

Introduction



Think about it



Talk about it

What are the marks of a mature person? (Or one who is maturing?)

What are the marks of a church that is spiritually mature?

15:14-21 Paul's Motivation and Mission

What are the characteristics of the church in Rome that Paul affirms? Why does he affirm them?

What is Paul's driving motivation?

What is Paul's mission?

What is the difference between mission and evangelism?

So are we purposeful and passionate about sharing the Gospel with others?

As a church how do we learn from Paul's missions and model? What can we apply?

Summary

Paul's confidence in the Romans' spiritual maturity

Paul's mission and ministry motivation

Paul's desire to visit the Romans and be sent by them

Principle:

Success in ministry is always God's doing and to His glory

Paul was able to "boast" in what God had done through him, not in the sense of arrogance, but gratitude that he was used by God. It is clear that Paul gives God credit (15:18)

15:22-29 Paul's Plans

15:30-33 Paul's request for Prayer

Two requests:

To be rescued from unbelievers

That the gift would be received by the Jewish believers

Summary



What do we learn
About God?

His God is the fame of His name, which requires believers to proclaim it to all ethnic and language groups.



Act on it

What role are you playing in local outreach?

What role are you playing in global outreach?



Calvary Church
Global Ministries Position Paper

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The Least Reached

Broad Ministry Context

Every church regardless of its size should understand and respond to the Great Commission as given in the Bible. This commission is calling the church to make disciples of all nations or ethnic groups of the world. (Matt 28:19-20) It is equally beneficial for the church at large to understand how God has worked through the church over many years to do this for His glory.

In the last several centuries, God moved His people in several directions to help accomplish the task. William Carey and Adoniram Judson ushered into the church a new vision for the coastal areas of the globe. Less than 100 years later a new missionary thrust into the uncharted interiors of vast countries was begun through Hudson Taylor. Calvary Church, over the years, contributed heavily to this ongoing focus. Calvary helped establish the church where it previously did not exist. In the last several decades the Holy Spirit has awakened the church at large to another ministry focus to finish the task. This focus is penetrating the last remaining ethnic groups who are without the Gospel. It is often referred to as reaching the least reached people groups of our world. Again, Calvary Church desires to heavily contribute toward reaching these least reached peoples. We recognize this shift in focus to be strategic because it once again establishes the church where it previously did not exist.

Specific Ministry Rationale

The Bible teaches that the message of redemption is intended to reach every tribe, language, people and nation. (Rev 5:9) Therefore, the church is to conscientiously take the Gospel to others both locally and globally. Taking the Gospel locally will require a selfless and obedient effort on the part of each believer. (II Cor 5:14-21) Taking the message globally will require a selfless and **unique** effort. (Rom 10:12-15) It requires messengers directed by God to cross barriers of distance, culture and language to deliver the Gospel. It should be a **primary** (not exclusive) effort of the church for the following reasons:

1. **Some ethnic groups have received the Gospel and others have not.** As a result, you have just two audiences for the Gospel. You have the unevangelized and the least reached. The unevangelized are the lost people within the sound of the Gospel. You also have the least reached. These are lost people without access to the Gospel.

There are many lost people and unmet needs locally. Yet, if the church is present in the culture, then the primary agent for making disciples is in place. If the primary agent is not in place, the **unique** efforts must begin. The remedy is to identify someone (especially directed by God) to cross the appropriate barriers of distance, culture and language to bring the Gospel. The result is global ministry. To focus primarily on the least reached is to become **strategic** in ministry. It is strategic because it brings the Gospel to people who do not presently have it. These people are isolated from the Good News.

2. **The least reached have generally been inaccessible or resistant to the Gospel.** They are located in dark and difficult places. Spiritual breakthroughs will only follow times of sacrifice and perseverance on the part of the church. It is estimated that approximately 2.5 billion people in some 6,000 people groups are without the Gospel. In some areas Islam reigns supreme, sometimes in a fundamentalist form that stifles spiritual penetration. Others are gripped by the idolatry of Buddhism or Hinduism. Some live in a secular culture where Christianity is viewed as a relic. Yet, we believe that Christ died for their sins so they might come to know Him and give Him the glory due His name. (I John 2:2, II Cor 5:15) Those who have not yet heard should be our **primary** (not exclusive) global priority.

3. **A more focused approach to reach the least reached will bring about greater spiritual stewardship of resources.** Presently the evangelical missionary force of North America is unevenly deployed throughout the world. Approximately 80% are serving among the unevangelized rather than the least reached. Among those that identify themselves with the Christian faith in North America there is one missionary for every 796 people. Among Muslims there is one missionary for every 296,786 people. Among Hindus it is one for every 177,074 people. Among Buddhists, it is one for every 176,150 people. Often missionaries have been sent to places where the church has already been established. When we focus on the least reached, we focus on the remaining unfinished task which is **strategic**.

In conclusion, we must ask ourselves an important question. The answer will reveal just how effective we perceive our ministry to be. Here is the question:

To what extent will the remaining unfinished task be completed if all North American churches mirrored our efforts and priorities?

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Statistics represent the unimax numbering of people groups because of its knowledge and details related to church planting efforts globally.

1. Among North Americans: 1 missionary per 796 people
2. Among Tribals: 1 missionary per 16,596 people
3. Among Minor Religions: 1 missionary per 34,595 people
4. Among Non Religious: 1 missionary per 69,058 people
5. Among Folk Chinese 1 missionary per 133,269 people
6. Among Buddhists: 1 missionary per 176,150 people
7. Among Hindus 1 missionary per 177,074 people
8. Among Muslims 1 missionary per 296,786 people