

**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, and Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1. What does this passage teach us about God, and How does it point to Christ (Read 2Cor. 5:18-20)?**

- a) "... that is in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself..." (v.19). How can we be encouraged and motivated, knowing that our missional commission is ultimately "the work of God."
- b) Despite the significant number of unreached people and the various spiritual oppositions to our commission, how can we be encouraged and motivated, knowing that our missional commission is ultimately "the work of God."

**2. What does this passage teach us about us?**

- a) Harry mentioned that when we show mercy, we are good neighbors. How does this change our perspective on who a neighbor is? Would you agree or disagree that all believers must be missional neighbors to all nations? In other words, discuss why every believer must participate in Christ's missional vision and commission.
- b) Since all nations and tribes deserve equal missional attention, we need "to find our spot" in the great commission. Considering our missional vision and commission to "go," think and discuss together your individual spot in reconciling the unreached nations and peoples to God.
- c) What are some of the fears that believers may have in pursuing the missional vision and commission? How should our knowledge of the Holy Spirit's power encourage us to persevere in "going" to all nations?

**APPLICATION**

- a) As you think through the following application, discuss any that resonate with you.
  - **All believers are sent:** "find your spot" in the missional commission to all nations.
  - **All nations are equal in value:** Be open to sharing the gospel with those not like you (religion, race, age, language, ethnicity, etc.) or not where you are (geography).
  - **All believers are empowered:** Acknowledge that the Holy Spirit's power within you is your only motivating factor for the commission. Also, the fact that the commission is ultimately the work of the Lord should be your only encouragement.

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for the privilege of participating in His mission for the world.
- Confess how you have neglected/minimized the need to be a biblical neighbor to all nations.
- Thank God for the sacrifice of Christ that has made you a new creature equipped for good works.
- Ask God to give you the strength to pursue the great commission and persevere in it.