

# Theme Summary

## Key Passage

John 20:21b, *“As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive now the Holy Spirit.”* (NRSV)

## The Gospel as reflected in the theme

The Gospel is not about you, but you can play a part. Let me share a word with you—egocentric. Egocentrism is the belief that you are the center of all you do, feel and experience. You believe you are right, you know best and life is all about you. That’s being egocentric. Most of us grow up that way - it’s not our fault. As young children, we learn quickly that we need to take care of ourselves. We need to learn, adapt, grow and experience life from our own perspective. Nobody will do everything for us.

The problem (as you can likely see already) is when we remain egocentric as we get older. Perhaps it is still not our fault, as most advertising is also about you. You watch the TV shows you want and you pick the website you want to go to – perhaps it is even YouTube. You create your own social media accounts , and you post pictures and status updates about you. You hope that friends like it so you can grow in popularity. Even some church groups tend to emphasize you, saying you need to be in relationship with Jesus, you need to be saved, you need to follow Jesus, etc. Here’s the surprise: When you crack open the Bible, it’s not about you.

## Weekly Session Outline

Session 1: This Gospel is Bigger Than We Ever Thought

Session 2: Mission is Life, Not Just an Event

Session 3: Worship is More Than One Hour a Week – The Other 167

Session 4: It’s About All of Humanity – The Other 7.8 Billion

Session 5: A Call to Stewardship– The Rest of the Planet Counts Too

Session 6: Heaven’s Unexpected Tools Used on Earth – The Other Reality

Session 7: What About Me? What Now?