LOVE SO AMAZING MANIFESTED BY INVOLVEMENT IN THE GREAT / COMMISSION Mt. 28:16-20

- <u>Mt. 28:16</u> Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.
- <u>17</u> And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.
- <u>18</u> And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
- <u>19</u> Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
- <u>20</u> Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

Starting this Wednesday is our Missions' Conference, a time to put into practice our theme...

LOVE SO AMAZING

MANIFESTED BY INVOLVEMENT IN THE GREAT COMMISSION

We will begin by considering the motive for involvement in world evangelism:

I. THE MOTIVE FOR INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD EVANGELISM = FAITHFULNESS

A.The Authority – "…All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth…"

The authority for involvement in missions is the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Col. 1:18</u> And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he night have the preeminence. The Lord Jesus was sent by His Father, and He in turns He sends His disciples through the local church to the world.

John 20:21b: "...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

B. The Authorization – "Governmentation …" = We are to be involved in world evangelism because He authorized the first church in Jerusalem to do so.

C. The Application – "... teach all nations..." = the scope of the commission is worldwide.

II. THE MAYHEM FOR INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD EVANGELISM = FEARFULNESS

A.Spiritual Opposition

1 Thessalonians 2:17 But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire. 18 Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Salar hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? 20 For ye are our glory and joy.

B. Selfish Opposition

<u>Acts 15:37</u> And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. <u>38</u> But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

<u>39</u> And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

<u>2 Timothy 4:10</u> For Demas had longken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

<u>3 John 1:9</u> I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

<u>10</u> Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth *them* out of the church.

C. Social Opposition

More than 340 million Christians worldwide experienced high levels of persecution in 2020, with 4,761 killed for their faith, a new report has revealed.

https://www.christian.org.uk/news/huge-rise-in-christian-persecution-worldwide-revealed-in-2021-world-watch-list/



https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2018/january/top-50-christian-persecution-open-doors-world-watch-list.html



https://www.christian.org.uk/news/huge-rise-in-christian-persecution-worldwide-revealed-in-2021-world-watch-list/

India ranks first in the new category of physical or mental abuse, which includes beatings and death threats. The continuing rise in the subcontinent of a militant Hindu nationalism contributed to 1,445 of the reported 14,645 cases worldwide.

China is the chief violator in Open Doors's other two previously tracked categories. Beijing has jailed or detained without charge 1,147 Christians for faith-related reasons, out of a total of 3,711 worldwide. This number rose from 3,150 last year.

But attacks and forced closures of churches have skyrocketed from 1,847 to 9,488, with China accounting for 5,576.

Where It's Hardest to Follow Jesus:

1. Afghanistan 2. North Korea 3. Somalia 4. Libya 5. Yemen 6. Eritrea 7. Nigeria 8. Pakistan 9. Iran 10. India

https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2022/january/christian-persecution-2022-countrieskilled-world-list.html

Where Christians Face the Most Violence:

1. Nigeria **2. Pakistan**

- 3. India
- 4. Central African Republic
- 5. Democratic Republic of Congo
- 6. Mozambique
- 7. Cameroon
- 8. Afghanistan
- 9. Mali
- 10. South Sudan

Where Christians Were Martyred Most:

1. Nigeria: 4,650 2. Pakistan: 620 3. Name withheld: 100* 4. Burkina Faso 100* 5. Democratic Republic of Congo: 100* 6. Mozambique: 100* 7. Central African Republic: 29 8. Cameroon: 27 9. Tanzania: 25 10. Indonesia: 15 The 50 Countries Where It's Hardest to Follow Jesus in... | News & Reporting | Christianity Today

Open Doors reporting period: Oct. 2020 to Sept. 2021

Editor's note: The 2022 World Watch List has been released, and CT offers results and analysis in 10 languages.

Every day, 8 Christians worldwide are killed because of their faith.

Every week, 182 churches or Christian buildings are attacked.

And every month, 309 Christians are imprisoned unjustly.

The listed nations comprise 260 million Christians suffering high to severe levels of persecution, up from 245 million in last year's list.

https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2020/january/top-christian-persecution-open-doors-2020-world-watch-list.html

III. THE METHOD FOR INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD EVANGELISM = FRUITFULNESS

A.The Power of Prayer

<u>Luke 10:2</u> Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly *is* great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would

send forth labourers into his harvest.

<u>Colossians 4:2</u> Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; <u>3</u> Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: <u>4</u> That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

<u>1 Thessalonians 5:25</u> Brethren, pray for us.

2 Thessalonians 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that

the word of the Lord may have free course, and be

glorified, even as it is with you:

B. The Purpose of Participation

2 Corinthians 8:10 And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. 11 Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have. 12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man had, and not according to that he hath not.

John 15:8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

C. The Provisions from the Provider

- Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- <u>14</u> Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.
- <u>15</u> Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no shurch communicated with me as
- concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.
- <u>16</u> For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. <u>17</u> Not because I desire a gift but desire inult that may abound to
- your account.
- <u>18</u> But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, **wellpleasing to God**. <u>19</u> But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in
- glory by Christ Jesus

<u>2 Corinthians 8:21</u> Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

<u>Summary</u>

When considering "world evangelism," believers fall into the following categories:

1. Those who are awakened unto the great need of world evangelism, desiring to do SOMETHING.

2.Those already awakened unto the great need of world evangelism and desire to do MORE;

3. Those who are nominally interested about the great need of world evangelism and are mildly curious about it, **doing LITTLE**.

4.Those who are apathetic about the great need of world evangelism and are indifferent to it, doing NOTHING.

Into which group would the Lord categorize you?

Conclusion

2 Corinthians 9:6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: **OPTIONS FOR A BELIEVER REGARDING** INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD EVANGELISM \rightarrow Go, Send, or Disobey

https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=john+and+betty+stam&&view=detail&mid=B58ED0D8ED39C03B44C2B58ED0D8ED39C03B44C2&&FORM=VRDGAR

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed."

J. Studson Taylor

Hudson Taylor 1832 - 1905

ReasonableTHEOLOGY.org

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/554927985306339613/