**Sermon Based Small Group: Missions Nizar Shaheen**

**Introduction**

* Whether you think about a missions trip, a missions speaker, or any other missions engagement, what is your favourite missions moment?

**The Priority of Mission**

* John 4:1-32
* There was significant political and religious animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans in the first century. Jews considered Samaritans a “half-breed” and would rather burn the OT than share it with these people.
	+ Do you think Jesus had *lost* mission by speaking with the Samaritan or was he trying to teach something to both his disciples and the woman at the well?
	+ Have we lost our vision and priorities as the North American church? As Ellerslie?
	+ Did Jesus have a clear vision regarding the political and religious challenges of His day? How does that answer form how we should respond to the political and religious challenges we currently face?
* What was Jesus’ mission? One of them was reaching out to individual people.
	+ Jesus deliberately went through Samaria (4:4). The tension here was over 700 years old.
	+ He deliberately went to someone who was outcast from her community. This woman was knowledgeable about the issues of the day. Jesus understood her deep hunger.
	+ How did Jesus appeal to both her humanity AND her spiritual need?
* What are the priorities of our mission?
	+ My food is to do the mission of Him Who sent Me and to finish His work (4:34)

**The Purpose of Mission**

* There is no shortage of time, we just need to use it well. Twenty-six times in the book of John the author writes “Jesus came to do the Father’s will”. What is the purpose you believe God has given you?
	+ It might be your family, school, work, or friends. What sacrifices would you make so they might hear the good news of Jesus?

**Partnership in Mission**

* Who can you partner with, both personally and corporately, to make a difference?
* Our mission speaker from Sunday came from the Middle East and he spoke about the passion of his people. Whether they were talking about sports or politics or selling goods, they will passionately tell you what they believe – do you/we have this same sort of passion?
* How do we expect to reach the next generation for Jesus if we don’t show passion ourselves?
* What would passionately believing the Gospel look like for you and your family?

**Power for Mission**

* God’s Word is powerful and radically changes lives. Re-read verses 39-42 and discuss it in your group.
	+ What changes did the Samaritan woman make in her community?
	+ How did they come to believe?
* How have you seen God at work around you?

**Prayer**

* The last point today was to pray for mission.
* Canada is changing. Today more than 50% of Canadians are from newer ethnic groups. How do we change. How do we lift up the name of Jesus?
* Continue to pray for those who don’t know Jesus and our wisdom in engaging them about the Gospel.