



There is a lot of talk today in church circles about being missional in our approach to the local church. But what is missions and what are missionaries and what should we do about both? I know that misinformation and an incorrect perception of what missionaries were and what they did kept me from responding positively to what I knew to be my God given purpose. There are two basic types of believers as we understand Christ has given all who follow Him the "Great Commission."

A Missionary Christian would be defined as a person who has embraced the life of Christ to the extent that it has transformed their daily life and conduct to the point of being distinctly like Christ. They are intentional about their role in fulfilling the great commission through their influence, both with others of the community they live in and by partnership with those who go to other nations and cultures.

A Christian Missionary is one who, in addition to living like Christ, has been called or selected by the Lord to go to other nations and/or cultures with the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God.

This calling or God given purpose begins with God. It is not by the plan of man and will be recognizable to others. It is a work apart from the local church. Biblical example provides understanding that the work is a separate work by virtue that it is ministry to a different group of people in another place. ***The paradox is that although it is a separate work it remains an integral part of the mission of the local church, other churches, and individuals as they partner together with the Missionary in sending them.***

No one is excluded from the Lord's commission. Every believer has a responsibility in the globalization of the gospel. The concept of every nation having value did not originate with any political party. God has always had a multinational agenda.

The current attempt of some to form a one world government is simply a counterfeit to the truth of the Kingdom of God that has no race, sex, border, or boundary of limitation. A counterfeit is a lie and can never produce what truth does and that is life and freedom. We refuse to allow the lies and deception of our adversary to stop us from being obedient to Jesus' commission. We are committed to His Kingdom that is biblically defined as Righteousness, Peace, and Joy in the Holy Spirit!

As Christian missionaries we are thankful to our missionary Christian partners who make it possible to build the true Kingdom of God. We are on a mission to fulfill His commission.

Together we are reaching the four corners of the earth with the light of the gospel!

PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP WITH US IN THE POWER OF GOD'S PURPOSE!

Over the past 34 years, Steve and Cindy Shoop have invested their lives in ministering the Gospel of Jesus as missionaries. Their passion for helping people has provided them with the opportunity to serve in a variety of ministry positions, as well as the privilege of living in three different countries in Africa. Today, Steve and Cindy reside in the state of Ohio after living 25 years in southern Africa. Steve continues to express his gift in ministry both in the United States and the nations of the world. Steve has a passion in developing leaders who are established in God's love, grace and peace that comes through the righteousness of faith. Gospel Training International's vision is found in their ministry slogan,



"TRAINING FOR LIFE, TRAINING FOR MINISTRY".

GOSPEL TRAINING INTERNATIONAL P.O. BOX 506, GREENVILLE, OHIO 45331

