

THE GO ADVOCATE



May 2018

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

In last years' articles, we considered the **Model** of Mission—John 20:21, the **Magnitude** of Mission—Mark 16:15 and the **Method** of Mission—Matthew 28:19-20. Luke gives us:

The Message of Mission

Luke 24:27, 46-47 "Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures... And He said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.'"

If we were walking with Jesus on the Emmaus Road, we would have had the inestimable privilege of hearing Jesus explain His Story using the entire Old Testament, His Bible. The Bible is a unique book: it is a coherent love Story from beginning to end written by Spirit-guided eyewitnesses of God's interventions in history. *It centers on the deep love of God coming to our planet in Jesus to redeem and restore His Creation from its sin and brokenness.* It is literally impossible that the Bible is simply the work of men when it was written over a 1500 year span by 40 different authors on 3 continents with this singular Story woven from Genesis to Revelation.

In the Luke passage quoted above, we see Jesus telling His disciples the big Story from the beginning. What is the center of its Message? *The death & resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins.* We must not minimize the cosmic centrality of this historic event. Colossians 1:19 explains that Jesus came to bring wholeness/*shalom*—peace and reconciliation to the whole universe through the blood of the cross. The death of Christ pays for the sin, injustice and evil and its effects *out there* (all around us) and *in here* (our hearts where it begins) for all time. He is our Peace and the world's peace. He is the answer to the "problem of evil" and brokenness about which many complain and believe that there is no answer. Naturally, if the end of the Story has people from every people group worshipping Jesus (Revelation 7:9), it means that the Message of Jesus must go to "all people groups—beginning in Jerusalem..." and that was God's intention from the very beginning, Genesis 1:28 "fill the earth" and Genesis 12, "all nations will be blessed!"

In this season of change in the life of our church, may we find ourselves leaning deeper into God's love for us and His world, living and sharing the *shalom* we are experiencing with a broken world in need, near and far.

John Spadafora,
For the Grace Chapel Global Outreach Team

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PRAYFOR...

Carmen Marcy as she transitions back to life in the United States after her 3 years in Thailand. *Pray for: determining living arrangements; discernment for medical issues; ongoing work at The Centre@Chiang Mai and her former students that she impacted; and wisdom regarding future work.*

Darit Him (son of Heap & Jennifer Him) is leaving for Punjab, India on May 22 for a summer of ministry with a children's home of the People's Baptist Mission. He wants to expose himself to different kinds of ministry preparing to serve in tribal work in the future. *Pray that God works in and through him in the various opportunities he has.*

THE PHILADELPHIA PROJECT

June 24-30

Pray for the **Philadelphia Project** as our teens serve in the city. Pray for changed lives—for Matt Meeder and his leaders, the teens and those they serve as they live out the love of Jesus.

RECOMMENDED READ:



In This Generation

by Todd Ahrend.

The compelling story of one of the greatest missions movements in history, the Student Volunteer Movement. A great read!