



Incarnational Living

#1: WHAT IS MISSIONAL¹

EXPLORATION

The foundation of a missional life is the decision to offer to God our plans in exchange for His plans. It's what it means to be sent.

1. Describe a time when you exchanged your plans for God's plans.
2. Right now, is there anything hindering you from making the decision to live a missional life?

MEDITATION - READ GEN 12:1-5; MATT 28:18-20

3. Considering Abraham's choice (Go or Stay), describe the possible emotions attached to "going" and the emotions attached to "staying".
4. As you consider your call to "Go", what emotions are you feeling?
5. What are the challenges that get in the way of going (being sent)?

CHANGE

As Abraham is sent, as the early Christian communities were sent, we notice four immersions they experienced:

- a. They were immersed in a new culture, crossing ethnic, social, religious and philosophical barriers to extend God's blessing.
 - b. They were immersed in community. Abraham, Jesus and Paul all had small communities with them. Movements start with small communities.
 - c. They were immersed in God. He told them to bless the world with the blessing God gave them.
 - d. They were immersed in tension. Our sent-ness means living with some internal and social tension, walking by faith.
6. Which of these four immersions might have been most difficult for Abraham?
 7. Which ones do you find the most intimidating? Why?
 8. What are your hopes as you apply the four Immersions?

ACTION

"Imagine if Jesus were to walk in here right now and say, "Come on, get up, and come with me." *Where do you picture him taking you first?*

9. Cross your fence - Do something to bless or simply converse with one neighbor. Or cross your street to someone who is close to home, but with whom you haven't built a relationship yet. Or cross a social, political or ethnic barrier. How might you engage someone with such differences?

¹ Adopted from The Tangible Kingdom Primer, Hugh Halter & Matt Smay; Missio Publishing.