

MISSIONAL HABITS #5: BEING "SENT OUT"

OAK GROVE MENNONITE CHURCH

November 17, 2019

Luke 10:25-37

In the first part of Luke 10, is the account of the seventy two people Jesus 'sent out', to announce His coming. They then returned talking about what happened! In this section of the chapter, Jesus had a very interesting discussion with a 'law expert', probably a Pharisee, about who is our 'neighbor'? It is the story about a Samaritan, (an outcast, half-Jew, considered as low as an animal), fulfilling the intent of the law's command in Leviticus 19:18, "...love your neighbor as yourself." Basically, anyone we encounter who has a need which we can respond to, is the 'neighbor' to whom we are 'sent'.

Jesus is already at work in the world, and invites us to join him in it! What a privilege! And when we fail, God's work is limited!

TO BE MISSIONAL, (SENT OUT), MEANS:

1.GETTING OUT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ AND INTO THE \_\_\_\_\_.

2.BEING WILLING TO GET INVOLVED WITH \_\_\_\_\_ SITUATIONS.

3.BEING WILLING TO GIVE OUR \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ TO MEET OTHERS' NEEDS.

4.SHOWING \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ TO OUR NEIGHBORS CAN BE DONE BY EVERYONE, NOT JUST PROFESSIONALS.

Many in this congregation are already quite involved in helping respond to the needs of our neighbors. Especially this past summer has given us lots of opportunities to do this, and even now with the 'Blessing Bags', and beginning a visitation team. I urge us to continue and enlarge this ministry in our community, seeing it as a very essential part of what we are to be doing. God wants us to have this kind of impact on our community! People are more likely to "come into" the church, when we have established a relationship with them "outside" the church by showing them God's loving mercy/compassion. (Lu. 10:37)