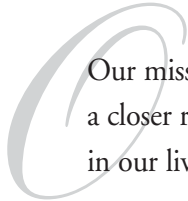




Course Four: *The Great Commission*

SEGMENT 1: WHAT IS MISSION?

PARTICIPANTS' GUIDE



Our mission is about offering others the transformation we experience through a closer relationship with God. The Good News is God's continued presence in our lives and it is important for us to share this Good News with others.

OPENING PRAYER

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (BCP 215)

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

What is the Great Commission?

What is mission?

VIDEO PRESENTATION



The Great Commission

Our Mission

Importance of telling our stories

USING THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

As we live out the ministry of the baptized, we find direction through the five Baptismal Covenant promises. These promises are made at every baptism and we ask God's help in keeping these promises. For this class the first and third promises are particularly relevant.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

You might find it helpful to review pages 6-7 for facilitating tips.

1. *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, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.* Matthew 28:19-20

What does this passage mean to you? What do you think it meant in the time of Jesus?

2. What is the “Good News?” What relationship do the following scriptures have to the Good News?

Mark 16:15

Luke 24:47

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION, continued

John 20:21

Acts 1:8

3. You might like to do an art response to depict the Good News, using clay, watercolors, or colored pencils for a change.

W R A P - U P

Think about the time spent together, in remembering the stories, recalling Jesus' Great Commission, and in recalling the Baptismal Covenant. How are you better equipped, more comfortable in telling your faith stories?

C L O S I N G P R A Y E R / H Y M N

The following selections can help us reflect on our discussions today. You may either read and pray or sing and pray your selection(s).

The 1982 Hymnal

- #205 - Good Christians all, rejoice and sing
- #506 - Praise the Spirit in creation
- #528 - Lord, You give the Great Commission
- #534 - God is working His purpose out

Wonder, Love and Praise

- #757 - Will you come and follow me
- #778 - We all are one in mission

Lift Every Voice and Sing

- #21 - Go tell it on the mountain
- #64 - I love to tell the story
- #160 - This little light of mine

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