

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Evangelism and
Missions

ARTICLE 11

XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Mark 16:15 - And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Luke 24:44-49 - Now He said to them, “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- John 20:21-23 – So Jesus said to them again, “Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, *their sins* have been forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they have been retained.”
- Acts 1:8 – but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Evangelism is a duty and a privilege
- Our task is to be heralds, witnesses, and stewards of the gospel

JESUS IS THE WAY

- John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.
- Acts 4:12 - And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

JESUS IS THE WAY

- If people can only be saved by grace through faith in and through Jesus Christ, they must hear and believe the gospel of Jesus Christ

OUR WITNESS IS VERBAL AND ACTIVE

- Romans 10:13-17 - for “Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!” However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

OUR WITNESS IS VERBAL AND ACTIVE

- 1 Thessalonians 2:7-12 - But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children. Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us. For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, *how* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and *so is* God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers; just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children, so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

OUR WITNESS IS VERBAL AND ACTIVE

- Evangelism and Missions are primarily verbal activities, though they are always undergirded by Christian love and service

WE ARE CALLED TO REACH INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS

- Psalm 67:1-7 - God be gracious to us and bless us,
And cause His face to shine upon us – Selah.
That Your way may be known on the earth,
Your salvation among all nations.
Let the peoples praise You, O God;
Let all the peoples praise You.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy;
For You will judge the peoples with uprightness
And guide the nations on the earth. *Selah.*
Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.
The earth has yielded its produce;
God, our God, blesses us.
God blesses us,
That all the ends of the earth may fear Him.

WE ARE CALLED TO REACH INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS

- Revelation 5:9 - And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

WE ARE CALLED TO REACH INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS

- All believers are called to share, tell, give, and go that individuals and the nations may experience salvation in Jesus Christ