**Hodges Campus** 

## **LIVING ON MISSION**

Jesus said, "In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world."

John 17:18 (MSG)

I serve God by spreading the Good News about His Son.

Romans 1:9 (GW)

Remember to always live as Christians should, so that... you are standing side by side with one strong purpose – to tell the Good News.

Philippians 1:27 (LB)

❖ Key Truth: We are to help each other in our Common Mission!

We work together as partners who belong to God.

1 Corinthians 3:9 (NIV)

One day as He was teaching, Pharisees and religion teachers were sitting around. They had come from nearly every village in Galilee and Judea, even as far away as Jerusalem, to be there. The healing power of God was on him. <sup>18</sup> Some men arrived carrying a paraplegic on a stretcher. They were looking for a way to get into the house and set him before Jesus. <sup>19</sup> When they couldn't find a way in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof, removed some tiles, and let him down in the middle of everyone, right in front of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> Impressed by their bold belief, he said, "Friend, I forgive your sins." <sup>21</sup> That set the religion scholars and Pharisees buzzing. "Who does he think he is? That's blasphemous talk! God and only God can forgive sins." <sup>22</sup> Jesus knew exactly what they were thinking and said, "Why all this gossipy whispering? <sup>23</sup> Which is simpler: to say 'I forgive your sins,' or to say 'Get up and start walking?' <sup>24</sup> Well, just so it's clear that I'm the Son of Man and authorized to do either or both." He now spoke directly to the paraplegic: "Get up. Take your bedroll and go home." <sup>25</sup> Without a moment's hesitation, he did it—got up, took his blanket, and left for home, giving glory to God all the way. <sup>26</sup> The people rubbed their eyes, incredulous—and then also gave glory to God. Awestruck, they said, "We've never seen anything like that!"

Luke 5:17-26 (MSG)

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1. Principle #1 – <u>COMPASSION</u>... They had <u>GREAT CONCERN</u> for a hurting friend.

We should all be concerned about our neighbor and the good things that will build his faith.

Romans 15:2 (GW)

➤ Key Step: Create a list of nonbelievers and pray for their salvation.

Pray that God will give us an opportunity to tell people His message.

Colossians 4:3 (NCV)

2. Principle #2 - FAITH... They BELIEVED that Jesus would save their friend.

When Jesus saw their faith, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

Luke 5:20 (NIV)

Key Step: Share your list with your Group and pray together for them.

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

1 John 5:14-15 (NIV)

3. Principle #3 – PLANNING... They didn't just pray, they BROUGHT HIM to Jesus.

They brought to Jesus a man who was paralyzed and lying on a mat.

Matthew 9:2 (NCV)

➤ Key Step: Select those you will invite to a service and group fellowship time.

"Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

Luke 14:23 (KJV)

4. Principle #4 – PERSISTENCE... They didn't let difficulties DISCOURAGE them.

Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up.

Galatians 6:9 (LB)

> Key Step: Set up an open chair in your group for those not yet there.

People should be concerned about others and not just about themselves.

1 Corinthians 10:24 (GW)

5. Principle #5 – <u>INNOVATION</u>... They <u>DARED</u> to do something <u>DIFFERENT</u>.

When they couldn't find a way in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof, removed some tiles, and let him down in the middle of everyone, right in front of Jesus.

Luke 5:19 (MSG)

Key Steps: Plan some creative outreach events for inviting others.

Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out.

Hebrews 10:24 (MSG)

6. Principle #6 - COOPERATION... They WORKED TOGETHER to pull it off.

...they went up on the roof and lowered the man on his mat through the ceiling into the middle of the crowd.

Luke 5:19 (NCV)

> Key Step: Consider starting a new group for those not yet involved.

Make the most of your chances to tell others the Good News. Be wise in all your contacts with them.

Colossians 4:5 (LB)

7. Principle #7 – SACRIFICE... They were willing to PAY the PRICE for the roof.

"We haven't used our rights. Instead, we would put up with anything in order not to hinder the Good News of Christ in any way."

1 Corinthians 9:12 (GW)

> Key Step: Be willing to relocate/reschedule to help reach others.

To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law...so as to win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those not having the law I became like one not having the law... so as to win those not having the law. <sup>22</sup> To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.

1 Corinthians 9:20-22 (NIV)