

Mission and Commission



Teacher's Guide

Materials

Bibles (different versions); a Bible concordance and dictionary; basket with a variety of fruit; a regular dictionary

Surveying the Source

Ps. 34:8; 104; Matt. 13:31–46; Mark 16:14–20; Luke 24:36–53; John 3:14–19; 6:33; Acts 1:8; 11:5–9; Rom. 5:6–10; 1 Cor. 5:6, 7; Gal. 1:4; 2 Tim. 4:12; 1 Pet. 2:22–25.

Plotting the Course

The students will:

- ▶ Understand that they have an integral part in the saving of others here on earth.
- ▶ Understand more ways of modeling

Christ.

- ▶ Develop additional ways of sharing their faith.

Preparing to Lead

“It is in doing Christ’s work that the church has the promise of His presence. Go teach all nations, He said; ‘and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.’ To take His yoke is one of the first conditions of receiving His power. The very life of the church depends upon

her faithfulness in fulfilling the Lord’s commission. To neglect this work is surely to invite spiritual feebleness and decay. Where there is no active labor for others, love wanes, and faith grows dim.”—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 825.

Getting Started

A. Bring a basket containing a variety of fruits. Include fruits not grown in your area. Ask each person to choose a favorite fruit from the basket and say why they like it best. Then discuss individual likes and dislikes. *Ask:* What, if anything, makes one fruit better than the other? *Possible answer:* Maybe other people have never tasted your preferred fruit, and make decisions based on sight rather than taste.

Say: It can be the same with the gospel. Maybe the first time someone hears about salvation in Christ, it doesn’t seem palatable because of how it was packaged. But

if the gospel is introduced to them another way, that person might accept it.

B. Do a word search using a dictionary, a Bible concordance, and a Bible dictionary to find the meaning of *mission*, *ministry*, *commission*, and other synonyms. Find relevant Scripture passages which state what is required of Christians who wish to follow Christ’s teachings. Make a list of things Jesus did while on earth to spread the gospel, and what His instructions were to His disciples about following His example. Suggest ways in which individuals as well as the class as a group can share their faith.

Delving Into the Word

A. *Say:* The Bible tells us to “preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encour-

age—with great patience and careful instruction” (2 Tim. 4:2, NIV). This was what Christ did; and it is what He taught

His disciples to do also. If we are His disciples and wish to do as He did, we should follow His example. Revelation 14:6 speaks about preaching the gospel to every nation, tribe, language, and people. This is a commission to take the message of salvation to everyone.

Next, have the class identify methods people in the Bible used to spread the gospel. (For example: healing the sick, telling parables, feeding the poor. Also discuss how people like Esther, the captive maid, and Dorcas helped to share the gospel.) *Ask:* What can we do today to let people know that Jesus loves them?

Suggest ways young people guided by the mission of Christ can help to tell others of His soon coming and disciple others for heaven. (For example, volunteering at your church's Sabbath School or Vacation Bible School, help at an after-school program by reading to younger students, or helping them with language, math, science, English homework.)

Discussing the Ideas

1. How can we ensure that everyone is given a chance to hear God's Word no matter who they are?
2. How can youth engage in soul winning as a group as well as individually?
3. How can you interest other young people in soul winning and remaining committed to Christ in everyday life?
4. How can you use Christ's methods of healing both body and soul to assist

Closing the Activity

Remind the class that Jesus died for our sins so that we can have a home with Him. Also say that we are commissioned to tell others about what Christ has done for us so they, too, can have a joyful experience. To encourage your students to invite friends from their school or neighborhood to visit your class, begin to make plans for a visitors' Sabbath. Settle on a date approximately two months from

B. Say: Every year at Easter time, the Christian world stops to consider Christ's death and resurrection. The beautiful flowers that begin blooming in profusion during this time of year in many parts of the world remind us of Christ's resurrection. Many churches hold special programs; and there are documentaries about Jesus on television.

Next, have your class find Bible texts which tell why Christ came to earth. Ask if it is necessary for us to be crucified like Christ. Encourage your students to give Bible texts to support their answer. Also identify texts which speak of the great controversy between Christ and Satan, and reasons why heaven should be the preferred choice for human beings.

Ask: How can we tell others about Christ's death and resurrection and the heaven He is preparing for those who believe? Include biblical examples in your answer.

with soul winning?

5. How can you be sure that Christ died to save you from your sins, and those of the rest of the world?

6. How can you share Christ's love with the rest of the world?

7. What are we to do in order to be Christ's disciple? How can you prevent this "doing" from becoming legalism?

now, and have each member complete one of the reproducible invitations on page 42. (With a paper cutter, cut off the copyright line and the lesson number line. You could also purchase invitations or have a class member design colorful invitations.) Continue to make plans each Sabbath until the date you set, so that your visitors will be welcomed by an engaging program and friendly Christians.

Beverly Henry, Mandeville, Jamaica, West Indies

► YOU'RE INVITED! ◀

To:



Where:



Featuring:

