

## **Core Seminars – Christian Growth**

### **Missions: The Role of the Local Church in Missions**

*Week 4 – March 22, 2015*

#### **I. To whom was God's missionary commission given?**

- a. The Assembled Church - (Luke 24:33-48)

#### **II. Chain of missionary sending**

##### **1. God sends his Son**

- **John 3:17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

##### **2. The Son sends the Holy Spirit**

- **Luke 24:49** And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

##### **3. The Holy Spirit gathers and encourages the church**

- **Acts 9:31** So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

##### **4. The healthy church sends her people**

- **Acts 13:2-3** While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup> Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.
- **Romans 10:14-15** How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup> And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

**III. What does it mean for a local church to be central to sending missionaries?**

- a. Evaluating
- b. Teaching/training
- c. Sending and supporting
- d. Overseeing and caring

**IV. How should we think about mission sending agencies? (Philippians 4:14-16; 3 John 5-8)**

- a. An optional, but permissible means of organized cooperation among churches.
- b. Only authority is that delegated to them by local churches.
- c. Useful for strategic coordination, humility, field oversight.
- d. Servants of the local churches

**V. Why does this matter that we are clear on these points?**

- a. Because the church is the goal and the means of missions (Eph. 3:10)
- b. Because Individualism and “para-churchism” can be problematic (Acts 15:24)
- c. Missions is intensely congregational, not just intensely personal.

**VI. What does all this look like at Capitol Hill Baptist Church?**

- a. Teaching God’s Word is our most fundamental “missions” task.
- b. Being a Biblical church is the organizational means.
- c. Desire to train and equip members intentionally.
- d. Mobilize members through Biblical preaching and missions exposure/instruction.
- e. Helping to channel and instruct against wrong individualism.
- f. Training and sending teams in cooperation with the sending agencies.
- g. Maintaining theological and pastoral oversight.
- h. Happy to delegate and trust those who work for us, too.

**Conclusion:**

- a. Local churches are central to the New Testament plan.
- b. The gathered local churches are the mediating entities for implementing God’s great commission.
- c. Local churches are both the aim and the means of God’s missionary plan.
- d. Local churches are God’s means to bless you in your missionary obedience.