

BIBLE TEACHING AND WORSHIP GUIDE



FOR THE HOME-BASED CHURCH

Produced Weekly

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20;

John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

Copy this sheet for the Gathering Time, Bible Study, and Worship Experience leaders for the next meeting of the church.

Leaders' Responsibilities:

Important: Each person who will be leading one of the three parts of a session during a Unit of sessions needs to have access to the "Basic Information for Leading the Unit of Study". That information is often provided at the beginning of that Unit of sessions. The weekly session "Background" located in the Teacher Preparation is much more specific to that day's study.

1. **The Gathering Time Leader** will gather all of the people together and help them prepare their minds and hearts for a wonderful worship experience before God. His/her responsibility is to introduce the congregation to the theme (content) and the Scripture that will be central to their worship experience for the day.
2. **The Bible Study Leader** will then help the people understand what the Scriptures have to say and teach us about the content of the study for the day. He/she will guide the people to make a general application of the study (ie: How does this Bible study apply to people today?)
3. **The Worship Time Leader** has the responsibility to use the theme and Scriptures to guide the congregation to make personal commitments to God's will for each one in regard to the study for the day. He/she will use others to lead in the music, taking the offering, ministry moment comments, and other activities and parts of the **Worship Time** that can aid in participatory worship.

Prior to this Coming Session:

Gathering Time Leader:

Copy the hymn "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling" which is given at the end of the Sharing Time. Ask three different readers to read one stanza. Ask them to read with emphasis and meaning. Give assignments ahead of time if possible.

Bible Study Leader:

This week you are responsible for teaching a doctrine that is absolutely essential to our response to the command of Jesus for all Christians. It is a big subject and you cannot

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2

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission – 05 14 07-en

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cover it completely in 35 minutes. Please watch your allotted time so that the “Worship Time Leader also has time to adequately conclude the service.

Worship Time Leader:

Have someone read the “Praying for the World” paragraph at the appropriate time. Copy it from the final page of this session. (Actually, you should receive that copy from the person who prints out the session for you.

Music Sources:

“Send Me, O Lord, Send Me”, *The Baptist Hymnal*, #582

“Our God Reigns”, *Maranatha Praise*, 3rd Edition #219

1

Copy this section for the Gathering Time leader.

Gathering Time: (Suggested time: 15 minutes)

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission

Focal Text

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

Background Text

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:8-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8, 16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:1-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39–12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelations 22:17

Main Idea

Missions/evangelism finds its ultimate source in the heart of God.

Question to Explore

How important is evangelism to you—really?

Teaching Aim

To help the class tell why evangelism and missions are essential tasks of churches and individual Christians.

Gathering together:

Ask three different persons to each read a stanza of the old hymn “***Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling***”. The hymn is printed at the end of this session for ease in copying. Give the assignments ahead of time if possible.

Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white, and harvests waiting, Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calls us, Rich reward He offers free;
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?

If you cannot cross the ocean, and the distant lands explore,
You can find the lost around you, You can help them at your door;
If you cannot give your thousands, you can give the widow’s mite;

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4

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission – 05 14 07-en

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What you truly give for Jesus will be precious in His sight.

Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do,"
While the lost of earth are dying, and the Master calls for you;
Take the task He gives you gladly; Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calls you, "Here am I, send me, send me."

Daniel March, 1816-1909. Public Domain.

Read together as a congregation Isaiah 6:8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, Here am I. Send me!"

Closing the Gathering Time:

Today we will look together at God's call to share the gospel with others both at home and far from us. We will be asked to think about the question "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" May we prayerfully consider our response.

Take time at this point to mention items of prayer concern for the church, announcements of ministry or activities, and anything else that needs to be shared with or by the congregation. Pray for these needs. Remember to praise God in prayer.

Break time! Take five minutes between sessions. Encourage children to use the washroom so that they won't need to leave during the Bible Study time.

Distribute youth/adult Bible study outlines or paper for note-taking, if available.

Also hand out the activity sheets for preschool and younger children to use during Bible Study and/or worship.

2

Copy this section for the Bible Study leader.

Note to the Bible Study Leader: Suggested teaching time for the Bible study should be about 35 minutes. Use the “Teacher Preparation” for your personal study during the week before the session. Use the “Bible Study Plan” for the actual session.

Teacher Preparation

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission

Focal Text

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

Background Text

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:8-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16;17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:1-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39–12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelations 22:17

Main Idea

Missions/evangelism finds its ultimate source in the heart of God.

Question to Explore

How important is evangelism to you—really?

Teaching Aim

To help the class tell why evangelism and missions are essential tasks of churches and individual Christians.

Introduction to your personal study:

Recently our church has had the privilege of being on both sides of the evangelism thrust—receiving and sending. First, the church made some active plans to reach out to the city, province and the world around us. We decided to have a ministry to the different ethnic and cultural groups in our community. We saw a need to share Jesus with them in creative ways. To do this we allocated some funds and actively searched out leaders who felt called to this ministry. We were reaching out.

To our surprise and praise to the Lord Jesus, another group of churches felt directed to be on mission with us. They decided to give partial support to a young pastor that felt led to work with our church. He desires to help us reach out to a lost world. When we feel God's call on our lives we must move forward just as this young pastor did. He left his family and friends to come to a different country to share God's word with people he did not know. About the same time as the young pastor arrived, another door opened to start a new work in a nearby community. God knows everything. He has opportunities ready for us to be involved in as often as we are ready to be involved. We must believe that God's love is worth sharing and reach out to others, no matter what personal cost is entailed.

Background:

Please ask for and read the information contained in the "**Basic Information for Leading the Unit of Study**", found at the beginning of this Unit. Whoever downloaded this session for you should have that material for you as well.

These passages are very evangelistic in that they call for individuals to determine their role in spreading the message of God's love and forgiveness. The desired outcome of this study is that each member would evaluate his or her individual responsibility to spread the Good News.

Focusing on the Meaning:

Genesis 12:1-3 The Mission Trip

Genesis 12:1-3 The mission vision was born when Abram was told to leave his own land and venture into the unknown. The guidelines were set down clearly- leave your country, your people and your family. The promise attached to Abram's obedience was that he would be a blessing to the whole human race. It is sad that many seem called to share God's love, but when they count the cost they do not go. They forfeit the joy of being a blessing to others. Man can only serve one God. He must be prepared to serve God in obedience without thought of self. God reminds us that we are blessed in order to be a blessing to others.

The reward for going is fantastic. There is no greater joy than to see the face and hear the prayer of a person receiving Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. As we share Christ's love with another, we live on in the heart of that person who truly accepts Jesus. People are blessed when they give their lives to Jesus. The drunk stops drinking. The addict is set free from substance abuse. The anorexic is given a sense of worth and affirmation of Christ's love. Direction is given to lives. Blessings abound.

Exodus 19:5-6 The Commissioning

Exodus 19:5 This verse outlines the mission plans God had for the nation of Israel. They were to be completely obedient to Him. In doing so they would draw other nations

into an obedient relationship with God. God intended that Israel would be a special people – his own treasured possession. Today, we face the same task as the nation of Israel did. Because He has chosen us as his own treasures, we have a responsibility to share his message of love with the nations of the world. Choosing not to share is being disobedient to God. We need to continually ask ourselves with whom God is sending us to share His love. Knowing that, we trust his direction and obey his leading.

Exodus 19:6 Having known the love and care of Holy God, Israel was called upon to be a missionary nation to others. All nations belong to God the creator, but He called Israel to the special missionary purpose of bringing his message to all nations. There is danger in having the message and never sharing it, which is ultimately what happened to Israel. All Christians are to function as priests, witnessing to and interceding for all nations. The procedure for a glorious life with God seems so easy. We are commanded to share God’s plan. This is our marching order. God has not made it hard to understand. He has only two stipulations for our behaviour—obey and keep the covenant. There are times, though, when we are too self-centered to listen and obey.

Matthew 28:18-20 The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20 This passage, Christ’s last message to his disciples, gives clear direction for us to follow. We are not asked to please go, if we want. Jesus was very authoritative in his directions. Go! Make disciples! Baptize! Our first direction is to go. We must be prepared to leave the comfort of our homes, our churches, and go to the unsaved. Some of us may be called to the ends of the earth while others will be called next door. Regardless of our calling, we must go. The lost will not come to us.

After we have located and shared with the lost, we must disciple them. This seems like an overwhelming task, well beyond our abilities. But Jesus has promised to be with us in our endeavours. To disciple someone means to nurture them in their faith, and instruct them in Christ like ways of living. It is to encourage them to grow in their faith and to be obedient to Christ in all aspects of their lives, including baptism.

We must understand clearly that the Great Commission is not for some to follow and for some to disregard. It is for all. Regardless of our situation we must go. We must be prepared to share the Good News. Our witness is not limited to our families and friends. It is required that we share with all peoples, tribes, and families of the earth. We will need to find creative ways to be involved in this type of sharing.

John 20:21 The Commander speaks

John 20:21 This verse gives the same message as the great commission verses of Matthew. Our mission is to preach forgiveness of sin through belief in Jesus Christ. This can only be possible under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus was sent from the Father to preach, teach, heal, serve, and to give his life for sinners. In much the same way, we are sent out to a needy world. We are to be like

Jesus. We have the same purpose, to bring the message of God's redeeming love for all mankind. We have the responsibility to be his ambassadors. As we are willing to be used by God, we should be prepared to do things we never thought possible. The alternative is to sit back and miss out on God's blessings.

Acts 1:8 The Power Source

Acts 1:8 This interesting verse reminds me of the condition of our home when we first moved in. The entire basement had only two light fixtures. Although there was potential for greater illumination, it was not used to advantage. We, Christians, have a power source also. The Holy Spirit is given freely to all, but it seems like only a few find the switch to take advantage of his great power. Once we are connected to the power source, we can reach out to the ends of the earth. Some may find the switch to the power source but never appreciate the power, while others hum on quietly sharing Jesus in their own Samaria and beyond. The power of the Holy Spirit can send an ordinary group of people to a difficult place on mission endeavours and enable them to succeed in Christ's name.

This verse mentions four areas of witness. (1) Jerusalem- our home area. Perhaps this is the most difficult area because of our past failures. (2) Judea – surrounding areas. This could be described as home missions in our communities. (3) Samaria –beyond our comfort zone. This means reaching out to those who are culturally and racially different than ourselves, even those we find difficult to empathise with. (4) Ends of the earth – our mission must continue to reach out to all peoples everywhere with the saving message of God's love until all have heard.

Romans 10:13-15 Universal call

Romans 10:13 The call is universal. The call is for all people regardless of background to have the privilege of hearing the Gospel. This includes everyone from the poorest person to the richest of every country. Each person is called individually by Christ to Himself. People are lost until they hear and respond to the gospel message.

Romans 10:14-15 The proclamation of the word can only be done by people who have been sent. This proclamation of the gospel is the privilege of every believer. This call should help churches and individuals decide what their priorities are. At times money is needed. At other times it is individuals who are necessary. Whatever the need, we must decide what is important on the large scale and get about doing it. Large buildings may be desirable for reaching and teaching, but there must be a desire to move from where we are to where the lost are. Let us encourage young people to go on mission trips. Encourage them to attend seminary. Encourage them to follow God's leading. As Christians, we must all proclaim the gospel and reach out to all men. Every person who knows Christ personally can proclaim to those who need to know Him.

Your Goal as the Leader of this Bible Study:

Consider the Great Commission. We, who claim Christ as our Saviour, must remember that we would not have the privilege of knowing Jesus unless some one had cared enough to share the Good News with us. Sharing of the Gospel is not an option. It is an order. Therefore, we must share wherever we are. We must also support with our prayers and finances those who are specifically sent to others as career and voluntary missionaries.

I am reminded of the story of the boy standing on a beach covered with hundreds of starfish that had washed ashore. The boy was throwing them one by one back into the sea. A man asked the boy why he was doing it. There were so many starfish on the beach. What possible difference would it make in the “grand scheme of things”? The boy replied as he threw another starfish back, “It makes a difference to that one.” You and I must look at the individuals God has brought into our lives and share the Good News with each one as God gives us opportunities. Each and every person counts. After all, their personal eternal destiny stands in the balance. It certainly makes a difference to him or to her.

For Personal Reflection:

What have I learned from this study?

What personal experience does this lesson bring to mind?

What is one action I will take this week to apply this Scripture passage to my life?

Bible Study Plan (Suggested time: 35 minutes)

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission

Regroup the church after the Gathering Time and break by singing a chorus that young children can relate to—or another praise chorus if your congregation does not have children. Children who go to their own Bible teaching session should stay with the group until after this song. Have the preschoolers and children accompany the hymn with rhythm sticks, maracas, bells, etc.

Begin by helping the group locate the *Focal Text* in their Bibles. Also, share with them the *Main Idea* to be learned from the Scriptures, and the *Questions to be Explored* by the group.

Focal Text

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

Background Text

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:8-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8, 16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:1-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39–12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelations 22:17

Main Idea

Missions/evangelism finds its ultimate source in the heart of God.

Question to Explore

How important is evangelism to you—really?

Teaching Aim

To help the class tell why evangelism and missions are essential tasks of churches and individual Christians.

Connect with Life:

As members arrive, have some of them whom you know are born again Christians share how they first learned of their need for salvation. Encourage them to name who was responsible for sharing Christ with them for the first time. Have a time of prayer of thanks for those individuals who shared faithfully.

Guide the Study:

Have the group read Gen.12: 1-3.

Decide whether God made unreasonable demands of Abram.

Ask: “How would the world be blessed through Abram?”

Read Ex. 19:5-6.

Pose the question: “How do we as individual Christians have the same mandate as Israel was given?”

Discuss our responsibilities as ‘priests’.

Consider why Matthew 28:18-20 is often referred to as our “marching orders”.

Canvas the group for ideas about how we can carry out these ‘impossible’ orders.

Based on reading John 20:21, ask the group to decide among themselves what the authority and pattern for our mission work is. Then ask them to defend their position.

Encourage a person to read aloud Acts 1:8.

Refer to a Bible atlas to show the locations of Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria. Lead members to consider what these locations might refer to in their own lives.

Tell them that the most common teaching of this scripture is as they have been describing: ie. our town is our Jerusalem, etc., etc.

Now, share this comment: Consider the possibility of understanding this passage to be geographically literal. That is, some Bible scholars say that we should read it to say to us that we, in our homeland, already live in the “uttermost parts of the earth.”

Inquire of the group: “If Acts 1:8 is to be read literally, how does that change our immediate responsibility for those to whom we must share the Gospel. And, if true, how can we fulfill our calling to that task?” (sharing immediately with the whole world).

Look for an answer to this: “What consequences does this verse have then for each of you here in the group today?”

Remind the group that the passages they have just discussed in **Matthew**, **John**, and **Acts** form three expressions of what we generally call the “Great Commissions” of Jesus for his followers. Tell them that the other two Gospels, **Mark** and **Luke**, also record Jesus calling His followers to share the Good News. Ask them to look in the last

chapters of each of those books and see if they can locate those “Commissioning” passages. (Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48).

Search out an answer from the group: “Why do we have these five versions of the “Great Commission” in the Gospels and Acts?” (Each one has an element in the expression that builds on the others so that, between the five, we have a greater understanding of what the calling or commissioning includes).

Invite the group to share if they can find those unique elements and express each in a very brief statement.

If time allows, ask each person to quickly and silently read Romans 10:1-15.

Then ask: “What does Romans: 10:1-15 indicate about whom might be saved?” Be careful to not let the discussion get lengthy. This is a very profound passage and has much to say to us.

Encourage Application:

If you have two or more youth, this is the time to give them the **Youth!!! Take Ten** page and allow them to go away from the adults and apply the lesson by and for themselves.

Encourage the group to think together about what it means to be a proclaimer, and who is qualified to fill that position.

Challenge them to understand that evangelism and missions are essential tasks for every Christian.

Dare them to take bold steps this very week in sharing their faith with their own mission field.

Close in prayer for God to give us opportunities to share our faith with another person this week.

Take a five minute break to separate the Bible Study and Worship Time. Children may need to use the washroom again before worship.

Youth!!! Take Ten

Bible Study Application for Youth

You may wish to move away from the adults for the final five to ten minutes of the Bible study and help each other as youth to apply the lesson to your own needs.

Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20;

John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

A youth will lead the following activity and comments. No adults need to be present. If possible, teens should take turns in leading the application time.

What Can You Do??????

(Provide a large piece of paper which a pencil or marker for each person. As each one thinks of idea, he/she should say it aloud for the group to hear and then write it down on the paper.)

Have a popcorn session to see how many ideas for missions/outreach opportunities your home church youth might do. Could you help in a Vacation Bible School for children in your community? Could you join with youth from other home churches or a local traditional church to build a new church building, paint a senior's home or prayer walk in a neighbourhood where there is no Christian witness? Could you teach English to a new immigrant or simply befriend a new immigrant?

Don't stop to consider what might make your idea difficult to implement. For this session, just think of ideas. See how long your list might be.

Worship Time (Suggested time: 30 minutes)***Evangelism and Missions: The Great Commission***

**Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20;
John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15**

Beginning the Service:

Sing “**Send Me, O Lord, Send Me**” #582 BH
“**Our God Reigns**” #219 *Maranatha Praise*, 3rd Edition.

Offering:**Praying for the World:**

Leader: Have someone to read the following. It is printed for copying at the end of this session.

Last week’s session discussed the need for prayer in the midst of disasters. Today we will concern ourselves regarding prayer when and where there are no disasters in evidence. Actually, there are many, many nations where a stable and functioning government will not allow any sharing of faith in Christ, sometimes not even with a family’s own children. Those situations need our prayer for God to change that closed attitude as much as opportunities to share in times of crisis.

Sharing Guide:

This sharing guide is written to assist the person who directs the worship time to reemphasize the teaching for the day and help guide the congregation to respond to God’s call and will for their lives in regard to the scripture studied. The leader may choose to follow the guide closely. Or, he or she may wish to only use it to give direction and a concept for preparing an original message. The leader is free to choose other ways to communicate and share the concepts presented here.

Unlikely Preachers

Romans 10: 13-15 states **“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”** The scripture then asks, **“How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news’.”**

Isaiah had challenged the Israelite people many years before by the words in Isaiah 52:7 **“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”**

As the disciple John closes his account of the life of Jesus, he quotes Jesus in John 20:21 saying to the disciples **“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”**

“I am sending you”. The words echo down the corridors of time and resound in this room today. I am sending you because the question remains: **“How can they hear without someone preaching to them?”**

Missions strategists (people who study what are effective and ineffective ways of sharing the gospel) indicate that church planting movements are happening around the world. One large city experienced a church planting movement so rapid that more than 5,000 people prayed to receive Jesus and more than 150 house churches were birthed all within one year.

The key to the rapid expansion of the gospel is the participation of many people – people like those of us in this house church. In the past we may have heard the words, **“And how will they hear without a preacher?”** and thought to ourselves, “I surely hope a preacher goes soon to preach to those people”. In today’s world, however, we realize that our stereotype of a black-suited preacher, trained in Bible knowledge and experienced in church leadership was not what Paul had in mind when he asked, **“And how will they hear without a preacher?”**

Paul was talking to the people of the early church who had been scattered across the known world – fishermen, carpenters, traders, herdsman, slave owners and slaves. Jesus had sent the disciples out with the words, **“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”** But his mandate extended to every believer to share the good news about his death and resurrection. That was true in the early days of the church. It is true today.

A group of seven adventurers travel through jungles and up mountains for the purpose of sharing Jesus with isolated villages in South America. Team members hike, canoe, climb mountains, and forge through jungles to reach villages hidden in South America’s rugged landscape. They then pitch their tents in the village for six weeks of evangelism,

discipleship, and Bible storying. Their goal is to leave church plants strong enough to continue on and to plant new churches. Team members report five new hut churches and at least 290 new believers. (See OnMission, Summer, 2005, www.onmission.com)

The goal of every house church is to multiply by dividing and beginning a new church in another home. Even when growth is slow, we must not lose sight of that goal. We are not to become comfortable with our group and fail to have a passion for those not yet reached.

At the end of a week of missions emphasis, this writer had prayed passionately for people in Africa and the Middle East, for First Nations people in North America and people in the large cities of the world. However, on Sunday afternoon she stood at her living room window and watched a moving van at the house across the street. Was someone moving out or moving in? Would the single mom and her two pretty little girls and their black and white cat no longer be living there? Did it matter that in the two years she had lived there we had only exchanged greetings a few times? Was there a way to have a more meaningful relationship? ***“How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”***

Lord, give unlikely preachers beautiful feet.

Call to Commitment: Ask each participant to mentally picture someone for whom they are responsible for sharing the gospel. Pray silently the following words, “Lord, I acknowledge that I am the person responsible for sharing the gospel with my friend, neighbour, acquaintance. If I do not do so, it is possible that they will never hear. May my feet carry my body across the street, down the hall or to my car to seek an opportunity for sharing. Empower my words, help me to know the right time and place to speak. And help me to give you the glory and thanksgiving. Amen.”

Concluding the Service:

Sing again, **“Send Me, O Lord, Send Me.**

Prepare three copies for the Gathering Time as indicated:

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

**Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white, and harvests waiting, Who will bear the sheaves
away?”**

**Loud and long the Master calls us, Rich reward He offers free;
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?**

**If you cannot cross the ocean, and the distant lands explore,
You can find the lost around you, You can help them at your door;
If you cannot give your thousands, you can give the widow’s mite;
What you truly give for Jesus will be precious in His sight.**

**Let none hear you idly saying, “There is nothing I can do,”
While the lost of earth are dying, and the Master calls for you;
Take the task He gives you gladly; Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calls you, “Here am I, send me, send me.”**

Daniel March, 1816-1909.

Copy for someone to read during the Worship Time's Praying for the World

Last week's session discussed the need for prayer in the midst of disasters. Today we will concern ourselves regarding prayer when and where there are no disasters in evidence. Actually, there are many, many nations where a stable and functioning government will not allow any sharing of faith in Christ, sometimes not even with a family's own children. Those situations need our prayer for God to change that closed attitude as much as opportunities to share in times of crisis.