

Introduction

Series

I. God Sent Jesus

1. Hebrews 1:1-2
 - prophets
 - Jesus
2. He came to us
 - not a watcher
 - not a deist god
 - uninvolved
 - because uncaring
 - our faith He comes, in others we climb up
 - ex - why doesn't He feed the starving kids in Africa - why don't you?
3. Jesus rose and "found" Peter
4. !!). "sent" to First Southern Baptist
 - Woodward
 - Leighton Baptist contributeMonies used:
 - educators
 - doctors and nurses
 - pastors - plant churches
 - not a single church in the whole communityFund hospitals
Fund schools
Fund orphanages
Drill wells
You too have been "sent" - Henry Blackaby
Jesus to us - sent (intentional)

II. Jesus Sent Us

1. As the Father hath sent me, so send I you
2. Acts 1:8
 - Jerusalem (a city)
 - Judea (the county)
 - Samaria (the neighboring county)
 - “to the ends of the earth”
 - crossing ethnic and racial barriers - out from Jerusalem out to the ends of the earthJesus' first priority to Jews - but cross barriers
 - 1) woman with the issue of blood
 - a woman
 - dirty
 - 2) Syrophoenician woman - not a Jew

- 3) Lepers - dirty - untouchable
- 4) Jesus told the "Good Samaritan" story - the hero is a Samaritan
- 5) Thursday afternoon wound up in Luke - 4 - Synagogue - Is. 61
 - Good news - sent me to proclaim
 - to the poor
 - to give freedom to captives
 - to give sight to the blind
 - to set free the oppressed
 - proclaiming of the acceptable year
 - Today this is fulfilled - Joseph's son
 - Elijah to the widow of Zarephath in Sidon
 - Elisha to the many skin diseases in Israel?? - Naaman the Syrian
 - Enraged - hurl him off a cliff
3. Picture - worth 1,000 words - Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria... ends
4. Our Cooperative program - don't often talk about our denomination - cooperate with other churches
 - moving out
 - spread the Good News
 - Easter - go and tell
 - Go into all the world
 - Go into highways and hedges
 - Actively moving out -intentionally - organized and planned way
5. The Direction -Go out, not come in
6. Ripple effect
 - widening and unfolding

III. A Big Vision

1. The extent of God's vision - the whole world
 - His care - the whole world
2. A small part in His big plan
3. What are they doing in Venezuela?
 - first mission trip outside the country - 1994
4. !!). It's easy to get selfish
 - think only of our own church
 - think only of our own family
 - within the family think only of me
5. A bigger vision
6. A renewed vision
 - God's perspective
 - He sees needs
 - He hears their cry
7. Moses' example - children of Israel pray and God sends a man

IV. God Reaches Out

1. It's who God is- He cares and sees and is aware
2. God's reach is the whole world

- His way is to reach out
- Not sit back and receive
- He gives - of Himself
 - sends rain and sunshine
 - sends people into lives
- those involved in evangelism - seem to enjoy the special blessing of God
- Woodward Ave +20%
- S Baptist denomination growing best
- Before the Baptist it was the Methodist - circuit riding pastors

3. It's God's way:

- in Noah's day
- to Sodom and Gomorrah
- to Nineveh
- the New Testament reach

Notice two things

First judgement

Second - mercy offered first

4. New Testament witness - two forms

A. Tell them the story

-“it is the power” - Rom. 1:16

B. Tell them He loves them - show them His love

-we love because He first loved us

5. A hand

He reaches out

Even today - right now

He hears your prayers

He cares

He reaches out

6. Give them a chance

A. To hear the message

B. To know something different