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# Introduction to Missions and Church Planting

## A Biblical View of Evangelising the World

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Course Requirements .....	2
Section 1.....	3
The Bible and Missions .....	3
Missions and Its Goal .....	5
The Pastor and Missions .....	7
Money and Missions.....	9
Section 1 Exam .....	11
Section 2.....	12
Missions and The Men God Uses .....	12
The Call of God to the Ministry of the Word .....	14
Section 2 Exam .....	26
Section 3.....	27
Preparing For the Mission Field .....	27
The Indigenous Principle of Church Planting.....	34
The Missionary's Framework .....	38
The Training of Faithful Men .....	40
Section 3 Exam .....	41
Section 4.....	42
Starting a New Testament Church .....	42
FINAL EXAM .....	64

## Course Requirements

### Textbook:

**Missions Missions Missions**, by Dr. Stinnett Ballew

### Textbook Suggestion:

Operation World, by Patrick Johnstone and Jason Mandryk

1. Write a three page report describing any area (country or people group) in the world that you believe needs a Bible believing church, why you believe it needs one, and what would be the necessary steps you would take to go there yourself and start a church there.
2. Attend 80% of the class sessions
3. Completely fill in these Class Notes and turn them in for review at the end of the semester
4. Pass the Final Exam with at least a 70% score
5. Read the class textbook assigned pages

# Section 1

## The Bible and Missions

*A Study On How God Prepares an Evangelist (Missionary)*

### I. Introduction

- A. In order to have a correct burden for missions we must have a correct foundation. Having pity for the people or being “concerned” about them because of a story you read or picture you saw is not enough. We need a broader and deeper foundation than this. The missionary enterprise effort is no human conception. It is from the very heart of God Himself. Jesus Christ is the evidence of God’s love for mankind.
- B. Jesus Christ is the great Missionary of God. This is very clear in the Bible (Jn. 3:16-17, 2 Cor. 5:19, 1 Jn 2:2, Jn. 1:29). The redemption of the whole world was God’s great purpose from the beginning (Acts 17:26-27).
- C. One writer said the Bible is the story of God’s search for man, and all other books tell of man’s search for God.

### II. Lesson

#### A. The Missionary Idea In The Old Testament

1. Choosing and calling of \_\_\_\_\_ shows God’s plan of blessing the whole earth. Gen. 12:3, 18:18, 22:17-18 , 26:2-4, 28:12-14.
2. Sending \_\_\_\_\_ to Egypt and saving many people from starvation. Gen. 45:5 Numbers 14:21.
3. Going out of the way to procure the salvation of two gentile women - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Prayer of \_\_\_\_\_ - 1 Kings 8:41, 43.
5. In the Book of Psalms there was a world-wide vision: Psalms 2, 22, 47, 50, 67, 72, 96
6. Throughout the Prophets
  - a. Isa. 45:21-22, 49:6, 52:10, 56:7, Jer. 3:17,
  - b. Hab. 2:14, Hag. 2:7, Zech. 9:10, Mal. 1:11
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ was a foreign missionary. Jonah 1:1-2

#### B. The Missionary Heart of The New Testament

1. The subject of missions can be *seen* in the Old Testament, but missions is the heart of the New Testament!
  - a. Every book in the N.T. was written by Jewish missionary.
  - b. All eleven apostles were missionaries.
  - c. Every book in the N.T. when written to a church, was written to a church started by a foreign missionary.
  - d. God has one Son - and He was a foreign missionary.
  - e. Every book in the N.T. written to an individual, was written to a convert by a foreign missionary!
2. See evangelism in the Gospels
  - a. Gospel means “\_\_\_\_\_” - how can it be good news unless it is \_\_\_\_\_?
  - b. In Matthew: 9:36-38; 24:14; 13:36-38;28:19,20
  - c. In Mark: 2:17; 3:31-35; 16:15
  - d. In Luke: 4:43; 10:29-37; 14:15-24; 24:47
  - e. In John: 1:12,29; 14:6; 3:16-17; 20:21; 4:24; 35-38; 42; 6:33; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46; 10:16; 12:32; 16:8

3. See evangelism in the book of Acts
  - a. Acts: 1:8 (Begins in Jerusalem and ends in Rome) 17:26-30; 26:13-18
  - b. Chap 13 to 28 history of foreign missions
4. See evangelism in the Epistles: Rom. 10:12-18
  - a. 1 Cor. 9:16-18
  - b. 2 Cor. 5:9-21
  - c. Phil. 2:14-16
  - d. 1 Tim. 2:1-7
5. See evangelism in the Revelation: Rev. 5:9; 7:9-10; 22:17

### C. The Great Commission of Matthew 28:19,20

1. When we speak of the great commission we speak of the great \_\_\_\_\_ given to the church and the command for us all to execute it.
2. This commission is given \_\_\_\_\_ times after the resurrection of Christ and before His ascension - Imagine - the most important task in the world given to simple, common man who were lacking higher education.
3. The commission according to Matthew. In Matthew we see Jesus as the King of Kings so in this instance of the commission we find His Kingship emphasized. Matt. 28:18-20
  - a. The power of the King - "all power".
  - b. The purpose of the King - "make disciples".
  - c. The process of the King - "going, teaching, baptizing". Teaching all that Jesus taught!
  - d. The presence of the King - "I am with you".
  - e. Don't miss the emphasis on "make disciples". This is the focal point. The failure of many mission movements has been that of proclaiming the gospel but not "growing" the convert.
  - f. Notice the four words: \_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, and then \_\_\_\_\_ some more
4. The commission according to Mark 16:15
  - a. The Method of Missions - preaching.
  - b. The Place of Missions - the world - not only local.
  - c. The Message of Missions - the gospel.
5. The commission according to Luke 24:44-49.
  - a. Outline of the commission.
    - 1) Foundation of the gospel - the \_\_\_\_\_: Law of Moses, the Prophets, the Psalms.
    - 2) Content of the gospel - the death and resurrection of Christ – not a humanitarian message!
    - 3) Command of the gospel - \_\_\_\_\_ and remission of sins should be preached.
    - 4) Place of the gospel - among \_\_\_\_\_ nations.
    - 5) Instruments of the gospel - ye are witnesses.
    - 6) Power of the gospel – the promise of the Father and the Holy Spirit.
  - b. The Message of the commission, spelled-out in Luke
    - 1) Jesus suffered and rose from the dead on the third day ("for us").
    - 2) Repentance and remission of sins should be preached ("in us").
    - 3) Christian life can only be lived through the power of the Holy Spirit ("through us").
6. The commission according to John 20:21-23.

- a. The Example - "As the Father hath sent".
- b. The Command - "So send I you".
- c. The Equipment - "Receive the Holy Spirit".
- d. The Mission - "Remit sins".

D. **Reading Assignment:** read the Introduction, and pages 7-10 in Missions Missions Missions.

## Missions and Its Goal

### I. Introduction

- A. Some have felt that the purpose of missions is to publish and proclaim the gospel. That is a good start, but that has no end in view! It just has to act of preaching, but no audience and no goal.
- B. Out-door preaching, tract and Bible distribution, radio evangelism, etc. are often stressed.
- C. This was the thrust of Hudson Taylor's work in China. But the result was that after several years they had very little visible effect because they had missed the very purpose of missions: establishing local congregations.
- D. The thrust, goal, purpose of Paul's ministry was that of \_\_\_\_\_.

### II. The Goal – Starting a Specific KIND of a Church

- A. Definition:
  1. A real, Bible kind of church is not a club, a lodge, a social gathering, a humanitarian organization, or a religion.
  2. The New Testament Church is an organized body of saved and baptized believers united together for the main purpose of carrying out the Great Commission.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ - A church of Bible believers
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ - A church that requires public immersion and testimony of salvation
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ – voluntarily operating as a body, under the headship of Jesus Christ, through a pastor and his leadership team, with committed membership
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ – actively evangelizing the people in the surrounding areas
- F. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ every new believer
- G. \_\_\_\_\_ – grounding every believer in the Bible. Bible believing Baptist in Doctrine. Not scratching itching ears!
- H. \_\_\_\_\_ – loving each and every believer, as well as the lost
- I. \_\_\_\_\_ – self-supporting by the people who attend
- J. \_\_\_\_\_ – clearly different than the community around them, and easily identified as Bible believing Christians that belong to their church.

### III. The Work of Missions (Acts 1:8)

- A. Acts 1:8 clearly tells us where we are to be witnesses:
  1. In Jerusalem – Your home area, city, county – where people are just like you.
  2. In all Judea – your country.
  3. In Samaria – Cross cultural church planting.
  4. And unto the uttermost parts of the earth – Regions beyond.
- B. The three most important words in Acts 1:8:
  1. \_\_\_\_\_ – "Duminis" Power referring to the help or aid of the Holy Spirit.
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ – "Martooos" Martyr - Sacrificer of all, even life itself.
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ – All at the same time, simultaneously, the forgotten word of missions. The main mission of the local church is missions and our mission field is the world.

**IV. The Indigenous Principle of Missions.**

A. Though there are many ways to plant churches, it is wise to plant \_\_\_\_\_ churches. A contextualized or \_\_\_\_\_ church springs from the soil and manifests many of the cultural traits and expressions of the people themselves, rather than being a church that consists, primarily, of an outside culture imported onto the new believers.

B. Definition of Indigenous: \_\_\_\_\_.

C. QUESTION: When is a church indigenous? (these things have to be true.)

1. When it is “Self-\_\_\_\_\_”: Autonomous
2. When it is “Self-\_\_\_\_\_”: Preserving
3. When it is “Self-\_\_\_\_\_”: Sufficient
4. When it is “Self-\_\_\_\_\_”: Reproducing

Note: Remember that the church is more than an organization, it is a living organism.

- a. It Must Grow
- b. It Must Reproduce

**D. Our Goal is to Establish SELF-GOVERNING Churches.**

1. A self-governing church makes its own decisions. Though seeking the wisdom of others is helpful, there is no need to consult an outside body in all matters of church life. There is no governing official or authority overseeing the local congregation and mandating what that particular church will do or not do. For example, the local congregation is free to govern itself regarding the purchasing of property, appointing leaders, organizing its own order of service, and developing ministries.
2. The church will eventually be training its own leaders.
3. The church will be eventually making its own decisions and will be independent of outside control.
4. It is called being Autonomous.
5. At first, a new church is in need of “parental guidance” maybe by its church planting missionary/pastor, but ultimately it must choose its own leadership, and follow that leadership.

**E. Our Goal Is To Establish SELF-CORRECTING Churches**

1. A church needs to keep its doctrine and membership pure.
2. It needs to have the authority to enforce Biblical standards and expectations – not calling on hierarchical authorities, but the Bible’s authority itself.
3. It needs to constantly keep and protect its leadership from error (Acts 20:28-31)
4. It needs to have the burden and means to do this and not let things “\_\_\_\_\_” (Heb 2:1)

**F. Our Goal Is To Establish SELF-SUPPORTING Churches**

1. A self-supporting church supports itself financially. If the congregation needs a new building, the congregation provides the money for such a structure. If it is necessary for the church to provide a full salary for the leaders, the church provides the income.
2. A self-supporting church is not dependent on outside funds to meet the day-to-day financial requirements for ministry.

**G. Our Goal Is To Establish SELF-PROPAGATING Churches**

1. A self-propagating church is able to spread the gospel across its own local geographic area and throughout the world. Everything the local church needs in order to share the good news with others is already present among the members. No outside and separate authority (e.g., Western missionaries) is needed for the church to carry out the Great Commission.

2. The new church must realize its part in the continuing process of world evangelization.
3. The church is to continue the mission process by:
  - 1) Evangelizing its own area.
  - 2) Sending out its own people as missionaries.
  - 3) Financially supporting missionaries.
4. The problem with some churches started by foreign missionaries is the fact that the churches feel that the foreign missionary is the one responsible to continue the process.

H. **Reading Assignment:** read pages 29-34 in Missions Missions Missions

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## **The Pastor and Missions**

### **I. Introduction**

- A. The main work of the church is to \_\_\_\_\_ the world and build up believers. If the church is lacking usually it can be attributed to the \_\_\_\_\_, "Everything rises and falls on leadership".
- B. If our church is going to be active in world evangelization, the pastor is the key. Pastors need to realize that missions is supreme and the missionary-evangelist is placed even \_\_\_\_\_ than the pastor (Eph. 4:11).

### **II. The Pastor Must Have the Right Attitude Toward Missions.**

- A. Sometimes the pastor feels indignation that you would be asking help from him when he is struggling himself.
- B. Maybe he feels he should do nothing for missions until his own work is solid.
  1. Remember, every pastor - though he never leaves his own area - must have a burden for foreign missions, or at least he should accept his responsibility.
  2. Suggestions for a pastor.
    - a. Every pastor should take a class in missions while in training at Bible school.
    - b. Every pastor should begin and maintain a strong missions program in his church.
    - c. Preach missionary sermons - at least once every three months.
    - d. Have an annual Missions Conference.
    - e. Invite missionaries to come and preach for you.
    - f. Have missionary prayer meetings.
      - 1) Once a month devote Wed. night prayer meeting to missions.
      - 2) Pray for the missionaries you support.
      - 3) Pray for areas that need missionaries.
    - g. Teach a series in Sunday School on some subject concerning missions (also in youth meetings).
    - h. Have a world map hanging in your church.
    - i. Emphasize missionary giving.

### **III. The Pastor And The Mission Program Of The Church**

- A. When we say Mission Program we mean more than just the Annual Mission Conference . We mean the entire work of the church concerning missions and world evangelism for the whole year.
- B. Some churches have a Mission Conference but the rest of the year Missions is forgotten.
  1. You must first of all \_\_\_\_\_ your people:

- a. Concerning the condition of all lost sinners; those who have heard and those who have not heard.
  - b. Concerning the commission of the church:
    - 1) To all churches
    - 2) At all times
    - 3) In all nations
  - c. Concerning the call of missionaries by the Holy Spirit.
2. You must then elevate missions in the church.
    - a. Show this to be the greatest responsibility of the church.
    - b. Show this to be the highest calling for a servant of God.
    - c. Show this to be the most humbling privilege to anyone.
  3. You should then eliminate everything from your missions budget which is not really missions.
    - a. Your building program.
    - b. Property fund.
    - c. Other ministries of your church (radio, discipleship, Bible studies, deaf, blind, extension classes, etc.).
    - d. Remember - the mission budget is not a place to get extra money for your own ministry or program. If you have extra money in the missions budget - use it only for missions.
    - e. Be careful not to "borrow" from the mission fund.

#### **IV. The Pastor And The Annual Mission Conference**

##### **A. Scheduling the Mission Conference.**

1. Schedule for the same time every year (ex. last Wed. of January begins).
2. Remember such things as rainy season, harvest time, planting time, school closing, etc. so that it does not conflict
3. Invite your missionaries/preachers ahead of time and get confirmation from them.
4. Suggested days : Sunday to Wednesday , Wednesday to Sunday (could have film showing on Sat. or International Supper.
5. A different method is to have a \_\_\_\_\_ with guest speakers every Sunday instead of one conference.

##### **B. Preparing for the Mission Conference.**

1. Decide upon your theme or motto for that conference.
2. Make simple and clear decorations for the church.
3. Begin announcing a few months ahead of time.
4. Teach and preach concerning missions and stewardship weeks before the conference.
5. Ask people to give extra to help with the extra expenses.
6. Teach your people the difference between tithes and offering and mission giving.
7. Possibly could invite different pastors to come and preach and explain what their church is doing for missions. Do this for one month before the conference.

##### **C. During the Mission Conference.**

1. Plan your services carefully.
2. Do not let evening services be too long.
3. Let the speakers know how much time they have. Emphasize this and instruct them not to say- "I only have a little time." This is amateurish.

4. Schedule church members to give testimonies each service about the blessings of supporting missions.
5. Do not have too many activities planned which will take time away from the preaching of God's Word.
6. All congregational music and special music should be about missions, evangelism, surrender, giving.

D. After the Mission Conference is over.

1. Continue preaching or teaching for a few more weeks about missions.
2. Remind your people about their commitments to support missions.
3. Have some of your members give testimonies of decisions they made.

## **V. The Pastor And The Missionaries Supported By The Church**

- A. Pray for them regularly.
- B. Try to be an encouragement to them.
- C. Write to them.
- D. Let them know you want a letter from them at least every 3 months.

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# **Money and Missions**

## **I. Introduction**

- A. We know the church has a responsibility to support missionaries.(Acts 13:1-4; 1 Cor. 9; Rom. 10:1-4; 3 John)
- B. The question is - How does the church support missions? or what method does it use ?
- C. There are some basic methods used which we will consider

## **II. The \_\_\_\_\_ Or Co-Operative Method**

- A. (Used by Southern Baptists, some Fundamental Baptists, and Methodists)
- B. Local churches do not support individual missions, instead they support the Mission Program of the denomination.
- C. A percentage of the local church's tithes and offering are sent to the headquarters (head office).
- D. All money sent by the local churches is then placed in one account/fund.
- E. The missionaries are then supported from the same fund.
- F. Weakness - The local church never really gets a burden for missions - nor has contact with missionaries.

## **III. The \_\_\_\_\_ Method – Direct From The Church To The Missionary**

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ decides what missionaries and mission projects it will support.
- B. The church decides how much (what amount) it will give to each missionary.
- C. The church can send the money/support :
  1. Directly to the missionary.
  2. To the missionary's home church.
  3. To the missionary's mission board.
- D. The money/support can be sent monthly, every two months or quarterly.
- E. Four Methods used by local churches to support missions:
  1. As part of the general fund (ex: 10% of tithes and offerings are given to missions).
  2. Individual members plan how much they will give to missions above their tithes and offerings (Planned Giving).

3. Faith-Promise Giving - individual church members pray and ask God how much He wants them to give each month for missions. This money is not a part of their regular income, it is money which the Lord will supply especially for missions. Because you have faith you then promise that you will give the amount.
4. The church takes up special offerings for missions, divides up the money and sends it to the missionaries.

**IV. Suggestions For The Church And Pastor**

- A. Send the support at a regular time (ex. every third month, first or last of every month).
- B. Do not reduce the missionary's support unless absolutely necessary.
- C. Do not keep a lot of extra mission money in the bank - instead use it for giving to special mission projects.
- D. Do not ask the missionary to send you a report of how he spent the money/support.
- E. Continue supporting the missionary as long as they are church planting.
- F. If he is a missionary on a foreign field, do not discontinue your support until he leaves his field or until the Lord takes him home to heaven.

**V. Reading Assignment:** read pages 11-17 as well as pages 46-63 in Missions Missions Missions

Section 1 Exam

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who was the great Missionary of God? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Give an Example of The Missionary Idea In The Old Testament.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Gospel means what? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When we speak of the great commission we speak of what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the Foundation of the gospel? \_\_\_\_\_
6. The thrust, goal, purpose of Paul’s ministry was what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Define in simple terms what The New Testament Church is. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. List THREE of the nine characteristics of a New Testament Church:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
9. List the four places from Acts 1:8 where we are to be witnesses, and describe what they represent to us today:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Define The Indigenous Principle of Missions.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. When is a church indigenous? (four things have to be true.)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Describe what a Mission Conference is. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Describe the best way for a local church to support missions? or what method should it use, and why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Section 2

### Missions and The Men God Uses

#### I. Introduction

- A. God is concerned with salvation of man.
- B. Jesus died for the sins of man.
- C. God calls man to do His work.
- D. The Holy Spirit gives His power to man.
- E. There are three great parts to world missions :
  1. Praying - man must pray
  2. Giving - man must give.
  3. Going - man must go.

#### II. The Meaning Of The Word Missionary

- A. "Missionary" is not found in an English Bible
- B. "Missionary" is from the Latin word which means a "\_\_\_\_\_".
- C. "Apostle" is from the Greek word which also means a "sent one" (with a message/mission).
- D. So, What is a Missionary?
  1. A man with a mission
  2. Saved by God's grace, trained by God's word, called by God's Holy Spirit, enabled by God's people, all so that he can go preaching God's Son!
  3. The biblical term is \_\_\_\_\_ (2Tim 4:5)
    - a. His mission is to evangelize - do the work of an evangelist.
    - b. An evangelizer – a soul-winner
    - c. A church starter
    - d. All biblical missionaries are *Church Starters* or part of a team of Church Starters!!!
    - e. A woman missionary doesn't actually start a church, but is called to help a man-missionary to start a church
  4. So, in other words, a Missionary is Someone who goes into the highways and hedges, and compels people to get saved, and then groups those new Christians into a local church so that they, as a unified body can obey the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19,20
  5. The pastor is called by the Lord to a \_\_\_\_\_, but a missionary church planter is called by the Lord to a \_\_\_\_\_!
- E. Usually, a missionary goes to another country outside of their own
  1. They usually have to learn a new language, a new culture
  2. They have to be willing to risk their lives to get the Gospel into another country

#### III. Personal Characteristics Which Are Helpful To The Missionary (Herbert Kane)

- A. Emotional maturity and stability; the many "little irritants" add up to a lot.
- B. Being able to adapt to climate, food, dress, language, customs, religion, etc.
- C. A sense of \_\_\_\_\_ (God's work is a serious business - don't misunderstand - but we don't have to be overly serious ourselves). Learn to laugh at yourself and your problems.
- D. An attitude of cooperation (Phil. 2:4). As missionaries we are a part of a team and should know how to get along with others.
- E. A willingness to listen and take orders. A good follower makes a good leader

- F. The ability to endure difficulties and \_\_\_\_\_ (2Tim. 2:3).
- G. Don't be in a habit now of always looking for shortcuts. Rural life in the most of the world is good for teaching endurance in hardship.
- H. Have patience and perseverance.
- I. Do not feel \_\_\_\_\_ to others. (this was the attitude of many missionaries in the past century.)
- J. Hudson Taylor did much to show a new attitude toward culture in dressing and eating like the people he ministered to.
- K. Do not have \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. Reading Assignment:** read pages 35-40 in Missions Missions Missions

## The Call of God to the Ministry of the Word

(Adapted by Dr. Carl Boonstra from: *A Biblical Theology of Missions*; George Peters pp. 277)

### I. Introduction

- A. The practical implications of the call of God to the ministry of the Word of God are far reaching for the life of the individual believer.
- B. A positive response may transform a seemingly insignificant vessel into a vessel of glory and honour which may become a channel of immeasurable riches of God to untold multitudes of people.
- C. If negligence or disobedience leads to side-stepping the call of God, the life must be expected to spiritually impoverished and dwarfed in spiritual stature.
- D. Every Christian needs to be willing to do the will of God, no matter what it may mean or involve for them.

### II. The Call of the Missionary

#### A. The Call of God on a person is three-fold

1. To \_\_\_\_\_
  2. To \_\_\_\_\_ and Holiness
  3. To \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 13:1-2)
    - a. All men and women are called to testify/preach
    - b. All are called to work and provide for their families
    - c. All are called to minister together as a body in a local church
    - d. But a few are called to start and lead churches
- B. You had better make sure you know and understand two things:
1. Your calling
  2. And if called, then know your field!
- C. The Call of the Missionary is:
1. \_\_\_\_\_ than that of a pastor
    - a. A Pastor is called to Shepherd a church
    - b. The pastor may stay at that church all his life, or may move on and pastor another church as the Lord directs
  2. A Missionary/Evangelist is called to constantly be:
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ - Go somewhere - anywhere
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ - Preach, teach, instruct, exhort, subvert, and compel people to get saved and to follow Jesus Christ
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_ - Start a church from those who get saved (Heb 10:25)
    - d. \_\_\_\_\_ - Pastor that church, feeding, training, equipping the saints to live and function first as followers of Jesus, then as a Church, and finally, training the young men of that church to pastor that church
    - e. \_\_\_\_\_ - personally discipling and training every believe in the whole counsel of God, preparing the church to operate on its own at any time in the future
    - f. \_\_\_\_\_ - Leave that church with its own pastor
    - g. \_\_\_\_\_ - Then, go and do the whole thing over again!
- D. The Call to a Field
1. Sometimes called only to a ministry

- a. Like as a missionary helper – going and working with various missionaries, anywhere in the world
  - b. Like as a part-time missionary – only going on short term trips into various countries to evangelise
2. Called USUALLY people are called to a specific location and a specific work (Acts 1:8; Mk 16:15; Mt 28:19)
3. But most importantly, a missionary is called to a PEOPLE!
- a. Some important statistics
    - 1) There are over seven billion people in the world
    - 2) There are 237 countries currently in the world today
    - 3) There are 482 cities in the world with over 1 million people in them
    - 4) There are 20 with over 10 million people in them
    - 5) There are 66 nations that have significant restrictions on religion
    - 6) Out of the 7 billion people
      - a) Muslims account for 1.3 billion
      - b) Roman Catholicism makes for 1 billion
      - c) Atheists account for 1 billion
      - d) Hindus make for 820 million
      - e) Buddhists comprise about 400 million
      - f) Various smaller sects account for 1 billion
      - g) Only about 300 million are evangelised
  - b. What are the vital statistics concerning YOUR field of ministry if you have one yet?

### **III. The Preparation of The \_\_\_\_\_ For The Call of God**

- A. The sovereignty of God constantly prepares the heart of every man to serve God. It is man's responsibility to hear the call of God and obey it. (Mt. 11:15; Mk. 4:9; 7:16; Rev. 2:7,11,17,29; 3:6,13,22.)
- B. We may compare the call of God to a telephone call.
1. It means nothing to a deaf person at the receiver end, no matter how distant, specific and individual the call from the other end may be. When the ear is closed, the mind preoccupied, and the will and purposes set, man is outside of hearing distance, and the call of God will never reach him.
  2. Many people never receive a call from the Lord, not because the Lord is not calling, but simply because they are not within calling distance. They are out of reach.
  3. We must prepare our hearts for the call of God.
- C. For this we make several suggestions:
1. Make sure your \_\_\_\_\_ has become a living and sanctified sacrifice unto the Lord. (Rom. 12:1-2)
  2. Make sure there is no conscious sin dulling your spiritual ear and spiritual sight (Eph. 1:18, Col 1:9).
  3. Make sure there are no preconceived personal plans and preferences (Ps. 25:9). D. Make sure you obey God daily and gladly in the little things of everyday life.
  4. Practice \_\_\_\_\_ to God and man (Lk. 19:17; 1 Sam. 15:22).
  5. Make sure you are \_\_\_\_\_ to go and be used anywhere (Jn. 7:17).
  6. Form the habit of \_\_\_\_\_, Bible study, and private meditations before the Lord (Jn. 1:8; Ps. 77:12; 119:15, 25).
  7. Form the habit of waiting patiently upon the Lord and expect Him to direct every step of your everyday life and doing (Prov. 3:6; Ps. 23:3).

8. Study carefully the Word of God relative to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God for the Christian life and the Christian church. Get saturated with the Word of God (Ps. 119:11, 104-5).
  9. Study carefully the great spiritual needs of our day and prepare to meet them. Get a world vision and a world burden (Jn. 4:35).
  10. Spend much time in \_\_\_\_\_ prayer for the cause and ministry of Christ at home and abroad (Mt. 9:37-38).
  11. Pray regularly and earnestly that God will make His will and call definite to you (Ps. 25:4; 27:11; 143:8).
  12. Rest assuredly in the promises of God and expect Him to meet you according to your need. He will make His will and calling sure (Ps. 37:5,7a; 32:8).
- D. The clarity, depth and definiteness of the call of God will depend to a great extent upon the quality of the \_\_\_\_\_, the intensity of our fellowship with the Lord, and the degree of our willingness to obey the Master in His command and commission.

#### **IV. The Call of God With Special Reference To The Missionary.**

- A. God uses at least five approaches to the heart of man to make His call impressive and individual.
1. Through \_\_\_\_\_ instrumentality.
    - a. An example is found in the experience of Paul. Paul raises the question: "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" In the city the Lord appeared to Ananias and revealed to him the call of Saul. (Acts 26:16-19.)
    - b. Again, somewhat later, we find Saul in Tarsus. A need arises in Antioch, and the Lord directs the attention of Barnabas to Saul. Barnabas, therefore, travels all the way from Antioch to Tarsus to extend the divine call to Saul. (cf. Acts 11:25-26).
  2. Through their \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 13:1-3)
  3. Through reading of the Word of God and meditation upon it. Someone has so fittingly characterized a missionary volunteer as:
    - a. A Mind through which Christ thinks.
    - b. A Heart through which Christ loves.
    - c. A Voice through which Christ speaks.
    - d. A Hand through which Christ helps.
  4. Through reading mission reports and studies.
    - a. Perhaps the best illustration of this method is found in the life of the father of modern missions, \_\_\_\_\_. It is well known that Carey was a diligent student of the Word of God. He lived in the Scriptures. But it is also known that he was a keen student of world conditions, especially in relation to the spreading of the gospel story.
    - b. It has almost become proverbial in mission studies to speak of the cobbler and his mission map before him on the wall. On this self-constructed map he would add all the information he could find in books of geography, newspapers, and especially in the reports of Dr. Cook's explorations in the South Pacific and of the East India Trading Company. Reports, facts, figures, maps and pictures are still a mighty force, and God used these means to extend His call. No missionary therefore, should weary of rehearsing "all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles (Acts 14:27).
    - c. Mission conferences and systematic mission studies are a great need. They will prove a blessing whenever they are carried on in a sound manner.
  5. Through \_\_\_\_\_ experiences.

- a. Numerous men and women of God had to be led into real crises in their lives before God could impress His call upon their consciousness and find a positive response.
6. Through sound, logical thinking.
  - a. C.T. Studd reasoned: "If Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him."
  - b. Keith Falconer of Arabia writes: "While vast continents still lie shrouded in midnight darkness, and hundreds of millions still suffer the horrors of heathenism and Islam, the burden of proof rests upon you to show that the circumstances in which God has placed you were meant by Him to keep you out of the foreign fields."

## V. The Persuasion of The Call of God.

- A. Though no two calls will be alike in their details in psychological impressions and expressions, I believe that every call which finds a positive response in the prepared heart will result in the following persuasions:
  1. A deep conviction of the universal need of people for the gospel.
  2. A deep conviction that God wills all people to hear the Gospel and that God is no respecter of persons.
  3. The realization of our means to meet that need – with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
  4. A deep sense of personal \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. The realization of our supernatural ability to meet that need (preparation) or our willingness to prepare to meet that need).
  6. A wholehearted and complete \_\_\_\_\_ to the task of meeting that need.
- B. This is very often accompanied by an inner satisfaction, growing conviction, and peace and rest.

## VI. Tests of The Call of God (Acts 13)

- A. Certain principles by which we may make our calling sure are well summarized by one writer:
  1. Does it agree with God's general plan as set forth in His Word?
  2. Can your circumstances be made to agree with what seems to be His leading?
  3. Does the Holy Spirit bear continual witness that this is the will of God?
  4. Are you still called when there is no challenge of adventure and no glamour of heroism?
  5. If called to an insignificant field, \_\_\_\_\_? If you were the only one to stand, would you stand?
  6. Are you willing to pay the price?
  7. Are you merely "impressed" that you should go to a certain field, or is it a deep "conviction"?
  8. Let us also make sure that we permit the call of God to mature in our lives, but not to grow stale and become ineffective. There is danger in premature action and there is danger in postponement.

Wherever He may guide me,  
 No want shall turn me back;  
 My Shepherd is beside me,  
 And nothing can lack.  
 His wisdom ever waketh;  
 His sight is never dim;  
 He knows the way He taketh,  
 And I will walk with Him.

*Anna L. Waxing*

9. Are you \_\_\_\_\_ doing the work of the Ministry? (Acts 13)

- a. Sunday School Teacher, Youth Work, Bus Captains
  - b. Do you do door to door evangelism and do any outreach efforts?
  - c. Are you using opportunities on Wednesday nights or Sunday nights to preach.
  - d. Are you actively serving God! If someone feels that serving is too much - then that would be an indicator that they are not called.
  - e. Train them - after all that is your job as a pastor.
10. Can someone talk you \_\_\_ of going?
11. Their wife and family
- a. Speak to their wife - what and how do they feel about this?
  - b. Have your wife invite them over or go out to lunch and let her share what she has undergone as a pastor wife.
  - c. If the family is not behind him then the extra stress on the marriage could lead to divorce.

### B. Test The Missionary's Salvation Experience

1. Must be thoroughly saved – have a good and clear testimony
  - a. Write out your salvation testimony
  - b. Make it into a tract
  - c. Translate it into your target language
  - d. Have it reviewed by someone who speaks your target language
2. Must be able to lead others to Christ –
  - a. On the job and on your own
  - b. At regular church soul-winning times
  - c. You will never be ready to go to another field, until you have proven that you can win souls right where you are
3. Must be able to teach others how to lead people to Christ
  - a. Take someone with you when you go soul-winning
  - b. Train them yourself – that is what Discipleship is all about, and that is what you will be doing for the rest of your life!

### C. Test The Missionary's Qualifications (1Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9; 2Tim 2:24-26)

1. Of Good Public Standing
  - a. Blameless as the steward of God
  - b. He must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
  - c. No striker
  - d. Not a brawler
2. A Family Man
  - a. The husband of one wife – a married man
  - b. One that ruleth well his own house
    - 1) Having his children in subjection with all gravity
    - 2) Having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.
    - 3) (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
3. Personal Character and Holiness
  - a. Vigilant – hard-working, and always on the lookout for the devil's attack
  - b. A lover of good men – study and follow good, holy men
  - c. Sober – always thinking, and serious about your calling and life

- d. Just – equal in his dealings with people
- e. Holy – keep your life clean and pure for use by God
- f. Not given to wine – never seek alcoholic drinks to help you cope, or relax, or to enable you to win the lost
- g. Not greedy of filthy lucre – ignore the need for money, and learn to trust God
- h. Not soon angry – anger has no place in the ministry
- i. Not covetous
- j. Not selfwilled - Temperate

#### 4. Ministry Oriented

- a. Of good behaviour
- b. Given to hospitality - a lover of hospitality
- c. Apt to teach
- d. Patient
- e. Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.
- f. Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

#### 5. Evaluate their Christian activities:

- a. Have they led anyone to Christ?
- b. Are they tithing?
- c. Are they faithful to all services?
- d. Are they faithful in ministry?
- e. Are their families under submission?

D. Now, **Test God's Call on Your Life**. The following tests are from the Bible and can help a man determine if God is calling him to be a pastor or missionary. By these tests churches also can examine men who might express interest in being pastors.

#### 1. THE TEST OF

- a. *"This is a true saying, If a man \_\_\_\_\_ the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work"* (1 Timothy 3:1).
- b. The verse speaks of a strong, compelling desire, a compulsion. Paul speaks of such compulsion in 1 Corinthians 9:16 when he says, *"... for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"*
- c. Those in Israel who did the work of building the tabernacle were men "whose hearts stirred them up, to come unto the work to do it" (Exodus 36:2). Even so, the men who are to lead the churches must be men whose hearts have been divinely stirred for this great task.
- d. This desire will not be just a passing interest; it will be a passion, a powerful, divine summons to the ministry. It has been said, and rightly so, that if a man can refrain easily from preaching and being a church leader or missionary, he should. Why? Because God's call to such ministry is attended by a powerful, unmistakable summons. You see this in God's call to the prophets (consider Jeremiah chapter one, for example) and in His call to the Apostles (consider Acts chapter nine). And since it is the same God who gives pastors to the churches, we can expect Him to call in just this same positive, clear way.
- e. A man might say no to God's call, as Jonah did (temporarily!), but he will not mistake the call or ignore it lightly. As a boy I often went fishing with my father and grandfather. Sometimes we would "troll," meaning we would use the outboard motor to move the boat slowly through the water while our fishing lines were dragged behind the boat. Before I caught my first fish while "trolling" I would reel my bait line in repeatedly, thinking that the tug on the line caused by the movement of the boat through the water was a fish. My grandfather would always say, "Don't be hasty, son. You will know for

- certain when a fish strikes your line.” He was right! The real fish bite was unmistakable. The same is true for God’s call to special ministry such as the pastorate or missionary work.
- f. C.H. Spurgeon, in addressing his men in the Pastor’s College warned, “If any student in this room could be content to be a newspaper editor, or a grocer, or a farmer, or a doctor, or a lawyer, or a senator, or a king, in the name of heaven and earth let him go his way... If on the other hand, you can say that for all the wealth of both the Indies you could not and dare not espouse any other calling so as to be put aside from preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, then, depend upon it, if other things be equally satisfactory, you have the signs of this apostleship.”
  - g. One of the greatest problems in churches today is leaders who have not been called of God!
  - h. Alas, there are many who have been called by churches, or by organizations, or by relatives, or called by their own self-interest—but who have not been called by the Lord of the Harvest. This is a very serious matter, for the Bible warns, “My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.” (James 3:1) In spite of this warning, great numbers of men who lack evidence of a divine gift and call continue to usurp the positions of leadership in churches and Christian organizations.
  - i. Men who are not called of God lack the spiritual unction and discernment necessary for this solemn work, and often become the worst enemies of those who truly are called of God. They lack clear understanding of the doctrinal teaching of the Word of God; they care little or nothing for defending the faith or protecting the people of God from heresy; they cannot understand the fire which burns in a man’s bones when he is truly called to preach the Bible. And not infrequently they end up branding the God-called man as a troublemaker in the church of God rather than discerning his divine unction. Woe unto such usurpers at God’s judgment bar!

## 2. THE TEST OF

- a. *“A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity. ... Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil”* (1 Timothy 3:2-7; also Titus 1:6-8).
- b. Desire is important, but in itself is not enough. The individual’s life must also meet New Testament requirements for church leadership. Some people who desire to be pastors, deacons, or missionaries are deceived about God’s call. They feel God is calling them to that particular work, but it is obvious that He is not. God would not give detailed standards for elders and deacons, then ignore His own standards by calling an unqualified person!
- c. If a woman, for example, feels God is calling her to be a pastor or deacon, she is wrong. The Bible says plainly this is a man’s work. Likewise if a man has a poor reputation in his community, or is given to wine, or has a mean spirit, or loves money, or does not have faithful children and a good home life, or has more than one wife, etc., he can be certain that God does not want him in church leadership work until the problem is corrected.

## 3. THE TEST OF

- a. *“Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers”* (Titus 1:9; see also 1 Timothy 3:5 and 1 Peter 5:2).
- b. When God calls, He equips. He will never call someone to do something without giving that person the ability to do it. When the Lord wanted the tabernacle built in the time of

Moses, He prepared men for this work. *“See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship”* (Exodus 31:2-3).

- c. We see here the main aspects of God’s call for special service. First, it was an individual call. God called Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur. Secondly, it was to a particular, definite work. Thirdly, God’s call was accompanied by the ability to perform that call.
- d. It is true that God loves to use the weak things of this world for His service. Because in this way Jesus Christ receives the glory, God often calls men to preach who seem unlikely candidates by man’s natural standards. He will not, though, call a man to be a pastor who cannot do the work of a pastor. For instance, a man must be able to teach the Bible and protect Christians from false teachers. He must, therefore, be able to read and study well enough to do this work. He must have special doctrinal knowledge and discernment as well as a shepherd’s heart for protecting and watching over the church. No man without this ability is in the position to be a pastor, even if he has a strong desire and a good Christian life and testimony.

#### 4. THE TEST OF RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT OF THE

- a. *“Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away”* (Acts 13:1-3; also Acts 16:1-3).
- b. When God called Paul and Barnabas to a particular missionary work, their local church readily recognized that call. The same was true when Timothy was called to accompany Paul on his journeys. This is one of the most important tests. It is true that there will be occasions when a church is controlled by unsaved or carnal men and that church’s judgment will be wrong.
- c. There have been instances when God called a man or woman to a certain work, but the local church involved refused to recognize the call or support the ministry. In fact, there are examples of this in the Bible.
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ was rejected by His own people (John 1:11).
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ was rejected by the Galatians and by some in the Corinthian church (Galatians 4:15-17; 1 Corinthians 9:11; 2 Corinthians 6:11-12; 3:1).
  - 3) John and other men of God were rejected by the proud church leader, \_\_\_\_\_ (3 John 9-10).
- d. The normal Bible pattern, though, is for an individual’s call and burden to be recognized and supported by the church or churches which know him best.
- e. *“Considerable weight is to be given to the judgment of men and women who live near to God, and in most instances their verdict will not be a mistaken one. Yet this appeal is not final nor infallible, and is only to be estimated in proportion to the intelligence and piety of those consulted. I remember well how earnestly I was dissuaded from preaching by as godly a Christian matron [lady] as ever breathed; the value of her opinion I endeavoured to estimate with candour and patience—but it was outweighed by the judgment of persons of wider experience...*
- f. *“I have noted... that you, gentlemen, students, as a body, in your judgment of one another, are seldom if ever wrong. There has hardly ever been an instance, take the whole house through, where the general opinion of the entire college concerning a brother has been erroneous... Meeting as you do in class, in prayer-meeting, in conversation, and in various religious engagements, you gauge each other; and a wise*

man will be slow to set aside the verdict of the house.” (C.H. Spurgeon, Lectures to My Students)

#### 5. THE TEST OF PROVING HIS \_\_\_\_\_ IN GOD'S WORK

- a. *“Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil”* (1 Timothy 3:6).
- b. *“And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office...”* (1 Timothy 3:10).
- c. *“And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things...”* (2 Corinthians 8:22).
- d. The Scriptures show that churches must be careful in ordination. Men should demonstrate their zeal and faithfulness BEFORE being ordained for special service, not BY the ordination. The Apostle Paul warned Timothy, *“Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men’s sins. Keep yourself pure”* (1 Timothy 5:20). In other words, Timothy was warned to be very cautious about ordaining men to positions of leadership. The entire context of 1 Timothy 5:17-26 concerns leaders in the church. If a congregation fails to prove men before ordination, it becomes partaker of the evil deeds of the unqualified leaders. By laying on of hands, those performing the ordination are testifying publicly that they are convinced God has called the person being ordained. They are identifying themselves with that person. If the church makes a mistake because of hastiness and failure to prove the person by God’s standards, they become partakers of the sins of the man wrongly ordained.
- e. It is no light thing to take the position of a leader in God’s church. A Scripture already quoted warns, *“My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation”* (James 3:1). Greater responsibility means greater judgment. The leader must answer to God, not only for his own life and family, but for his entire congregation or sphere of ministry, whatever it might involve. Even the unbelievers in the community observe church leaders’ lives closely and judge Christ and the Bible by these men. Have you ever heard someone say, *“What is so special about the church and Christianity? Even the pastors are hypocrites”*?
- f. Individuals and churches must be cautious and not exercise haste in these matters. Let a man prove himself faithful in the church as a servant of God and manifest an unmistakable divine call to the ministry before being ordained.

### VII. The Challenge of The Call of God

- A. The call of God bestows the highest honour upon man and becomes the greatest challenge to his life.
- B. No person, therefore, should think lightly of the call of God, for it deserves his most prayerful consideration and most diligent heed.
- C. The call of God is a challenge to a life of sacrifice.
  1. It is an abiding principle of the kingdom of God that all spiritual ministries are based upon and associated with a life of sacrifice. Not even Christ was an exception to this divine principle. Indeed, He lived the life of the supreme sacrifice. Of Him we read that He laid aside the riches of eternity and became poor that He might enrich others (2 Cor. 8:9).
  2. He divested Himself of the divine glory which was His inheritance from eternity (Jn. 17:5,24; Phil 2:5-8; Mt. 26:67-68; 27:27-31; Mk. 14:65; 15:16-2; Lk. 22:63-65; Jn. 18:22; 19:1-3; 10:17-18.)
  3. The call of God is a challenge to a life of sacrifice. Loneliness, privation and hardships that will deplete the physical strength and imperil bodily health are included in the call of God. Comforts and conveniences, homes and relationships must become secondary for the call of God. The Lord may require the sacrifice of health and life. Such is the challenge of the call of God.

- D. The call of God is a challenge to a service of the greatest need of mankind.
1. The missionary who is called of God must keep his divine ordination (call) clearly and constantly in mind. He is called to serve the spiritual need of mankind.
  2. His grave and constant danger can be side-tracked and he can end up labouring in regard to the symptoms rather than the cause of all illness and problems in the world.
  3. The gospel of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Bible is the only and sufficient remedy for man's basic need.
  4. The missionary, therefore, must remain \_\_\_\_\_ in the proclamation of the Gospel of God. Only thus is he loyal and true to the call of God.
- E. The call of God is a challenge to a Service which pays the greatest dividend.
1. Christ's admonition is as true today as it was in the days when He spoke the words: "*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.*" (Mt. 9:37; Jn. 4:35.)
- F. The call of God is a challenge to the deepest experiences of the Lord in our life.
1. It is my deepest conviction that the missionary of God is not only unique in his call and ministry; he is also unique in his experiences with the Lord. His life has the 'thrills' as well as the 'pills' of the Christian life and ministry. He experiences the companionship of the Lord in a unique way.
  2. The distance from friends and relatives is balanced by the nearness of the Lord. The discomforts and inconveniences are outweighed by the comforts, peace, and joy the Lord provides. The moral and social evil to which he is constantly exposed is countered by the glory and presence of the Lord. The material and physical discomforts are overshadowed by spiritual enrichings. Thus the loss becomes gain. our God is a just master as well as a gracious comforter.
- G. Necessary Abilities of A Pastor
1. He must be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the Word of God and shepherd the church (1 Peter 5:2; Jeremiah 3:15).
  2. He must be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the Christians from false teachers (Titus 1:9-11; Acts 20:28-32).
  3. He must be able to take \_\_\_\_\_ of the church; he must have the ability to and supervise all areas of church life and ministry (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2; Hebrews 13:17).
- H. "The main difference between a minister and a private Christian seems to consist in those ministerial gifts, which are imparted to him, not for his own sake, but for the edification of others. But then I say these are to appear in due season; they are not to be expected instantaneously, but gradually, in the use of proper means. They are necessary for the discharge of the ministry, but not necessary as prerequisites to warrant our desires after it." (John Newton as quoted in Spurgeon's Lectures to My Students)

### VIII. Conclusion

- A. Here is the testimony of a man who ought to know. David Livingstone, whose heart lies buried in Africa, leaves the following words for us to ponder:

1. "For my part I have never ceased to rejoice that God has appointed me to such an office. People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa. Can that be called a sacrifice which is simply paid back as a small part of a great debt owing to God, which we can never repay? Is that a sacrifice which brings its own best reward in healthful activity the consciousness of doing good, peace of mind, and the bright home of a glorious destiny hereafter? Away with such a word, and such a view, and such a thought. It is emphatically NO sacrifice. Say, rather, that it is a privilege. Anxiety, sickness, suffering or danger now and then, with a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities of life; may make us pause and cause the spirit to waver and sink; but let this be only for a moment.
2. All of these are nothing when compared with the glory which will hereafter be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice. Of this we ought not to talk, when we remember the great sacrifice made by Him who left His Father's throne on high to give Himself for us."

B. Adoniram Judson's Advice to Missionary Candidates (June 25, 1832)

Dear Brethren:

1. Let it be a missionary life; that is, come out for life, and not for a limited term. Do not fancy that you have a true missionary spirit, while you are intending all along to leave the heathen soon after acquiring their language. Leave them! for what? To spend the rest of your days in enjoying the ease and plenty of your native land?
2. In choosing a companion for life, have particular regard to a good constitution, and not want only, or without good cause, bring a burden on yourselves and the mission.
3. Be not ravenous to do good on board ship. Missionaries have frequently done more hurt than good, but injudicious zeal, during their passage out.
4. Take care that the attention you receive at home, the unfavorable circumstances in which you will be placed on board ship, and the unmissionary examples you may possibly meet with at some missionary stations, do not transform you from living missionaries to mere skeletons before you reach the place of your destination. It may be profitable to bear in mind, that a large proportion of those who come out on a mission to the East die within five years after leaving their native land. Walk softly, therefore; death is narrowly watching your steps.
5. Beware of the reaction which will take place soon after reaching your field of labor. There you will perhaps find native Christians, of whose merits or demerits you can not judge correctly without some familiar acquaintance with their language. Some appearances will combine to disappoint and disgust you. You will meet with disappointments and discouragements, of which it is impossible to form a correct idea from written accounts, and which will lead you, at first, almost to regret that you have embarked in the cause. You will see men and women whom you have been accustomed to view through a telescope some thousands of miles long. Such an instrument is apt to magnify. Beware, therefore, of the reaction you will experience from a combination of all these causes, lest you become disheartened at commencing your work, or take up a prejudice against some persons and places, which will embitter all your future lives.
6. Beware of the greater reaction which will take place after you have acquired the language, and become fatigued and worn out with preaching the gospel to a disobedient and gainsaying people. You will sometimes long for a quiet retreat, where you can find a respite from the tug of toiling at native work - the incessant, intolerable friction of the missionary grindstone. And Satan will sympathize with you in this matter; and he will present some government situation, some professorship or editor ship, some literary or scientific pursuit, some supernumerary translation or, at least, some system of schools; anything, in a word, that will help you without much surrender of character, to slip out of real missionary work. Such a temptation will form the crisis of your disease. If your spiritual constitution can sustain it, you recover; if not, you die.
7. Beware of pride; not the pride of proud men, but the pride of humble men - that secret pride which is apt to grow out of the consciousness that we are esteemed by the great and good. This pride sometimes eats out the vitals of religion before its existence is suspected. In order to check its operations, it may be well to remember how we appear in the sight of God, and how we

should appear in the sight of our fellowmen; if all were known. Endeavor to let all be known. Confess your faults freely, and as publicly as circumstances will require or admit. When you have done something of which you are ashamed, and by which, perhaps, some person has been injured (and what man is exempt?), be glad not only to make reparation, but improve the opportunity for subduing your pride.

8. Never lay up money for yourselves or your families. Trust in God from day to day, and verily you shall be fed.

9. Beware of that indolence which leads to a neglect of bodily exercise. The poor health and premature death of most Europeans in the East must be eminently ascribed to the most wanton neglect of bodily exercise.

10. Beware of genteel living. Maintain as little 'communication' as possible with fashionable European society. The mode of living adopted by many missionaries in the East is quite inconsistent with that familiar 'communications' with the natives which is essential to a missionary.

There are many points of self-denial that I should like to touch upon; but a consciousness of my own deficiency constrains me to be silent. I have also left untouched several topics of vital importance, it having been my aim to select such only as appear to me to have been not much noticed or enforced. I hope you will excuse the monitorial style that I have accidentally adopted. I assure you, I mean no harm.

In regard to your inquiries concerning studies, qualifications, etc., nothing occurs that I think would be particularly useful, except the simple remark, that I fear too much stress begins to be laid on what is termed a thorough classical education.

Praying that you may be guided in all your deliberations, and that I may yet have the pleasure of welcoming some of you to these heathen shores, I remain...

Your affectionate brother,

A. Judson

**Section 2 Exam**

## Section 3

### Preparing For the Mission Field

#### I. Introduction

- A. Many a man and his family have been surrendered to obeying God's call to go to a far away country and preach the Gospel and start churches, but never quite knew HOW to prepare to go!
- B. This section will attempt to explore all the different areas of a missionary's life that need to be trained and disciplined, and prepared.

#### II. Lesson

##### A. The WORK of the Missionary

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – soul-win (2Tim 4:5)
  - a. This is THE priority effort of every Christian, but especially of a missionary!
  - b. This is always the most fun part of the ministry
  - c. Make sure you soul-win God's way – don't make disciples of YOU (Acts 20:29,30)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt 28:19,20) – identify every new believer with Jesus Christ
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20:31; Gal 4:19; Col 4:12)
  - a. This is where you will be spending most of your time
    - 1) On your knees in prayer
    - 2) In their homes teaching people, and constantly encouraging them
    - 3) In the hospitals
    - 4) In the prisons
  - b. Church is not easy – it is an impossible thing to accomplish without God's calling and enablement (2Cor 2:16; 3:5)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (1Cor 3:10) – you are the boss, the coach, the “overseer” (Acts 20:28)
  - a. Helping people find their place in the church
  - b. Keeping people in their place in the local church
  - c. Always pressing on towards the fulfilment of God's word and will for that church
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20:32) – assemble the new converts into a local church. It does not happen naturally, and most believers will resist God's direction in their lives, always wanting to do their own thing still. It is YOUR job to help them find their place in your church!
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (2Tim 2:2; 3:10-12)
  - a. This is when you leave that church, and it has to stand on its own two feet, and determine its own destiny for God as it follows God's word
  - b. A church does this with the help and direction of the Missionary who tells it that it is now ready to go on its own, with its own pastor.
7. Just make sure that all of your efforts aren't wasted so that you \_\_\_\_\_! This happens so often because the missionary, and subsequently, the church loses its focus, and then its love, and then its very life!

##### B. The Missionary's Personal Bible Study (2Tim 2:15; 1Tim 4:13)

1. Must be a \_\_\_\_\_ Bible reader – read through the Bible every year
2. Must know the issues surrounding the Bible version issue
  - a. Must be a King James Bible believer – even if you are reaching a different language than English
  - b. Must determine what is the word of God in the language you will be preaching in
    - 1) Find out who is publishing the right translation
    - 2) Begin studying also from that version

3. Must be a Student of the Bible
  - a. Must complete a thorough Discipleship course (takes between 1 and 2 years)
  - b. Must complete a basic Bible Institute degree (takes 2 - 4 years)
  - c. Must be doing your own Bible Studies, studying out various issues that you come across. This will be an on-going effort for the rest of your life! If you are not a lover of study, then you have no business being a Missionary or Pastor
  - d. Translate a Discipleship Course into your target language. You will want to have some ready-to-use tools available when you lead people to Christ on your field.

### C. The Missionary's Practical Experience - Proving your calling

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday School at various age levels and along-side others – learn to work as a team
2. Begin to \_\_\_\_\_ your own new Christian
  - a. First, it will probably be in English
  - b. But prayerfully, seek to disciple in your target language
  - c. Complete several discipleships – these will train you more than all the class-room sessions put together
  - d. Don't attempt to start a church until you have experience in almost every area of a church, beginning with discipling new believers!
3. Create and lead a church ministry
  - a. Like Song-leading
  - b. Like a new Sunday School class
  - c. Like a new soul-winning ministry
  - d. Men who are not great leaders of small groups make poor leaders of large churches!
  - e. Operate that ministry like it was \_\_\_\_\_ VERY OWN CHURCH! Take full responsibility for it
4. Earn people's trust in your leadership and abilities. Don't just expect it!
5. Volunteer to Preach at \_\_\_\_\_ opportunity
  - a. Try and NEVER turn down any request for you to preach – whether by your own pastor, or even by other churches that may need you to fill-in their pulpit. Make sure you have your own pastor's permission to go, so that he knows you will be away and thinks it is a good thing.
  - b. Church functions – pastor always needs people to preach a devotion
  - c. Pop-corn preaching
  - d. Sunday evening message
  - e. Mallow may need someone to preach for them, or teach a Sunday School lesson
  - f. Other churches may from time to time need a fill-in preacher
  - g. So, you have to be getting ready so that you are ready when needed
6. Attend various Church Planting and Preaching Conferences
  - a. Leadership Conferences
  - b. Teaching conferences
  - c. Any conferences dealing with Church-issues
7. Develop your use of Biblical tools for the ministry
  - a. Your Prayer life
  - b. Computers – don't get gadget-crazy though! Gadgets don't make a man of God!!!!
  - c. Speech and presentation. Learn how to keep people's attention and how to communicate!
  - d. Teaching materials – collect these as much as possible
  - e. Your own study library – make sure that the books and resources you obtain, you READ, instead of just accumulating them, and leaving them to look good on your shelves!

### D. The Missionary's Local Church Participation

1. Get involved in everything that is going on at your local church
  - a. The singing – leads to leading singing
  - b. Using any musical talents that you have – develop your musical talents!
  - c. Seek to qualify to be a deacon!

2. Be a blessing to everyone in church
  - a. Find ways to always encourage, and be a blessing to others
  - b. Find out needs in people's lives, and try and meet those needs – you will be doing this for the rest of your life
  - c. Never do things that will offend or hurt folks who already are offended and hurting, and came to church to be encouraged
3. Be the Missions Director!
  - a. Read Missionary letters before the church, and encourage others to pray for them
  - b. Find out all you can about your target field and keep the church informed

**E. The Missionary's Family**

1. Does the missionary have to be married? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The reasons why a missionary needs to be married
    - 1) For personal purity
    - 2) For the benefit of a committed helper in the ministry
    - 3) For a priority ministry in your life that enables you to perform the bigger ministry of a church (1Tim 3:1-5)
  - b. The reasons why a missionary might not get married
    - 1) To be able to be more full-time for the Lord in the ministry
    - 2) The ministry you are being called to might just be too dangerous for a family
    - 3) You might not be called to have a wife – it might not be God's will for you to have a family at all
    - 4) Your role will be limited as a missionary, but you could be a great help to another, married missionary!
2. The Single Woman Missionary, or the Single Helping Missionary Man
  - a. The art of staying single
    - 1) We are all born single
    - 2) Most of us are not supposed to stay single
    - 3) Those who are called being single, need to be willing to STAY single
    - 4) The only way to do that is to have a good relationship with your
      - a) Parents, and especially your father
      - b) Your pastor and pastor's wife
    - 5) If you spend a lot of time alone, the devil will tempt you sorely
  - b. Getting married later
    - 1) It is not a sin to get married
    - 2) Even if you go out onto the Mission field single, the Lord may bring you together with your perfect mate while on the field, or while on furlough!
    - 3) Just praise God!
  - c. You never lose your ministry or calling – it just gets moulded
    - 1) Say you are a single woman missionary, who is helping missionaries in Australia, and you meet an Aussie that you know is the right one for you.
    - 2) Seek the advice of your home pastor, of the pastor/missionary on your field, and especially your parents
    - 3) If you do believe that it is right for the two of you to marry, your ministry is swallowed up into your husbands!
3. The Call of the Wife
  - a. First to God
    - 1) She must love God herself, with all her being
    - 2) More than her own family, or even her husband

- b. Then to her Husband
  - c. Then to her family
  - d. Then to helping her husband's ministry – that is why God gave her to her husband
4. The Children, and home life of a Missionary
    - a. Must be well disciplined
    - b. Must have a good report
    - c. Must be under the authority of the word of God, with the father in charge
  5. The separation from extended family

**F. The Missionary's Pastor and Home Church**

1. Everybody needs a godly, Bible believing pastor
  - a. You will be someone's pastor on the field
  - b. You need a pastor too!
2. Every missionary/pastor needs a pastor – not everyone has one though
3. For the following reasons:
  - a. Accountability
  - b. Adversity (Pr 17:17) – for when things get tough and rough, your pastor is someone whom you can call upon, and lean upon for experience and help
  - c. Stability – you are not on your own, but an extension of your sending church
  - d. Humility – he will keep you humble, and keep teaching you submission, so that you can lead others as they submit to you
  - e. Charity – it is just good to be loved by someone who has dedicated themselves to loving you and your family, and who will always love you, even when no one else does!
  - f. Creativity – you can draw on your pastor's experience.
4. Work along side your Pastor
  - a. Spend as much time just doing whatever he is currently doing
  - b. Ask him every question you can think of
  - c. Keep a journal of your own thoughts and ideas, and let the Lord teach you as you watch someone else doing what you want to do someday

**G. The Missionary's Missionary Agency**

1. The Local Church – Your Sending Church (Acts 13:1-4)
2. There are various other “agencies” – Mission Boards
  - a. There are multitudes of organizations that want to help missionaries accomplish their calling
  - b. Most of them are top-heavy, and have unbiblical approaches to church-planting
  - c. The best kind of help a missionary can get will be from his sending church and pastor

## H. The Missionary's Preparation for the Field

1. Prepare for \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Read up on the culture of the people you will be ministering to
- b. Visit the field and as many places on the field to observe the culture – \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What are the elements of every culture that must be understood well, and adapted to by the missionary?
  - 1) Language. There are 7,000 languages in the world today!
    - a) Written, Western European based (including sign-languages)
    - b) Written, Eastern European
    - c) Written, North African
    - d) Written, Uralic (Northern Russian)
    - e) Written Chinese, Tibetan
    - f) Written, Altaic (Mongolian, Japanese, Korean)
    - g) Written, Pacific Island Languages
    - h) Written, Eskimo
    - i) Unwritten but known
    - j) Unknown, so it has to be learned, "codified", written, and taught to the people
  - 2) Concept of Time
    - a) Strict, like Germans and Swiss
    - b) Nominal like the Irish
    - c) Very loose – uncommittal, like most third world countries
  - 3) Type of Idolatry
    - a) Vast numbers of visible, physical idols and deities
    - b) Few domineering deities
    - c) Highly covetous
    - d) Nominally covetous
    - e) No idolatry - atheistic
  - 4) Concept of Authority
  - 5) Morality - Level of Sexual Sins that permeate the entire culture
  - 6) Fear of God vss fear of superstitions
  - 7) Family Size
  - 8) Number of Gospel preaching churches in the area – if any
- d. Just because their culture may be different, and even vastly different does not mean that it has nothing good about it, and that it is uncivilised. Many of the concepts of modern civilisation are very stressful, and very destructive, so learn from the culture, and be ready to adapt!
2. Monthly Financial Support
  - a. Identify finances needed to do the following
    - 1) Rent an apartment, house, flat
    - 2) Food
    - 3) Tithe and personal giving
    - 4) Transportation
    - 5) Savings fund
    - 6) Ministry expenses (does not come from your tithe but is separate)
    - 7) Utilities
    - 8) Health expenses
    - 9) Insurances as needed
    - 10) Tax responsibilities

3. Field Arrival Fund
4. Emergency Fund – comes from your faithful savings
5. Deputation – this is the hardest part!
  - a. The act of local churches authorizing you to go in their place to start churches on the mission field
  - b. You must present your call, and yourself for review by multitudes of pastors and Christians in order to earn their trust and confidence in you and gain their financial and prayerful support

#### I. The Missionary Team (Luke 10:1)

1. Not he and his wife
2. But he and his wife along side another missionary and his wife!
3. God calls very “lone rangers” – usually, God calls TEAMS of at least two
  - a. Matthew 9:38 *“Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth \_\_\_\_\_ into his harvest.”* (single or plural?)
  - b. Paul and Barnabas
    - 1) Act 15:22 *“Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch \_\_\_\_\_ Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren”*
    - 2) Act 13:2 *“As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas \_\_\_\_\_ Saul for the work whereunto I have called \_\_\_\_\_.”*
    - 3) They were not just Paul, or just Barnabas, but Paul and Barnabas – they were a TEAM! Act 15:12 *“Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas \_\_\_\_\_ Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles \_\_\_\_\_.”*
  - c. Paul, Barnabas and \_\_\_\_\_ (Gal 2:1,9)
  - d. Paul, Silvanus/Silas and \_\_\_\_\_ (1Thes 1:1; 2Thes 2:1; 1Peter 5:12)
  - e. Paul and \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 15:40; 16:19, 25, 29; 17:4...)
  - f. Besides Paul and Luke etc!
  - g. Judas and \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 15:32)
  - h. \_\_\_\_\_ and Timotheus/Timothy (Acts 17:14,15; 18:5)
4. Are YOU willing and prepared to work together with someone else to plant churches?

#### J. The Missionary’s Separation (Acts 13:1-4)

1. There comes a time when the Missionary leaves his home country, and goes to the place of God’s calling
2. When you say goodbye to friends, family, and home, you need to be willing to go, and never look back (be homesick)
3. This begins when the home church ordains the missionary, and the missionary begins deputation

#### K. The Missionary’s Furlough

1. Every four to ten years (this is up to the missionary), the Missionary and his family needs to return back to their supporting churches, and report on the ministry accomplished thus far.
2. It is also a time of rest, and preparation for returning to the field
3. It usually lasts a year to a year and a half.
4. Your pastor will be able to help you decide how long to take before going back and rejoining the work on the mission field

#### L. The Missionary’s Retirement

1. Missions is a life-long labour of love – the best way to go out is preaching!
2. There may come a time when you physically cannot preach, or evangelise, or disciple anybody
3. You must prepare for that time as best as you can
  - a. Trust the Lord
  - b. Life insurance
  - c. Put away money for retirement into your own personal pension

**III. Conclusion**

- A. The greatest calling for any mortal is to be an evangelist
- B. But not everybody is called to start churches
- C. If it is your calling, there is a lot of preparation involved
- D. But it is all for One worthy person – the Lord Jesus Christ!

**IV. Reading Assignment:** read pages 64-70 in Missions Missions Missions

## The Indigenous Principle of Church Planting

*A Study of the Role of the Missionary in Church Planting*

### I. Introduction (Acts 16:9)

- A. Missiologists borrowed the term “indigenous” from agriculture. Indigenous plants can thrive and grow in a certain area. Indigenous churches are fellowships that are native to their local soil—and able to grow and thrive in that context. In the middle nineteenth century, Henry Venn and Rufus Anderson began to speak of the indigenous church, and they believed that the task of missions was to transplant the gospel into a new community so that the church could become “native” there.
- B. Early in the last century, Roland Allen challenged the church to live out these ideals on the mission field. He wrote *Missionary Methods: St. Paul’s or Ours?*, challenging the church to return to biblical principles of indigenous missions. Allen’s main ideas included:
  1. All teaching to be permanent must be intelligible and so easily understood that those who receive it can retain it, use it, and pass it on.
  2. All organizations should be set up in a way that national Christians can maintain them.
  3. Church finances should be provided and controlled by the local church members.
  4. Christians should be taught to provide pastoral care for each other.
  5. Missionaries should give national believers the authority to exercise spiritual gifts freely and at once.
- C. Biblical church planting is concerned with establishing local churches that are indigenous—whether that is in Africa, South America, Alberta, or Memphis. As far back as 1938, mission thinkers began to formally express the ideas of the indigenous church: An indigenous church, young or old, in the East or in the West, is a church which, rooted in obedience to Christ, spontaneously uses forms of thought and modes of action natural and familiar in its own environment. Such a church arises in response to Christ’s own call. The younger churches will not be unmindful of the experiences and teachings which the older churches have recorded in their confessions and liturgy. But every younger church will seek further to bear witness to the same gospel with new tongues...
- D. Allen Tippet updates these ideas further in the 1960s: When the indigenous people of a community think of the Lord as their own, not a foreign Christ; when they do things as unto the Lord, meeting the cultural needs around them, worshipping in patterns they understand; when their congregations function in participation in a body which is structurally indigenous; then you have an indigenous church.
- E. Indigenous church plants are not all led by indigenous planters. The key principle in being indigenous is the nature of the church, not necessarily the messenger. Paul, a Hellenistic Jew, planted indigenous Greek congregations as his mission but he was from Tarsus not Rome or Ephesus.
- F. A church planter may be from Chicago, but if the church is dependent on offerings from Alabama, has adopted an Alabama style of worship, and meets at the time that the farmers in Bessemer, Alabama set 100 years ago, the church may not be indigenous for Chicago (though perhaps it would be in Bessemer). The origin of the church planter is not the determining factor of being indigenous. Instead, the nature of the church plant is. A person from Chicago is more likely to lead an indigenous church because he has been raised in that area. However, if education or other influences are non-indigenous in nature, the church planter might start a church that is out of place in the local culture.

### II. The Great Commission?

#### A. Go

1. Where
2. The Who

#### B. Teach

1. Prioritize
2. Thoroughness

#### C. Baptize

1. Commitment
2. Organisation

**III. The Teamwork Principle - There are very few "Lone Rangers" called into the ministry.**

- A. 1 Cor 3:6 We work 1) with God, and 2) other Christians. Paul planted the Gospel, Apollos watered, but it is always God that gives the increase (true teamwork)
- B. Acts 16:9 Macedonia needed *help* from Paul, not control
- C. Acts 8:29-f The Ethiopian Eunuch needed help from Philip, not control, or even a pastor!
- D. 1 Thes 1:7,8 Thess did all the work in Macedonia and Achaia that Paul had taught them to do. Paul could not do any more work there!
- E. 2 Cor 8:1 God gave the grace not to Paul, nor to his co-workers, but to the churches of Macedonia to do the work God called THEM to do!!!
- F. 1 Cor 1:17 Paul's calling was to PREACH, not to baptize. Someone else was trained to do that, and then left responsible for it. Paul baptized just the first converts, and then left the rest to someone else!

**IV. The "Mega-Church" Syndrome - Should a church just keep getting bigger and bigger?**

- A. A Study of the churches at Jerusalem vs Antioch

<b>Jerusalem</b>	<b>Antioch</b>
Emphasis only numbers	Emphasis on Preaching and world evangelization
Stayed in Jerusalem until God forced them out to the uttermost parts	Sent out missionaries

- B. A Study of the Sizes and Conditions of Churches in the First century:

1. Church was held in homes, and not in big, buildings (Acts 2:2,46; 5:42; 8:3; 12:12; 16:15,16; :18:8; 20:20; 28:30; Rom 16:5; 1 Cor 1:11; 16:19; Col 4:15; Philm 1:2; 2 John 1:10)
2. Churches were to be formed in every city, not every region, or outside of the territorial range of another church. In every house, in every city (Acts 5:42)
3. According to what happened at the Tower of Babel in Acts 10, God is against everybody just "getting together," and having one gigantic service. He seems to be interested in the churches spreading real thin, and far out!
4. The emphasis seems to be on each church helping start another church through preaching, and then getting that new church: self-supporting, self-propagating and self-

**V. The Indigenous Principle in a Nutshell**

- A. Biblical indigenous principles includes some basic tenants. There must be the deep conviction that:
- B. the primary problem of mankind is sin.
- C. the only solution is found in Christ Jesus.
- D. that the Bible contains the only authoritative message of hope.
- E. God's plan is always the same—a Holy Spirit filled messenger takes the Gospel message to Holy Spirit prepared people and plants the seed in the power of the Spirit.

**VI. Following are other indigenous principles, in addition to the foundational ones above, which I have personally found to be true.**

- A. If the planter is not native to the area where churches are being planted, it is better for leadership to come from the local people.
- B. Leaders are in the harvest.
- C. Focus is on the people rather than the leader.
- D. Healthy church planting is Holy Spirit driven rather than personality driven.
- E. The local church is to be self-governing, which means that the church makes it's own decisions under the Lordship of Christ.
- F. The local church is able to provide for it's own financial needs through the tithes and offerings of its members - even in the beginning.

- G. Each believer in the local church is given a gift for the building up of the body.
- H. The local church has the bent from the beginning toward starting other churches.
- I. Since the local church is a tithing church, there is no need for outside subsidy for ongoing budgetary needs.
- J. Since leaders will evolve from within the church, decentralized training is urgent and adequate. (Some call this theological education by extension.)
- K. The planter takes himself and the Word into the unreached area and leaves non-essentials at home.
- L. The planter should practice reproducibility at every point in the church planting process.
- M. This includes style of communication, the use of material things, and the strategy employed. Everything he says and does should be reproducible by new converts.
- N. The essentials being the Holy Spirit, the Seed (Scripture), the Sower and the Soil (unsaved people), anything added to these probably is excess baggage.
- O. Church planters must recognize the difference between the lasting work and the scaffolding. The scaffolding is taken down once the building is complete.
- P. Indigenous principles do not easily blend with traditional ways of church planting.
- Q. If you want a church made up of priests you must allow the people to be involved very early—even before they are saved.
- R. Early decision making and financing by the people results in a sense of ownership that is vital for the growing church.
- S. The mature church planter will see the potential in the people, so much so that he will not look down on them and feel that they are unable. He knows the new converts will have the God given resources to provide a meeting place and a pastor when needed. The “ugly American,” especially when working with minority groups, will tend to minimize their potential and assume “they can’t” so he will provide. This destroys dignity and selfhood and allows the outsider to enjoy control. “They can’t” has no place in healthy church planting.
- T. The Biblical strategy for church planting is adequate for today.

## **Introduction to Missions and Church Planting**

### **VII. The Process of Planting a Church**

- A. Go Into Every City
- B. Preach/Evangelize – present the Gospel in light of the coming wrath of God
- C. Train New Converts - Daily Discipleship
- D. Emphasize Men, and Spiritual Leadership
- E. Work Toward a Three Year Turn-Around Time to Turn Over the Work to a National

### **VIII. The Principle of Investment**

- A. Barnabas and Saul - Becomes Saul and Barnabas
- B. Naomi investing in Ruth and Boaz
- C. 1 Sam 14:6