

Missions Sunday

1, 2, 3 Missions!

Grace Fellowship Church / Dave Wernz / July 25, 2021

Here at Grace Fellowship, “missions” almost always means “a long-term investment of our resources, time, money, and people in order to make disciples of Jesus in another culture.”

We put a heavy emphasis on long-term, one-way cross-cultural ministry because we as a church have embraced one big picture motivation for missions.

1) Motivation For Cross-Cultural Ministry

- **God is worthy to be worshiped by every kind of person He has created.**

Revelation 5:1-14

This glimpse into the inevitable end of all things can give us hope and confidence as we engage a hostile world with the gospel of Jesus, but our real motivation comes from the fact that right now—even as we are today—we at Grace Fellowship Church can say with all our hearts:

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

“Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation...”

There is a tangible cost to cross-cultural ministry (money, time, materials, energy.) There is also an immaterial cost (relationships, memories, opportunities, emotional and relational loss.)

Kim & Annie Colich
Papua New Guinea



“I will go down into the pit, if you will hold the ropes”.

~ William Cary

2) Strategic Goals at Grace Fellowship

- **Cultivating National Biblical Counseling Movements**
 - Equipping local counselors.
 - Establishing local counseling ministries.
 - Engaging local churches to train national counselors.
- **Sending Disciplemakers to the Least-Reached**
 - Equipping local disciplemakers.
 - Establishing local sending systems.
 - Encouraging the local churches to engage the least-reached.

The kind of resilience necessary to stay in the places where the Gospel hasn't yet penetrated comes from a combination of a deep commitment to God's Word and a high view of His sovereignty.

3) Fundamental methods

Overlap between local church life and cross-cultural ministry occurs in the 3 fundamental methods that God seems to be using for all ministry here at Grace Fellowship. All three of these methods apply to anyone who attends here, and the church strongly encourages everyone to participate to the highest degree they are able.

- **Training Trainers**

2 Timothy 2:2 "...What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

Have you considered who you are entrusting with the teaching and training that has been given to you? You don't need to be an expert in what you have before you start to pass it on to others!

- **Sending Senders**

Jordan & Lauren Thomas
Ethiopia



David & Kris Lawrence
Iraq



Nick & Traci Derington
Thailand



- **Persistent Prayer**

The only way we are going to see where and when God will have us participate in His work of reconciling the world to Himself, is by regularly asking Him for help.

If we are feeling weighed down by obligation and guilt, then it's possible we are either trying to carry more than He has for us today, or we are not relying on Him to do what He has given us.

1 Corinthians 3:5-7 "What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."