



Missio Dei The Sent Ones

*12 When they were but few in number,
few indeed, and strangers in it,
13 they wandered from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another.
14 He allowed no one to oppress them;
for their sake he rebuked kings:
15 "Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm."
16 He called down famine on the land
and destroyed all their supplies of food;
17 and he sent a man before them—
Joseph, sold as a slave.*

Psalm 105

a reflection on the courage to be sent.

Jeremiah says that God "sent" Israel into exile. Daniel, one of the captives in Israel understands that if he is sent, God is with him in this mission, and he receives his courage from the word of Jeremiah to stand faithful in his "sentness" the outcome of this story is that the King comes to praise the God of Daniel as Daniel reflects on the "sending" nature of God he says, "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions" Reflect on this painting for a moment.





Genesis 1:28

Lectio Divina. Today we read a Scripture that uses, for the first time, "the name of the Lord" as the object of worship. Its a short portion of Scripture but well worth sitting with.

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). On the third reading highlight the word or phrase that sticks out to you.

Oratio (Feel): After your reading session, pray and express your feelings to God about the word or phrase that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions, gratitudes, or resistance.

Meditatio (Think): Do you have any questions for God? What questions do you have of yourself? I intentionally ask myself tough questions from what I read in order to uncover the truth of my heart. Did you experience any insight, knowledge, wisdom, vision, or sense of action to take? Write all of this down

Contemplatio (Be Still): Sit quietly for 5 minutes. Just being in God's presence. Don't try to think, feel, or will anything simply let yourself be in God's Presence. These words have brought you into the very presence of God.

The *missio dei* begins here. This is called the Cultural Mandate by God for all of mankind. Most scholars see that it involves: being entrusted with a mission, responsible to steward the mission, and the path to bearing the image of God to the world. It is called the cultural mandate because it is the call to create culture, life, and order. It gets repeated to Noah in Genesis 9:1.

Do 15 Easy Minutes Mission-izing Your Day (see the last page)



Genesis 12:1-4

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Exodus 3:1-10

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Isaiah 6:1-8

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John 20:19-23

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15 Easy Minutes Mission-izing your Day

1. **Breathe.** Begin each morning (really important you do this first) *5-minutes in* silent reflection, as you breath reflect on Christ being in the particles and presence of your breath. (This is not to be confused with him being your breath, but rather in it). This can be done simply by breathing in and out the name of Jesus, using the first syllable of 'Je' with the inhale and the second syllable 'sus' with the exhale. As you do this reflect on Jesus breathing over the disciples (John 20:19-23). Reflect on your authority to forgive, to be sent, to love. When your mind is distracted simply return with the name of Jesus staying present with Christ. who is in you.
2. **Listen.** For the next 5-minutes have a pen and paper ready. Write out the mission that this breathing exercise formed in your heart. Who to love? How to love? What to do that would promote forgiveness? What one task, in the Spirit of loving God and loving neighbors is coming to mind? Write it down. Be open to the love and life of Jesus inside of your life. God wants to incarnate the life of Jesus through you.
3. **Write.** Calendar it. Put it in your schedule.
4. **Do.** Go about your day, joyfully obey, knowing that it is Christ in you doing the work.
5. **Reflect.** In the evening reflect for *5-minutes* on the activity of the Holy Spirit in your day. What happened? Where was God in your day? Where did you miss God or meet God? Text with your '2X2' partner or a friend or spiritual director or mentor and compare notes.



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