

Local and Global Missions Emphasis

How can we be involved in what God is doing in the world around us?

Scripture Focus: Matthew 24-25

Over the month of May, we will be emphasizing local and global missions and our participation in them together as a church. We believe that because Jesus is coming back we want to be ready, be investing, and be serving so that people will know Jesus.

STARTER

Please begin by discussing this quote from Matt Chandler, pastor of the Village Church in Texas. He said this in a sermon last week about the church, "You and I are so overstimulated, you and I are so overwhelmed with fast-paced, energized entertainment that we have developed a real idealized sense of life with a real low pain tolerance. The Church herself no longer is about discipleship, no longer is about being shaped, no longer is it about being formed. It's about being entertained in the gathering." (Fighting Against an Arena Culture, May 12, 2019)

Where have you seen this be true in the greater Church culture?

What affect does an overstimulated, entertainment-based culture have on the mission of the Church?

As we focus on this theme of AWAKEN, we have been talking about the return of Jesus and how it informs our present day living as Christians. Together we want to be a church that is ready and investing in the things that matter as the return of Jesus approaches.

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURE

Please have someone in the group read Matthew 24:45-47

In light of the fact that we do not know what day He will return, who does Jesus is blessed?

What does it look like to be that kind of person?

Please have someone in the group read Matthew 25:14-30

What was the differences between those that were faithful and those that were not?

How is Jesus instructing Christians to live today?

MAKING IT REAL

On Sunday, Pastor David asked us, "What are some of things that the Lord has put into your hand?" These are the time, talents/skills, abilities, people, finances, and/or opportunities that we have been given. As you consider this in your own life, what is in your hands?

Understanding some of what has been entrusted to us, how can what we have been given be invested in eternal things?

PRAYER

Please take a time together to pray for these three things.

- That we would always be investing for the return of Jesus
- That the Gospel would be proclaimed throughout the nations
- That the love of Jesus would impact our local community in real ways