



# KINGDOM CULTURE VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

## WEEK TWELVE

### Teaching Video Transcript | Week 12: Kingdom Culture is Missional

If you are wondering what being missional means, let me explain it. Christians are missional when they think about reaching people in their culture similar to how a missionary thinks about reaching people when they move to a new culture. When we are missional we study the culture and we adopt the behavior and thinking of what must I do to reach people? Missional thinking adopts the attitude of going to others instead of making them come to you. Churches are missional when they go out and serve and share in the community rather than asking the community to come to their building and see what we do.

As one writer has written: missional theology is not content with missions being a church-based work. Rather, it applies to the whole life of every believer. In truth, every disciple of Christ should strive to be an agent, a representative of the kingdom of God; and every follower should try to carry the mission of God into every sphere of his life. We are all missionaries sent into the world." (<https://www.gotquestions.org/missional.html>)

"In his book *Organic Church*, Neil Cole describes a number of missional communities that go where the people are, rather than have the people come to them. Such church communities meet in various places, including pubs, community centers, and simple living rooms. One particular church Cole describes meets in a coffeehouse. After the small band of people experienced some growth, they immediately decided to send out their own missionaries to start a church in another coffeehouse called Portfolios. Cole describes Portfolios as "a coven for witches, warlocks, Satanists, and vampires [people who have decided to live life according to the typical vampire narrative—sleeping in coffins, filing their teeth to the point of being fangs, and only coming out at night]." Despite the darker setting, Portfolio's soon became the site of surprising kingdom growth. Cole writes:

The first person to become a Christian at Portfolios was Manuel. Tim, one of our team members, was an excellent evangelist. He sat across the table from Manuel and opened his Bible to Romans 6:23; he gave it to Manuel to read for himself. Just then, Joey, a recruiter for the occult and part of the coven, came and sat next to Manuel. Joey likes to talk and has a foul mouth, so Tim prayed silently, "Lord, keep his ears open and his mouth closed." Joey didn't say a word.

Then Jack came and sat on the other side of Manuel. Jack is an atheist philosopher who loves to talk but doesn't ever get very far. Tim prayed the same silent prayer, and Jack didn't say a word.

Finally, "Psycho Saul" came up behind Tim. Psycho Saul is the leader of the vampires. He is tall, thin, and pale, and he dresses all in black with a long black trench coat and long frizzy hair down his back. Saul leaned over and whispered to Tim, "I just want you to know that I have my sword with me." Tim answered, "Oh, that's nice; I have mine, too," pointing to his Bible. "Manuel is reading it now." Then Psycho Saul leaned over again and said, "No. I really do have my sword." And he opened his trench coat and there, handing from his belt, was a double-edged sword. Tim prayed silently again, "Lord, keep his ears open and his mouth closed, and don't let him cut my head off." ...

Manuel glances up from his reading at that moment with a confused look on his face. He read it again, and suddenly the lights went on in his eyes and a smile came across his face. He understood that the wages of his sin was death, "but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord." At that moment, Joey got up to leave. Jack rose from the table and walked away, and Psycho Saul took his sword and left.

From that moment, Portfolios became holy ground. Manuel was baptized at a beach within a week. Within a few weeks he was baptizing his first convert at the same beach. He baptized another convert a few weeks after that. Within a short time, a second church was started from converts from Portfolios. Then, a short time later, a third was started out of the rich, dark soil of this pocket of people." (Neil Cole, *Organic Church* (Jossey-Bass, 2005), pp.175-176)

Let me be clear being missional is not about having to talk to scary people, but it is about going to the people God has placed in your path. That's what Jesus did. And in fact while he was with the disciples, as well as when he saw them after his resurrection, Jesus made it clear that he was sending his disciples into the world to go to people and connect with them so they could share Christ with them. He sent them and they went because they knew they had lifesaving and life changing news to share and so they went. In fact

there's an interesting nuance in Jesus' great commission that we read in Matthew 28 where most translations start verse 19 with the imperative Therefore go and make disciples... (Matthew 28:19, NIV) but some scholars make the case that it could also be translated "as you are going make disciples." Let that settle on your mind for a moment, it carries with it of a command and more of a way of life. As we go through life we should make disciples. This reminds me of the command God gave the Hebrews about teaching their family to love God with all that they are as they go through life. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. (Deuteronomy 6:7, NIV) The kingdom culture is missional because it's how we are to live our lives. It's not something we add to our lives, it's the way of life.

When we are missional we realize that this life is about more than our happiness and comfort. We realize that we have been blessed with the saving knowledge of Jesus and we are blessed. And there are many ways we can do this. Maybe you are a musician or an artist or you have passion for a particular sport or activity. Those talents and passions give you entrance into a culture where you can share the love of Jesus by being a faithful follower of Christ and taking the opportunity to share who Christ is to you in those communities. The Apostle Paul understood that in everything we say and do we have the opportunity to do it in a way that shares Christ. He reminds us that ...whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus... (Colossians 3:17, NIV)

Think about your life. What talents, what hobbies, what recreational pursuits has God blessed you with that connect you with people where God is sending you?

The goal of the kingdom culture study was to help us see that while we live on this earth we are called to embrace the culture of the kingdom to help build and grow God's kingdom! How have you embraced the kingdom culture over these weeks? What has changed? What will you do differently? Let us know, send us an email at [connect@valleybrook.cc](mailto:connect@valleybrook.cc).

*Valley Brook Community Church All Church Study: Video Transcript Week Twelve*

