

ALTERNATIVE REALITY

Part 6 - Alternative Mission

We live 'differently' because we belong to an alternative kingdom (that is at hand right now).

We have an Alternative Mission - Colossians 4:2-18

"And the church of Christ was born": we the continuation, who are we?

'Fellow workers on the same mission' - We as the church are identified and united by our mission and witness.

We are influenced by the world's mission and 'the comfort of your own home'.

Living the Mission

At the same time, pray also for us that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison – that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. Colossians 4:3-4

Not focused on favourable circumstances but on openings for the word.

John 4:34 (ESV) Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work

Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. Colossians 4:5-6

Making the best use of the time! The salt can't stay in the shaker. We answer each person (Luke 12:12 ESV)

The encouragement to us in this season of Mark the cousin of Barnabas:

Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him)
Colossians 4:10

Our Post COVID Cause and Call:

'Remember my chains – remember the mission.'
Colossians 4:18

Discussion Questions

1. When you think of the church do you identify yourself as part of a missions movement?
2. What else do you commonly think of when you think church?
3. How are you impacted by the mission of the world?
4. What do you think about the reality of embracing suffering (trial/hardship/opposition/persecution) and the mission?
5. What comes to mind when you think of Paul praying not that his circumstance would change but that he could have more opportunities to love and share with people?
6. Do you feel that you've drifted from the mission or a focus on the mission? Why do you think this is?

7. What does 'remembering Paul's chains' mean for you today?
8. Apart from your own individual sharing is there anywhere you are joining other members from the rest of the church in witnessing? Are you aware of the churchwide opportunities to witness Jesus to people?

Some of the Current Churchwide Opportunities

(Have a read and pray – is there something that God is calling you to be part of right now?)

+ **Street Teams**

Going as the church to people's houses across Brisbane to help with whatever is practically required. Getting beyond our walls being Jesus to the community.

+ **Brisbane Youth Detention Centre**

Going as the church into the Youth Detention Centres with a small team to love and encourage the kids there and share about Christ, the Bible and your own faith.

+ **Schoolies Mission**

Joining Christians from across the state to be the church serving and witnessing Jesus during the period of Schoolies at the end of the year.

+ **Short Term Mission Opportunities**

As places open up again for travel, being part of a team going into different nations to continue the ongoing work with overseas ministry partners.

+ **Lego Club**

A space to connect with other parents and kids after school during the week over Lego and conversation, being Jesus to other families!

+ **English Classes**

Classes during the week for those wanting to learn English, open to the wider community. Teaching English, being Christ!

+ **Keep Active**

A light exercise class for men and women over 50 that is open to all. Coming for fitness and community whilst being able to share the love of Christ.

+ **Riverlife Football Club**

Various football teams that run seasonally, open to anyone from the wider community. Being a witness to the name of the Lord.

+ **Community Choir**

A weekly opportunity to sing and be part of a choir of all ages, open to the wider community. The joy of the Lord is our strength (and opportune witness of His love).

+ **ABLE**

A weekly opportunity to serve, love and bring Jesus to families with children, teenagers or young adults who have special needs.

ReachOut Partnerships

+ **Helping Hands**

A food van initiative feeding and loving people in need on the streets of Ipswich

+ **Christian Religious Instruction**

Taking a group of primary school students through a faith based curriculum in one of the local schools each week

Plus more!

To be a part of these mission opportunities, email church@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au or our Reach Pastor - ian.walton@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au. Come into the office during the week and let's get you connected.