

What is our mission to the world?

*Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples.
Matthew 28:19*

From the Day of Pentecost when Peter spoke in front of the Temple followers of Jesus have gone to share with others what they have received from Christ. Some have traveled great distances to be missionaries with peoples of a different culture and language. Others work with people in their own lands and communities. Some live out the gospel with those they meet every day, their friends, workmates, and family.

What is so special about the Christian faith that we would want to share it with others?

How does your congregation seek to fulfill this command?

*Christ has no body on earth but ours,
No hands but ours, no feet but ours.
Ours are eyes through which
the compassion of Christ must look out on the world.
Ours are the feet with which
he is to go about doing good.
Ours are the hands
with which he is to bless his people.*

St. Therese of Lisieux

How might you take Christ's love to the community?

Think of some steps by which you and others could take action?



Being Part of the Story



Unit 4 The Story of Christ in the Community

A resource for confirmation

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What is our place in the world?

This we know, the earth does not belong to us, we belong to the earth. This we know, all things are connected, like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth, befalls the children of the earth.
Chief Seattle 1854



The Earth sits in the midst of a universe, which stretches for many billions of cubic miles. Our sky is lit by 100 billion stars in our Galaxy alone. Our own Sun is on the outer edge of this giant spiral and yet is still 93 million miles from the Earth. But the Earth is the ideal place to live. Its continents and islands, rivers and oceans support an amazing variety of plant and animal life including humankind.

Look at a picture of our world. (You might show a video, or display a picture, or scan through magazines such as National Geographic.)

What words or phrases describe our world?
What does it mean for you to belong to the earth?
What is your part in our world?

What is our duty to the world?

The Lord God put the man in the Garden of Eden to take care of it and to look after it. Genesis 1:15

How did God command mankind to care for the earth?
Has the human race “looked after” our planet?
What do you think our responsibility to the world is?
How can you fulfill this task where you live?

We do not take God into the world – God is already there.

God can work wherever he chooses to do so. Robert McAfee Brown

When Micah set out what God requires of us he said, "See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God." 6:8. Christians are called to be more than observers. We are called to get involved with God in the world. Sometimes we can see God clearly in the actions of people we know. Other times God seems to be appearing in strange places, strange disguises, confronting us where we would least expect. Robert McAfee Brown described this as the “Pseudonyms of God”.

What are some of the disguises God might undertake?
Think of some ways in which God is at work in your community.

Browse through the local paper and highlight what issues are affecting people in your area.
Look at a map of your community. Mark out some of the areas of need where God’s love could make a difference.
What organizations are already working in your area?
(You may need to check the Yellow Pages under “Community Services” or contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau.)
Do members of your congregation have any involvement with these organizations?