

## WHY WE DO MISSIONS

Many churches have never had a missionary outreach. Some churches feel they can't afford to support missionaries, while others will try to support missions but rely on extra money left over after paying monthly bills. Still other churches take on missionaries with a promise of support to only support for a while and then cancel support when "things" get tight. We choose to support missions for the right reasons and they are all found within the pages of God's Holy Word.

## TO OBEY GOD'S COMMAND

**Matthew 28:18-20** The command to "go and teach all nations" is given by the highest authority. Jesus has been given ALL power on earth and in heaven by God the Father so we are to obey Him.

**Mark 16:15** Jesus not only commanded us to go into all the world but He told us what to preach to the people and how many people we are to preach the gospel to.

**Acts 1:6-8; (Luke 24:33-49)** Although many choose to believe the great commission was given to the Apostles only if we make certain who Jesus is talking to we can see He is talking to His church.

## TO HELP SAVE THE LOST

**John 4:4-7, 39-41** We have great examples of missionary work from Jesus Himself. Here we see Him going into Samaria, a foreign and unfriendly people but a people who needed the word of God.

**Luke 8:22-26** Jesus gives His disciples and us a great example of missions. When it is decided to go or to send missionaries it will be many times dangerous, time consuming and costly but rewarding.

**Acts 10:9-15, 44-45; 11:17-19** God used several experiences to get the disciples attention pertaining to missions. He used visions and persecutions because they forgot what He said when He left.

**Acts 13:1-3, 46-49** When the church finally realized the mission of the church was to reach everyone with the gospel they sent missionaries. Paul and Barnabas take on the global work that God has called the church to do and that is to allow everyone the choice of eternal life through Christ.

## TO HELP HURTING CHURCHES

**Acts 11:27-30** Due to persecution and famine the churches at Judea were hurting and in need of help. Notice that God makes it a point to acknowledge that every man gave something according to ability.

**James 2:14-17** Here we see God wants us to know that talk is cheap, prayer is good, action is best.

**II Corinthians 8:1-4** There will be many individuals and thousands of churches that will be embarrassed and ashamed at the Judgment Seat when Jesus calls the Macedonian churches faithful and generous in their missionary sacrifice to help the churches in Judea.

## TO HAVE SOMETHING ON ACCOUNT

**II Corinthians 9:5-8** Paul is exhorting (to cheer, to encourage) the church to be generous, to be bountiful and to give with enthusiasm and cheerfulness. Notice one more time God says "every man."

**Galatians 6:7-10** We are encouraged to be on the giving side and to give spiritually rather than giving to satisfy the flesh. Paul reminds us that "in due season we shall reap." We can't take it with us but we can send something ahead!!

**Philippians 4:14-19** Paul is bragging on this particular church because of their missionary giving.

**Hebrews 6:9-10** God is not as forgetful as we are. God remembers everything, even when we give a drink of water to a thirsty soul.

