Conclusion:

a. Local churches are central to the New Testament plan

b. The gathered local churches are the mediating entities for implementing God's great commission

c. Local churches are both the aim and the means of God's missionary plan

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Questions or comments? Email Riley at riley.barnes@capbap.org or Caleb at caleb.morell@capbap.org.

Core Seminars – Christian Growth
Missions: The Role of the Local Church in Missions
Week 4 – January 30, 2022

Introduction: God, Individuals and the Local Church

I. To whom was God's missionary commission given?

a. The Assembled Church – (Luke 24:33-48)

[[NOTE for teacher: update to include Philippians and 3 John as additional prooftexts]]

b. Chain of missionary sending

John 3:17

Luke 24:49

Acts 9:31

Acts 13:2

Romans 10:14-15

II. What does it mean for a local church to be central to sending missionaries?

a. Evaluation

b. Teaching/training

c. Sending and supporting // Overseeing and caring

III. How should we think about mission sending agencies?

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Philippians 4:14-16

a. An optional, but permissible, means of organized cooperation among churches (3 John 1:5-8)

b. Authority is that delegated by local churches

c. Useful for strategic coordination, humility, field oversight

d. Servants of the local churches

IV. Why does it matter that we are clear on these points?

a. Because the church is the goal and the means of missions (Eph. 3:10)

b. Because individualism and "para-churchism" are real temptations

c. Missions is intensely congregational, not just intensely personal

V. What does all this look like at Capitol Hill Baptist Church?

a. Teaching God's Word is our most fundamental "missions" task

b. Being a Biblical church is the organizational means

c. Training and equipping members to intentionally go

d. Sending teams in cooperation with others

e. Maintaining theological and pastoral oversight