

Hello. /I am Professor Jin Gun Seok, and starting today, I will be teaching missiology. /First, in part 1, I will be teaching about the biblical basics of missions. /Chapter 1, “The Basics of Missions.”

/1. The Idea of Missions.”

/ “Mission” is God’s command written in the Bible. /The New Testament Bible explains the process by which the early church carried out its calling to do missions. /With Martin Luther’s religious reformation, there was a rediscovery of Biblical truth.

/Built on the Bible, the church saw the work of experiencing new life. /In 1793, William Carey founded the missionary society, and beginning with his missionary work to India, /there was growing enthusiasm for missions.

/The century of 1815-1914 came to be called the Great Century of Mission. /After the 1910 World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh, /Protestantism’s classical idea and purpose of missions was rejected. /As a result, there was much difficulty in the development of missions work.

/From the 1920’s, people began searching for missions methodologies from other cultures that were more efficient than missiology. /For this reason, missiology began developing into a comprehensive study centered on /theology, cultural anthropology, and history.

/People have different definitions of missiology, but the typical definition is as follows.

/(1) It is Alan Tippett’s Definition. /Alan Tippett defined missiology as this.

/ “The academic discipline or science which researches, /records and applies data relating to the biblical origin, the history, the anthropological principles and techniques /and the theological base of the Christian mission.”

/He said the theory, methodology, and data bank are directed toward several things .

/First, the processes by which Christianity’s message is communicated. /Second, the problems that arise in proclaiming the gospel to non-Christians.

/Third, the planting of the church and the organization of congregations, and the incorporation of converts into these congregations. /Next, the structure of the church, its internal maturity and external outreach, and mission in a variety of culture patterns.

/(2) McGavran’s Definition. /Donald McGavran held the idea that winning converts through the proclamation of the gospel /and incorporating them in congregations to grow the church is the central idea of missiology.

/McGavran claims that the study of church development plays a pivotal role in missiology. /He sees theology, anthropology, and communication as methodologies that support the study of church development.

/McGavran says this about missiology. / “Missiology is the science of communicating the gospel. /God grows his church and the community of believers, and he expands the redemption of the entire person. /Missiology deals with the spreading of the Christian faith, which is the core of missiology.”

/Missiology has full confidence that Christian missions is the Lord Jesus Christ’s Great Commission. /It is a study that proposes scientific research methods of effectively carrying out this work.

/Matthew 28:18-20 say, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

/2. The Purpose of Missions. /Missions work is carrying out the work of God’s redemption in this world, /and it has a clear purpose. /The ultimate purpose is clearly written in the Bible.

/In his book “Politica Ecclesiastica”, /the early 17th century Dutch reformed theologian Voetius explains the purpose of missions in this way. /First, for the conversion of Gentiles, /second, the establishment and growth of churches, /and third, glory to God.

/Voetius’ classical notion of missions /came to be widely accepted in modern times through Bavink and Beyerhaus. /The three purposes of missions listed above are not independent of each other. /They are all related to God’s goal, which is for his kingdom to come.

/God’s kingdom, which is to come with the end of the world, /reveals God’s absolute sovereignty and grace. /Furthermore, it is about the ministry of apostles in the church of this world, /and we will see the repentance of sinners and their salvation before God’s kingdom comes.

/Then we will first take a look at one of the purposes of missions, which is “(1) The Conversion of Gentiles.” /We must proclaim the word of salvation and plant and expand God’s churches until God’s kingdom comes.

/When we look at it from the redemptive point of view, we take as premises people’s conversion and the movement of making them into disciples. /In other words, it is bringing all people to conversion.

/Therefore, it is the movement of making them into Jesus Christ’s followers and disciples. /There are two sides to conversion. /One is the divine side, and the other is the human side. /From the human standpoint, conversion is the abandonment of the things of the past and the chains of sin.

/It is to obey Christ with all one's heart and will. /From the divine point of view, /conversion is finding freedom from the force of darkness /and being moved into the kingdom of God's Son.

/Through Christ, God calls us sons and daughters. /He is our Father. /This is an amazing blessing and change. /We do not enjoy salvation alone, but we enjoy it with all other believers.

/The gratitude that stems from knowing that I cannot enjoy this blessing alone and confidence in salvation are the driving forces of missions.

/Second, the Process of Conversion. /The Bible talks about the process of conversion in two ways. /*(1)* It is the work of God. /Through the Holy Spirit, God makes people realize their sin.

/Then, we confess of our sins. /He forgives us and gives us confidence of salvation. /By conversion, a person is saved, /receives eternal life, /and becomes a new creation. /We also say that conversion is God's grace of salvation, /and this is the divine side of conversion.

/2) The Human Side of Conversion. /Missions work is guiding people to God. /It also demands faith and the decision to obey. /In this moment, the person must respond to God's love in the encouragement of the Holy Spirit.

/Conversion on the human side requires the person to /return to the Lord, /repent, /confess, /and believe.

/Third, the Aspects of Conversion. /Concerning conversion, there is individual conversion /and collective conversion. /The Bible not only talks about an individual's conversion, but it also talks about conversion at the level of the /family, /group, and regional community.

/We will study one of the purposes of missions, which is *(2)* The Establishment and Expansion of Churches. /The ultimate purpose of missions is to give glory to God. /Missions work focuses on the coming of God's kingdom.

/The Lord said that the Lord Christ will return when world missions is fulfilled. /Therefore, it is Lord's will that churches responsible for missions work be planted /during the period between the Lord's resurrection and his second coming.

/Missions that the Bible teaches about happens through the church, which is the body of Christ. /The Lord personally watches over and completes the work of missions through the work of the Holy Spirit. /It follows that the Great Commission given to us is to do missions work.

/Bruce says this about Jesus choosing and training his disciples. /Jesus did it for the establishment of the church, /so that we will be able to manage the responsibility of missions.

/The Apostle Paul says the following. /The church is an apocalyptic community built on the foundation of the prophets and apostles. /The church is the true Israel, and it is God's possession.

/The church is the image and sign of God's kingdom to come. /Calvin said that the church is founded on God's secretive selection. /This confirms the idea that the church is the Messianic community that was called into being.

/In the book of Acts, we find the communities of early Christianity. /Theologically speaking, the early church is this community. /Through the work of the Holy Spirit given at Pentecost, the church became an apocalyptic community centered on the apostles.

/This tells us that the church is built on the foundation of the apostles. /Through the work of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the church of the apostolic age came to be. /By this, we do not mean to say that the age of missions came before the age of the church.

/By the power of the Holy Spirit, the church, which was called by Christ, was entrusted with the ministry of apostleship, and it entered history's stage. /In other words, the power of the Holy Spirit made it possible for /the apostles and Christ's community to bear witness about salvation.

/The apostles preached with the power of the Holy Spirit. /At this moment, three thousand people returned to the Lord and were baptized. /The Lord daily added to the number of people who were saved. /Afterwards, there was a day when five thousand people came to believe.

/Seeing that five thousand men came to believe, if we add their family members to this number, we come up with an incredible number. /These people gathered in the temple, but they also gathered in small groups or formed family churches.

/We can say that this is the most typical type of New Testament church that came from Paul's missions. /In the New Testament, we cannot find the physical church that we have today. /Paul's epistles show us the shape of the family church.

/Paul's missionary work established and expanded the church, /which is an apocalyptic community established /in the period between Jesus' resurrection and his second coming. /The ultimate objective of Paul's missions work is as follows.

/It is to declare the grace of God's salvation and give glory to God. /It also focuses on establishing and growing the church. /Therefore, as the body of Christ, the church must /do missions work until God's kingdom comes.

/The ultimate goal of missions is the salvation of mankind, /and the message given through missions is about God's kingdom to come and the gospel pertaining to it. /The Great Commission is carried out until the end of the world through the establishment and expansion of churches.

/Church growth happens through the conversion movement. /Thus we can say this is the beginning of the evangelism movement. /Hoekendijk, who gave shape to the theological theory of the ecumenical movement, said, "Boethius was incorrect to say that the purpose of missions is the establishment of the church."

/However, as Boethius said before, the establishment of the church isn't the only purpose of missions, /but the conversion of Gentiles and giving glory to God are other purposes.

/The third point concerning the purpose of missions. /**(3) To Give Glory to God.** /The purpose of the lives of Christians who have received salvation is as follows. /It is to give glory to God and to enjoy him.

/This is the answer to the first question of the Westminster Shorter Catechism. /The Old Testament is filled with words that praise the glory of God. /The prophet Ezekiel says this.

/ "So I will show my greatness and my holiness /and make myself known /in the eyes of many nations. /Then they will know that I am the LORD." /Here, we can see the clear purpose for missions.

/The New Testament praises the glory of God and proclaims that the coming of God's kingdom is near. /When Christ preached the gospel, he declared that God's kingdom is near.

/His teachings are about the glory of the kingdom of God. /Therefore, having the idea that that the basic and final purpose of missions is to glorify God, /we know that missions isn't focused on people, but it is focused on God.

/Missions isn't the spokesman for the world, /but it is the spokesman for God who is in this world. /The reason we encounter crises and confusion while doing missions today is /we are centered on people in our thinking and behavior. /That is why the motivation for missions disappears. /Furthermore, our generation has brought upon the tragedy of valuing the theories and ideas of man above other things.

/3. We will study the Basics of Missions. /Missions in the church is based on the triune God's love, /which desires to bring humanity to repentance in Jesus Christ.

/To do so is the duty of the church and those who are chosen. /It follows that "missions" isn't a business plan sought out as the church pleases /according to its plans and budget. /Missions is the reason for the church's existence, /and it shares a deep relationship with apostolic ministry, which is the nature of the church.

/Missions and the church are founded on the triune God's holy will to redeem mankind. / God's will of redemption is completely expressed by Jesus Christ's work of redemption.

/Johannes Blauw said the following. / "There is no other Church /than the Church sent into the world, /and there is no other mission /than that of the Church of Christ."

/James Scherer said the following. / "The church grew during the time of the apostles because the church and missions were completely united. /However, with the passing of time, church leaders influenced missions work, /and church congregations lost their way of participating in missions. /Spiritual motivation also was lost."

/They say that the church neglects its missionary nature, /treats missions as a by-product of theology, /and simply explains missions as a historical phenomenon. /However, missions isn't simply a historical phenomenon.

/Biblical evidence of missions is viewed with importance. /There is a theory that says there are two grounds for missions. /This theory claims that missions is based on God's commission, /but simultaneously, the foreign world looks to the Lord and needs the gospel.

/This theory is based on Romans 15:12. /The verse quotes Isaiah 11:10. /As to the historical time period the verse talks about, this verse from Isaiah /is a subject of controversy.

/But the verse speaks of the last day, the day when Israel receives its salvation. /Observing the context of the book of Isaiah, /we can see it as an apocalyptic prophecy, a description of the last day.

/It says Christian missionaries need to preach the gospel to the foreign lands. /Whoever participates in missions work will not deny this. /However, there are people who argue that we do not have to preach the gospel.

/Missions is based upon the Creator God's will to save humanity /by sending his one and only Son to this world. /Furthermore, Jesus Christ, who came to this world /according to the will of God, /gave the Great Commission after his resurrection. This is a sure basis for missions.

/The Great Commission /is based on the idea that God's plan for humankind's salvation requires the gospel of salvation to be taught to all mankind. /It follows that missions is a part of the triune God's holy will to save humanity.

/Also, as Christ was sent by God, /we are sent by the Great Commission. /The saying "The foreign world looks to the Lord and needs the gospel" /expresses the earnest desire to save souls, /whether it be Christians who have received salvation /or people of the world who haven't been saved.

/4. Misconceptions about Missions. /We stress the importance of missions, /but recently, there has been a change in the way people understand missions. /They are the theological disparities that arise between the WCC camp and the conservative evangelical camp.

/The polarization of the theories on missions between the two camps /is a great tragedy to missions work today. /The traditional and classical notion of missions /is now beginning to change.

/George Vicedom's book called "Mission of God," published in Germany in 1958, /was published in English in 1965. /This book blew a new wind in America's theological sphere, /which was suffering from the aftermath of the "theology of the death of God."

/Vicedom declared the triune God as the only basis for missions activity. /He began to change missions from being ecclesiological to being of the Trinity. /He claimed that missions is not based on the church, but on the holy will of God.

/He says the following things. / "The church's origins resided in God's sending of his Son. /The church proclaims the message of redemption to non-Christians, /and those who hear the word and receive it gather as redeemed members of the congregation, as God's people."

/But Vicedom's "idea of mission of God" deviated from its original intentions. /The WCC's New Delhi Assembly documents or the Uppsala Assembly documents /deviate from Vicedom's original claims.

/ "God, from the center of the world, /and in the process of making world history, carries out his purpose. /This "mission of God," /historically speaking, /has appeared in the form of the inevitable acceptance of a challenge. /This can be understood as a temporary form of the mission of God."

/The WCC says, "Voetius' theory is good, /but due to drastic changes in reality in today's time, it isn't the correct theory." /They argue that we must reform the entire structure of human society /and remove evil from this structure to improve order in society.

/They say we must come up with a new replacement for missions in order to /bring about a "New Humanity." /Here, they argue that society must participate /in the idea of missions. /Their ultimate idea of missions is not for God's kingdom to come, /but to create heaven on earth.

/However, without resolving the problem of sin and without the precedence of reconciliation with God, /it is impossible to remove the structural evils of society, and it is impossible to realize this New Humanity.

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/Social movements cannot /bring about conversion movements. /Therefore, it is appropriate for the WCC camp to be criticized for their theory about missions.

/This concludes our 1st lecture on missiology. /Thank you.