

## MISSIONS

In the last chapter of the gospel of Matthew, Jesus told His disciples: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-21)

This statement known as the “Great Commission,” is the commission of all believers. It is a commission of such great importance that it is echoed in all the gospels (Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; and John 20:21). It is a commission that goes beyond just proclaiming the gospel, it involves making disciples by teaching them God’s Word. This is why the emphasis in every ministry at Bandon Christian Fellowship (B.C.F.) is to teach God’s Word, to disciple everyone in His Word, that all might “observe” or do that which is commanded by Him.

B.C.F. takes a broad definition of “missions.”

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Mission to us are every aspect of ministry here at B.C.F., from Sunday worship to children’s ministry, our youth ministry to our outreaches in other countries. Missions are the fulfilling of the Great Commission in all areas of ministry. In fulfilling Acts 1:8, “And you shall be my witnesses...in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria” to be Oregon’s South Coast. God has placed us here, that His name and His Word may be known. Our “ends of the earth,” would be an extension of this ministry, to those to whom we reach out and/or support beyond our local borders or cross-culturally.

In the first chapter of Acts, just prior Jesus’ ascension into heaven, He reminded His disciples by what power and authority they were to go in; “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses.”

We are Christ’s witnesses not in our own power or ability, but in the power of the Holy Spirit. No ministry can take place through man’s skill or ability. It is only through one’s dependence on the Holy Spirit. It is our desire to be continually sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading in every aspect of ministry.

In Paul’s letter to the Philippians, Paul states his desire is: To know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being

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conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:10-11

It is this heart of knowing the Lord that lead him to also say:

Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily. Philippians 3:18-19

We pray that the cry of Paul’s heart, is the cry of our heart, and his striving to be our striving.

In summary, missions at Bandon Christian Fellowship is

“to know Him, and make Him known!”