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PARTNERING WITH GOD

SESSION FIVE:
Mission in a changing world



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Starter

- How have you seen your community and faith community change over the years?
- How do you respond to change? Do you embrace change or do you prefer stability and continuity?

Video discussion

- Watch the video. What struck you from the video?
- What questions does the video raise for you?
- What did you agree/disagree with? Why?

The video identified the following ideas for mission in a changing world:

1. Incarnational – God with skin on
2. Narratives – telling stories
3. Holistic – body and soul
4. Relational
5. Global, diverse and inclusive

Bible discussion

- Read the following passages. What do they tell you about mission in a changing world?
'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' (MATTHEW 5:13-16)
'Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.'
(1 PETER 2:11-12)
1. What evidence of a post-Christian world do you see in your community?
 2. Before refrigeration, what was the role of salt? What is the role of light in the world? How can the church or God's people play these roles in the world?

Action

- What are some practical ways that your faith community could better express the FIVE video ideas in the community (listed above)?
- As a result of these videos, what is one thing that has challenged you? What is one new thing that you would like to try – maybe with others?
- How can you support/encourage one another in serving God and being part of his mission?

Prayer

- Pray for the people you know and for wisdom and courage to try new things in your local community.

Recommended reading

Edge, Lynette and Morgan, Gregory. *Partnering with God: Being a Missional Salvationist*. Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 2017 – especially pages 45-52 and 88-96.