

MAY MISSION MONTH 2024

STUDY QUESTIONS on 'MENDING'

No matter where we are, we can join God in mending a beautiful broken world. Rather than bringing healing in our own strength, we are co-menders with God in Jesus Christ who is our healer and saviour. Being a co-mender means joining God in renewing creation and communities, developing meaningful and authentic relationships, restoring people and the planet through God's healing and love, and making ourselves available to be used by God.

God is mending a beautiful, broken world in Jesus Christ. The Spirit of Christ invites us to join God in this vital ministry of renewal, relationship, restoration and response. Jesus calls us to be co-menders with God, joining with him wherever he brings healing, shalom, reconciliation and renewal.

May 5 – 'Renewing' – Galatians 5:16-17, 22-26.

1. If you could change one personality trait in yourself, what would you change?
2. What stands out to you in these verses regarding the role of the Holy Spirit? What is Paul's purpose in telling them of these things?
3. Is there anything that holds you back from fully embracing the Spirit's leading and the cultivation of the fruit of the Spirit in your life?
4. What does 'walking by the Spirit' or 'living in step with the Spirit' mean to you in your daily life?
5. Can you share a time when you felt the Holy Spirit guiding you or producing fruit in your life?
6. Which of these fruits of the Spirit do you feel you excel in, the fruit is ripe and juicy, and which ones do you struggle with, the fruit is small and immature? What fruit do you see developed in the other persons in your group.
7. What is one practical step you can take this week to be more attuned to the Spirit's leading?
8. When considering CBC's partnership with Asia's Hope in Cambodia, what encourages or challenges you?

May 12 – ‘Relating’ – Matthew 4:18-22

1. When did you first come to know Jesus personally as your Lord and Saviour? Was there anyone or persons who influenced you coming to faith? How did they impact your spiritual journey?
2. What stands out in this passage about Jesus’ approach to building relationships and calling his disciples?
3. Dallas Willard defined following Jesus as being an apprentice of Jesus. How is this evidenced in the way that Jesus called the disciples to follow him? In what ways has this designation impacted your view of being a follower of Jesus?
4. Share a time when forming a meaningful relationship allowed you to share or witness God’s love and mending work.
5. Why do you think building authentic, meaningful relationships is critical to participating in God’s mission of mending the world?
6. What is one practical step you can take this week to develop deeper relationships in your local neighbourhood or community?
7. When you consider the stories from our cross-cultural partners, what encourages or challenges you about how they have developed meaningful relationships in their missional contexts. Is there someone in your life who exemplifies Jesus’ relational approach?

May 19 – ‘Restoring’ – Luke 4:14-21

1. Who were some of your favourite sport teams growing up? Were you willing to stick with the team no matter how well they played? What do you think of fans who change teams to support those who are winning?
2. What stands out in this passage about Jesus’ mission and how he integrates word, sign and deed?
3. When Jesus says ‘He has been anointed and sent to preach the gospel to the poor, the prisoners, the blind, and oppressed,’ what does that mean?
4. Is there anything holding you back from fully embracing and participating in a holistic mission that combines word, sign and deed?
5. Share a time when you have witnessed or were part of a mission that effectively combined word and action? What impact did it have?
6. Why do you think offering the whole Gospel (word, sign and deed) is essential for effectively mending the world?
7. What is one practical step you can take this week to more actively engage in both proclaiming and demonstrating the Gospel in your community?
8. What encourages and challenges you from the ministry of our partners at Hope Global (Rwanda), Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC) or International Justice Mission (IJM)?

May 26 – ‘Responding’ – John 1:35-42

1. What is the special significance, if any, of your first and/or middle name? Have you ever had any nicknames?
2. What stands out in this passage about the disciples’ response to Jesus’ invitation?
3. After spending the evening with Jesus, Andrew finds his brother and made a confident assertion that they had found the Messiah. What led you to place your faith in Christ? Explore and discuss how this (what led you) could be used to help lead other people to Jesus.
4. Is there anything holding you back from making yourself fully available to God’s call?
5. What does ‘making yourself available to God’ mean to you? How do you practice it?
6. Why is our availability to God essential for participating in his mission of mending the world?
7. What is one practical step can you take this week to make yourself available to God and his calling?
8. What encourages and challenges you about the local mission opportunities we have out of CBC?