

ASIA



MISSIONS CONFERENCE
2018



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2018 ASIA

MISSIONS EDITORIAL DR. BILL DUTTRY

The continent of Asia has been our emphasis for our annual 2018 Missions Conference. Sadly, in Asia we find the greatest number of Unreached People Groups—many without a Bible in their own language and most who have never even heard the truth of the glorious gospel of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. But what can we do? What can *you and I* personally do to change this? Should we do anything? I believe we would all agree and conclude that it is *our* responsibility to be involved somehow and in some way. The question then is: “How am *I*, how are *you*, and how are *we* going to be involved? Where do we begin?” We must give; we must pray; we must be willing to go. We must not forget them! We must keep reminders of the unreached before us at all times. With life moving at the pace it does, I fear that since we do not see these people groups, we are neither thinking of them nor praying for them. We have neglected to give proportionately so that they can receive the gospel. The unintentional, but natural human response is: “*out of sight—out of mind.*” Again, it is not purposeful, but it *is* natural. We must be intentional in our awareness of the unreached and have a defined plan to pray for them.

Missions Emphasis Days throughout the year and Missions Conference are in place to remind us, to convict us, and to challenge us to be more involved purposefully. As a church, we must continue to

give to Faith Promise yearly; we need to give at least the amount we have already given. However, the goal should be to give more than last year. Together we should endeavor to ask the Lord to increase our faith. As a church, we are investing heavily in the next coming year as we begin FirstBible School of Translation (FBST). What is that, you might say? FBST is a program to train men and women for the mission field in areas of Asia, as well as other continents and countries which have need for the Word of God. FBST is a school that will take the next foundational step in missions from not only going and preaching, but also to providing the Word of God in the needed languages of the target people groups. I have often used the verse in Haggai 1:13 to remind us that it takes the Lord’s *messenger* as well as the Lord’s *message* to reach the world with the gospel.

Thank you for attending this year’s conference and for taking time to read this magazine. We must all do our part so *they* can have the gospel of Jesus Christ.



In His work together,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Duttry". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Pastor Duttry

“Lord, **INCREASE**
our faith.” LUKE 17:5

MISSIONS CONFERENCE
2018
ASIA

My commitment for the year 2018 – 2019 is to give

<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly (52 times)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Bi-weekly (26 times)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Twice monthly (24 times)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly (12 times)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly (4 times)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually (1 time)
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Amount Interval

Signature (optional)

Ministry Commitment

My commitment for the year 2018 – 2019 is to pray for

Bearing Precious Seed
Millford Christian Academy
Maater Ministries
Biblical School of
World Evangelism

Faith Promise

My commitment for the year 2018 – 2019 is to give

Each year, our Pastor challenges us to increase our faith in the area of Faith Promise Missions giving. Would you begin praying now about what the Lord would have you to give this year towards missions?

A TROPHY OF GOD'S GRACE

BY DAVID HARRIS



“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

— 2 Peter 3:9 —

I met Mr. Yamashita in a locked ward of a mental hospital. His plight was depression and he was heavily sedated. A large portion of one side of his head was shaved and a half moon incision with stitches revealed the doctor's work to relieve pressure from his brain. He had jumped from an open window of the same hospital attempting suicide. It was his fifth attempt.

When I visited the hospital that day to speak with a young man who had visited our church, the room designated as the visitation room was filled with men who wanted to talk to the foreigner. Everyone had a story and everyone wanted to talk.

As I talked with everyone at the same time, the Lord surprisingly seemed to single out this young man and urge me to love him. I argued with the Lord. “He will never be able to come to church. I can hardly understand him. He is in a locked ward of a mental hospital.” These were some of the thoughts that were going through my mind; yet, the Lord strongly spoke to my heart and challenged me to love him.

After praying and asking the Lord what He wanted me to do, I gave the young man a New Testament. I suggested he begin reading the book of Mark. When we met the next week, I was surprised to learn he had read the whole book.

He devoured Bible studies and our allotted visitation time of 30 minutes would often turn into two and three hours. It seemed the doctors and nurses did not mind. There was not much to do other than their normal rounds.

When we first met, the recurring themes I heard from him were of his highly successful father who sometimes

would mistreat him due to alcohol. He spoke of his fear of situations in the world such as wars. His life was full of fear.

He spoke of being a top student in the highest level high school in Aomori before going to college in Tokyo. It was there the disappointments of life began. A failed relationship caused his first suicide attempt. One day he pulled up his shirt to reveal scars on his stomach from another failed attempt. That one was what is called hara-kiri (ha-da-kee-dee [“r’s” in Japanese have a soft “d” sound like in the name Eddie]). Hara is the word for stomach. Kiri is the verb meaning to cut. I am sure one would be familiar with this term some call “hari-kari”.

As time progressed, I learned that his parents worked. On the weekends they would pick him up and he would get to spend some time at home. On Sunday night they would bring him back.

When he told me where he lived, I was surprised that it was less than a 10 minute walk from our house and church. Yet, no matter how much I urged him to come to church, he would not. No matter how much I challenged him to get saved, there was no decision.

One Saturday afternoon, our doorbell rang. There stood Yamashita san. He was drenched in sweat and looked somewhat panicked. It was not until then, about a year after we met, that I learned he was not supposed to leave his home alone. Previous suicide attempts left him without a sense of direction. He had been looking for our house for over an hour.

After a short visit, I walked him home. There, I met his father. They invited me in and soon his father began grilling me. With a stern face he said, “What are you

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At the very moment God spoke the words, "... Let there be light: ..." (Genesis 1:3), everything changed! Darkness immediately gave way to light and from that point on, nothing would be the same. These words were more than air vibrating through the vocal cords; it was the voice of the Almighty penetrating the darkness. These four words not only illuminated the sky and lit up the horizon, but they brought forth days, seasons, and times. Without a doubt, these words changed everything.

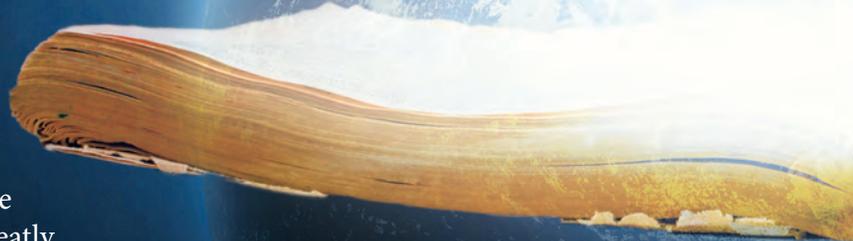
Imagine for a moment: Jesus suspended between heaven and earth, nailed by His hands and feet for all to see; the Lamb of God, beaten, bruised, and bearing the total weight of every sin for all mankind. While in the midst of hell's fury, man's failures, and the forsaking of the Father, Jesus cries out these words, "... It is finished: ..." (John 19:30). The payment for sin was finally paid and fully satisfied. Would you agree with me that these words changed everything?

For me personally, there have been words in my life that have totally altered my path. I remember the day, standing at an altar across from the love of my life, saying the words, "I do." A couple of years later she came to me and said these words, "Honey, I'm pregnant." Another time, we were approached by a doctor after a series of testing with these life-changing words, "Your wife has multiple sclerosis." These words changed everything. These same words are the title of a book by David Aeils. I was greatly inspired by the account of a missionary couple who were Bible translators working among the Chamula Indians of southern Mexico. At the time of their arrival, the Chamulas were an Unreached People Group who had isolated themselves from society. Also known as the "Impossible People," their traditions, culture, and animistic beliefs demanded a resistance to all outside influences. There was no doubt that these young Bible translators had their work cut out for them. Forty-five years later, by the Grace of God, the diligent work of the translators, and the high price paid by many of the new Chamula believers, the Chamula people held a complete Bible in their hands for the first time. One of the Chamula Christians said this about the newly translated Bible:

"Emphatically, I declare that our ears were closed when we hear it in Spanish, but when we hear the Word of God in our language, it is though our lives, ears, and eyes are opened. Now God also speaks Chamula!"

Once a people group in total darkness, steeped in pagan worship, following a destructive path led by the shamans, living a life of poverty only to one day die and wake up in eternal flames; now a people group that has Light. Can you imagine what the Bible in their heart language did for the Chamula people? These words changed everything!"

THESE WORDS CHANGED EVERYTHING



by Dale
BPS/firstBible



WORDS

CHANGED EVERYTHING

How I long for this story to be the same for every people group; but sadly, it is not. The truth is there are billions sitting in darkness needing a reliable and complete copy of God's Word in their heart language. According to Wycliffe Bible Translators, there are still 1,635 languages that have no Scripture in their language with no one working on the translation. The grim reality is that at least 1.5 billion people do not have a complete Bible in their language. This number escalates when you add those who only have a portion, or those who have a Bible, but it's not a reliable translation. What if you could have a part in providing one Bible for one people group? Wouldn't that be worth the time spent in prayer, the financial sacrifice, or the exchange of your life? For the sake of Christ and the glory of God, I believe with all my heart that would be a worthy cause! Wouldn't it be awesome, at the end of your life, to be able to say that you helped provide a Bible to a Bible-less people group? How about multiple Bibles to multiple people groups? Providing the Words of Life in their language, those Words could change everything!

First Baptist Church of Milford was given a task forty-five years ago to print God's Word. It took courage and it took faith to step out and trust God. Today, after printing over 180 million copies of God's Word in about 55 languages, we stand at a new threshold of faith. God has led our pastor to start the FirstBible School of Translation. With over 2,000 languages that still need a reliable and readable Bible in their heart language, we must accept the task and launch out into the deep. Can we continue to have our daily devotions each morning while the millions of Zhuang people in China who pray to the mountains, the sky, the earth, and their deceased ancestors remain in total darkness? Are the 1.2 million Gujjar people of India less deserving than we are to have the Word of God in their language? Do we continue to ask God to bless our meals while the 3.5 million Banjar people in Indonesia slip off into eternity without even tasting one slice of the Bread of Life in their native tongue? What about those who speak Cham in Cambodia, Chittagonian in Bangladesh, the Rohingya in Myanmar, or Bantawa in Nepal? Is there hope for them?

As a church, we must embrace the vision and rally our efforts behind this great cause. The gospel must be published among all nations! They must read for themselves God's redemptive plan and turn from their wicked ways. When this happens, their world view, their culture, their celebrations, their times of grief, their worship, their destiny, and much more will be completely transformed. We must pledge our lives and commit our ways for the task that lies ahead because these Words, the Words of the Living God, will change everything!



SALT

(SPIRITUAL ASIAN LEADERSHIP TRAINING)

BY ALAN FONG

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” — Matthew 28:18–20

Do you enjoy seasoning your food with salt? Without salt, most food is bland and tasteless. However, add a little bit of salt and our food is transformed into something tasty and enjoyable. Salt makes a difference!

The mission statement and marching orders of the local New Testament church are to go to every nation of the world to preach the gospel, establish other local churches, and develop committed disciples of Jesus Christ who will help repeat this process.

The word “teach” is the Greek word “mathetes,” which is our word for disciple. Teaching and discipleship-making is a thorough ingrain of the Scriptures, resulting in a Christ-like life. Discipleship-making is what Paul describes in 2 Timothy 2:2, “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” Building strong churches will not happen unless we are committed to an aggressive plan of evangelism

and discipleship-making. Thus, the missionary church planter must make soul-winning and discipleship-making a seven day per week goal.

In 2008, the Lord opened a door for me and the men of my church to work with missionaries and house church pastors in China in the spreading of the gospel, starting churches, and training pastors and servants of God. I quickly realized that, due to China being a restricted access nation, the house church pastors were in need of

many resource tools and training to enable them to become more effective in their efforts. We also realized that we needed a safe and consistent means to train these men without putting them and ourselves at risk of exposure by their government. After much prayer, the Lord led me to launch a ministry known as SALT, which stands for Spiritual Asian Leadership Training.

The goal of SALT is to bring a mobile Bible institute training to the national pastors and missionaries in China. Working with a well-established and leading Bible college in America, I enlisted Bible department heads and faculty to assist me in providing an intensive module of classes.

The first SALT conference was held at a camp in Hong Kong. The Lord enabled us to bring in 70 men who were pastors or men who had a strong desire for serving the Lord. My church helped to subsidize the travel, lodging, and meal costs for these men. We would begin each morning with a strong 45-minute preaching service. Following this, for the next six hours, we would have the men take various classes that included doctrinal topics, practical theology, soul-winning, discipleship-training, and much more. In the evenings, we would have another strong preaching service. By the end of that first week, God worked in scores of hearts, with 13 men surrendering to preach, and many pastors committing to return to their country to put into practice the practical tools they received and to do

more to win more souls to Christ, to train more disciples, and to see more men called to preach.

Of all the men called to preach, one exceptional young man stood out. This young man's English name is Ted. Ted came to this SALT conference at the recommendation of his missionary pastor, not really knowing what to expect. Three months after our SALT training, the Lord miraculously opened the door for Ted to get a student visa and enroll in a two-year training program at the same Bible college that worked with me at the SALT training. After graduating from

“God wants all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. As we walk by faith, He gives us creative access and ideas to reach these nations with the gospel and to equip national preachers.”

the two-year program, Ted returned to China to help serve at his local church. During the last four years, God has worked in Ted's heart to go to the city he is originally from to start a local New Testament church. Ted will be starting this new church in the next few months. My church and I are providing him with the resources and help he will need to get this church off to a strong start.

We have done SALT training several times since the first one we held in 2012. We have a template

that is very effective in bringing Bible training, practical theology, pastoral mentoring, and evangelistic assistance to Asian countries. We have to be cautious and prudent in how we execute our program in restricted-access nations; but in effect, it is a powerful means for providing hands-on training. It creates opportunities for Asian men to be challenged through strong preaching and mentoring to be preachers of the gospel. It is an opportunity for members of my church to accompany me on a short-term mission trips and get a heart for missions as they see the Lord working. It is a program that comes alongside of the missionary church planters and house church planters in bringing more tools and resources to the field.

SALT is a resource that God is blessing to enable us to be “... the salt of the earth: ...” (Matthew 5:13) that our Lord said we should be. Through SALT, we bring the living water to thirsty men. Through SALT, men who are trained return to their cities and are more effective “salt agents.” I believe the Lord has given us “... a great door and effectual ...” (I Corinthians 16:9) to the countries in the 10/40 window. God wants all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. As we walk by faith, He gives us creative access and ideas to reach these nations with the gospel and to equip national preachers. Pray for us that God will allow us to enlarge our circle of influence and see more accomplished for His glory. Let us be salt that makes a difference!



A
PRIVILEGE,
NOT A
SACRIFICE



By Dan Gill,
BPS/Seedline



Every four years, top athletes from around the world gather in one country to compete in the Winter Olympic games. The goal of these athletes is simple: to have a gold medal placed around their neck and to hear the national anthem of their country played while they stand on the top step of the podium. The goal is simple, but achieving that goal is extremely difficult. It takes years of hard work and dedication, along with countless hours of practice, to be able to compete with the best of the best from around the world.

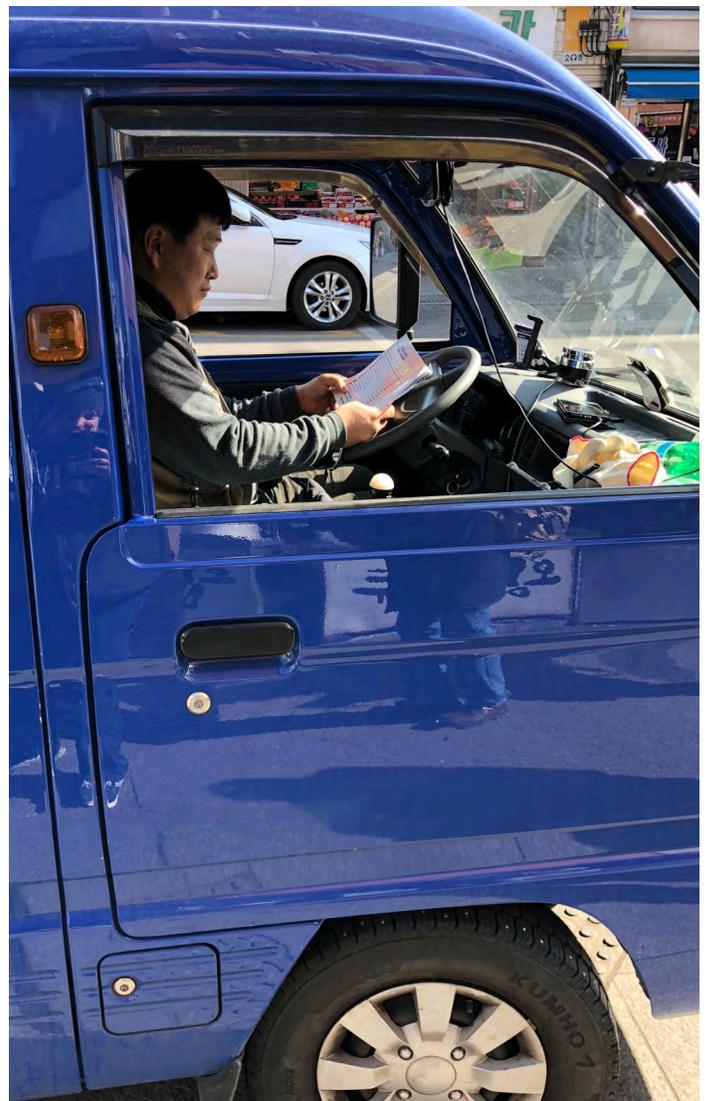
Not only do athletes from around the world come to this one country, but spectators from many countries come also. Their goal is also simple: to cheer with every ounce of enthusiasm within them for the athletes from their home country in hopes that their heroes will be standing on the top step of the podium receiving the gold medal. Many will come dressed in traditional attire from their country, a flag draped over their shoulders, and faces painted the colors of the flag. They want everyone to know what country they call home and that they are proud to be a citizen of that country.

This was the scene that I had the privilege of witnessing in February as the Lord allowed me to travel to Pyeongchang, South Korea for the 2018 Winter Olympic games. I was part of a team that was present during the first week of the Olympic games. Just like the athletes and the spectators of the games, we also had a simple goal: to put a copy of a portion of God's Word into the hands of as many people as possible. Bearing Precious Seed had printed and shipped 100,000 Scriptures to South Korea

for distribution, and we now had the awesome privilege and responsibility of personally sharing the Scripture with these people.

From the moment we arrived at the airport, it was apparent that the South Korean people were a very kind and receptive people. This belief became more evident as we hit the streets to distribute God's Word. We encountered smiling face after smiling face that was so eager to receive the free gift we were offering to them. It was such a tremendous blessing to watch as many people would stop what they were doing to open the John and Romans they were just handed and start reading. Several of these people would stand for five to ten minutes before continuing on where they were headed. I will never forget watching a man that was given a John and Romans as he was stopped at a traffic light in his delivery truck. He pulled his truck to the side of the road, still in the way of traffic, and read from God's

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AFGHANISTAN

Population **36,278,000**
Languages **56**
People Groups **72**
Unreached Groups **67**
Evangelized **0.03%**

ARMENIA

Population **2,888,000**
Languages **14**
People Groups **16**
Unreached Groups **4**
Evangelized **8.66%**

AZERBAIJAN

Population **9,904,000**
Languages **34**
People Groups **38**
Unreached Groups **24**
Evangelized **0.21%**

BAHRAIN

Population **1,546,000**
Languages **14**
People Groups **16**
Unreached Groups **7**
Evangelized **2.51%**

BANGLADESH

Population **164,696,000**
Languages **48**
People Groups **326**
Unreached Groups **294**
Evangelized **Unknown**

BHUTAN

Population **809,000**
Languages **40**
People Groups **74**
Unreached Groups **71**
Evangelized **Unknown**

BRUNEI

Population **424,000**
Languages **23**
People Groups **24**
Unreached Groups **8**
Evangelized **5.22%**

CAMBODIA

Population **16,195,000**
Languages **34**
People Groups **43**
Unreached Groups **31**
Evangelized **1.60%**

CHINA

Population **4,401,373,000**
Languages **313**
People Groups **543**
Unreached Groups **444**
Evangelized **7.57%**

CYPRUS

Population **1,157,000**
Languages **23**
People Groups **30**
Unreached Groups **5**
Evangelized **1.15%**

GEORGIA

Population **3,846,000**
Languages **36**
People Groups **39**
Unreached Groups **15**
Evangelized **1.39%**

INDIA

Population **1,340,456,000**
Languages **247**
People Groups **2,554**
Unreached Groups **2,289**
Evangelized **Unknown**

INDONESIA

Population **265,375,000**
Languages **697**
People Groups **786**
Unreached Groups **234**
Evangelized **2.83%**

IRAN

Population **81,940,000**
Languages **82**
People Groups **95**
Unreached Groups **85**
Evangelized **0.46%**

IRAQ

Population **39,302,000**
Languages **32**
People Groups **36**
Unreached Groups **26**
Evangelized **0.21%**

ISRAEL

Population **8,416,000**
Languages **41**
People Groups **50**
Unreached Groups **41**
Evangelized **0.32%**

JAPAN

Population **127,054,000**
Languages **31**
People Groups **36**
Unreached Groups **23**
Evangelized **0.58%**

JORDAN

Population **9,752,000**
Languages **18**
People Groups **21**
Unreached Groups **14**
Evangelized **0.27%**

KAZAKHSTAN

Population **18,297,000**
Languages **63**
People Groups **66**
Unreached Groups **31**
Evangelized **0.53%**

NORTH KOREA

Population **25,486,000**
Languages **5**
People Groups **5**
Unreached Groups **2**
Evangelized **1.03%**

SOUTH KOREA

Population **51,086,000**
Languages **19**
People Groups **23**
Unreached Groups **11**
Evangelized **16.39%**

KUWAIT

Population **4,128,000**
Languages **24**
People Groups **28**
Unreached Groups **14**
Evangelized **1.41%**

KYRGYZSTAN

Population **6,066,000**
Languages **38**
People Groups **41**
Unreached Groups **27**
Evangelized **0.70%**

LAOS

Population **6,911,000**
Languages **96**
People Groups **132**
Unreached Groups **111**
Evangelized **2.39%**

THE COUNTRIES OF ASIA



LEBANON

Population **6,070,000**
Languages **21**
People Groups **26**
Unreached Groups **8**
Evangelized **0.70%**



MALAYSIA

Population **31,942,000**
Languages **162**
People Groups **188**
Unreached Groups **84**
Evangelized **3.29%**



MALDIVES

Population **438,000**
Languages **4**
People Groups **4**
Unreached Groups **4**
Evangelized **0.01%**



MONGOLIA

Population **3,104,000**
Languages **16**
People Groups **28**
Unreached Groups **23**
Evangelized **1.60%**



MYANMAR

Population **53,761,000**
Languages **138**
People Groups **148**
Unreached Groups **50**
Evangelized **4.31%**



NEPAL

Population **29,328,000**
Languages **63**
People Groups **274**
Unreached Groups **266**
Evangelized **Unknown**



OMAN

Population **4,772,000**
Languages **32**
People Groups **34**
Unreached Groups **26**
Evangelized **0.81%**



PAKISTAN

Population **198,830,000**
Languages **31**
People Groups **422**
Unreached Groups **414**
Evangelized **Unknown**



PHILIPPINES

Population **106,355,000**
Languages **184**
People Groups **200**
Unreached Groups **30**
Evangelized **12.19%**



QATAR

Population **2,565,000**
Languages **21**
People Groups **24**
Unreached Groups **14**
Evangelized **0.86%**



RUSSIA

Population **142,654,000**
Languages **137**
People Groups **180**
Unreached Groups **116**
Evangelized **1.21%**



SAUDI ARABIA

Population **33,461,000**
Languages **38**
People Groups **43**
Unreached Groups **29**
Evangelized **0.55%**



SINGAPORE

Population **5,756,000**
Languages **38**
People Groups **49**
Unreached Groups **19**
Evangelized **6.58%**



SRI LANKA

Population **20,765,000**
Languages **23**
People Groups **166**
Unreached Groups **70**
Evangelized **Unknown**



SYRIA

Population **18,094,000**
Languages **31**
People Groups **38**
Unreached Groups **19**
Evangelized **0.16%**



TAJIKISTAN

Population **9,062,000**
Languages **39**
People Groups **41**
Unreached Groups **24**
Evangelized **0.09%**



THAILAND

Population **69,038,000**
Languages **92**
People Groups **115**
Unreached Groups **83**
Evangelized **0.51%**



TIMOR-LESTE

Population **1,302,000**
Languages **22**
People Groups **23**
Unreached Groups **0**
Evangelized **2.30%**



TURKEY

Population **81,863,000**
Languages **56**
People Groups **68**
Unreached Groups **45**
Evangelized **0.04%**



TURKMENISTAN

Population **5,797,000**
Languages **38**
People Groups **38**
Unreached Groups **21**
Evangelized **0.10%**



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Population **9,490,000**
Languages **30**
People Groups **34**
Unreached Groups **29**
Evangelized **0.61%**



UZBEKISTAN

Population **32,302,000**
Languages **58**
People Groups **61**
Unreached Groups **34**
Evangelized **0.22%**



VIETNAM

Population **96,417,000**
Languages **111**
People Groups **117**
Unreached Groups **66**
Evangelized **2.23%**



YEMEN

Population **28,758,000**
Languages **26**
People Groups **29**
Unreached Groups **20**
Evangelized **0.03%**

Continued from page 13

Word for at least 15 minutes as cars were honking their horns for him to move out of the way.

Another unforgettable experience was when we distributed Scripture in a very large open-air market. The missionary we were working with had informed us that many of the elderly vendors in this market were looked down upon in the South Korean culture. As we approached these precious souls, they seemed shocked that we had a gift to offer them. It was priceless to see the smile of appreciation that swept over those sweet



faces once they realized that we expected nothing in return for the copy of Scripture we handed them. Our prayer is that many of them read about a loving Heavenly Father that is "... no respecter of persons:" (Acts 10:34) and that they accept the free gift of salvation offered to them through Jesus Christ.

We were also able to distribute Scripture near both of the Olympic parks that were constructed for the Olympic games. It was in these two locations that we encountered people from all over the globe (Poland, Russia, Finland, Denmark, Norway, China, Japan, and Canada - just to name a few). The Scripture we were distributing was in the Korean language; however, it included a tract in the

back that had been translated into 18 different languages. Due to this fact, we could give a copy of the Scriptures to these people from other countries, knowing that they would be able to at least read the tract portion. As I stood at this area and watched people from all over the world pass by, I could not help but think of Revelation 5:9, "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;" My prayer is that many of those we encountered during our brief stay in South Korea will be part of the redeemed people mentioned in this verse.

As I reflect on what the Lord allowed our team to accomplish during our short stay in South Korea, I am in awe of His goodness. We, along with the other teams that were there during the two weeks of the Olympics, were able to distribute 100,000 copies of God's Word. My prayer is that many people will come to know Christ as a result of the efforts that took place to make this distribution event possible. You see, this distribution effort is similar to the effort it took for each athlete to make it to the Olympic games. The athletes sacrificed much to train and prepare for this event. In order for the Scriptures to arrive in South Korea, it also took much sacrifice from many people. Money had to be given to buy the paper; the Scripture had to be printed; churches assisted in the assembly of the Scripture which then had to be shipped across the globe; strategic planning took place to target the best locations for distribution; and many, many prayers were offered. This was a team effort, and it was an honor and a privilege to be able to represent our Lord and Savior to so many people from so many different countries. Please join me in claiming this wonderful promise from God's Word found in Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Isaiah 55:11

How?

can you impact the future of missions
in your home church



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Steps for Making a Difference in a Student's Life

- Step 1** Communicate weekly with your student.
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- Step 4** Have them to your home several times each semester.
- Step 5** See the eternal difference you can make in a student's life!

BIBLICAL SCHOOL OF
WORLD EVANGELISM



SHAME ON YOU!

BY LARRY QUINLAN, BSWE

**"FOR THE SCRIPTURE SAITH, WHOSOEVER
BELIEVETH ON HIM SHALL NOT BE ASHAMED."**

(ROMANS 10:11)

As missionaries, one of the first things that we had to do upon our arrival in Indonesia was learn the rules of our host society.

As part of our language instruction, we were required to go out each day and practice what we had learned in class by speaking to people that we met on the street in our neighborhood. In so doing, not only did we learn the language, but we also learned the rules of social interaction. These rules included how to greet people; how to talk to people; how to excuse oneself while passing a person on the sidewalk; how to ask appropriate (and avoid inappropriate) questions in conversation; how to end a conversation in a polite manner; and so forth. We quickly learned that there were many rules in Indonesia that needed to be followed so that we would not be considered rude. If we did not follow these social rules, we would be perceived as proud and arrogant (as most Westerners are already thought to be), a shameful thing in Indonesian society. Thus, in viewing the confident and often assertive behavior of most Westerners, Indonesians think, “Shame on you!”

While going through this social learning process, one of the hardest things for me to understand was how a people that could be so polite in a personal, one-on-one neighborhood setting could be so rude in the public venues of society, such as city streets, highways, and public buildings. For instance, it was common for people to cut in line (if a line existed at all), push and shove to get on and off of public transportation, and cut a person off on the road or sidewalk without giving it a second thought. It especially frustrated me to see the established laws of the land brazenly violated. People would intentionally drive the opposite direction on one-way streets, ignore stop signs, run stop lights, park on sidewalks, and more. How could a people that so keenly felt the need to observe so many unwritten social rules be so willing and ready to ignore written and established legal rules? As I viewed the rude and callous behavior of Indonesians in the public arena, I thought, “Shame on you!”

How could I, in my host country, be treated so politely and honorably in personal settings, yet be treated so rudely and callously in public settings? The answer to this question is one of the most important things that we teach at Biblical School of World Evangelism. The answer is found in one word: culture. We define culture as “a unique, total way of life for a specific group of people.” Culture impacts every aspect of missions. For the sake of classroom study, missions students at BSWE learn that culture can be divided into levels. The first, most visible level is the behavior level in which one meets the rules of society. Digging deeper into a culture, one then reaches the institution level. This level includes concepts such as family and religion. Further down is the values level. Values are beliefs that give meaning and worth to life. Finally, we come to the level that is the deepest and the most difficult to understand. This is the worldview level.

Missiologist Paul Hiebert defines worldview as “the basic assumptions about reality which lie behind the beliefs and behavior of a culture.”¹ Worldview is simply one’s view of reality. Every culture and every person has one! Western world cultures view reality through a guilt vs. innocence, right vs. wrong lens. We call this perspective a guilt-based worldview. Asian cultures, on the other hand, view reality through a shame vs. honor lens. That is, the pursuit of honor and avoidance of shame is more important than the “rightness” or “wrongness” of one’s actions. We call this perspective a shame-based worldview. (There is also a fear-based worldview, but that is outside the scope of this article.)

In Indonesia, a shame-based society, established laws can be broken and individuals can be treated callously in the impersonal, public arena because there is no personal shame attached to that kind of behavior. A stranger treated rudely in a public street, building, or byway is likely never to be seen again—at least not in a personal setting. Consequently, there is no personal shame to be felt if one should not be considerate of that individual. However, to the Western mind holding a guilt-based worldview, this rude behavior is wrong and intolerable. The Asian mind holding a shame-based

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worldview may recognize this behavior as wrong in an abstract sense, but it is deemed acceptable because there is no personal shame involved to either party.

While conflicting worldviews can be difficult for the missionary, it is exciting to know that they present no difficulty to the Word of God. God's Word engages every culture at its most fundamental level—its worldview. Scripture proclaims the message of man's sin, his ruin, God's love, and the crucified and risen Savior to every person in every culture. But here's the amazing thing: it does so in such a way that it is meaningful within that culture's worldview!

For example, the Western mind sees man's fall through a guilt-based worldview. Man's partaking of the forbidden fruit broke God's law and made man guilty. The perceived reward of being like God was no excuse for the action. Thus, man's sin brought guilt, death, and separation from God. The Asian mind, on the other hand, sees man's fall through a shame-based worldview. The Asian mind can easily understand how Eve would be enticed to disobey God's law if the reward were to be such an honorable position of being like God. Partaking of the forbidden fruit did not bring honor, however. Instead, it brought man great shame, causing him to hide from God. Thus, man's sin brought shame, loss of his honored state in the garden, and separation from God.

Consider also the example of the cross. The Western mind sees the cross in a judicial sense. It was there that Christ paid for man's guilt, thereby reconciling the sinner to God on legal grounds (justification). The Asian mind sees the cross in a positional sense. It was there that Christ bore man's shame, thereby

removing man's shame and restoring his lost honor as he is brought into the very family of God.

Of course, both ways of viewing man's fall and Christ's work on the cross are equally Biblical and equally valid. We also recognize that the truths of guilt and shame equally apply to all lost persons regardless of their worldview. However, by knowing a person's worldview, we can determine the most effective way to engage that person with the Gospel.

Isn't it wonderful to know that God authored His Word in a way that speaks to people of every worldview! As a cross-cultural ambassador for Christ, the foreign missionary does not need to contextualize the Word of God—God has already done that! The challenge for the cross-cultural missionary is to contextualize himself! He must endeavor to understand the worldview of his host people group. He must also strive to understand how the Word of God engages them through their worldview. He needs to train himself to study the Word of God through the lens of his host culture's worldview. Most importantly, he needs to boldly proclaim the Word of God in a manner that is meaningful within their worldview and do so without changing or compromising its message. While these endeavors may seem impossible, by the grace of God, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the commitment of the missionary, they can be accomplished. Our purpose at Biblical School of World Evangelism is to train missionaries to do these very things. If we should fail in this effort, shame on us!

¹Hiebert, Paul. *Anthropological Insights for Missionaries*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985.

**"AS A CROSS-CULTURAL AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST,
THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY DOES NOT NEED TO
CONTEXTUALIZE THE WORD OF GOD—GOD HAS ALREADY
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MISSIONARY IS TO CONTEXTUALIZE HIMSELF!"**

doing with my son?” From there, I told him the story of how we met and what the Lord had told me to do. Included in this story was the gospel and how the Lord had saved me. His father listened as I described how God called me to Japan and then to Aomori. After two hours he said, “I am a Buddhist ... but ... no one has ever loved my son!” He reiterated that his beliefs were different, but gave his permission for me to talk with his son. Two weeks later at the hospital, Yamashita san, as we say in Japan, became Yamashita kyodai, Brother Yamashita. He repented of his sin and trusted Christ as his Savior.

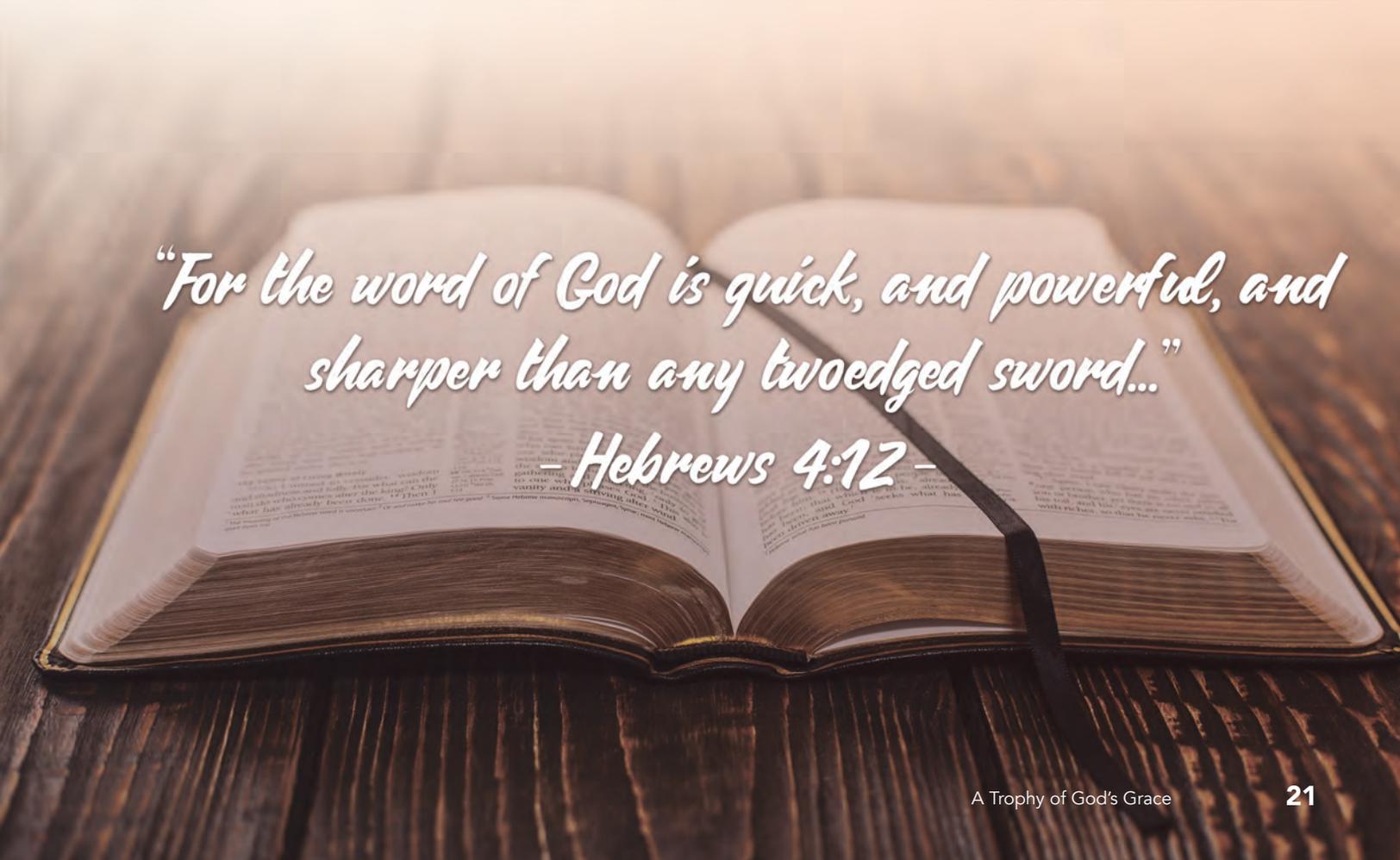
He became a changed man. His fears instantly disappeared and even in his sedated state, the doctors and nurses could tell he was different. One day, as I entered the ward, he said to me, “The doctors want to know what you did.” This was a recurring comment over the course of the next couple of months. One day, I received word that the head doctor over the whole hospital wanted to talk to me. After I was ushered into his office, he said immediately, “What did you do to Mr. Yamashita?” He went on to say he had never seen a mental patient cured. I took out my Bible and

explained to him what Jesus had done. The look on the doctor’s face revealed that he was very unsure what he was hearing.

Nothing in the Orient changes quickly. It took months for changes to occur. At first they moved him to an unlocked ward. Then they began talking to him about possibly going home. A year and a half later, they told him he did not need to be there anymore.

During this time, he was a witness of the power of God to those around him. Many of his friends would gather around us at the hospital and we saw many of them place their faith in the One who has the power to change lives. So many of his hospital friends started coming to church that one man cautioned me over getting too many of “them” attending our church. He said, “You are going to give people the idea that church is a place for the weak.”

Today, if one visits the Aomori Grace Baptist Church, he will meet Brother Yamashita. Though he carries the scars of five suicide attempts, he also testifies of the wonderful grace of God. He is...a trophy of God’s grace.



“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword...”

Hebrews 4:12 -



Have a *Missions* Mindset

by David Williamson, BSWE

The goal of this article is to cause readers to probe their mind and emotions; to examine their attitudes. One recognized author asserts that “A central tenet in the concept of attitudes is that they predispose one to behavior” and that “Most definitions of attitudes include some aspect of behavior” (Rhodes 2006). It truly is a fact that attitude predisposes behavior; that how we think and feel about something ultimately determines how we behave toward that consideration.

What are your thoughts when you hear the term “missions”? Do you immediately consider a lost world and its need for salvation? Has your perspective about missions changed over time? If so, how has it changed and what caused it to morph? As I asked (and answered) these questions introspectively, I found that my perspective of missions has certainly changed. This change was brought about because my attitude was transformed. My attitude was transformed because my exposure to certain things had changed. Exposure to what you ask?

Exposure to *God*

Over the past five years, I have been exposed to God in a way that has altered my attitude and therefore my behavior. The limitations of

this article do not permit me to expound on the breadth of what I have uncovered, but be assured that my attitude has changed. There is a personal enlightenment that accompanies studying God’s Word and His character for the purpose of relaying truth to others. Having the privilege to teach others about God has caused me to change my attitude about Him. God has revealed His character to me so intimately and in such a way that I cannot help but see Him differently. What particular mystery have I uncovered? The mystery that God has always planned to save all peoples! The Apostle Paul puts it this way in his epistle to believers in Ephesus:

“Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 3:5-9).

God planned to save the Gentiles when He formed this world. The Greek transliteration for the word “Gentiles” is “ethnos” and literally means “nations or people groups”. This mystery was not known to man in other ages. In fact, I did not fully comprehend this mystery until my pastor asked me to change ministry assignments several years ago. It may seem to you as a poor testimony when I relay that my pastor had to move me in the work of God (within our local assembly) before I was challenged to change my attitude about missions. To me, it was a miracle! What event will cause someone reading this article to fully comprehend God’s will and missions? May I recommend to you that God’s will and missions are one and the same?

Exposure to *Culture*

The term “culture” can be traced back to the mid-15th century and is derived from the Latin word “cultura”. The meaning of this word originates with the idea of cultivating or “the tilling of land; the act of preparing earth for crops” (www.etymonline.com 2018). This same source reveals that the term “culture”, as it relates to environment, has only been in existence since the late 1700’s and its meaning then dealt with microorganisms and not people. This source further clarifies that the word “culture” was likely not used in the closely related sense of “collective customs and achievements of a people and their intellectual development” until perhaps 1867.

Why the lesson in Anthropology? Understanding culture as it relates to people is instrumental in our ability to reach them for Jesus Christ. Now that God has revealed

the mystery in our Church Age that He has always been a God of all people, we find that our obligation to reach them in this present era is an anthropological assignment. God has worked in my mind these past few years and has shown me the significance of understanding the customs of people. These customs form their attitude about life. Without understanding a particular people group’s view on life, how can we expect to engage them to change their eternal life perspective?

“Understanding culture as it relates to people is instrumental in our ability to reach them for Jesus Christ.”

I recall a conversation I had with a fellow believer as I was preparing to teach a portion of a Cultural Stress module. The person remarked, “What do you know about culture?”

I responded that I had worked in a jail for 20 years and that the experience was cultural. I suggested to my fellow laborer that I had experienced things that were difficult and challenging and that only those that had my life’s experience in such an environment could really have true empathy. My interaction (good and bad) with charged and convicted persons, and my dealings with the Criminal Justice System, was “cultural”. Had I not received training that affected my attitude (and ultimately my behavior) to function successfully in such a culture, the environment could have caused me to form a mindset that would have manifested in complete and utter failure. My friend and I did not part in frustration. He understood that my role in the instruction was to define culture and stress and then let the missions professors relate how best to deal with the challenges associated with integration and assimilation. The point is that each believer must come to grip with the understanding that the relationship between culture and missions is inseparable. When I truly came to the understanding that Satan’s goal is to blind the lost forever, and to bind the born again believer so as to limit or retard their desire and ability to fight for the lost, missions became very real to me.

Exposure to *Spiritual Warfare*

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong

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holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

Allow me to relate another experience that helped to form my attitude about missions.

I remember the first time I was exposed to teaching about spiritual warfare. I am not referencing a time when I experienced spiritual warfare; rather, the first time I was required to instruct in this area. Little did I know that I was embarking on a study that would change my life. I recall not wanting to teach the course. I recall thinking that doing so would invite spiritual darkness and oppression. Actually, I found the opposite to be true. When I allowed God to lead me in Truth and came to realize that the primary battle in spiritual warfare is

in the believer's own mind, I found revelation and peace beyond any that I had ever before experienced. When I learned to allow God to help me pull down strongholds (arguments and reasonings that I make in my own mind to fortify my own selfish will), my idea of missions changed drastically. When God revealed to me that each believer was to bring into

"When God revealed to me that each believer was to bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ, my perspective on world evangelism changed."

captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ, my perspective on world evangelism changed.

What if every believer gained a better understanding of God and missions? What if our attitude toward the lost was based upon our attitude toward the character of God and not just His commands? What if our disposition was such that the purpose of Christ's

death consumed our mind? What would we then think of missions? I suspect our behavior would change.





Missionary

SUPPORT TEAM

Beyond our financial support, supporting our missionaries means **knowing** them, **caring** for them, **praying** for them, and even **visiting** them on the field. The **Missionary Support Team** is a new ministry of First Baptist Church designed to give you that opportunity to support our foreign-field

missionaries in these ways. If you are interested in joining this team of people who are passionate about missions, please write your name and “Missionary Support Team” on a Connect Card, and drop it in an offering basket. This voluntary ministry opportunity is for teens or adults who are members of FBC.

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