



Wednesday, July 24, 2019
Adam Platt

MISSIONS 101
WEEK 3
THE HARVEST

Missions 101 Verse: Matthew 9:37, Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

The Harvest

Romans 1:18-23

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

1. **Romans 1:19** All people “know God,” even if they have never heard the Bible. “What can be known about God is plain to them.”
2. **Romans 1:19-20** The way they know God is by the way God has made the world and their own consciences.
3. **Romans 1:18** They suppress the truth and they resist the truth deep in their hearts and exchange it for other things that they would rather have, Romans 1:23.
4. **Romans 1:20** They are without excuse.

God’s Commission for Missions – Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.

1. First, that we would go into all the nations. So God would have us go all over the world, not just where we believe that we can achieve the maximum effect or results.



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(e.g. – So we see this in some of the Apostle Paul’s journeys. In chapter 15 of Romans, Paul says that it his ambition is to preach the Gospel where Christ was not known, so that he would not be building on someone else’s foundation. Read Acts.)

2. And second, not only should we go, but also make disciples by teaching them thoroughly.
3. Notice also that we can go with assurance that Christ’s work will be accomplished. How do we know that? Because Christ lays claim to all authority in heaven and on earth, and for this reason commands his followers to go. We see that in verse 18. Because of this, and we see the word “therefore” used in verse 19, we are to go and make disciples of all nations. There is a cause and effect relationship in these two sentences because of the use of that word “therefore.”

What is a People Group?

A significantly large grouping of individuals who perceive themselves to have a common affinity for one another because of their shared language, religion, ethnicity, residence, occupation, class or caste, situation, etc., or combinations of these. (1982 Lausanne Strategy Working Group)

Reached vs. Unreached

Romans 15:18-21, Paul says:

I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done – by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit. So, from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the Gospel of Christ. It has always been my ambition to preach the Gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else’s foundation. Rather, as it is written, ‘Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand.’

Key Terms

10/40 Window: The 10/40 Window is the rectangular area of North Africa, the Middle East and Asia approximately between 10 degrees north and 40 degrees north latitude. The 10/40 Window is often called "The Resistant Belt" and includes the majority of the world's Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists.

People Group: A significantly large grouping of individuals who perceive themselves to have a common affinity with one another.



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Unreached People Group (UPG): Unreached peoples and places are those among whom Christ is largely unknown and the church is relatively insufficient to make Christ known in its broader population without outside help.

Unengaged Unreached People (UUPG): Unreached people with no one targeting them for the gospel.

Church Planting Movement: A rapid increase in the number of indigenous churches that assume responsibility for planting other churches among unreached communities. It is a Holy Spirit inspired movement characterized by heavy discipleship, intentional daughter church planting, and leadership development.

Closed Country: Countries that limit or prevent Christian ministry by expatriates as missionaries. Alternatively, they are called creative-access countries, restricted access countries, closing countries, restrictive countries, sensitive countries.

Nationals: Someone who is originally from or born in the native country in which one is located.

Key Stats

GLOBAL

- 7.56 billion people (August 2018 est.)
- Total People Groups: 16,591

UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

- Total Unreached People Groups: 6,741
- Total Population of UPGs: 3.14 billion people
- Total Percentage of world: UPG's make up 42.2% of world population

10/40 WINDOW

- **Total Population in 10/40:** 4.89 billion people
- **Total People Groups in 10/40:** 8,213 people groups
- **Total UPG's in 10/40:** 5,626 Unreached People Groups totaling 3.05 billion people. 40% of all individuals

ANIMISM

- 206 Million worldwide
- 2,800 People Groups
- 1,004 UPGs
- 2.9% of the world population



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HINDUISM

- 1.028 Billion worldwide
- 2,595 People Groups
- 2,314 UPG's
- 14.7% of the world population

CHINA

- 1.291 Billion individuals
- 519 people groups
- 428 Unreached People Groups
- 18.6% of the world population

ISLAM

- 1.537 Billion worldwide
- 3,431 Total People Groups
- 2,854 UPG's
- 22% of the world population

BUDDHISM

- 621 Million worldwide
- 581 People Groups
- 449 UPGs
- 8.9% of world population

CHRISTIAN

- 2 Billion worldwide (all Catholic, Protestant, etc.)
- 6,876 Total People Groups
- 28.6% of the world population

TOTAL LANGUAGES:

There are estimated 6,909 Languages worldwide.

THREE LARGEST LANGUAGES:

Mandarin Chinese 12.44%, Spanish 4.85%, English 4.83%, (first language speakers)

BIBLE TRANSLATION:

4,400 languages are without Scripture portions available.

WHAT CHRISTIANS EARN:

Annual Income of all Church Members: \$42 trillion.

- (Annual income of Evangelical Christians is approximately \$7 trillion.)



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WHAT PEOPLE GIVE:

Given to any Christian causes: \$700 billion.

Given to Missions: \$45 billion

HOW CHRISTIAN GIVING IS USED:

- Pastoral ministries of local churches (mostly in Christian nations): \$677 billion (96.8%)
- "Home Missions" in same Christian nations: \$20.3 billion (2.9%)
- Going to Unevangelized Non-Christian world: \$2.1 billion (.3%)
- Money that goes toward Unreached Peoples: *Estimated \$450 million
-

ALL MISSIONARIES

- **All Missionaries in the World** (Catholic, Protestant, etc.): 400,000 foreign missionaries
- Missionaries in the **Reached World**: 309,315 foreign missionaries (77.3%)
- Missionaries in the **Unevangelized**: 77,610 foreign missionaries (19.4%)
- Missionaries in the **Unreached**: 13,315 foreign missionaries (3.3%)

MISSIONARIES PER RELIGION:

- **Tribals** – 714,108,000 population with 11,900 Missionaries: **1 for every 60,000**
- **Hindus** – 984,532,000 population with 5,500 Missionaries: **1 for every 179,000**
- **Unreligious** – 831,267,000 population with 11,700 Missionaries: **1 for every 71,000**
- **Muslims** – 1,703,146,000 population with 4,200 Missionaries: **1 for every 405,500**
- **Buddhists** – 520,002,000 population with 2,000 Missionaries: **1 for every 260,000**
- The ratio of UPG workers to the total unreached world is: **1 missionary for every 216,300 people.**

1. Diversity exalts His glory – Psalm 96:3-4

More praise comes from unity in diversity rather than unity alone. It is more powerful and beautiful. Consider multitudes of people who have nothing else in common except for their salvation in Christ. That brings glory and honor to God.

That's why the church is such a beautiful picture and provides us with a glimpse of heaven. So I may have nothing in common with person X (use example) outside of our mutual great hope in Christ; but that commonality is everything. Our unity in Christ is a reflection of God, giving testimony to the one true God. The fact that we may be different in any other regard only highlights God's greatness more.



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2. Demonstrates his universal greatness – Romans 15:11

The fame and worth of an object of beauty increases in proportion to the diversity of those who recognize its beauty. If a work of art is admired among a small and like-minded group of people, its worth is minimal because it is not universally recognized. So its praise can be attributed to the particular biases of that small group of people. But if a work continues to win more and more people across cultures over centuries, then its greatness is clearly evident to all.

3. Crushes ethnocentric pride.

By focusing on all the peoples of the world, God undercuts ethnocentric pride and reminds people of His free grace rather than any distinctive of their own. See Acts 17.

4. Worth shown in variety of those who love Him.

God is magnified in leading a diverse group of people rather than a homogeneous group. The more diverse the people groups who forsake their gods to follow the one true God, the more visible is God's superiority over these other false gods.