

Longview Baptist Temple
Sunday School Lesson
February 22, 2009



=I HAVE SET BEFORE THEE AN OPEN DOOR=

Local Church Role in Missions

Acts 16:5

Acts 16:5 “And so were the churches established in the faith.” IBWM believes the gospel is to be preached in all the world, and that the divine seed will take root and prosper in any part of the world. People from other countries can be saved, converted, and empowered by the Holy Ghost and are able to carry on the work of the Church as well as Americans.

The gospel is not regional, adapted to the valleys but not to the hills. Do not think that the gospel can only prosper in the north or south. God designed the gospel Himself, so that if we will fill the need of all nationalities and will work in any geographical location, if the gospel seed be planted properly, there is no place on earth where it will not produce an indigenous Baptist church.

A true indigenous Baptist church is not a houseplant, something that must have an artificial atmosphere and receive special care in order to stay alive; not a puny, sickly, hopeless church, but a church which the gates of hell cannot prevail against. It's a church that Jesus will build among all races, all colonies, and all languages in all lands.

WHAT SHOULD BE THE GOAL OF MISSIONS? The goal of Missions should be the fulfillment of Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-16, Luke 24:45-48, John 20:21, and Acts 1:8 as given by our Lord Jesus Christ. Evangelize, baptize, stabilize, and from that establish a local Baptist church.

A church has a pastor, a Mission has a Missionary who is organizing a church. A missionary is sent out by the church to start a church, so all work being done is under the authority of that local church. A local church is led by a pastor whom they have chosen. The local church then asks the Missionary to follow his pastor as the church does.

WHAT IS MISSIONS? Missions is the act of sending. It is a ministry commissioned by a local New Testament Baptist Church for the purpose of establishing another local New Testament Baptist Church somewhere else in the world.

Missions is a body of persons sent to perform a service or carry on an activity, a specific task. A Missionary is a person relating to a God-given call or vocation and is engaged and devoted to performing missions and reporting to the Church his results.

**Biblical characteristics of Missionaries who are called out of a local
Independent Baptist Church**
Acts 13-15

The Call to Missions

1. The call to Missions is gotten only in God's Word. (King James Bible)
2. The preparations for Missions is gotten only in school. (Baptist and Local Church)
3. The support for Missions is gotten only by deputation. (Travel)
4. The School of Missions is gotten only by attending monthly meetings. (Conference)
5. The Missions field is gotten only by going. (Put your feet on soil)
 - a. Acts 13:1 – A Missionary must be a tested servant in a local church.
 - b. Acts 13:1 – A Missionary must have spiritual gifts that are obvious to that local church and Pastor.

- c. Acts 13:2 – A Missionary must be available before the Holy Spirit can use them and willing to go anywhere asked to go.
- d. Acts 13:2 – A Missionary must be in a local church that has leadership controlled by the Holy Spirit.
- e. Acts 13:3 – A Missionary must be commissioned only by the local church where he serves, not a board located somewhere else.
- f. Acts 13:3 – They fulfilled the church's requirement and left for the mission field.
- g. Acts 13:5 – They did not start social programs, but preached the Word of God.
- h. Acts 13:5 – There was more than one of them, and they produced disciples. Everything produces after its own kind.
- i. Acts 13:24-25 – They were Baptist people.
- j. Acts 13:44 – they drew crowds wherever they went.
- k. Acts 13:47 – They made people understand their responsibility was unto the ends of the earth.
- l. Acts 13:48-49 – They preached to all people in all regions, red, yellow, black, and white.
- m. Acts 13:50 – They were persecuted, kicked out of town, and hated.
- n. Acts 14:8-18 – They saw God do miraculous things.
- o. Acts 14:29-24 – They ordained preachers and established local independent Baptist Churches (never leaves it a mission.)
- p. Acts 14:25-27 – They attended their Annual Missions conference, and became reportable to their sending church. (Return, reunion, rest)
- q. Acts 14:28 – They spent their time off the mission field at their local church being a blessing and a help to their pastor, not laying up in a motel.
- r. Acts 15:1-2 – Always brought disputes or doctrinal differences back to the church.
- s. Acts 15:3 – They help the Church see the spiritual needs of others.
- t. Acts 15:12 – They reported what God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.
- u. Acts 15:22 – Then they sent men with Paul to Antioch; mission trip.
- v. Acts 15:35 – They served in the home church while they were there.
- w. Acts 15:36 – They checked on the churches and their converts; Paul's proposal.
- x. Acts 15:37-38 – they did not let personality stop them from doing God's work.
- y. Acts 15:40-41 – They were sent out again, recommended by the brethren, never satisfied.