

# Deepening our Relationship with God

Day 17

“As You sent me into the world, so I have SENT them into the world”

John 17:18

**Key Thought: God sends US into the world**

While I (P. Andy) was in college I auditioned for a Christian musical group called the Continental Singers based out of California. I made the group and soon traveled to California for a week of rehearsals. Upon arrival I learned very quickly that the reason the Continental Singers existed was not to stay in California and do concerts but to go throughout the United States and the world sharing the love of Jesus through music. In fact, everything we did at the rehearsals was preparing us to be sent out. We were musical missionaries.

Our scripture passage for today reminds us that as Jesus was praying for His disciples He was preparing them to be sent out as well. “As You sent me into the world, so I have SENT them into the world.” Jesus knew He had been sent by the Father and now was acknowledging the same for His followers.

After Jesus was resurrected, He gathered his disciples once again and charged them to, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:19-20)

What does this mean for Jesus followers today? God has an eternal purpose for us in the world. His purpose for us is that we make disciples and be a witness to what He has done in our lives. Like the training I received at the Continental Singer camp, our life in church and in Christian service is training for us to take the gospel across the street and around the world.

Listen to Jesus’ words from John 20:21. “Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” It could not be more clear. If we are one of Christ’s disciples we are to be missionaries of the one True God. Telling, sharing, and showing Jesus to a world that needs to hear and see Him.

The best part of His plan is that God doesn't leave us to save anybody by ourselves. He has given the Holy Spirit to enable power in our lives. From Acts 1:8 we read Jesus' final words before He ascended into heaven, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." What a great promise we have from the Lord, He Himself will be with us as we go and tell!

### **Questions to Ponder**

1. What does it mean for you right where you are to be a missionary for God?
2. Where has God called you to be a light in the darkness?

### **Possible Prayer Points**

1. Thank God that He has chosen you to be His ambassador to the world around you.
2. Ask God to teach you how to share your faith with those who do not know Him yet.

### **How do you think you should relate with God as a result of Him trying to relate to you in this way?**