christian service through service in the community; Bible study; group discussions; and individual reflection. Each part of the learning process is as important as the others, so please take the time to prayerfully complete the questions in this package and participate in all your group sessions. Learn about your faith through serving others.

The “Whom Shall I Send?” Workbook ...

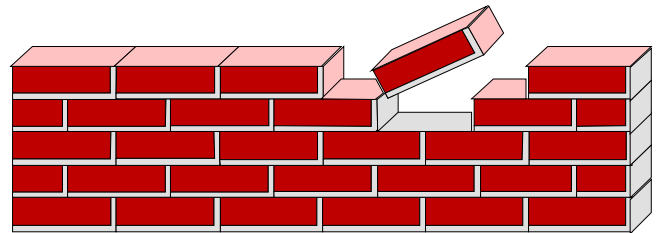
Each Mission Work Teamer has received a copy of the workbook *Whom Shall I Send?* This is intended as a resource for you to use during the week, as you prepare to be in service to others; as you work on different projects throughout the community; and as you reflect on the experiences you have had. The Scripture selections and discussion questions are to be used to make your time of service more meaningful. For each day you will need to allow time for the following activities.

Morning Prayer Time

Immediately after breakfast and morning devotion, meet with your group to pray and ask for God’s direction during the day. Use this time to focus on the activities of the day, and to remind yourself of the reasons you have come to serve. (15 minutes)

Mid Day Devotions

Each work team should make time during the middle of the day for a brief time of reflection. This is best done at your lunch or snack break. Use this time to slow down for a moment and consider what you have already done, as well as what you have left for the day. (15 minutes)



Evening Reflections/Group Discussion

Each work day should conclude with an opportunity for group Bible Study and Discussion of the day’s events. This time of reflection on the work you have done during the day is very important, and will help to provide a context for your service. (30 minutes)

Daily Journal

Space has been provided in each daily section for you to record your own thoughts on the day. You are encouraged to take a few moments each day to thoughtfully record what you experienced during the day.

Whom Shall I Send?

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here I am, Lord; send me!”

Isaiah 6:8



Day One - Mid Day Devotion



Mark 1:16-18

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea--for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

1. Accepting Jesus' invitation to follow meant that Simon and Andrew had to leave something behind. In addition to their nets, what might they have had to give up to follow Christ? What might they have gained?

2. Jesus issues the same invitation to us to "Follow me." How might this affect your life? What will you have to leave behind to follow? What might you gain?

Day One - Evening Reflections

Luke 9:23-25



Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. 24 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. 25 What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?"

1. What does it mean for a disciple of Jesus to “deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me...?”

2. Jesus asks each of us to deny ourselves and take up our own crosses. What does your cross look like?



Questions for Discussion

Throughout the work day, in what ways did you experience God's call to a life of discipleship and service?

What parts of the day were the easiest for your?

How hard was it for you to do the things that were asked of you today?

How does knowing that God sometimes calls us to do hard things affect how you respond to difficult situations?



Daily Journal

Today I worked at-

What I most want to remember about today-

What I learned about being a Christian-

Other important Stuff-

Day Two - Mid Day Devotion



Matthew 22:34-40 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35 and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" 37 He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

1. Jesus said the Greatest Commandment was that we love God. What did he mean when he said, "And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself?"

2. How might the commandment to love God and the commandment to love your neighbor be related? What does that mean in our daily life and worship?

Day Two - Evening Reflections



John 13:34-35

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

1. Jesus' new commandment is that we love others, just as he has loved us. What does the love that Jesus has for us look like?

2. The world will know a disciple of Jesus by how that person loves others. How will others be able to tell you are a Christian?



Questions for Discussion

Describe a time during the day when you felt that what you were doing was an expression of love for God.

Describe how you fulfilled the second of the greatest commandments to love you neighbor as yourself.

Are the two examples you have just described related in any way? If so, how?

Was there a time during the day when someone would have known that you were a follower of Jesus just by watching what you were doing? Describe what you were doing at this time.



Daily Journal

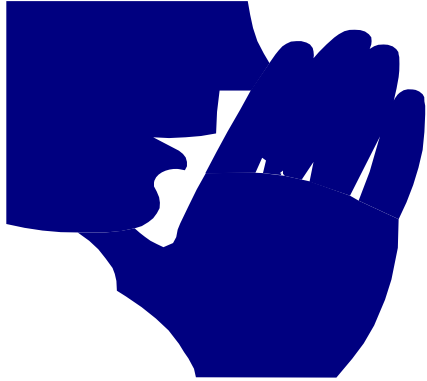
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Day Three - Evening Reflections



Micah 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

1. The Lord requires us to do certain things. What are some of the ways you can fulfill each of the following things?

Do Justice...

Love Kindness...

Walk Humbly with God...

2. What impact does being kind and humble have on doing justice. What does this mean in your life?



Questions for Discussion

During the day, did you experience any times when you felt confronted by injustice, oppression, poverty, captivity or blindness?

In what ways might you be affected by injustice, oppression, poverty and captivity?

Can you think of examples where people might try to “do justice” without being kind or humble?

What do the two passages of scripture you read today suggest about who Christians are called to serve, and how they are to serve them?



Daily Journal

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What I learned about being a Christian-

Other important Stuff-

Day Four - Mid Day Devotion



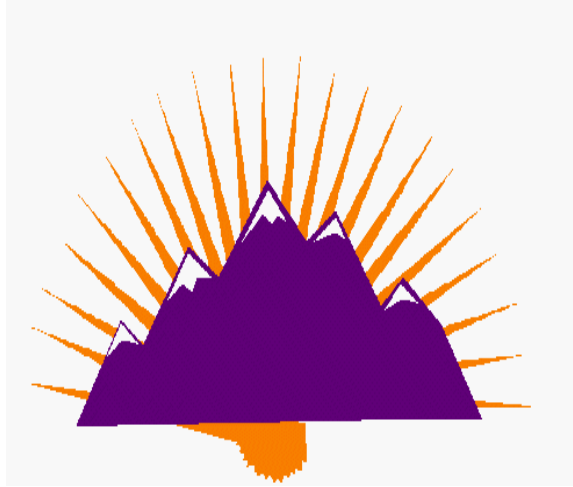
Isaiah 60:1-5

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. 2 For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. 3 Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 4 Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. 5 Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

1. Isaiah writes that “darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples.” What forms does this darkness take in our own communities and our own neighborhoods?

2. According to this text, how will the darkness that covers the earth be overcome? What does this mean for how you respond to the hard things and the hard places in our world?

Day Four - Evening Reflections



Matthew 5:14-16

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. humbly with your God?

1. Jesus uses the image of a bushel basket to warn his followers against hiding their light from the world. What might hide your light from others? In other words, what might your “bushel basket” look like?

2. What are the things you could do to let your light shine? What are the good works you are called to? Who are you called to serve?



Questions for Discussion

During the day, were there any times when you experienced or felt the darkness that the scriptures talk about? Describe where you were, what you were doing, how you felt.

Were there any times when you experienced “light?” Where did it come from, what did it look like, how did it affect the situation you were in?

In John 8:12, Jesus tells us that he is the light of the world. Yet in the scripture from Matthew, Jesus tells his followers that they are the light of the world. How do you respond to this? If we are the light, what are the implications for those who follow Jesus?



Daily Journal

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Other important Stuff-

Sending Forth

GO AND DO LIKEWISE



Sending Forth



Luke 10:25-37 Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" 27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." 28 And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." 29 But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the

hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' 36 Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" 37 He said, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."



Questions for Discussion

Who do you consider to be your neighbor?

Who does Jesus say our neighbor is?

Why do you think that both the Priest and the Levite passed by the wounded man?

Why do people pass by other in need?

Are there people in your own community who are suffering? Without mentioning specific names, who might they be?

In what ways might you be called to reach out to those in need? Be specific.

What might cause you to “pass by on the other side” like the Priest and the Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan?

Who do we pass by when we pass by on the other side? (Hint: read Matthew 25:31-46)

In what ways are you willing to commit yourself to respond to Jesus’ call to “Go and do likewise?”





Daily Journal