

WHY THIS MATTERS

Short Term Missions



Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

- Our series is called Why This matters
- Each week we will look at a different “this”
- Last week we looked at why prayer matters
- This week our “this” is Short Term Missions

Some scripture that we are going to be using today

- Matt 28:19-20
- Acts 1:8
- Romans 10:14-15

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Matt 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

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Romans 10:14-15

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

Myths about STM's

1. STM's don't matter cause they haven't been around that long
 - This depends on your definition of Short term mission.
 - What we define short term missions as is this
 - Going with intentional purpose to share the love of Christ with missionaries and people who don't know Jesus

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Biblical examples of STMs

1 Tim 1:3 *“As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than stewardship from God that is by faith.”*

- Timothy was sent for a specific time and purpose to do gospel work

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Also.....

Phil 2:25-28 *“I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. Indeed he was ill, near to death.*”

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But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious.”

- Epaphroditus was sent by the Church in Philippi to help Paul with the Gospel work

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Myths about STM's

1. STM's don't matter cause they haven't been around that long
2. STM's help only the people going, not those who we are going to serve
 - We DO NEED to make sure that we are effective when we do STMs
 - We expect to see life change both in those we send and those who receive

Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

Why do Short Term Missions matter (4 reasons)

1. Obedience

- Jesus commanded that we go and make disciples. (Matt 28:19-20)
- Jesus said that we would be his witnesses in the whole earth (Acts 1:8)
- This is not only for some churches but all.
 - How are we a part of witnessing in other parts of the world? STMs are a part of our strategy for this.

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Why do Short Term Missions matter (4 reasons)

1. Obedience

2. Potential for discipleship

- Those who we send are given a great opportunity to allow God to shape them
- We aim to see people encouraged in their discipleship journey on the ground
- God can do amazing things in a short amount of time when we make ourselves available.

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Why do Short Term Missions matter (4 reasons)

1. Obedience
2. Potential for discipleship
3. Potential for Evangelism
 - In Canada most people are not interested in hearing about Jesus
 - This is not the case everywhere. There are people who are hungry to hear the “good news” of Jesus

Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

Why do Short Term Missions matter (4 reasons)

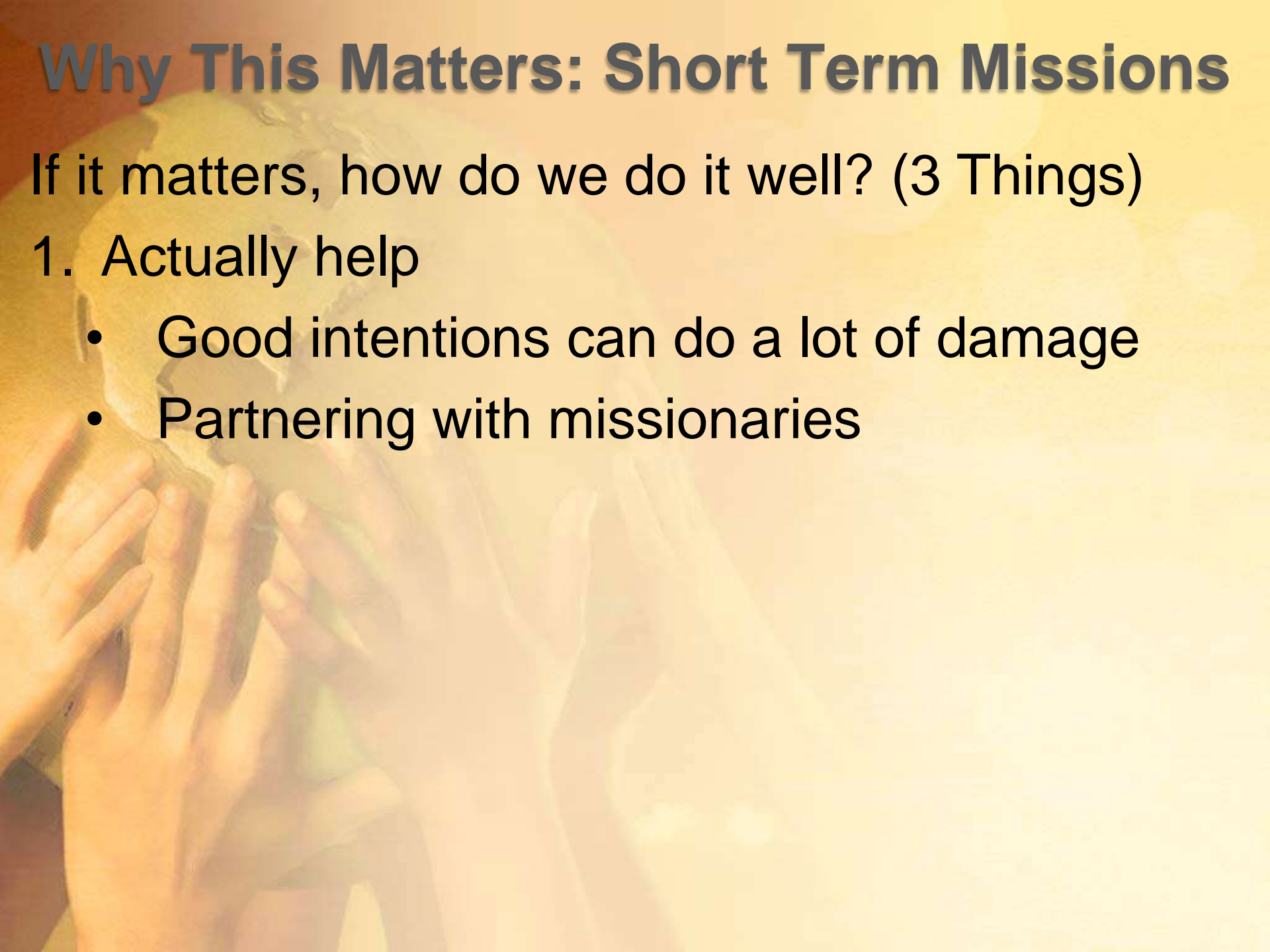
1. Obedience
2. Potential for discipleship
3. Potential for Evangelism
4. We reflect the heart of Jesus
 - STM's aren't the only way this can be developed in us but it has been significant
 - Our capacity to love others grows
 - We develop an "available" posture

Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

If it matters, how do we do it well? (3 Things)

1. Actually help

- Good intentions can do a lot of damage
- Partnering with missionaries



Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

If it matters, how do we do it well? (3 Things)

1. Actually help

2. Prepare well

- Going as a team
- Knowing the culture
- Asking “How are we going to fulfill the role that is expected of us?”

Why This Matters: Short Term Missions

If it matters, how do we do it well? (3 Things)

1. Actually help
2. Prepare well
3. Allowing for Discipleship
 - When people come to Jesus is there a way for them to grow in their faith after we leave?

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SO WHAT!?

- Are you thinking missions isn't for you?
- The question is how does God want me to be a part of short term missions and long term missions for that matter.
- We have 3 gateways to get involved
 - Pray
 - Give
 - Go