



Chapter Three:

Embodied Good News

Jeremiah 29:4-7; Matthew 5:14-16

October 10, 2021

Mission Outposts

Spheres of relationship in areas where we live, work, learn, and play

What are we “to do” in our mission outposts? Be the hands, feet, voice of Jesus.

Mission Outposts are not simply clever “covers” for witnessing

The Mission Outposts need to be genuine commitments (one day dishwasher!)

In this way they allow us to become **embodied good news**

Two Approaches to Sharing Jesus With Others

The “disembodied approach” is to deliver words apart from a lived and shared context

Examples: handing tracts, short term mission drop ins, TV/radio shows, locker drawings

God can use this, but a typical result is that people are more resistant to such an approach

The embodied approach: A “shared life” precedes “shared ideas”

God walking in the garden, Israel at the crossroads, prophets

The Word comes into the world as human: John 1:14; 1 John 1:1,2

For a public preaching ministry of three years, Jesus prepares thirty years

He grows in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humans: Luke 2:52

Principle: *become an experience of good news before broadcasting a message of good news*

Mission Outposts Are Opportunities for Embodied Good News

Be present and engaged in the sphere in a way that models integrity (“good works”)

Let these good works “glorify the Father” (lead to sharing His goodness with others)

Jeremiah and the 70-year Mission Outpost to Babylon: Jeremiah 29:4-7

First: build houses and live in them (**presence**, belonging, interactions, shared experience)

Next: plant gardens, eat their produce (**investment** in the place, take risks, need its resources)

Next: have children and grandchildren (lay down deep roots over a **period of time**)

From this reality, seek the welfare of the city where you are exiled (sharing the good you have)

The power of this approach is *shared fate* (“your good is my good” authenticates message)

ECC BLESS Conference: Thursday 8AM: <https://covchurch.regfox.com/bless-conference>