

# FRONTLINE ACADEMY

Session One

## Do we have a part to play in evangelism?



## Opening Reflection: John Bunyan

- After years of searching for truth, he was evangelized by a group of faithful women.
- He was not officially a "Pastor" or a vocational one.
- He was not, at least to begin with a vocational "Writer."
- God used his WORDS, to make an impact for Christ. (Proverbs 18:21)
- Pilgrim's Progress is widely considered the second most read English book of all time.



# What does evangelism often look like on NHG?



### The Unique Position of Need Him Global

- Missional
- Missions/ Missionary
- Cross Cultural/ Intercultural Ministry
- Personal Evangelism
- Others: (Biblical Counseling, Teaching)



## Why Do We Do This?

#### A Biblical Basis for Evangelism and Missions

(With thanks to Dr. Paul Akin)



#### Missions and Evangelism in the Old Testament

- The Law, the Prophets and the Writings. (Luke 24:44)
- The Bible throughout is an evangelistic, missionary book.
- We have an evangelistic, missional God.
- We are going to look at 5 passages in the Old Testament to demonstrate this.
- We could all pick different passages throughout the Old Testament to demonstrate the same point.

### "Thesis" Statements/ Questions

- From the beginning to the end of the Bible we see God is both on mission and includes in that mission those who believe in Him.
- Therefore, if we have a "missional" God, as image bearers we should mirror / be involved in this activity.
- Do we underestimate how central, the idea of missions and evangelism is throughout the Bible?

#### Genesis 3:15

- > The Protoevangelium.
- God promises one who will come and save.
- Starts a thread that continues throughout the Bible until Revelation 12.
- God is the first proclaimer of the Gospel. It does not originate with us.
- The Gospel is in fact, first pronounced to God's enemy

#### Genesis 12:1-3

- > Israel to be an instrument God uses to bless the nations.
- God has a missions strategy from the start, to bring Good News to every people group.
- One family > One nation > All nations.



#### Exodus 19:3-6

- The Exodus brings God's glory within view of the nations.
- The Old Testament Israelites were to live Holy lives amongst the nations.
- The nation of Israel fails the mission, but one from them will be the True Israel and faithful...



#### Isaiah 49:5-7

- Just as promised in Genesis 3:15 a faithful servant is promised again by the Lord.
- This servant will bring Israelites back to God, but also be a light to the nations.



# How Many Times Does Isaiah Mention the Nations?



# How Many Times Does Isaiah Mention the Nations?

58



#### Psalm 67

- Some commentators have referred to the Psalms as the "music of missions," with over 175 mentions of the nations in Psalms.
- Psalm 67:2, "salvation (known) among all nations."
- Psalm 67:7, "all the ends of the earth."



### **Concluding Reflections**

- ✓ We have a missional God.
- ✓ Who throughout time has invited His people to partake in His mission.
- ✓ To rightly showcase His glory to all people.
- ✓ God wants us to help restore into a relationship with Him, those that are close and far from us. (Isaiah 49)
- ✓ Evangelism and missions is central to the very heart of God. *How can we not be involved?* (1 Peter 2:9)

#### **Next Session**

- ✓ We will tie this all together using 5 New Testament passages.
- ✓ We have seen God's heart for missions.
- ✓ We have witnessed how God includes the Old Testament believers in this task.
- ✓ But what does this all mean for us today?

