



EVANGELISING THE WORLD

Just before the Lord Jesus Christ returned to Heaven He commanded His followers to *"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them... teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always..."* (Matt. 28:19, 20).

God's purpose is to bring sinful people into a right relationship with Himself. To accomplish this, He has chosen us as believers. Our assignment is to communicate the Good News of God's plan for salvation. For almost 2,000 years the Church has been in the process of fulfilling this commission.

Robert Hall Glover in *'The Bible Basis of Missions'* writes: *"One writer aptly sets forth the essential missionary character of the Bible by describing it as the story of God's search for man, in contrast with all other sacred books, which are the story of man's search for God. Then follow these words: 'This divine search of the Creator for His child begins with the first chapter of Genesis, and does not end until the closing words of the Revelation. God Himself is thus seen as the first and greatest Missionary, and the whole Bible as the revelation of His successive outreaches into the soul of man.'"*

F.B. Meyer writing in his book, *'Christ in Isaiah'* quotes the following lines:
(Study the verses he quotes and look at the Biblical concept of missions which was born in the heart of God.)

- ✍ The first message at the birth of Christ was a missionary message (Luke 2: 10).
- ✍ The first prayer Christ taught was a missionary prayer (Matt. 6:10).
- ✍ The first disciple, Andrew, became the first missionary (John 1 :41).
- ✍ The first message of the risen Lord was a missionary message (John 20:17).
- ✍ The first command of the risen Lord to His disciples was a missionary command (John 20:21).
- ✍ The first apostolic sermon was a missionary sermon (Acts 2:17.39).
- ✍ The first reason the Lord gave for Christian love was a missionary reason (John 13:35).
- ✍ The first coming of Christ was for missionary work (Luke 6:13-21).
- ✍ The Second Coming of Christ is to be hastened by missionary work (Matt. 24:14).
- ✍ Our Saviour's last wish was a missionary wish (Matt. 28: 19).
- ✍ The last wish of the departing Lord should be the first wish of His waiting people (Mark 16: 15).



Further activity:

Break into groups and look at the responsibility of each Christian to evangelise the world. Look at the necessity and the reasons for evangelism. Look at the four ways of becoming involved in missions on a world wide basis (praying, giving, speaking, going)

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