

INI-SDG

In the Name of Jesus – To God Alone the Glory

8.23.2009 Pentecost 12 – St. Stephen Lutheran (West Bay) Mountain View, CA

Greeting: In Christ Jesus, who continues still today to bless His disciples through His Word, dear fellow redeemed...
May God's grace, mercy, and peace be with you always. Amen.

Introduction:

(In every job that I've had... these things are true!)

1. Work is necessary.

2. Work needs direction.

3. Work is an active activity.

(See how these relate to theme and parts)

THEME: MISSION GIVEN. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

1. The **Missionary** of God's mission.

2. The **Guide** during God's mission.

3. The **Love** for God's mission.

The Word of God I would like to lay on your hearts for today and for THIS WORK week comes from selected verses from:

NIV Luke 24:46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." 50 When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them.

MISSION GIVEN. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

1. The **Missionary** (*one who is sent*) of God's mission.

a. **V46 Mission Given...** to Christ.

i. Salvation not MY job! (**Jn 1:29**)

b. **V48 Mission Accomplished...** by Christ.

i. **V47 forgiveness of sins** (**Rom 5:18**)

-Truly is Mission Impossible (for us)

-Thankfully! Because I'm sinful = full of sin. (**Rom 7:18**)

-He was standing before them (testimony Christ arisen!)

2. The **Guide** during God's mission.

a. **V49** A Helper along the way. (**Jn 15:26**)

b. **V46** A Compass for direction. (**Ps 119:105**)

c. **V50** Care for what you've been freely given.

-Also for YOU!

-The Holy Spirit - Like a Hunting Guide (but free)

-Need to point to Christ (through adversity and tempts)

-Care of cell phones vs. Bible

Acts 1:9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

3. The **Love** for God's mission.

a. **V10** Understanding our critical role (**Jn 9:4**)

b. **V11** Don't just stand there...

c. **Mission given...** Luke 24:46-47 Beginning at Jerusalem...

d. **Mission accomplished...** Acts 1:11 -until the coming of the "New Jerusalem" (**1 Pet 4:10-11**)

-"An Active Activity" (like the angels – God's messengers)

-"Just do it" (**Luke 2:49**)

Conclusion: Jesus Christ, Son of God, was the one and only missionary to accomplish/finish God's plan for our salvation. Through the gift of faith in Christ, God gives us the mission to lovingly share His Gospel while we joyfully look forward to eternal life. Amen.

The peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard and keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.