



*Jesus was a freedom fighter. He liberated people from the powers of darkness so they could become who they were created to be. So if Jesus is our rabbi, we need to be just as committed to the ministry of helping people claim “no longer slaves” status. This series explores what that looks like.*

### **Week 6: No Longer Slaves... “to the Futility of Mission” (Rick Atchley – 11/3/24)**

1. Rick mentioned that *“In the kingdom of God, alignment always comes with assignment.”* As we prepare for Harvest Weekend, how does sacrificial giving align with our assignment to participate in God's global mission? What shifts in perspective might we need to move from seeing giving as an obligation to seeing it as an opportunity to join God's work?
2. **WHAT HE DID: Jesus lived on purpose for a purpose.** What stands out to you about how Jesus remained focused on his mission despite opposition (see **Luke 19:10, John 3:16, & Matthew 20:28**)? What can we learn from his example (see **John 20:21 & 1 Peter 1:18**)?
3. **WHAT THIS MEANS: This means that my life has meaning.** The reason most people are unhappy is not because of the largeness of their problems; it is because of the smallness of their goals. How has being part of God's mission expanded your vision for your life?
4. **WHAT THIS MEANS: No other kingdom can surpass or usurp the reign of Christ.** How do you maintain faith and commitment when God's kingdom seems small or insignificant compared to worldly powers?
5. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Wisdom knows the difference between what is futile and what is final. Read 1 Corinthians 15:58.** How do you discern between worthwhile investments of your time/resources and those that are ultimately futile? Follow up: How does knowing our work has eternal value motivate you in your daily life and actions?
6. **WHAT WE DO: We invest in freedom ministry in Jesus' name.** When we face “mission drift,” how can we stay focused on God's purpose for us? What regular practices help you stay aligned with God's mission and how have you seen these make a difference?
7. Reflecting on the specific ministries and missions our Harvest offering will support - from church plants to missionary work to local initiatives - how does this offering give us an opportunity to invest in what is truly final rather than futile? Follow up: Which of our Nations goals personally excites you the most? <https://nationsandgenerations.org/goals/>

