

# How to Reach the World with the Gospel

## The Great Commission was Given

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The plan was twofold:

- (1) To reach our 'Jerusalem'
- (2) To take the gospel to the entire world.

One may wonder whether or not this is even possible. It was not only possible; it was accomplished!

## The World was Reached with the Gospel

Colossians 1:23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the **gospel**, which ye have heard, *and* which was **preached to every creature** which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Colossians 1:6 Which is come unto you, as *it is in all the world*; and bringeth forth fruit, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard *of it...*

Romans 10:18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their **words unto the ends of the world**.

Romans 16:26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, **made known to all nations** for the obedience of faith:

Colossians 1:6 Which is come unto you, as *it is in all the world*; and bringeth forth fruit, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard *of it...*

Within 30 years, the world was reached with the gospel. How did they do this? It was accomplished by church planting.

We need to delve into the New Testament methodology and follow their example if we are going to make the greatest impact for Christ.

## **The Early Church had a Mindset of Church Planting**

The church at Jerusalem started the church at Antioch. The church at Antioch sent out Paul and Barnabas who started churches. After their first missionary journey, Paul was going to check on the churches that they had started:

Acts 15:36 “And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, *and see how they do.*”

Paul and Barnabas split up and Paul went with Silas. As they went out:  
Acts 15:41 “And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.”

Paul went confirming these churches. Paul had not been to Syria or Cilicia on his first missionary journey. One can only conclude that some other church or some other missionary had started these churches. The **conclusion drawn is that the early church had a mind-set of church planting.**

Missions ought to be defined as:

Church Planting: A church starts a church that starts churches that start churches...

### **How to follow this Biblical Pattern**

- (1) God uses the local church
- (2) God assigns the pastor as overseer. He is the one to implement a plan
- (3) Nationals trained to start churches is the most effective use of money
- (4) A local church ought to actively be involved in a Bible Institute where an American missionary is training nationals to start churches.

Re-vamp your missions program. Keep the church-planting missionaries that you have, but start a new program of raising all new funds solely for effective church planting.

### **Effective church planting is:**

Using your funds to underwrite the expenses of a Bible Institute where nationals are being trained to start churches in their own culture.

Nationals do not need to learn the language and culture. Church planting can start immediately after “Bible College.” Efforts are multiplied.

The world could be reached within one generation if churches would adopt this biblical plan.