
20 SUNDAY

MISSION SUNDAY

Isaiah 2: 1-5
Ps 97: 1-6
Ephesians 3: 2-12
Mark 16: 15-20

This is Mission Sunday, when we're asked to remember and pray specially for the mission work of the Church and for the evangelisation of people. The end of St Mark's gospel tells of Jesus' commission to His disciples to go and proclaim everywhere the Good News. And that's what they did, "the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it". It's the 'word' that challenges and invites acceptance and belief: it's those who believe in the word who will be saved, and be able to do extraordinary things. Those 'signs' and extraordinary things accompanying belief are not so much for the believer but for those who haven't yet believed in Jesus and accepted His word. Christians sometimes get themselves too concerned and involved with signs and wonders, forgetting that they themselves are supposed to be and do the signs and wonders that will proclaim the Good News to others. Each of us is the Church and each of us has received Christ's commission to proclaim Him. This isn't something that's only for bishops and priests and sisters and church organisations. Our present-day world needs to be confronted with the Word, needs to be "evangelised" ---- and that means being given the chance to see, hear, recognise the presence and saving power of Christ. Our Christian calling is to be "evangelisers", to share with others the love of God that we ourselves have experienced, to share all the gifts of God we've received, to share the Good News.

Lord of the harvest, send workers to gather people together in acceptance of your Word.

Text Wordcount: 270