

Why Are WE Still Here? The Mission #1 Tim Gill - September 25, 2016

Why are WE still here?

1. We are here to help people find Christ.

...you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 (NLT)

One of the two men who followed Jesus after they heard John speak about him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and say to him, "We have found the Messiah." ("Messiah" means "Christ.").

John 1:40-41 (NCV)

Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. John 1:42a (NLT)

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Come, follow me." ⁴⁴ Philip was from Bethsaida, Andrew and Peter's hometown. ⁴⁵ Philip went to look for Nathanael and told him, "We have found the very person Moses and the prophets wrote about! His name is Jesus, the son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ "Nazareth!" exclaimed Nathanael. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" "Come and see for yourself," Philip replied. John 1:43-46 (NLT)

So they called Peter and John in again and told them not to speak or to teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, "You decide what God would want. Should we obey you or God? ²⁰ We cannot keep quiet. We must speak about what we have seen and heard." Acts 4:18-20 (NCV)

The Son of Man came to find lost people and save them. Luke 19:10 (NCV)

2. We are here to help people follow Christ.

So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Matthew 20:19-20 (NCV)

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NCV)

3. We are here to help people be fruitful in Christ.

Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. Matthew 28:20a (NLT)

So we continue to tell people about Christ. We use all wisdom to counsel every person and teach every person. We are trying to bring everyone before God as people who have grown to be spiritually mature in Christ. ²⁹ To do this, I work and struggle using the great strength that Christ gives me. That strength is working in my life. **Colossians 1:28-29 (ERV)**

Christ gave those gifts (teachers, pastors, ministers) to prepare God's holy people for the work of serving, to make the body of Christ stronger. ¹³ This work must continue until we are all joined together in the same faith and in the same knowledge of the Son of God. We must become like a mature person, growing until we become like Christ and have his perfection. **Ephesians 4:12-13 (NCV)**

"I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20b (MSG)