

# **MISSIONS**

"18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20 NLT

In this well-known passage from the book of Matthew, Jesus is giving His disciples the Great Commission. However, I think we might be so familiar with it that is loses its impact on us. We know it, but yet, we forget to actually do it. I recently spoke about "following Jesus" in our Sunday Service (you can download it from our webpage if you missed it) and the concept is the same. We know it, but we get too busy, too comfortable, too distracted to live it out.

Jesus could not have put it more plainly – He said GO! Somehow we are so afraid to act, waiting for permission, but the fact is that Jesus already gave it. He said GO, we have a mission. I think it should be more the other way around - we need permission to STAY! ©

I believe that missions should be part of every believer's mindset and experience. Now, mission can mean a variety of ways, the GO takes us to a variety of places. We have a mission to reach the ones in our immediate vicinity, whether that is our school, work place, family, neighbors, and places of business we frequent, yet at the same time a mission to reach the people in the farthest obscure places in our world.

Growing up in the church in Sweden, my understanding of a missionary was someone who had answered the call of God to go far, far away to be a missionary living in a hut in Africa. It was for the select few, and many times it was single women serving the Lord on the mission field. It was almost considered a curse to be given the call of God to be a missionary with the perceived inevitable result of giving your life to God completely.

Of course, God would send anyone crazy enough to give Him their all to the farthest, most primitive and dangerous place. After all, the volunteers had to be few and God would recruit everyone radical enough to give him their all.

As I have grown older, my understanding of what a missionary is has grown tremendously, and, more than anything, I have now the understanding that every believer is (in fact) called to be a missionary, just not a missionary in the way I used to believe. (Although for some of us it will involve full-time ministry far away from home.)

We are all on the mission field, sown to be a light in the darkness (Mt 5 & Mt 13), and God has a part for *all* of us to play, not just the select few. Some will be in the mission field of business, some in the mission field of education, while some will literally go to the deep of Africa. The sooner we view ourselves as being on a mission, as being a missionary on a mission to spread God's love and His Word, the more impact we will have for the Kingdom.

As I'm getting ready to take a team of Africa, I'm more excited than I ever thought I'd be. Even though it is short term, I'm heading to the place I thought was only reserved for the select few, those with the "curse" of being "called". I am realizing now what an incredible honor it is to GO, whether it is to my neighbor or to the one living in the deep of Africa. This call is not for the select few, it is not a curse, it is following in Jesus' footsteps.

My desire this month is to stir you up to desire to live as if on a mission, wherever it might take you. You don't have to know the end from the beginning. You don't have to wait for permission, you have already been given a commission. I encourage you to seek God as to what this commissioning will look like for you, and to be open to the fact that living on mission might look different than you expect. (See the article by Matthew Barnett on the next page) But whatever God's answer might be – Longview or Uganda (or both!), know that you will never be alone – walking with Him, He promises He will be with us to the end of the age!

Ready, set, GO! Sam

R3ACH is the missions/outreach ministry of Fathers House Church, Longview, WA To find out how you can be part of what is going on, visit us on the web at www.fathershousechurch.com, www.R3ACH.org or www.facebook.com/r3ach.usa



# THERE ARE NO PERFECT OUTREACH MISSIONARIES CONNECTED TO FHC PLANS

By Matthew Barnett, Pastor at the LA Dream Center

The enemy of outreach is the perfect plan. The best way to make a difference in your community is to simply find a need and set out to meet that need.

Many ministries are hindered by prolonging talks in a conference room about "What could go wrong" in starting an outreach program. Can I tell you that things will go wrong. Why? Because we are dealing with hurting people who have needs.

The better question is, "What could go right?" I've seen many great pursuits to help people derailed by asking the wrong questions. Thus, things never even get off the floor.

NEVER LET THE PURSUIT OF THE PERFECT PLAN TAKE YOU AWAY FROM PERFECT LOVE.

Everything we have done at the Dream Center was driven by love first that allowed the ministry to be launched. Within that love for people, (Ideas are allowed to flourish without perfection), the ideas became clearer.

We started our floor for homeless families because a police officer brought a family to church that was living in their car. A couple of years later the plan and strategy has unfolded in a beautiful way.

Great plans cannot come forward unless you are actively helping people. There's a good chance that even your best plan will be nonexistent or ineffective from anything drawn up in a board meeting.

Just get started, trust your instincts in helping people, and trust that the greatest wisdom in any ministry plan is the lessons we learn by actively helping people.

http://matthewbarnett.com/?p=185

# From Sam:

Want to get challenged to find your "Cause" or mission? Check out Matthew Barnett's book "The Cause within You" a great and easy read! <a href="http://www.thecausewithinyou.com/">http://www.thecausewithinyou.com/</a>

Over the next few months, we will introduce some of the missionaries connected with Fathers House Church so that you can get to know them a bit better. We'll soon have individual profile pages on the R3ACH website, but until then, you can get to know them better using the links listed!

Feel free to personally get behind these ministries in prayer and if you feel led, financially too!

This month the focus is Nic & Marion. You can receive a monthly newsletter directly from them by getting hold of Nic via their Facebook page.

Enjoy! /Sam

# MISSIONARIES

#### Jim Bass

**Pastoral Care Ministry** Bondorf, Germany http://pcmnw.net/

Nic & Marion Barella **YWAM** York, England www.facebook.com/nbarella

# **Ludmil & Svetla Arsov**

Friends Church Sofia, Bulgaria http://www.churchfriends.org/en

Nicole & Osmar Tuanama Fasanando **Amanecer Kids Club** Iquitos, Peru colieallaboutgod@yahoo.com

# **UPCOMING R3ACH EVENTS**

Mar 25 (Sun) - R3ACH Portland Apr 20 - May 6 - Uganda Mission 2012 Apr 29 (Sun) - R3ACH Portland Jul 28 - Aug 5 - Dream Center '12

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# YWAM - Barella's

York, United Kingdom

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#### **VISION**

"Transforming, Releasing and Developing the people of Europe and the Nations" We aim to see Jesus demonstrated to the lost, broken and bring God's wholeness into the family, church and community in Europe. We desire to raise up the next generation of world changers for Christ, through training, equipping and releasing.

YWAM is an international and interdenominational organization that is passionate about Knowing God and Making Him Known through Compassion Ministry, Training and Outreach. It has bases in most nations in the world and trains 27,000 young people in a year.

# **FOCUS PROJECTS/MINISTRY**

- Locally Schools Ministries, Urban Ministry Center, Street Angels, Church Ministry.
- Nationally Teaching, Encouragement of Believers, Conferences, Youth Summer Camps, Communications through Web, Printed Matter and Media
- Internationally Strategically targeting 5 former Communist Nations, Teaching, Mobilizing Youth Outreach Teams.

### **WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

We would love to have you join us in reaching the lost.

**Prayer**:- Please pray for us as a family and also the ministries we are involved with.

**Finances** - We are responsible to raise finances for both our personal needs and ministry focus.

**Outreach Team -** We would love to host a Fathers House Outreach in the UK in 2013. Let Sam know if you are interested!



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