

Mission Orientated Service Model



Theme – Witness to the Ends of the Earth

1. Welcome

Leader says: Today we are going to focus our attention on the last recorded words of Jesus before He ascended into heaven. Jesus said:

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1.8)

2. Prayer of Preparation

Dear Lord Jesus, You loved us and gave up your life for us to make us your own. You have called us to be Your witnesses and to share Your Gospel with other people. You know that this is not something we can do alone. You have promised that You will always be with us. Help us to trust in Your promise. Help us to see how we can serve as witnesses to You, in our neighbourhood and even to the ends of the earth. Amen.

3. A Song with visual impact : ‘We are the World’

“We are the World” has been recorded by a number of people over the years and it fits reasonably with the theme. The idea is to link the song to pictures (through a powerpoint presentation or by making Overhead transparency slides out of photographs.) The pictures can be of the faces of people in your neighbourhood, pictures of people from around the world that you find in magazines or from photo albums of people in your congregation.

With the service theme being “Witnesses to the ends of the earth” it is important that the pictures you display are of people who do not just look like you!

See attached song sheet

4. Confession and Absolution

Leader: Holy Lord we come before You now confessing our sins. Forgive us, Father that so little of Your love has reached others through us.

People: Forgive us for the times we have failed to be Your witnesses to those who are like us – to people in our families, at school, at work and in our neighbourhoods.

Leader: We have often failed to reach out to our neighbours who come from other languages, races and nationalities. We have neglected to share the love of Jesus Christ with those who do not know You.

People: Forgive us for the times we have failed to be Your witnesses to people who are different from us, although they live near us.

Leader: So often we have overlooked the needs of those who live in countries far away – the people of Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. We have done little to bring them the Good News of their Saviour, Jesus Christ.

People: Forgive us for being so little concerned about those who are far from us – the people You came to save who live from here to the ends of the earth.

Leader: Fill us with such a measure of Your grace and love that we can’t keep it to ourselves.

People: Overcome our weakness with Your strength, our apathy with conviction and our fear with your courage.

Leader: Jesus said: "If you forgive anyone their sins they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins.

Christ died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus (Romans 6.10-11)

People: Amen

5. The Greeting of Peace

Leader: We are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ, our Lord.

People: Therefore let us also be reconciled to each other and share the peace of the Lord.

6. Song

See our Mission related song list on the web site

7. Bible Readings

Suggestions include: Isaiah 60. 2-6, Acts 1.1-9, Luke 24.44-48

8. Sermon

9. Song

See our Mission related song list on the web site

10. Prayers

See our Mission related prayers on the web site

11. The Sending Out

Leader: Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers, feeding us with your word, and encouraging us in our meeting together.

People: Take us and use us to love and serve you and all people, in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

12. Song

See our Mission related song list on the web site

13. The Blessing

Leader: Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and uphold you forever. (Romans 15.5-6)

People: Amen.

We Are The World By Michael Jackson & Lionel Richie

There comes a time when we heed a certain call
When the world must come together as one
There are people dying
Oh and it's time to lend a hand to life
The greatest gift of all.

We can't go on pretending day by day
That someone, somewhere will soon make a change
We are all a part of God's great big family
And the truth you know
Love is all we need.

**We are the world
We are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So let's start giving**

**There's a choice we're making
We're saving our own lives
It's true we'll make a better day
Just you and me**

Well send them your heart
So they know that someone cares
And their lives will be stronger and free
As God has shown us

By turning stone to bread
And so we all must lend a helping hand.

**We are the world
We are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So let's start giving**

**There's a choice we're making
We're saving our own lives
It's true we'll make a better day
Just you and me.**

When you're down and out
There seems no hope at all
But if you just believe
There's no way we can fall

Well, well, well, well let us realize that a change can only come
When we stand together as one.

**We are the world
We are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So let's start giving**

**There's a choice we're making
It's true we'll make a better day
Just you and me.**