

# 4 MISSIONAL QUESTIONS

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## **WHAT IS TRUE ABOUT GOD AS FATHER, SON, AND SPIRIT?**

We could make a very long list of qualities that are true about God. Qualities like: loving, compassionate, patient, purposeful, gracious, generous, intentional, healing, helping, providing, protecting, serving, proclaiming truth and “good news”. These are qualities that we see expressed consistently throughout Scripture by God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, as they relationally love and pursue mankind to bring healing and restoration. These are also qualities that are necessary and helpful for us to bring into our relationships, as we seek to faithfully live on mission to influence the people God is sending us to.

## **WHAT IS TRUE ABOUT WHAT GOD HAS DONE AND IS DOING?**

Throughout the Bible, as Father, as Son, and as Spirit, we see the Trinitarian God as one who is a Pursuer of lost, lonely, and broken people. In that pursuing, we see him being thoughtful, patient, and consistent. We see him faithfully pursuing men and women that are often slow to listen, slow to respond, and slow to appreciate the incredible love and blessing that is being shown them.

Then, in the ultimate demonstration of love and sacrifice for mankind, to make it possible for all sin for all time to be cancelled out and forgiven, God sent his Son as the ultimate missionary. This was the ultimate mission, to die on the cross and to be raised to life for the good of all mankind. God began pursuing mankind in the Garden, continued to do that in big and small ways throughout the history of the Bible, and has done that all over the world for the past 2,000 years through His church. He continues to do that each and every day all around us.

## **WHAT IS TRUE ABOUT US AS GOD’S CHILDREN AND AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS?**

Everything written above is also part of our identity. It’s who we are as God’s children. It’s who we are as his image bearers. It’s what we’ve been created to do and how we’ve been created to live. We are sent ones, missionaries, ambassadors, witnesses, pursuers. We are healers, gospel proclaimers, protectors, providers. We are radically generous, compassionate, loving, serving, and hospitable. That’s who we are.

We throw parties, provide meals, and care for the poor, orphans, widows, and single Moms. We babysit neighbor kids, help fix houses and cars, care for the sick, help pay bills. This is our identity as God’s children and our identity as disciples of Jesus. It’s true of God the Father, so it’s true of us. It’s true of Jesus, so it’s true of us. It’s true of the Holy Spirit, so it’s true of us. It’s in the fabric of who we are, as Christ followers.

## **WHAT IS TRUE ABOUT HOW WE SHOULD LIVE EACH DAY IN LIGHT OF WHO WE ARE?**

Every day, everywhere we go, every person we come in contact with we see as an opportunity to influence with the qualities discussed above that are true of God and true of us.



As we go to work, and to school, and to the park, and the beach, the store, and coffee shop, and walk the dog, and take the kids for a bike ride in the neighborhood, and work out at the fitness center, and volunteer at the school, and watch our kids' sports, music, and drama activities..... all those places and the people at those places are opportunities to live out our identity as God's sent ones.

We are His ambassadors. We are His missionaries and witnesses. And, we do it together with other disciples around us as a community or family of missionaries. Jesus most often lived his missional life together with the help of his disciples. Not alone. We shouldn't try to do it alone either. We all need the help, support, encouragement, strength, and capacity that a loving community of disciples working together provides.

