

# Key References:

#### Matthew 24:14 (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

#### Isaiah 61:1-2 (ESV)

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, [...]

## Matthew 9:35-38 (ESV)

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

## Acts 13:22 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.'

### Romans 10:14(ESV)

<sup>14</sup> 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?

In the last two weeks have you had any opportunities to share the gospel? Have you found sharing the gospel to be on your mind more as we have been preaching on it?

#### 1 - All Nations

From Matthew 24:14, why do you think God is waiting until all nations are reached before Jesus' return? What do you think this reveals about God's character?

In Luke 4 Jesus quotes Isaiah 61 and applied it to himself. By breaking-down Isaiah 61:1-4 what parts of a Christian's mission can you find here?

### 2 – A Growing Church

On Sunday Mike said: "We should not confuse our prominence, as a growing church, with significance." What do you think he meant? Is it possible for us to grow the church numerically without having any greater impact into Nanaimo? How should we be measuring success?

Mike said we as we become fulfilled with in the community that we've individually found at Oceanside we can lose our passion for evangelism. Why is this? Do you agree? What can be done about it?

# 3 – Community vs. Community on a Mission

Mike said our "Connect Groups are lighthouses around Nanaimo". In this group what are 3 possible ways that we could transform it from an inward to an outward looking community?

Mike pointed out that Jesus never invited the lost to church; but instead commanded his church to the lost. What's the significance of this to us?

Read Matthew 9:35-38. Do you currently feel like a laborer in the harvest?

Gideon, David, Joseph and most of the disciples were all unlikely candidates for God to use. Why does God love to use the unlikely? Do you find yourself or the enemy trash-talking you when God wants to use you?

From Acts 13:22 why did God choose David? It seems that for God to use us we need to share His heart and are willing to do "all his will". When we become captivated by God's heart are we more likely to reach the lost?

Is there anything that you feel needs to be overcome before you can reach the lost? How are you praying for God to change and equip you?