



Our Purpose: Missions

What is the relationship between Christ's redemptive mission and the church's mission in the world?

*Suppose that Christ had not been born
That far away Judean morn.
Suppose that God,
Whose mighty hand created worlds,
had never planned
A way for man to be redeemed.
Suppose the wise men only dreamed
That guiding star
whose light still glows
Down through the centuries.
Suppose
Christ never walked here in men's sight
Our Blessed Way, the Truth, the Light.
Suppose He counted all the cost,
And never cared that you were lost,
And never died for you and me,
Nor shed His blood upon that tree,
Upon a cruel cross.
Suppose
That having died, He never rose,
And there was none with power to save
Our souls from darkness and the grave.
As far as unreached peoples know,
These things that I've supposed are so!*

—adapted from Martha Snell Nicholson

Missions is:

Local—sharing the good news with people within your reach and extending the church to surrounding regions.

Global—sharing the good news with people of another culture and planting the church within that culture to reach their own people and beyond.

Temporal—meeting the tangible needs of people with love and compassion as an expression of God’s love and his desire for them to know him.

Eternal—focusing on the spiritual needs of people who are strangers to God until they place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

What are the greatest missions needs for the regions of the world?

North America

- Biblical worldview training in the church
- Urban ministry: evangelism and community development
- Missionaries to indigenous peoples
- Outreach to the vast international community within its borders

Latin America/Caribbean

- Theological and ministry training for church leaders
- Cross-cultural missions vision and training in the church
- Mercy ministries to the poor
- Missionaries to indigenous peoples

Europe

- Biblical worldview training in the church
- Reaching churched non-Christians with the gospel
- Outreach to the vast international community, especially North Africans

North Africa/Middle East

- Strengthening and encouragement of the small, persecuted church
- Pioneer evangelism and church planting among the Muslim population

Sub-Saharan Africa

- Theological and ministry training for church leaders
- Cross-cultural missions vision and training in the church
- Mercy ministries to the poor, especially AIDS victims and their families

Asia

- Strengthening and encouragement of the persecuted church
- Biblical and missions training within the church
- Mercy ministries to the poor, especially in India and SE Asia
- Missionaries to reach the 4.4 billion non-Christians in Asia!

Oceania

- Sound biblical teaching and the genuine gospel in the churches
- Bible translation of remaining smaller language groups

Sharing the Message of our Mission

John 3:16

For God so loved the world

That he gave his only Son

That whoever believes in him

Should not perish, but have eternal life

Week 10 Homework

- ✝ Practice your memory verse: **Ephesians 5:1-2**
- ✝ Read Schwarz, pp. 247-253 & 267-270
- ✝ Practice the John 3:16 one verse bridge diagram with someone.
- ✝ Pray for God to send laborers into the harvest fields of the world and ask God what He would have you do about the physical and spiritual needs of the world.