

Flourishing & the Nations

John 17:6-19

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Flourishing and The Nations:

1) The Need to be in Mission

To be in mission is to be living for a cause that is more important than our own comfort in life, so that we're willing to sacrifice. The cause is more important than ourselves. To be in mission is also to ally ourselves with a force that we know can make a difference against the misery and brokenness of the world. Missions is to sacrifice for a higher cause and to make a difference in the world. Unless you are a person in mission, you do not come into the fullness of humanity and flourish. An Every-Member Church is a church full of missional believers. Every human being needs to live in mission with a sense of sacrifice and giving to a higher cause. We need to ask ourselves if we are living in mission.

2) Mission + Glory

John 17:18 - Jesus was sent by the Father into the world with a mission, and so does Jesus, who sends us on a mission. Christ's mission is to glorify the Father; our mission is to glorify Christ (John 14:4, 17:10). The word 'glory' means weighty as opposed to frivolous, substantial as opposed to unimportant, lasting as opposed to temporal. Glorifying God means to give God importance and value. In our lives, what we choose to glorify shows its importance and centrality in our lives. Glorifying anything other than God will not lead to our flourishing and joy. Joy is the outcome of glorifying Christ and the Father. Jesus has sent us into the world to be able to show people that He is glorious. We need to live for a mission that is more important than our comfort,

involves sacrifice, and a mission that only glorifies Christ.

John 16:14 - A person whom the Holy Spirit has worked on will be fully committed to the glorification of Christ in his mission. Being in mission should be normal in the Christian life. That is the foundation of a life that flourishes. While we may start small, we need to eventually take bigger steps to the call of the nations. There should be a yearning in our hearts for the great cities of the nations. We need to be a Christian in mission! The Christian filled with the Holy Spirit is called to glorify Christ in his mission.

3) A Personal Story

In 1997, God had planted a huge vision for Agape, a church of 90 people, to break into and reach out to the Pek Kio community. The long years of labour, humbling mistakes, and rediscovery of the gospel-centrality had seen the vision come into fruition; the success of the vision was not a picture of the church or any men's success, but of God's grace and glory.

City to City Asia Pacific (CTCAP) has work in 139 cities and has a vision for the next three years to train 300 church planters through 29 Intensives in ten languages. It's a big vision that calls on church planters, network leaders, city catalysts, coaches, trainers, donors and supporters to be in mission for the glory of Christ. No matter your age or season of life, strive to be in mission for the glory of Christ!