

On Mission Together

Formerly On Mission: The Next Generation Sunday

Suggested Date: November 2, 2008

Theme: On Mission Together: Live with Urgency

*“There’s a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish—but what are they for so many?”
—John 6:9, HCSB*

Jesus saw the crowd and understood their need. He turned to Philip and asked how they could meet that need. Philip did not see how they could meet the need. Andrew, with doubts about the results, brought what resources he discovered in the crowd to Jesus. The little boy gave his bread and fish to Jesus to be used. Jesus gave thanks, broke the bread and fish, fed the crowd, and an abundance was left over. The need was urgent. The resources, meager as they were, were given to Jesus. The result was a need met.

Do we feel the urgency of the needs of the people who live around us? Do we see their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs? Have we surrendered our resources to God so He can multiply them to meet the needs? Are we living with urgency?

Jesus, Andrew, and the little boy worked together to meet the urgent need of the people on this occasion. When we feel the urgency of the task and work together to give our resources to God’s mission of reconciling the world to Himself, we will be amazed at the results.

Church leaders, especially those who support mission organizations such as Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors, and Children in Action, recognize that children’s hearts are compassionate and soft toward those in need. They may be willing to sacrifice to meet the needs of other people. We must teach children to live with urgency when it comes to meeting the needs of those around them to know Jesus as their Savior. We can teach them to pray, give, and share Jesus with their friends and others. We must lead them to understand that as we are together on mission with God we can meet the urgent need of the people around us to know God and His love for them.

Children are looking for role models. They need to see how the important people in their lives are meeting the world’s urgent need for Christ. Do you, as a parent, grandparent, Sunday School teacher, deacon, or church leader, model an on-mission lifestyle for them to follow? Are you part of engaging the lost, sowing the seed, and harvesting souls for Jesus? What kind of model are you for the children in your life? Do they sense in your actions an urgency for reaching the lost people of your community and the world? Will you be on mission with God and others to reach people with the message that God forgives sin and saves all who will come? Will you be an example of living with urgency?