

Theme: Our mission strategy is to be empowered by the Spirit for involvement and support in evangelism and mercy ministry, at home and abroad, to both reached and unreached people groups.

I. Intro - The Importance of Strategy

- A. Strategy - a careful plan or method for achieving a particular goal usually over a long period of time
- B. Tactics - individual decision & actions on smaller situations to accomplish the strategy
- C. To succeed there must be both strategy and tactics
- D. Without strategy we lack direction, spread ourselves thin
- E. What is the strategy for the mission of the church?

II. The Biblical Strategy for Mission

- A. Power from the Spirit of God for mission

But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you**; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
Acts 1:8

- 1. The mission is only accomplished by God’s power
- 2. This is why the Spirit was given - for the mission!
- 3. Our culture thinks a proper business methodology will bring success - this is an idol of our age
- 4. The power for mission resides in the Holy Spirit and in the Gospel, not in our abilities or methods
- 5. Mission only begins when we are personally walking in and full of the Spirit. We can not commend what we do not cherish (Piper), and we can not be Christ’s witnesses if our walk is distant and stale.

- B. The mission - witnesses for Christ

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
Acts 1:8

- 1. You will be my witnesses - the mission
 - a. Not to build our organization, reputation or power
 - b. The church exists, not to witness to itself, but to Christ and His power to save
- 2. As we have seen, we witness to Christ by word and deed, evangelism and mercy ministry
 - a. We are witnesses that Christ is Creator and Redeemer, Lord of body and soul
 - b. To do this, we speak the Good News and do good works - and both are essential for the mission of the church

- C. An expanding geography of ministry

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and **you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**”
Acts 1:8

- 1. Witnesses in Jerusalem - local mission
 - a. This is really local evangelism & mercy ministry
 - b. This is their own culture and people group
- 2. Witnesses in Judea and Samaria - national mission
 - a. Extra local ministry in their nation, nearby nations
 - b. The cultures are similar, but may require adaptation
 - c. Required going where there had been animosity
 - d. Saying Samaria would have shocked the apostles!

3. Witnesses to the ends of the earth - global mission
 - a. Cross-cultural mission work in view here!
 - b. This required great sacrifice of prayer, time, and finances so that other people groups might hear and believe the Gospel
 - c. This had special reference to the unreached who were far from Scripture and God's people.
 - d. This also required great cultural adaptation and love for those who were very different from the apostles

D. The strategy of mission

Our mission strategy is to be empowered by the Spirit for involvement and support in evangelism and mercy ministry, at home and abroad, to both reached and unreached people groups.

III. BRCC and the Mission

A. Mission begins at home in evangelism & mercy ministry

1. The mission can not be outsourced to others - we must be personally engaged in the mission of reaching & serving others
2. We can not commend abroad what we do not personally commend at home!
3. Evangelism and mercy ministry in Annapolis area
 - a. Personal evangelism - it all begins here!
 1. You don't have to be an evangelist - we are all called to share with family, friends, neighbors, coworkers
 2. Simple invitations to come to BRCC for worship, testimony of how God is working in your life; share the Gospel

- b. Serve with Lighthouse Shelter small group
 - c. Serve in jail ministry small group
 - d. Winter Relief
 - e. Easter Egg Hunt
 - f. County Fair
4. Lot of opportunities for us to be on mission right at home!

B. BRCC mission support

1. Map of BRCC missions (given to each person)
 - a. Thanks to Colleen Back for all her work on missions!
 - b. Thanks to Craig Back for making this map!
 - c. Please keep this on your refrigerator or somewhere to remind you to pray - and to be on mission!
2. Missions groups here in the US
 - a. Mike and Marsha Slone, Chase Wood
 - b. You can also work to reach midshipmen & inmates
3. Missions groups around the world
 - a. We have folks in most continents
 - b. We have a heavy concentration in the 10/40 window
 - c. We support groups reaching Muslims, Hindu's, Buddhist's, atheists, and also in post-Christian East Europe
 - d. After much prayer we are redirecting support in a few ways
 1. As of January 1 we are no longer supporting the Jacksons, and BP directly - we love them but believe God is calling us into some new areas

2. As of January 1 we are picking up 3 new groups
 - (a) Damir Spolarjic - Croatia; post-Christian East Europe; Muslim refugees
 - (b) James Marzuki - Indonesia; largest Muslim population in the world
 - (c) New group in China - incredibly effective outreach to most populous nation on earth
4. Notice the box to the left - different ways of grouping the missions - by type of ministry; region; people group reached
5. We are involved in many different ways, places and with different people groups. There is something for everyone to get excited about!

IV. The Mission: Applying the Word

- A. Are you encouraged by how the mission is being accomplished?
 1. God is keeping His Word - the Gospel is prospering!
 2. Give thanks to God that the Gospel came to you
 3. Give thanks to God that the Gospel is on the move
- B. Are you a radical sender?
 1. Only three types of Christians: radical goers, radical senders, radically disobedient
 2. No one can be uninvolved in the mission!
 3. Do I radically and regularly pray for the mission?
 4. Do I radically and regularly give to the mission?
 5. The eternal souls of billions are at stake - be a

radical sender!

C. Are you a radical goer?

1. All of us are called to 'go' into our own culture
2. Am I reaching out to others?
3. Am I willing to go on short term trips support the mission?
4. Is God calling me to be a radical goer?

D. Prayer for the mission of God in the earth today

The Strategy of Mission: From Here to the Ends of the Earth

Acts 1:8
 October 30, 2016
 Prayer
 Genesis 12:2-3

Teaching keywords: Evangelism & missions; great commission; obedience

"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:2-3

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8