

***What is our responsibility  
in Christ's mission?***

***PASTOR MIKE YODER • LUKE 15***



# SURVEY

*Please list two questions that you would most like to hear addressed in teaching from our pastors related to **the Christian life** (how to live as a Christian), **our culture** (challenges for Christians), and **theology** (understanding the Bible).*

*TODAY*

*What is our responsibility in Christ's mission?*

*JULY 4*

*What is our responsibility to earthly authorities?*

*JULY 11*

*What is our responsibility to fellow Christians?*

*JULY 18*

*How should we live in a world of racial and ethnic diversity?*



*JULY 25*

*How should we live in a world obsessed  
with sexual expression and identity?*

*AUGUST 1*

*How should we live in light of God's prophetic plan?*



**We're not God's lawyers in this world; we're His witnesses to Jesus Christ.**

# Biblical Account



*Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus.*

**Luke 15:1**

*But the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law muttered,  
“This Man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”*

**Luke 15:2**

*“Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says,  
‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’”*

**Luke 15:6b**

*“I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”*

**Luke 15:7**



*“...she calls her friends and neighbors together and says,  
‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’”*

**Luke 15:9b**

*“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*

**Luke 15:10**

*“For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.”*

*“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.’”*

**Luke 15:31**

**1. We live in a world of spiritually lost people.**

**2. God longs for spiritually lost people to be found.**



**3. Being found requires an intervention  
by God and a response from us.**

**4. Jesus is the key to personal salvation  
and the transformation of our lives.**

# Key Questions



**What is Christ's mission to His followers?**

**What is my place and purpose in that mission?**

**What is the Gospel?**



Who are the nations?

# Scriptural Teaching



*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”*

**Matthew 28:19**

*“and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.  
And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

**Matthew 28:20**

*May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face  
shine on us —*

**Psalm 67:1**

*so that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation  
among all nations.*



*But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of Him everywhere.*

**2 Corinthians 2:14**

*For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.*

**2 Corinthians 2:15**

*To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life. And who is equal to such a task?*

**2 Corinthians 2:16**

*Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.*

**1 Corinthians 9:19**

*To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the Law I became like one under the Law (though I myself am not under the Law), so as to win those under the Law.*

*To those not having the Law I became like one not having the Law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the Law.*



*To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.*

**1 Corinthians 9:22**



*I do all this for the sake of the Gospel, that I may share in its blessings.*

**1 Corinthians 9:23**

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.*

**1 Corinthians 9:24**

*Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

**1 Corinthians 9:25**

*Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air.*

**1 Corinthians 9:26**

*No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.*

**1 Corinthians 9:27**

The most offensive and countercultural claim in Christianity is not what Christians believe about homosexuality or abortion, marriage or religious liberty...

**David Platt**



Instead, the most offensive claim in Christianity is that God is the creator, owner, and judge of every person on the planet.

**David Platt**



# Personal Application



**1. We are on mission from God to bear witness to Jesus.  
That calling trumps everything else.**

**2. We must see the burning issues of the day  
in light of our God-given Gospel mission.**

**3. People matter deeply to God...even those with whom we may strongly disagree.**

**4. Seek to win the person to Christ first. Then, with the help of the Holy Spirit and time, help win them to the specific truths of Christian faith and worldview.**

**5. Your life and your tone matter greatly in the effectiveness of your (Gospel) message.**

**Our calling to be Gospel people on mission to the nations should pervade everything we think, do, and say.**

