

HEARTWIRED

THE FOURTH CIRCLE

God has hardwired His vision for the world into the hearts of those who follow Christ.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 • Matthew 28:18-20 • Acts 1:8 • 1 Corinthians 2:9-10
Ephesians 3:10-11 • Hebrews 8:8-12

1. Pastor Craig suggested that just as the Spirit works in the believer to make them more like Christ, the Spirit also works in the church invisible (church universal) to make us more like Christ. As we, collectively, become more like Christ we better express God's heart for the world.
 - a. To what degree do you think the invisible church, the church beyond a local church like Central, is being made more like Christ?
 - b. What is God using to 'sanctify' (make holy) His church?
 - c. What is God using to make us more mission-minded?
2. Pastor Craig shared a statement suggesting that the age of pioneering in Western missions is over and that the age of training and equipping has arrived. To what degree do you assent to that statement? Have you examples of how western missionaries and indigenous leaders are working well together?
3. Pastor Craig traced the development of missions to where we are today. As a church, we are seeking to live in that fourth circle. What was your takeaway from this section of Pastor Craig's message?
4. Pastor Craig shared David Bosch's five catastrophic attitudes towards mission. Which of these have you seen? Which of these are most prevalent? Which of these are the hardest to understand?
 - a. Mission is a department of the church's ministry.
 - b. Church and mission are separable concepts.
 - c. Accepting denominational divisions as inevitable.
 - d. Treating some churches as receiving churches.
 - e. Treating lay-members as second-class members of the church.
5. Pastor Craig suggested that the reason many of us fail to connect with the mission mandate is because we think of places rather than people. If we look at Acts 1:8 with people in mind, the text 'feels' different.
 - a. Jerusalem = the familiar
 - b. Judea = the distinctive
 - c. Samaria = the unfamiliar
 - d. Ends of the earth = the new

Looking at your life, is the biggest challenge for you to embrace the way God has heartwired you for mission embracing the familiar, the distinctive, the unfamiliar, or the new?