



The Mission of God

God has a mission – and calls us to join in!



Review: Our opening sermon in this Year of the Bible focuses on a God who wants to both find us and use us. In our exploration of the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32 we looked at how the parable reflects in microcosm the bigger bible story that we will be exploring through the year. A Father God who shares all he has with his children (creation), whose authority and generosity are abused but who nevertheless constantly long for our return and restoration and who celebrates at our homecoming. We looked too at what it means to be lost and how God has given us a true elder brother (Jesus) to search for us and brings us home.

In calling us into the household of faith God invites to join him in His mission. He calls us co-workers, not spectators (see below) seeking to use us to grow his family. The “Mission of God” series will help us answer important questions about our place in God's story.



Discuss:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 3: 5-11. In verse 9, Paul explains that we are God's “fellow workers”. What does this phrase mean in the context of this passage?
2. What does being a “fellow worker” of God's mean for us personally?
3. The Mission of God series will focus on the whole sweep of the bible story, and our own place within it. What do you find exciting and challenging about that prospect? What will help you to make the most of the adventure?
4. Read Luke 1:46-55 (Mary's song). What key words would you choose to describe Mary's response to her part in God's mission? How does she characterise God in verses 49-55?



Pray: That the Mission of God series is a time for closer personal discovery of how God might want to us, as a small group and individually. Pray that our place in his story will become clear and that we will feel a sense of responsibility and privilege in what lies ahead for us.