

BE READY TO CARRY OUT MISSIONARY ASSIGNMENTS

“‘My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.’ (John 4:34 NIV)

As His church, we are called to complete Christ's Great Commission (Luke 24:46-47). This task is called the missionary assignment of the congregation of God. God wants us as members of His body to not only have service “inside” the church, but also especially “outside” the church (mission). The ministry that we do in the church is our service to believers or fellow believers (Colossians 1:25; 1 Corinthians 12:5), but our mission is our service to unbelievers. There are those of us who may not have been God's people before, but have now been changed into new people in God, namely all of us who have been called out of darkness into His wonderful light (1 Peter 2:9-10). As children of light we are called to carry out the same mission as the Lord Jesus. In John 4:34 the Lord Jesus said to His disciples, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to complete His work." Likewise, we as His church were sent by God to complete His work in the last days. All the themes that have been shared during this year and in the Retreat last October can be summed up in one sentence, namely "we must be ready to welcome the coming of Him who has sent us", namely so that we can also complete His work at the end of this time. Matthew 24:14 says, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come.” In other words, according to the guiding verse of the congregation's news reflection for November, let us as followers of Christ be able to do the will of Him who has sent us to complete His work, namely our mission task. Like the Lord Jesus who brought the news of salvation to the Samaritan woman in John 4:1-34, let us continue to bring the news of salvation of Him to the ends of the earth. That is the main goal of Christ's Great Commission. In order for His salvation to reach the ends of the earth, let us start from where we are now. Luke 24:46-47 says that in His name the news of repentance and forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, “beginning from Jerusalem.” Some describe “Jerusalem” as our family and those closest to us. Have we carried out God's mission in our “Jerusalem”? If not, now is the time for us to do so for the glory of God. In the Gospel it is reported that the apostle John came as a messenger of God to bear witness to the “true light”, which is Christ, starting from the environment in which he was. Looking back at history, John and the apostles of Christ have carried out the Great Commission of Christ about two thousand years ago, and now praise God that there are so many people throughout the world who have known Christ, including us who come from the “ends of the earth”, namely Indonesia. And the Gospel also explains that “the true Light, which gives light to every person, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own, but his own did not receive him. But as many as received him, to them gave he the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name” (John 1:8-12). Let's continue to bring the message of salvation from God to our families, those closest to us and even to those who have not been saved. The word mission comes from the Latin word for “to send.” We were sent to complete His work, so that His light can be experienced by everyone before the end comes. Amen!

By Pastor Silwanus Obadja M.Th.