

Missions and Evangelism

In our Constitution's Articles of Faith, we list as *Section 12. Missions*

We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by word to the truths of Holy Scripture and to seek to proclaim the Gospel to all mankind.

Bible Center Church has a two-fold purpose:

1. To lead men and women to a personal faith in Christ.
2. To teach believers the Word so that they may serve Christ effectively.

Both of these purposes find their fulfillment in personal “evangelism” and “missions” our subject for today. This is not a ‘sideline’ or merely a ‘program’ of the church. It is WHY we are here! If we don’t do this, we miss our reason to exist as a church, and I would suggest also our reason for existing as individual members.

Our constitution lists four passages as support for this assertion. Two of these are versions of what is called,

- the **Mission** (*Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19-20*) while the third has to do with
- the **Method** (*Acts 1:8*) and, the other speaks of
- the **Ministry** (*2 Corinthians 5:19-20*).

The word *MISSION* is not a Bible word. Instead it comes to us from the Latin. In many places in the world the words *mission* and *missionary* have great negative connotations. Very few of our global or ‘overseas’ workers use the term in introducing themselves to people in the country where they work. Often this is because during the colonial period when European powers dominated these countries, conversion was often coerced and was made part of the business enterprise. The attitude was one of *paternalism* where the European was there to ‘straighten out’ the *national*.

Mission is not a ‘bad’ word, it just isn’t one the Bible chooses to use.

What terms does the New Testament use for those who go and fulfill the Great Commission?

Acts 1:2, 8 –

2 Corinthians 8:23 –

Ephesians 6:20 –

1 Timothy 2:7 –

Romans 16:21 –

Who were some of the people associated with Paul in this work and what was their function?

Barnabas (*Acts 4:36-37; 9:27; 11:22-26; 13:1*)

Simeon (*Acts 13:1*)

Lucias (*Acts 13:1*)

Manaen (*Acts 13:1*)

John Mark (*Acts 13:5; 2 Timothy 4:11*)

Silas (Acts 15:32, 40)

Timothy (Acts 16:1-5)

Titus (2 Corinthians 7:6; 12:18; Galatians 2:1-3; Titus 1:4-5; 2 Timothy 4:10)

Apollos and Zenos (Acts 18:24-28; Titus 3:13)

Aquila & Priscilla (Acts 18:2, 28, 26; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Romans 16:3; 2 Timothy 4:19)

Luke (Colossians 4:14; 2 Timothy 4:11)

Onesimus (Philemon 10)

Tychicus (Acts 20:4; Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 4:7; 2 Timothy 4:12; Titus 3:12)

Philemon

Onesiphorus (2 Timothy 1:16)

Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2)

Tertius (Romans 16:22)

What would you suggest we call those who do this work?

What did the Apostles teach us about Jesus' commission for us (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19-20)?

What five tasks are involved in fulfilling this commission?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

How did Jesus say that they were to go about fulfilling this work (Acts 1:8)?

Working from analogy, if Luling is our Jerusalem, where would our Judea & Samaria be?

What specific task has been committed to every believer (2 Corinthians 5:19-20)?

Why isn't the world reached with the Gospel message?