

MISSIONS

The Global Quiz Think about the following questions for a moment then look at the answers below.

- If the world's population were reduced to 100 people...
- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. How many would be Asian? | 57 |
| 2. How many would be European? | 21 |
| 3. How many would be African? | 8 |
| 4. How many would be Americans? | 2 |
| 5. How many would be white? | 30 |
| 6. How many would be malnourished? | 50 |
| 7. How many would live in a below-standard housing condition? | 80 |
| 8. How many would be unable to read? | 70 |
| 9. How many would hold a university degree? | 1 |

Questions -

1. What statistics surprised you the most and why?
2. Do you think as a Christian in the U.S. you have added responsibility? If so, why?

Missions - The Mission of the Church

Read **Rom 10:13-15** *"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 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? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

I. We Have a Problem - the Problem of **God's Heart** for the **Lost**

A. God's Heart - vs 13 *"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

Read also: **John 3:16** *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

2 Pet 3:9 *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is*

patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Questions-

1. What do these verses tell us about the heart of God for the world?
-He loves all, and wants everyone to come to Him
2. 2 Peter 3:9 is in reference to the "slowness" of Jesus' return. What might He be waiting for?
-Matt 24:14 the end will come after the gospel has been preached to all nations

B. The Great Need - vs 14 *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?*

-Out of 24,000 people groups in the world, 8 to 10 thousand of them are unreached (they have no indigenous community of believers)

- examples: -Japan is less than 1% Christian
-Morocco - 29 million population - around 500 Christians

Questions -

1. How many people in the world do you think have never heard the gospel?
-over 2 billion people who have never heard the gospel
2. How many people do not have the Bible in their own language?
-300 million have no Bible in their language
3. If you took the people who are not Christian from all over the world and stood them in line (one person every 12 inches), how long would the line be?
-25 times around the earth!

II. There is a Solution - Three Roles In World Missions:

A. GOERS - - Vs 14b *"And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?"*

-God sends people! We call them Missionaries.
What do *WE* have to do with that? We're just students???

The Student Volunteer Movement

- God's Spirit fell at a summer Christian Conference
- 100 students signed - -*"We, the undersigned, declare ourselves willing and desirous, God permitting, to go to the unevangelized portions of the world."*
- within 1 year, 1500 students signed the declaration
- eventually led to 20,000 missionaries - all students!

Questions (from the article they should have read)-

1. What do you attribute as the beginning of the Student Volunteer Movement?
-God's Spirit, and 18 students who prayed.
2. What was the challenge of the Student Volunteer Movement?
-"the evangelization of the world in THIS generation!"
3. What will it take to see another Student Volunteer Movement?
4. What is the greatest need in Missions today?
- GOERS - Read **Luke 10:2**

B. SENDERS - - 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent?

-Senders stay and provide the means of support necessary for the goers to go:
What is the job of a sender?

1. **Money** - challenge to give 10% of income(above tithe) to missions
 - the average American spends more \$ on dog food than on missions!
 - it takes an average of 10 U.S. churches to send 1 missionary over seas!
 - Why not send 1 missionary from our small group?
-the rest can be senders
2. **Prayer** - challenge to pray daily for the missionaries you support financially.

C. WELCOMERS - XAI

-Never in the history of the Church has a generation of Christians had a greater opportunity to reach the world than we have in America today! Over 550,000 international students and scholars are studying here from 188 countries of the world.

-They represent the brightest and most affluent people from their countries. Over 60% of these internationals are from the least evangelized countries of the world.

-Most international students will return home when they graduate and excel in business, military, science and education. If they become Christians here, they can be missionaries in their own home lands.

-The former Prime Minister of Thailand is an SHSU grad!

-XA has XAI ministry on first Friday nights

-we have Internationals all around us on campus

Conclusion: Everyone has a part to play. Missions is the job of the church - those who are "in Christ."

Questions-

1. What role do you identify with the most and why?
2. Which role scares you the most and why?
3. How can you apply these roles from where God has you now?