

Week 2: Stories of Living on Mission – Biblical & Modern Examples

Speaker: Rachel Kennedy

"Living on Mission" means living each day with intentionality:

- You are called to live out 1 Peter 2:9 — "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation".
- Serving the Lord with a purpose greater than yourself.
- Being a light in a dark world and loving people.
- Ordinary, mundane things become extraordinary when surrendered to God.
- We are called to combat darkness with truth.

Apostle Paul: Once a persecutor of Christians >>> Transformed by an encounter with Jesus.

- Spread the Gospel across the world, despite hardships.
- Lesson: Your past doesn't disqualify you from mission and purpose.

Corrie Ten Boom: Dutch watchmaker – hid Jews in her home during WWII, later imprisoned.

- Continued her mission in darkness by leading prayer and Bible study.
- Lesson: Darkness doesn't disqualify your mission (Philippians 2:15).

Billy Cole: Missionary to Thailand, preached to Buddhists, saw miracles, many souls saved

- Lesson: Failures and shortcomings don't disqualify you from mission and purpose (Ephesians 2:10).

Nona Freeman: Missionary to Africa, ministered for decades.

- Lesson: Age and marital status don't disqualify you from mission and purpose (Psalm 71:18).

Key Lessons

- Your past doesn't cancel your calling – (Apostle Paul)
- Your darkness doesn't cancel your light – (Corrie Ten Boom)
- Your failures don't cancel your purpose – (Billy Cole)
- Your circumstances don't cancel your mission – (Nona Freeman)

Application: How to live on mission daily

- Be intentional in your identity – remember who you are in Christ.
- Look for opportunities in the ordinary.
- Serve people in love, even when it costs you something.
- Don't let fear, past mistakes, or limitations keep you from obedience.
- Shine the light of Jesus in dark places through truth and compassion.

Conclusion

- Living on mission is not optional. It's our calling! God uses ordinary people in ordinary places to accomplish extraordinary things when they live with purpose.

Things to Think About

- How does Paul's story encourage you about your own calling?
- What do the above examples teach you about faith in hardship?
- How can you keep serving when you feel unqualified?
- What limitations in your life do you need to stop seeing as disqualifiers?
- Where in your daily life could God be calling you to live on mission?

Pathway to Kingdom Purpose | Fall Session: "Living On Mission"

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PATHWAY TO
KINGDOM PURPOSE

***“Living On
Mission”***

PATHWAYS
DISCIPLESHIP SERIES

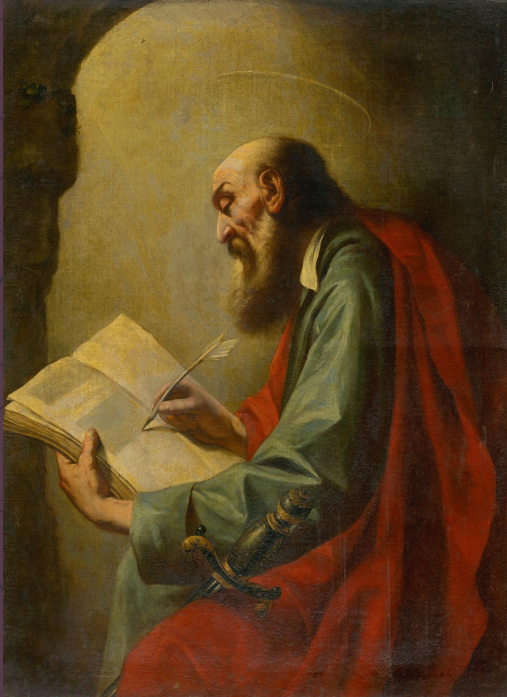
Choose your path. Grow in your faith.

LIVING ON MISSION? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



- An intentional, everyday understanding that you are called to live out 1 Peter 2:9: But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
- Serving the Lord with and for a purpose greater than yourself.
- A call to be a light in a dark world and to love people.
- Understanding that ordinary, mundane things are extraordinary when you place God in it.
- Knowing that we are called to combat darkness with truth.

Biblical Example of living on mission: The Apostle Paul



- Paul, raised religiously, studied in the law, a Jew
- Persecuted Christians
- Thought he was doing the “right thing”
- In Acts 9, while on the road to Damascus, he heard a voice, “Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?”
- God transformed his entire life

In **Acts 9**, we read about **Saul of Tarsus**, a deeply religious man. By the law, he was likely considered devout and holy, even respected and praised for his standing. Yet, in his passion, he became a fierce persecutor of Christians. In fact, he approved of the stoning of Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

On the road to Damascus, Saul experienced a powerful encounter with Jesus that radically transformed his life. Struck blind for a time, he eventually regained his sight, but not just physically. Spiritually, his eyes were opened in a way they had never been before.

Can you imagine hating Christians so much that you hunted them down, only to become one yourself? That's exactly what happened. Saul, later known as Paul, discovered that his mission and calling were not limited by his past. **Your past doesn't disqualify you from mission and purpose!**

Paul went on to write much of the New Testament and spent years traveling on missionary journeys across the Roman world, preaching the good news of Jesus Christ. His story is proof that no one is beyond the reach of God's grace and that our past does not define our future in Jesus!

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.” 1

Timothy 1:12-15

MODERN EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE LIVING ON MISSION





Corrie Ten Boom

- Dutch watchmaker
- Lived during WW2
- Home of hospitality, Bible Study, prayer, and faith
- Organized youth clubs
- Hid Jews in their home in a secret room



On **February 28, 1944**, Corrie ten Boom and her family were arrested after being betrayed by a Dutch informant. They were taken to Nazi prisons and eventually to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. They suffered horrifically: hunger, overcrowding, cruelty, and grief.

Yet in the midst of that darkness, Corrie refused to let her mission die. She smuggled a small Bible into the barracks, shared Scripture, prayed with other women, and pointed them to Jesus. The mission God had given her, to be a light, was not canceled by suffering, confusion, and chaos.

One of the most incredible moments came when Corrie and her sister Betsie discovered their barracks were infested with fleas. Corrie was disgusted, but Betsie reminded her to “thank God for everything.” Later, they realized the fleas kept the guards away, allowing them to hold Bible studies freely. Corrie could say with conviction: *“Thank God for the fleas!”*

Darkness doesn't disqualify mission and purpose. Even in the hardest places, God can use us to shine His light and to live on mission.

That ye may be blameless and harmless,
the sons of God, without rebuke, in the
midst of a crooked and perverse nation,
among whom ye shine as lights in the
world; **Philippians 2:15**

Corrie Ten Boom



A person is either a missionary or a
mission field.

— *Corrie Ten Boom* —

AZ QUOTES

Billy Cole

- Grew up in poor family
- Worked in a steel factory
- Became a missionary to Thailand
- Ministered to countless souls
- Baptized Buddhist priests in the Name of Jesus
- Saw many mighty miracles

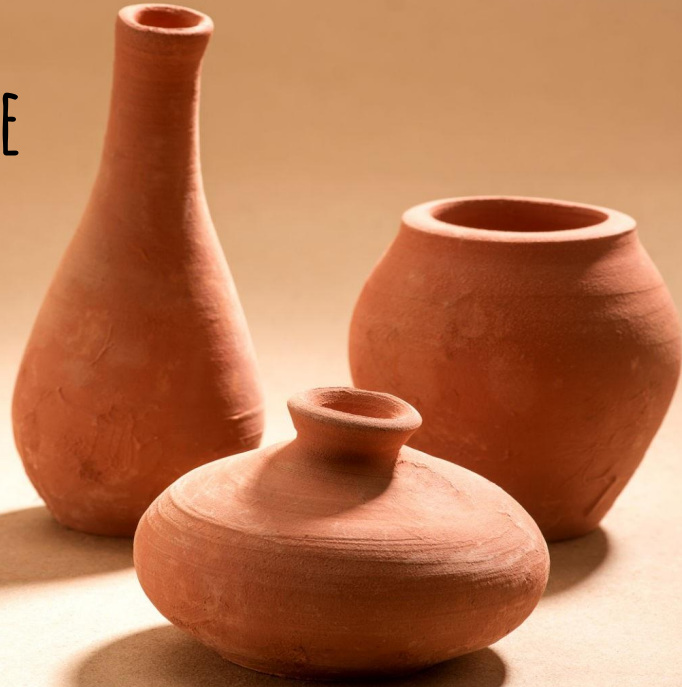


When God does anything through me, no one thinks about giving me the credit. That would never occur to them. They know God had to do it! -Billy Cole

Your start doesn't define your finish. Your past, how you were raised, the family you come from, the degrees you hold or don't hold, don't determine whether or not God will use you. You might have had a rough start to life, but your failures and shortcomings don't disqualify you from your mission and purpose.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

IT IS NEVER ABOUT
THE STRENGTH OF THE
VESSEL—IT'S ABOUT
THE GREATNESS OF
THE GOD WHO FILLS
IT. -UNKNOWN



Nona Freeman

- Missionary to South Africa with her husband
- They were the first missionaries UPCI missionaries to South Africa
- Lived a life of faith
- Saw many miracles
- Listened to the voice of God
- Continued in ministry even in her old age and after her husband passed away



I have fought a good fight; I have kept the faith and I have traveled the world in obedience to God's call on my life to answer the call God placed on mine and Bugs heart to carry this Jesus name gospel.-Nona Freeman

Age and marital status don't disqualify you from mission and purpose. Many times we believe we are only effective if we are young or if we are married, but God will use anyone who is willing!

**Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto *this* generation, *and* thy power to every one *that* is to come.
Psalm 71:18**

How to live on mission daily

- Be intentional in your identity – remember who you are in Christ!
- Look for opportunities in the ordinary.
- Serve people in love, even when it costs you something.
- Don't let fear, past mistakes, or limitations keep you from obedience.
- Shine the light of Jesus in dark places through truth and compassion. **The world needs the light of Jesus desperately!**

LIVING ON MISSION IS NOT OPTIONAL. IT'S OUR
CALLING!

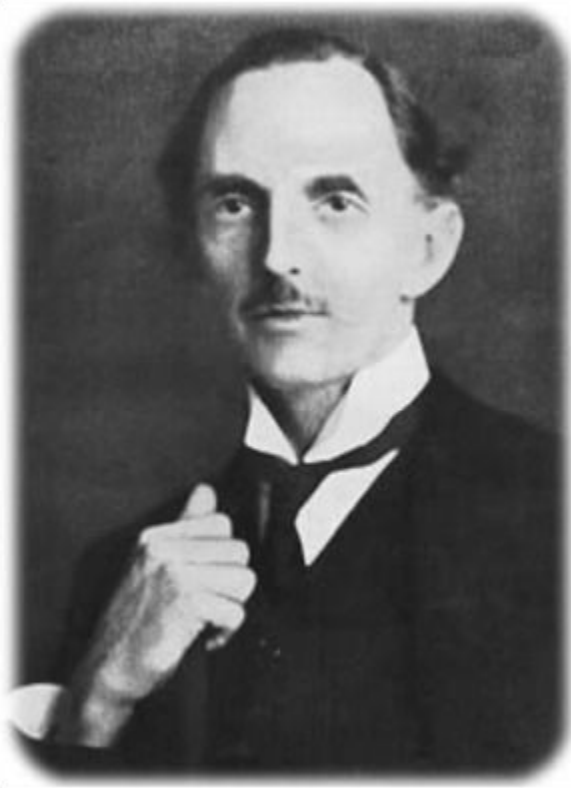
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(Corrie Ten Boom)**

**Your failures don't cancel your purpose – (Billy
Cole)**

**Your circumstances don't cancel your mission
– (Nona Freeman)**



Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

— *Charles Studd* —

AZ QUOTES