



Living THE Mission

WEEK 1 / FEBRUARY 7, 2017

★ DEVOTIONAL ★

READ PHILIPPIANS 3:7-11

The community of PazNaz is a community on a mission. Alongside the people of God throughout the world, the community of PazNaz has been invited to participate in the mission of God. This mission is the one that is declared in the mission statement of PazNaz: PazNaz is a community *Seeking to know Christ and join him on mission in our local and global neighborhoods.*

This is an important responsibility to be given. The mission of God is a mission with great implications! Fortunately, there is an example the people of God are invited to imitate: the example given in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It is about Jesus that Paul says *"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead"* (Philippians 3:10-11).

God is calling the community of PazNaz to live in this way, and to partner on the mission to the neighborhood. Ultimately, this mission is carried out only through the power of God. You, as a participant in the PazNaz community, are a bearer of the presence of God to the local and global neighborhoods; in order to bear this presence, you must be connected to the source. If the Church doesn't know Christ, how can he be made known to others? This week, take some time to be aware of your connection to the source of the mission; for PazNaz is a community that is *seeking to know Christ.*

★ ACTIVITY ★

- Spend a moment at the end of your day reflecting on your experiences throughout the day. As you reflect, thinking through every interaction and every moment, ask yourself the following questions: (1) When was I aware of God's presence today? (2) When was I not aware of God's presence today? (3) What did God teach me today?
- Take a walk through your neighborhood, ideally with family, friends, or neighbors. With every step you take, envision Jesus accompanying you. Based on the stories you've heard about Jesus, envision his work in your neighborhood, and how he would engage with some of your neighbors and the local community. As neighbors, friends, or family, discuss some of the people and places you envision Jesus embracing.
- During your day, take a couple of minutes for a walk alone. As you walk, repeat a short prayer and allow it to penetrate your heart as you repeat it. For example, some common prayers can be "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me," "Come, Lord Jesus," or even "Lord, help."
- Share a meal with someone from the PazNaz community. Before eating, read Matthew 5:13-16 aloud; then, as you eat, discuss the possible ways you see the PazNaz community being Salt and Light in the global neighborhood.
- For one day this week, pick a song and allow it to continuously run through your mind. One example is "Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art; Thou my best Thought, by day or by night; Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light."