



Called for a Purpose: Participating in God's Mission

Thomas Johnson



Our Call

God calls Bethany to be a community participating in God's mission of love transforming us and the world.




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Acts 9:10–19 *English Standard Version*

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”

 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."



Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened.



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Acts 9:15 *English Standard Version*

But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.



1. God's mission involves reaching those outside the church.

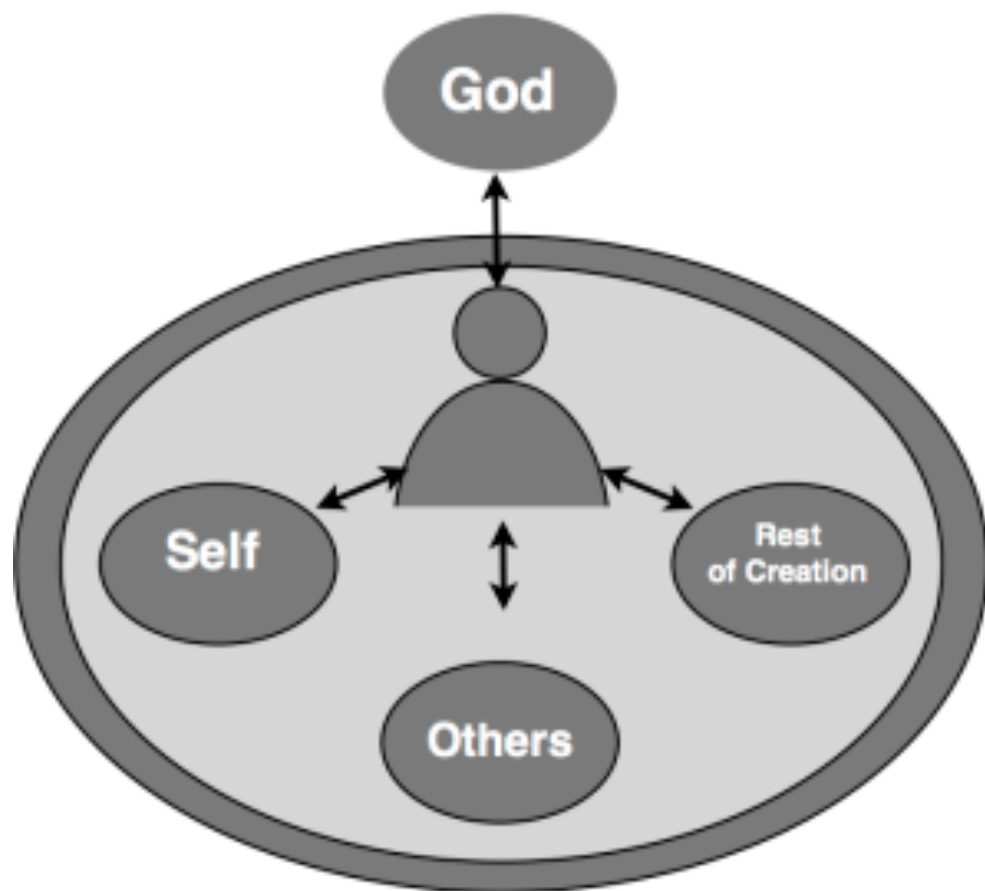


**"The Gospel comes to us on its
way to someone else."**

Alex McManus



1. God's mission involves reaching those outside the church.





Acts 9:10 *English Standard Version*

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."



2. God's mission happens in our own backyard.



John 1:14a *The Message Bible*
**"The Word became flesh and blood,
and moved into the neighborhood."**



2. God's mission happens in our own backyard.



Acts 9:10 *English Standard Version*

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."



3. Every Christian is called to participate in God's mission.



Matthew 4:19 *New Revised Standard Version*
**And he said to them, “Follow me, and
I will make you fish for people.”**



3. Every Christian is called to participate in God's mission.



Acts 9:11 *English Standard Version*

And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying.



4. Participating in God's mission is a way of life.



Matthew 28:19a *English Standard Version*
**"Go therefore and make disciples of all
the nations..."**



4. Participating in God's mission is a way of life.





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Participating in God's Mission:

- 1. God's mission involves reaching those outside the church.**
- 2. God's mission happens in our own backyard.**
- 3. Every Christian is called to participate in God's mission.**
- 4. Participating in God's mission is a way of life.**



**How has God called you to participate in
God's mission right now?**



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