

God's Heart for the Nations

"What is My Role in Reaching the Nations?"

Acts 1:8 – March 20, 2016

Our Sermon Series

GOD'S HEART FOR THE NATIONS		
<i>A 6-Week Sermon Series on Fulfilling the Great Commission</i>		
Date	Message Title	Bible Text
Feb. 14	The Living God is a Missionary God	Genesis 12:1-3
Feb. 21	The Story of His Glory	Bible Survey
Feb. 28	Heroes Who Have Gotten God's Heart	Hebrews 11
Mar. 6	The Goal is Not For Everyone to Be Western	Acts 10
Mar. 13	God's Strategy for Reaching the Nations	Matthew 28:18-20
Mar. 20	What is My Role in Reaching the Nations?	Acts 1:8

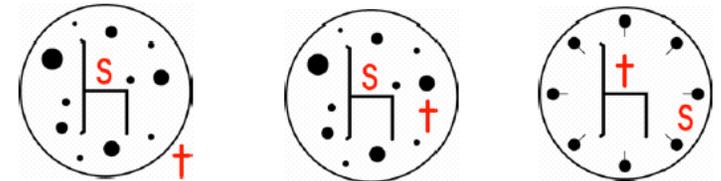
Two Altar Calls at the End of Today's Message

1. **Great Commission Christian** – *By God's grace and power, I commit my life to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. I commit my life to pray for the world to be reached for Christ. I commit my life to tell others about a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. I am open to God calling me (and my family) to the mission field, but regardless of whether I leave West Houston or not, I will give my life away for the sake of the Gospel. I will share my faith right where I am. As a part of Grace Fellowship, I will support the vision of reaching our adopted unreached people groups through prayer, encouragement, and finances.*
2. **Go to the Field Vocationally** – *By God's grace and power, I say "yes" to God's call to go to the mission field. I am compelled by the love of Christ to personally take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. I commit my life to humble prayer, training, and living in a spiritually lost area of the world where God calls me to make disciples of Jesus Christ. I might not know when and where I am going, but I have heard God's call and want to respond to Him publicly.*

The Ascension of Jesus Christ (Acts 1:6-11)

- Jesus was responding to a question that His disciples had about the end times: "When is Your Millennial Kingdom going to be established? Now?"
- Jesus' answer: "Don't worry about eschatological timing. The Father has all of that in His control. What I want you to concern yourself with is the fulfillment of My Great Commission to you."

- Jesus, then reiterates His Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) here in Acts 1:8
- (1) Get the _____.** **First you must be filled with My Spirit.**
- **Luke 24:46-49** – *Jesus told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what My Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."*
 - **Application #1** – Don't try to share your faith without clothing! Get clothed with power from on high first. Be filled with God's Spirit by surrendering the driver's seat of your life to Him.



- (2) Be My _____ among 3 key places and people.**
- Rick Warren: "In a courtroom, a witness isn't expected to argue the case, prove the truth, or press for a verdict; that is the job of attorneys. Witnesses simply report what happened to them or what they saw. Jesus said, 'You will be My witnesses,' not 'You will be My attorney.' He wants you to share your story with others. Sharing your testimony is an essential part of your mission on earth because it is unique. There is no other story just like yours, so only you can share it."
 - **Application #2** – Prepare your personal testimony so that you can share it with others. Your personal testimony can answer four questions:
 - 1) What my life was like before I met Jesus
 - 2) How I realized that I needed Jesus
 - 3) How I committed my life to Jesus
 - 4) The difference that Jesus has made in my life

3 Places That Jesus Wants Me to Be His Witness (Acts 1:8)

Place	Chapters	People in
Jerusalem	Acts 1-7	My neighborhood, workplace, city
Judea & Samaria	Acts 8-9	My region, country; different than me
Ends of the Earth	Acts 10-28	The unreached parts of the world

3 Places That Jesus Wants Me to Be His Witness (Acts 1:8)

(1) My _____

- Jesus wants me to be His witness in my neighborhood, school, workplace, family relationships, and city.
- Application #3 – How does Jesus want me to witness in my Jerusalem?
 - Share my story (testimony) with someone I've been building a relationship with
 - Invite someone to Easter @ Grace Fellowship as we begin a study of the Book of Revelation

(2) My Judea and _____

- Jesus wants me to be His witness in Greater Houston, Texas, the US, and among people who are different from me.
- Jesus modeled this for us when He ministered to lepers (Luke 7:22; 17:11-19) and to the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4)
- Application #4 – How does Jesus want me to witness in my Judea and Samaria?
 - Form a relationship with someone who is different than me and share my story (testimony) with them
 - Pray for revival and spiritual awakening in the United States of America
 - Go on a cross-cultural missions trip this year: <http://missionsatgracefellowship.com/#/trips>

(3) To the _____ of the _____

- Jesus wants me to be His witness among the least reached peoples of the world.
- Application #5 – How does Jesus want me to witness to the ends of the earth?
 - Pray daily for the evangelization of the Ban*jar, Bug*is, Makas*ar, and Raj*put peoples
 - As a small group, adopt one of our field workers for specific prayer and encouragement: kkershner@whatisgrace.org
 - Take "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement" to learn more: <http://katyperspectives.com/>
 - Actually go myself

TOOL	TOTAL TASK	- PROGRESS	= LEFT TO DO
Satellite TV	7 world lang.	7 world lang.	0
Mission Radio	372 lang (+1mil)	208 lang (+1mil)	164 lang still
Jesus Film	1330 lang (100k)	1000 lang (100k)	330 lang still
Scripture Trans	6912 writ lang	1596 NT/Bible	5316 still
Audio Recrdngs	10,000 lang/dia	5724 recordings	4276 still
Church Plant	24,000 people g	16,000 church	8000 still

Two Altar Calls Today

1. Great Commission Christian – *By God's grace and power, I commit my life to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. I commit my life to pray for the world to be reached for Christ. I commit my life to tell others about a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. I am open to God calling me (and my family) to the mission field, but regardless of whether I leave West Houston or not, I will give my life away for the sake of the Gospel. I will share my faith right where I am. As a part of Grace Fellowship, I will support the vision of reaching our adopted unreached people groups through prayer, encouragement, and finances.*

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR THOSE RESPONDING TO ALTAR CALL #1

- Pray for our 4 unreached people groups daily
- Take "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement" starting August 2016: <http://katyperspectives.com/>
- Have your small group adopt (prayer and encouragement) one of our unreached people group (UPG) field workers (kkershner@whatisgrace.org)
- Develop a Top Ten List and pray for them daily and share your faith with them as God leads. Pick 1 of these Top Ten and build a deeper relationship by spending intentional time with them.
- Go on a cross-cultural missions trip this year: <http://missionsatgracefellowship.com/#/trips>
- Participate in The Church Has Left the Building (CHLB) in the Fall

2. Go to the Field Vocationally – *By God's grace and power, I say "yes" to God's call to go to the mission field. I am compelled by the love of Christ to personally take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. I commit my life to humble prayer, training, and living in a spiritually lost area of the world where God calls me to make disciples of Jesus Christ. I might not know when and where I am going, but I have heard God's call and want to respond to Him publicly.*

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR THOSE REPONDING TO ALTAR CALL #2

- Form a prayer shield to pray for you
- Take "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement" starting August 2016: <http://katyperspectives.com/>
- Join our "Interceding for Indonesia and India" prayer meetings (1st Sunday of each month in Mansion Room 207 after 2nd service)
- Tell Missions Pastor Kelley Kerr about your commitment so she can provide additional opportunities such as a list of conferences, books, and sending agencies to investigate: kkerr@whatisgrace.org

YouTube Video: "State of the World – The Task Remaining" [4:35]