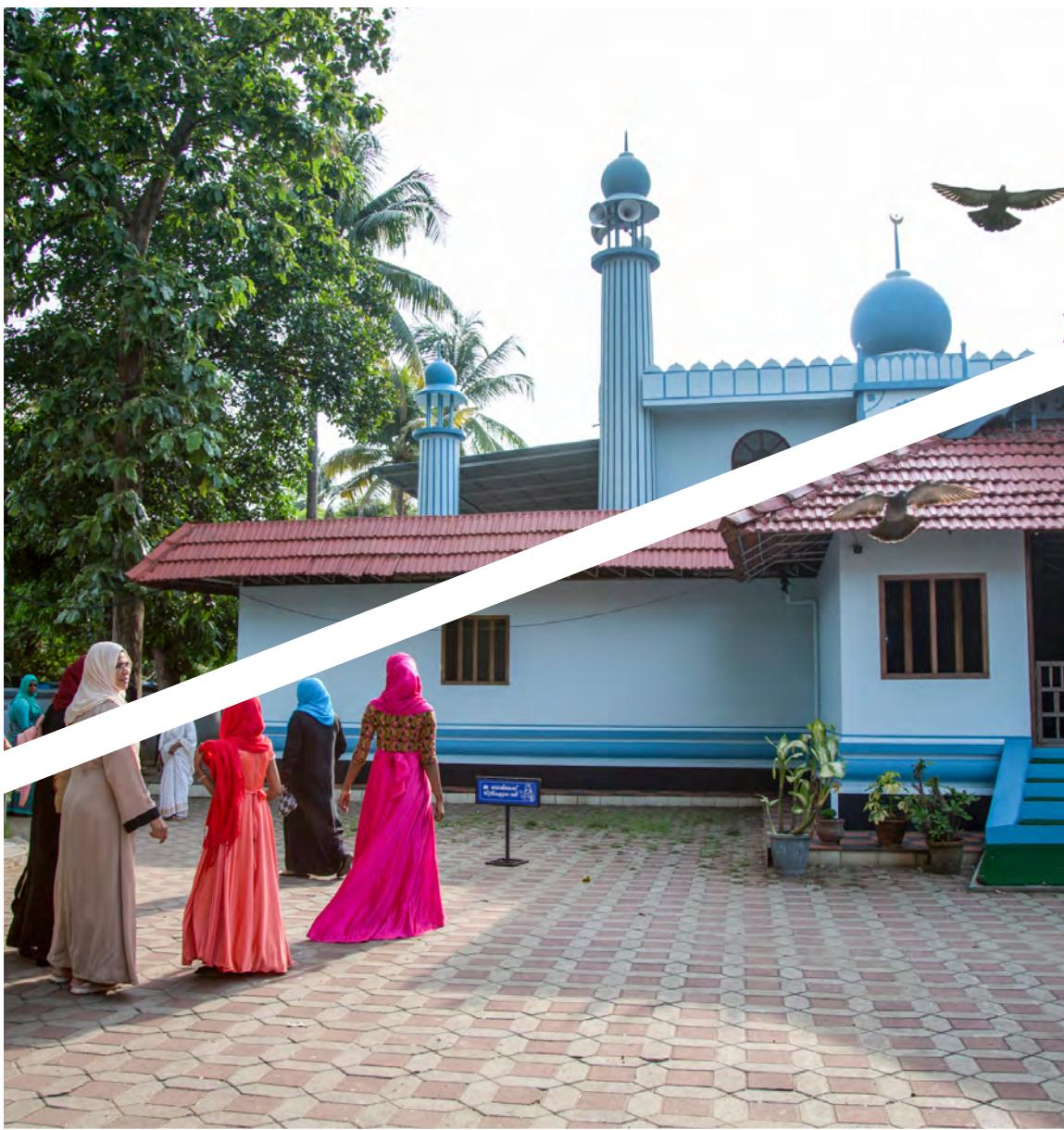




FOR  
THE

NATIONS



# A NOTE FROM PASTOR ERIK

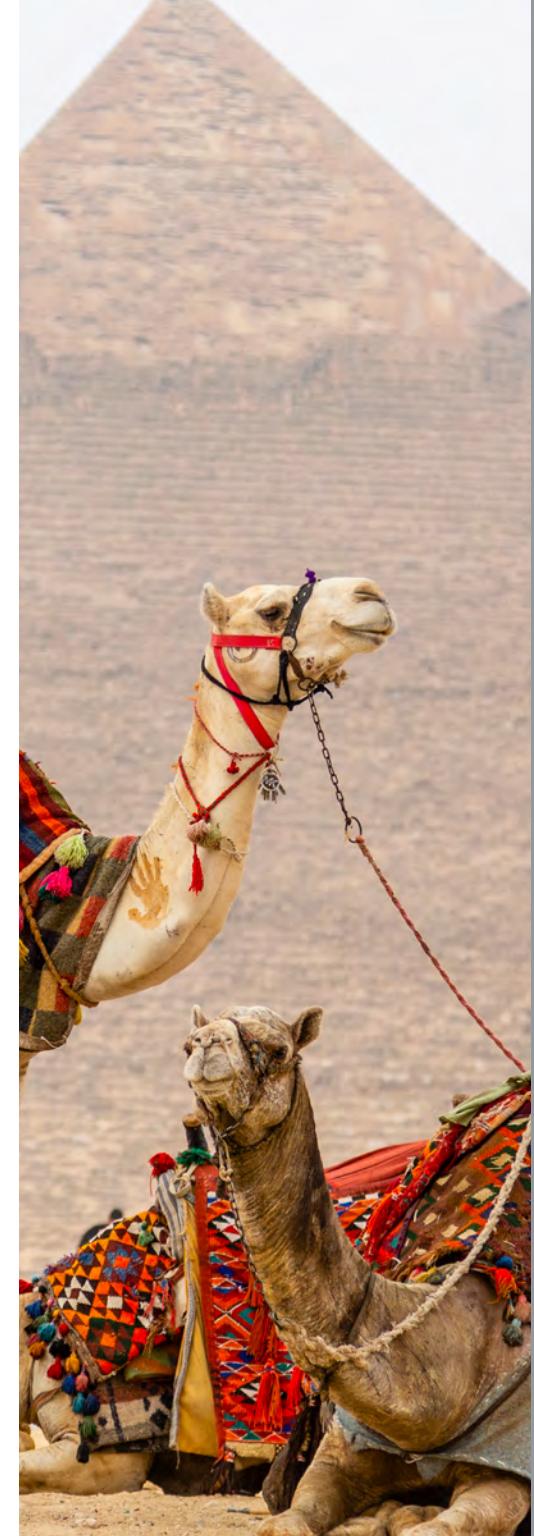
*As a church, it is vital that we are not only committed to believing the right things, but doing the right things. We aim to glorify God through living lives pleasing to Him. One of the ways we walk faithfully in this is through being vessels of the gospel going into the world. This includes unreached peoples, in hard to reach places. Should we expect someone else to do the work? Why hope someone else will carry the torch? We know the Great Commission gives us a green light and a promise: Go into all the world; Christ is with us. So let's take the call seriously. Let's quit waiting and watching for someone else to do it and ask the questions: Why not us? Why not now?*

**Pastor Erik Reed**

## INTRODUCTION

This booklet is designed with the intention of inspiring you to learn more about the nations and how The Journey Church hopes to be faithful in pursuing the unreached for not only in the immediate future, but for the decades to come. Here are simple yet effective ways this booklet can be a useful resource:

- 1. PRAYER:** To help you learn to pray for and love the nations.
- 2. OPPORTUNITIES:** To provide you with engaging opportunities for evangelism and missions.
- 3. CALLING:** To challenge you to become a World Christian— someone who prays, sends, goes, gives, and welcomes.



# A HEART FOR THE UNREACHED

In Genesis 12, God told Abram, “I will make you a great nation... that you will be a blessing to not only your people, tribe, or Israel, but a blessing to all tribes, tongues, and languages.”

At TJC we exist to show Jesus as incomparably glorious to Lebanon and beyond. We are ambitious and passionate about taking an active role in doing our part to see the nations sing God’s glory. Revelation 7 says, “...a great multitude...from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb... crying out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’”

We look forward to this day. We are not only citizens of heaven but also ambassadors of Christ who are commanded to join God on his mission to redeem sinful man to himself.

**“Christ beside me, Christ  
before me, Christ behind  
me, Christ within me, Christ  
beneath me, Christ above me.”**

– St. Patrick

Our appropriate action requires us to see the world as it stands today. Lostness remains great, and many people have never heard of the name Jesus Christ.

TJC possesses a similar desire of Paul to preach the Gospel where Christ has not been named. In Romans 15:20, Paul shows us a window into his heart for the nations.

“I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named ... but as it is written, ‘Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand.’”

This was Paul’s DNA. Why? Because it is God’s DNA. It is TJC’s DNA and strategy as well. As it is written in Matthew 24:14, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

This verse is very clear - Jesus will come back only when every people group (nation) has had an opportunity to respond and hear his name. This is the fulfillment of the Great Commission! All tribes, tongues, and languages will be represented in God’s presence.

# A HEART FOR THE UNREACHED

*The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”*

Gen. 12:1-3



How will TJC respond to this great calling? For each of us, it begins with a faithful child-like prayer as we join God in his pursuit for the nations.

- If you have never prayed for those who have yet to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, we invite you to pray for them now.
- If you have never given financially to support a missionary, we invite you to do so this month.
- If you have never been on a short-term mission trip, we invite you to apply today and go.
- If you have never shared the gospel with someone, we invite you to walk with us and we will equip you to faithfully share.
- If you have never considered spending your life outside the United States sharing your life with unreached peoples, we challenge you to faithfully pray and ask the Lord not why you should go, but why you should not go.

TJC is intentionally taking steps to reach the world's hard-to-reach and unreached peoples. Let's faithfully walk together in obedience and find our place in finishing the Great Commission!



# OPPORTUNITIES



## PRAY

### Pray for Obedience

Pray God's glory would be revealed among all nations, tribes, tongues, and people. Pray for our missions partners. Pray for more laborers for the harvest. Pray for more people to completely surrender their lives to God's command to pursue the fulfillment of the Great Commission.



## PREPARE

### Get a Passport

TJC is helping others obtain their passport to remove any excuse for going on a cross-cultural mission trip.



## PURSUE

### Learn About God's Heart For the Nations

"God's Heart For The Nations" is a three-week introductory course to help us see the love and desire of the Lord to see people from every tribe, tongue, nation, language, and then around the throne (Revelation 7:9) and how we can play a role in it.

### Your Next Step:

Start. You can start a daily phone reminder to pray Luke 10:2 at 10:02am. Grab a "For the Nations Partner Prayer" booklet in the Missions area. Join us to Pray for the Nations each Sunday in October, 10:30am in the balcony.

### Your Next Step:

Come see us at the Lobby Table. Use the Connect Card to help you get a passport and help the nations hear the name of Jesus proclaimed.

### Your Next Step:

[Sign up today!](#)

# OPPORTUNITIES



## PLAN

### Go on a Short-term Mission Trip

TJC desires for every member to participate in a short-term mission trip. Consider partnering with TJC to go to the nations on one of our many Mission Trips.

**Your Next Step:**  
[Check out the trips!](#)



## PURPOSE

### Take the International Restaurant Challenge

Join us in taking the Restaurant Challenge by visiting all eight international restaurants and immersing yourself in the cuisine and conversation with people from other cultures. Go with a group and hash tag your group photo **#EatAmongNations**.

**Your Next Step:**  
[Check out the details here.](#)

*As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name—for they will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when they come and pray toward this temple... Do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you.*

1 King 8:41-43







FOR  
THE

NATIONS

*I will also make  
you a light for the  
nations, to be my  
salvation to the  
ends of the earth.*

— Isaiah 49:6



# THREE OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE THE NATIONS

## FOR WELCOMING - FOR YOUNG ADULTS - FOR LEARNING FURTHER

Many imagine the idea of being engaged in Missions means living overseas for an extended period of time. Yes, this is an incredible opportunity to make a major impact, and many of us must go, but going is not the only way to impact the nations. Check out some of these opportunities below!

### WELCOMING

The foreigner is close to the Lord's heart. The Old Testament commands more than forty times to care for the foreigner in our land.

Welcoming international students, refugees, and immigrants is one way we can be World Christians. The one who welcomes is willing to serve them and reach out to them in the hopes that Christ will be glorified through sharing their lives and the Gospel. They will see how easy it is to get involved and soon they will be loving internationals and this strategic ministry.

"Having the Journey come on Thursdays has been a true blessing. Not only do they feed us when we had nowhere to eat, but they also became a family for us. Always so welcoming and open. Always so ready to listen and willing to help. Talking from personal experience I feel so loved by them. They love each

one of us for who we are and they don't judge. I have not been home in almost two years and they really feel like a family to me. I believe the first people I met were Christian, Matt, Josh, Janine, and Selena. And the kids of course Janine, Matt, and their kids have really become a family away from home. Some people just come into our lives to make it better. Same with Josh and Selena, and little Eli. And then Christy and Julie came, and it became something more than just eating dinner together on Thursdays. They are some of the healthiest people I have ever met. Always putting a smile on everyone's faces and lighting up the room. I am truly thankful for every single one of them!" - *Gisella, CU International Student, Spain*

***"To belong to Jesus  
is to embrace the  
nations with Him."***

*- John Piper*



# THREE OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE THE NATIONS

TJC is in a great location to welcome internationals. Tennessee currently houses 750,000 international residents made up of 145 unique people groups. Of that number, 91 distinct people groups make up close to 350,000 internationals living in Middle Tennessee. Our region holds one of the fastest growing immigrant populations in the U.S. To bring it even closer to home, over 45,000 Kurdish people live in Nashville. This is the largest population of Kurds outside the Middle East. Opportunities to welcome internationals abound..

TJC hosts international students for dinner. Come and be a part of welcoming by engaging and interacting with Cumberland University international students from across the world.

***“My goal is to gain knowledge and learn so I can go back home to Spain in a year and share the gospel since there are no churches in my home town, also to bring others to Christ on campus!”***

— Pilar, CU International Student, Spain

## YOUNG ADULTS

Modern mission history is a story of heroes; men and women who gave up their inheritance, left family and friends to obey the Lord’s command, and in the face of great odds, conquered lands and peoples for the sake of the Kingdom. A quick survey of modern mission history reveals that many of these heroes of the faith were the young people of their day called upon to save a world that was lost. “When students decide to act, things happen. That’s the history of missions.”

The missionary movement has had tremendous vitality often sparked by students with a world-wide vision. In the same way, Nehemiah Teams (NT) are leading the next generation to reach every nation... standing in the gap among the unreached and the hard-to-reach. Nehemiah Teams offer short-term mission projects that have eternal results.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his inaugural speech in 1936 said, “There is a mysterious cycle in human events. To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation has a rendezvous with destiny.”

At Nehemiah Teams, we believe this generation has a rendezvous with destiny.

# THREE OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE THE NATIONS

Nehemiah Teams participants work strategically to open doors and plant churches, grow in their personal walk with Christ, become a World Christian, and find their place in Finishing the Great Commission. Nehemiah Teams opportunities range from four weeks to one year, and are for students and young adults.

[Learn more here.](#)

## LEARNING FURTHER

### Perspectives Class Opportunity

Perspectives helps believers from all walks of life see how they can get threaded into God's story of redeeming people from every tribe, tongue, and nation to Himself. From Genesis to the prophets, Jesus Christ to the early church, and Constantine to today, you will see how God has been and is moving, how the global Church has responded and is responding, and the greatest remaining needs in world evangelization today, as well as our opportunity to join God on mission.

Perspectives is not simply a class about missions, but a course on how every believer can be intimately woven into the story of God using His people to be a blessing to all the peoples of the earth. [Sign up here!](#)

### God's Heart for the Nations

Take the first step in learning about missionaries and seeing that missions exist due to God's heart for the nations. This three-week class helps us see the biblical basis for missions and how we can all play our part in God's Great Commission. It all starts on October 27.

[Sign up here!](#)



***May the peoples praise you,  
God; may all the peoples  
praise you. May the nations  
be glad and sing for joy,  
for you rule the peoples  
with equity and guide the  
nations of the earth.***

*Psalm 67: 3-4*

# FOR THE CITY OPPORTUNITIES

Acts 1:8 calls us to be engaged where we live and among the nations. Take part in using your gifts to declare God's glory and be mobilized not only for the city, but for your city. Check out the areas below and utilize the connect card to learn more.

## ADOPTION

Jesus willingly gave himself up on the cross, so that men and women could be adopted as sons and daughters. Adoption is an incredible opportunity to display this rich truth of the gospel. Your family can share the love, security and hope that Jesus has given you by adopting a child into your home.

## FOSTER CARE

The call to care for orphans and widows directly calls to action from James 1:27, Isaiah 1:17, and Deuteronomy 10:18. It is in our biblical DNA to care for those in need. We can meet needs by opening up our homes and being willing to help those who open up their homes.

## GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS

Be trained and equipped to share your story in the larger story of God's and bear witness to those you know and don't know so that they may know, love and follow God.

## HOPE BEYOND ABORTION

The Bible makes clear that life begins at conception, and it begins with God-given purpose and direction. Hope Beyond Abortion exists to fulfill the mission given to the church to protect all life. We stand in the gap armed with the truth of the gospel and the empowering of the Holy Spirit. Come stand with us.

## JAIL MINISTRY

Seeking to share the gospel with and make disciples of the Wilson County Jail inmates. You can join the team or become an outside correspondent by writing/communicating with inmates interested in our theology program.

## RECOVERY AND REDEMPTION

Helping addicts of all kinds recover and find redemption in Jesus Christ. We meet every Sunday at 6 pm. Join a group, be a mentor, or lead a table.





*And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”*

— Mark 16:15



# CLOUD PROFILES



## ST. PATRICK

St. Patrick was a young man born in Britain. As a young man, he was captured by pirates and enslaved for six years. It was during this time when his relationship with God began to form. At the end of the six years, he escaped, only to be captured by pirates again; however, he eventually escaped and returned to Britain.

Patrick had a dream of those who once held him captive. He heard his captors pleading, “Please, holy boy, come and walk among us again.” In response to the dream, he said, “Their cry pierced to my very heart, and I could read no more, and so I awoke.” Twenty-five years after being captured, Patrick left his home to be a missionary to the people of Ireland. Patrick labored for 30 years, facing life-threatening situations and heavy opposition.

***He continued until over 200 churches were established and an estimated 100,000 converts were baptized.***

# CLOUD PROFILES



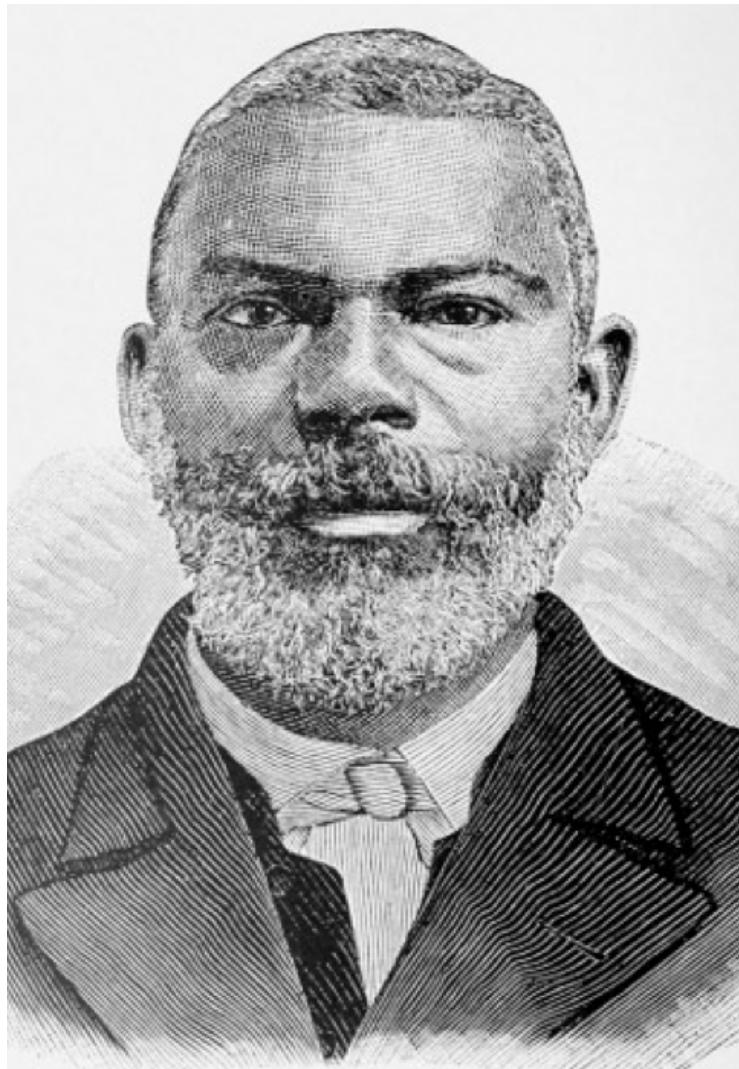
## BONIFACE

Born in England, Boniface traveled to Germany to share about the one true God for 40 years. Boniface is considered the “greatest of all missionaries in the dark ages.” One of his most impactful opportunities on the field came when he chopped down the German sacred oak tree dedicated to the Thunder God, Thor. The Germans were convinced that anyone who overstepped the sacred ground of the tree, let alone chopped it down, would be destroyed immediately. But with a similar confidence as Elijah demonstrated on Mt. Carmel, Boniface sharpened his ax and put the tree on its back... and nothing happened. Boniface was unscathed and even used the wood to build a chapel.

***At once, the watchers were convinced of the truth of the one true God.***

Thousands were baptized! Later, Boniface faithfully embarked to Holland to work among the unreached, where he would be martyred alongside fifty other faithful followers of Christ.

## CLOUD PROFILES



### GEORGE LIELE

Liele, a black man and former slave, was the first American Baptist Missionary, predating William Carey and Adoniram Judson by a decade. Liele was born in Virginia, converted at 23 years old, and pursued a ministry calling after gaining freedom. He preached to slaves at numerous plantations before he and his family sailed to Kingston, Jamaica, as an indentured servant, where he set up a strong church and baptized 500 people. Liele would face imprisonment for his faithful preaching, but the Lord prevailed through Liele in his courageous obedience. After 20 years, twenty thousand faithful believers arose in Jamaica.

***As we think about sending, we must seek to mobilize and send diversity to the nations. It will be accomplished by mobilizing all the nations and the global church (South America, Africa, Asia, Europe and more) to go into the world and finish the Great Commission.***



*And this gospel of the  
kingdom will be proclaimed  
throughout the whole world  
as a testimony to all nations,  
and then the end will come.*

*Matthew 24:14*

# CLOUD PROFILES



## ADONIRAM JUDSON

Judson's father was a devout minister of God, but it would take Adoniram 20+ years to find his faith in God, let alone spending nearly 40 years in Burma (modern-day Myanmar) witnessing to the heathen/lost. Adoniram came to Christianity after his friend Jacob Eames, a skeptic of Christianity died. 'Lost' was the one word that plagued Adoniram for hours to follow. Lost in death, Jacob Eames was utterly lost, and his philosophy had nothing to say. For several days following, Adoniram would wrestle and contemplate about the existence of God, and he would determine to discover I who God was and is.

This was the turning point for Adoniram. He would repent and begin sprinting towards making Christ known among the lost, eventually going to Burma and laboring to see tens of thousands reached after seven years of not seeing any converts.

***Today there are an estimated 600,000 believers in Burma.***

# CLOUD PROFILES



## LOTTIE MOON

Born Charlotte Digges Moon in 1840, Lottie Moon is one of the most well-known missionaries in Southern Baptist history. However, she was just like many Christians- a weary laborer suffering for the sake of the Gospel. Her sister, Edmonia, was appointed to Tengchow China in 1872. One year later, a 32-year-old Lottie was sent to serve with her sister. Lottie Moon lived in China for 39 years as a missionary, mainly teaching in girls' schools and moving around to share the good news with women and girls.

Lottie wrote letters home, encouraging others to participate in Great Commission work and challenging the American church to send and support more workers. Lottie wrote to the Women's Missionary Union to start a Christmas offering since another denomination was already doing it. The first "Christmas Offering for Missions" collected was over \$3,000. In 1888, it was enough to send three new missionaries to China. In 1918, the WMU named it after Lottie Moon (the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering). Lottie died from starvation on a boat coming back to the U.S., reinforcing the reality that she always gave everything, physically and mentally, to the glory of God among the unreached.



# LET'S TALK LONG-TERM MISSIONS

**Long-Term missions is the most effective way to reach the nations, and even more to the unreached people groups of the world.**

What is a people group? A people group is the largest group within a unique culture and language which the Gospel can spread as a church planting movement without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance.

What is an unreached people group? ***This is less than 2% evangelical Christians among a people group.*** It takes 2-5%+ evangelical Christians for a people group to sustain, grow, and flourish in the gospel as a church. Furthermore, we refer to “Unengaged Unreached People groups” as those who have no active strategy and no person currently in the area attempting to witness to those without the gospel.

## THE STATUS OF WORLD EVANGELISM

<b>7.84 Billion</b>	Population in World
<b>3.27 Billion</b>	Population in Unreached
<b>41.8%</b>	Percent of Population in Unreached
<b>17,406</b>	People Groups
<b>7,401</b>	Unreached People Groups (UPG <2% believers)

**3,105** | Unreached Unengaged People Groups (UUPG 0% believers)

\*Learn more at [JoshuaProject.com](http://JoshuaProject.com)

**Only 3 out of 10 missionaries going to the field go to unreached areas.** The other 70% are going to reached, or churched areas. The days are urgent, and we want to be as strategic as possible. God’s Word assures us that the Great Commission will be completed. Missions are the vehicle to seeing all nations give God glory. Missions will cease and no longer be needed when the nations are reached, but only until that day. Therefore, reaching the unreached is the most strategic and primary pathway of missions. TJC is convicted and led by the Holy Spirit to pursue and lead our people to Great Commission inspired ambition.

The Local church is the primary sender. ***When sending long-term missionaries, TJC believes the Bible commands the local church to be the primary sender and shepherd of its sent ones (Acts 13).*** Still, we do this while partnering with sending agencies to utilize their expertise, wisdom, and vetted resources. The local church is called to help train, send, care, encourage, and celebrate our goers whether pre, during, or post field assignment.



# LET'S TALK LONG-TERM MISSIONS

## WHO CAN GO? HOW TO GO?

The biblical answer is that all of us should go unless the Lord has called us to stay. Here's a short list of those that can go:

- **Adults/ Families** should consider going and making an impact across the world with others already strategically laboring for people to know Christ.
- **Young Adults** are the largest affinity that goes long term due to their capacity and a desire to be a part of something meaningful and eternal.
- **Singles** have an incredible opportunity to be a part of a strategic team reaching the unreached for God's glory.
- **Retirees** have a significant amount of capacity and time after retirement to declare God's glory. Why not declare it in Indonesia where they pay retirees to live there, or somewhere else strategic among the nations so the gospel can advance throughout the world?
- **Go global with your job/skills.** Many of us have jobs or skills that could be transferred or used across the world. Why not utilize your God-given talents to declare God's glory across the world?

## HOW DO I KEEP EXPLORING?

1. [Fill out the Connect Card](#), so we can help guide you to the next step. We are grateful for your first step of faithfulness and excited to see what God does with your obedience.
2. Check out these partnered sending agencies!



***"A young man should ask himself not if it is his duty to go to the heathen, but if he may dare stay at home. The command is so plain: 'Go.'"***

*— Lottie Moon*





FOR  
THE

NATIONS

# YOUR RESOURCES: TJC, YOU ARE SENT!

## VIDEOS

### [Unveiled - Welcoming Internationals](#)

A powerful short film that chronicles a church in Atlanta from 9/11 to reaching Muslims with the love of Christ. (Vimeo 13 mins 51 secs)

### [Sheep Among Wolves, Volume One](#)

This film is an amazing eye-opener for westernised Christians on the reality of what it means to follow Christ in the Middle East. (Youtube 1 hour 6 mins)

### [State of the World/The Task Remaining](#)

This is the State of the World video showing where missionaries and finances are being used in the Christian missions world among unreached people groups. (Youtube: 4 mins 36 secs)

### [George Muller Documentary, A Cloud of Witnesses](#)

The inspiring life of George Muller, who founded schools and orphanages while serving as a missionary in Bristol, England, in the early 1800s. (Youtube 5 mins 13 secs)

## BOOKS

*“Let the Nations Be Glad! The Supremacy of God in Missions” by John Piper*

*“Introducing Christian Mission Today” by Michael Goheen*

*“Something has to Change” by David Platt*

*“The Mission of God’s People” by Christopher JH Wright*

*“The Master Plan of Evangelism” by Robert Coleman”*

*“The Soul Winner: Advice on Effective Evangelism” by Charles Spurgeon*

*“Friends of Ishmael: Bringing God’s Blessing to Muslims” by Luke Holloway*

*“Live Life on Purpose” by Claude Hickman*

*“In this Generation” by Todd Ahrend*

*“The Abrahamic Revolution” by Todd Ahrend*



# YOUR RESOURCES: TJC, YOU ARE SENT!

## BIOGRAPHIES

*"Look What God Can Do! Biographies of Mission Heroes" by Jess Jennings*

*"Look Who God Can Use! Biographies of Mission Heroes" by Jess Jennings*

*"To The Golden Shore The Life of Adoniram Judson" by Courtney Anderson*

*"The Life of William Carey, Shoemaker, and Missionary" by George Smith*

*"Suffering is Never for Nothing" by Elizabeth Elliott*

***"All along, let us remember we are not asked to understand, but simply to obey..."***

*– Amy Carmichael*

  
***And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."***

*Matthew 28:18-20*



# YOUR RESOURCES: TJC, YOU ARE SENT!

## ARTICLES

[“Ruthless Nations Will Fear the Lord” By John Piper](#)

[“Finishing the Task” By Ralph Winter](#)

[“Ask God for the World: The Missing Prayer the Nations Need” By David Platt](#)

[“Obstacles To Mission: Amy Carmichael’s Dream” By Amy Carmichael](#)

[“The Kingdom Strikes Back” By Ralph Winter](#)

[“God Always Wanted the Whole World: Global Missions from Genesis to Revelation” By Jason DeRouchie](#)

[“The Goal of Missions and the Work of Missionaries” By Kevin DeYoung](#)

## OTHER

[World Christian Bible Study](#)





***You will receive power when  
the Holy Spirit has come  
upon you, and you will be my  
witnesses in Jerusalem and  
in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the end of the earth.***

*Acts 1:8*







***After this I looked, and behold,  
a great multitude that no  
one could number, from  
every nation, from all tribes  
and peoples and languages,  
standing before the throne  
and before the Lamb, clothed  
in white robes, with palm  
branches in their hands ...***

— *Revelation 7:9*



# THE JOURNEY CHURCH

*All photo credit to IMB, imb.org.*