

# **PREACHING THE GOSPEL WORLDWIDE**

(Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8)

## *Introduction:*

1. Almost two thousand years ago, Christ told those around Him to take and preach the gospel to the entire world.
2. In the book of Acts you can read of the worldwide spread of the gospel.
3. How have members of the body of Christ done in spreading the gospel to the entire world?

## **I. Facts and Figures**

- A. The world's population is estimated as being over 6 billion.
- B. The estimated number of the members of the Lord's church are:
  1. 2,000,000 worldwide
  2. 1,255,834 in the United States
- C. The estimate number of congregations of the Lord's church are:
  1. 15,000 worldwide
  2. 13,080 in the United States
- D. The Bible has been translated into 2,018 languages.
  1. The works of Shakespeare as only been translated into 50 languages.

## **II. Opportunities are Endless**

- A. The support of missionaries
  1. Financially – Personally, congregationally (Philippians 4:15; *cross reference with 2 Corinthians 11:8,9*)
  2. Emotionally – Email, letters, postcards, cards, to not only the missionaries but also to their families.
  3. Prayerfully – Prayer is always needed. (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
  4. Support those who want to think about mission work.
- B. Opportunities for your, personal, outreach
  1. Bible Correspondence courses – World Bible School, Truth for the World
    - a. These correspondence courses can be done through letter writing, test grading, online work, email.
- C. Material gathering (Acts 11:27-30)
  1. Gather Bible, good sound teaching material, other study tools, to be sent to the missionaries so they can distribute.
  2. Gather clothes, eyeglasses, etc. to be sent.
  3. Help gather medical materials to be sent with medical mission teams.

## **III. Great Mission Work Begins at Home**

- A. (Acts 1:8)
  1. The gospel was first presented in Jerusalem before it went to the rest of the world.
  2. Strengthening our own area of the world will help brighten our view of the need of the gospel throughout the entire world.
- B. Begin at home
  1. Mission work begins with you. (Matthew 28:18-20)
  2. It begins with young people

- a. Young people need to learn of the need of the gospel.
- b. Young people need to learn of the opportunities in the United States and abroad.
- 3. It begins with encouragement:(Hebrews 3:13)
  - a. Encourage those who want to do mission work.
  - b. Encourage those who are thinking about mission work.
- 4. It begins and continues with prayer:
  - a. Pray for those in the world to be saved (Romans 10:1,2).
  - b. Pray for the leaders of the world so that they may never hinder the spread of the gospel. (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
  - c. Pray for the missionaries and their families. (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
  - d. Pray for their support. (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
  - e. Pray and thank God for the opportunity to help.

**IV. Where Would You be Without the Spread of the Gospel**

- A. If no one shared the gospel with your relatives, where would you be?
- B. If the first century church did not support missions and spread the gospel in their lives, where would you be?
- C. If the apostles of Christ did not share their great news with others, where would you be?
- D. What is your responsibility?
  - 1. (Luke 19:10)
    - a. Seek the lost
    - b. Save the lost
  - 2. Pray for the lost (Romans 10:1,2).
  - 3. Teach the lost (Matthew 28:19).
  - 4. Baptize the lost (Matthew 28:19).
  - 5. Continue to teach the new Christians (Matthew 28:20).

*Conclusion:*

- 1. As you can see, there are many opportunities that you can take advantage of here in Scott Depot that will reach the rest of the world.
- 2. These opportunities are provided to you by God to reach others, will you take advantage.
- 3. Will you take advantage of the opportunity to obey the gospel if you have not.