

So You Want To Be A Missionary?
Seminar hosted by Living Word Missions
www.livingwordmissions.org
Missions Today
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Big Takeaway: We should all be involved in the Great Commission either as a sender or as a goer. Which one are you?

Why is it as relevant TODAY to focus on Missions as it was 2000 years ago when Jesus gave the "Great Commission" to His disciples? Because His LAST command should be our FIRST concern!

His last command was very clear!

"He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'"

Mark 16:15 NIV

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 28:19 NIV

Why should we make His last commands our first concern?

Because 1/3 of the planet has still not heard the Gospel. There are currently over 1,510 Unengaged and Unreached People Groups.

*A people group is **Unengaged** when no evangelical church planting strategy is being implemented among them.

*A people group is **Unreached** when less than 2 percent of it's population is evangelical Christian.

These approximately 46 million people are spiritually lost and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Among them Christ remains unknown (See current statistics on Web sites below).

Because the eternal destiny of billions of souls hang in the balance and the question the apostle Paul raised in Romans 10:14 is as relevant today as when it was recorded in scriptures:

"How can they call on Him to be saved unless they believe? How can they believe if they have never heard about Him? How can they hear unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go tell them without being sent?"

Romans 10:14

Jesus is radical when it comes to the harvest of lost souls. This is what He says in Matthew 12:30 - *"Anyone who is not with me (in my mission) is against me, and anyone who does not gather with me, scatters."* Like the great preacher Charles Spurgeon said, *"If Jesus is precious to*

you, you will not be able to keep your good news to yourself...Every christian is either a missionary or an impostor."

We are followers of a missionary God who has revealed Himself through His missionary son (John 3:16). That's why missions is central to our identity as Christians. **It's not something we do. It's who we are.** Jesus said to His disciples *"As the Father sent me, so I am sending you."*

The Mission of God (Missio Dei) as expressed by the early fathers of the Church is God's purpose to extend His divine communion to humanity through Christ. In His interaction with humanity, God didn't just speak to people, but sent them to be agents of Salvation.

The calling to follow Jesus is a calling to join Him on His mission. Jesus told His disciples: *"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."* John 20:21 (NIV)

Without missions there is no church and we have no meaningful connection with one another.

So missions is not just for the "professional missionaries." Every single believer needs to learn how to be directly involved in Missions, because we are all called to be ambassadors of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

"Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us..."
2 Corinthians 5:20 NKJV

The early missionary efforts were a team work. The local church sent missionaries (Acts 15:3), all believers were involved in hosting, serving or facilitating the work of missionaries (Titus 3:13), everyone had a role as they all worked together to advance the Kingdom (3 John 6-8).

Some were more graced to send missionaries, other were grace to go to the mission field either to pioneer a work like Paul and Barnabas, with an apostolic anointing, Or as a minister of help, like John-Marc, Timothy or Titus, working alongside an apostolic anointing.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to be involved in missions at a local and global level.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 NIV

Recommended Websites:

www.finishingthetask.com

www.joshuaproject.net

www.samaritanpurse.org