



## BAPTIST MISSIONS TO FORGOTTEN PEOPLES

### The Importance of Relationships



**Jonathan & Rachelle Lyons**  
President

One of the things that we emphasize here at Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples is the importance of relationships. It does not matter what area of the Lord's work you are involved with; it will always involve relationships. In fact, the Word of God tells us in 2 Corinthians 5 that He has "given us a ministry of reconciliation." In Romans 12, we are encouraged that "if it

be possible, as much that lieth in you, live peaceable with all men." It is clear that the Lord is interested in our personal relationships as well as our ministry relationships. Is it an easy task? Not at all! It takes work and dedication as well as sacrifice. I believe there are three basic relationships that must be worked on in order to be obedient to the Lord.

First of all, our relationship with Christ must be in the forefront of everything that we do. Regardless of the position, title, or place in your spiritual life, growing in our relationship with Christ is a must.

Second of all, we are to be growing in our relationship with our Church. With all that has happened over the last couple of years with covid, many church relationships have fallen by the wayside. BMFP believes our local church is important and that those relationships are vital to fulfilling the great commission. Our co-laborers in the ministry, our Christian family, and our mission family are all important relationships that need to be cultivated.

Third of all, our relationship with our community is very important. These are those that we are trying to reach around us. We want to always leave a good testimony with them. Only heaven will tell what influence or impact you have made on those around you.

Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples is praying for 30 new candidates for 2022! If you are growing in your relationship with Christ and your church, there will be a desire to grow your relationship with your community and reach them with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Is God calling you to reach a community (people group)? Please consider partnering with BMFP and allowing us to assist your local church as they send you to the mission field.

### From Burdens to Blessings

There is not an overwhelming amount of information given about Naphtali in the Bible. His name is recorded 50 times in Scripture. Many of these uses concern land, borders, or his descendants. However, we do know that he was the son of Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid. When the law was given during the possession of the land, his people were one of the groups chosen to pronounce the cursing of the law, and not the blessings. However, as is often the case from our Lord, from this humble beginning and unenviable task, God delivers a great blessing.



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These blessings are outlined in Genesis 49:21, which are the words given from Jacob to his son Naphtali: "Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words." This simple verse has proven to be an amazing prophecy concerning someone from a most humble beginning:

**"A hind let loose."** His land was good and fruitful. His people have been blessed for generations with gardens, palm trees, fig trees and olive trees. His people are lovers of liberty, well spoken, courteous.

**"He giveth goodly words."** It was from his land that Christ and His disciples did many great works. The light of the glorious Gospel of Christ shined brightly here. Christ's chief residence was in Capernaum, which is from Naphtali. He wrought great miracles there, and it is commonly agreed that the apostles were principally of the tribe of Naphtali. The land they possessed (the west and the south) brought forth the best of the "goodly words" ever given.

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### BMFP Project Opportunities

Projects are posted to offer more opportunities to participate. Please pray about using your God given resources in the work of missions!

- [Paint the main office building](#)
- [Missionary apartment renovation](#)
- [Missionary candidate training](#)

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**by Dustin Taylor**

In Deut. 33:23, Naphtali's descendants are described as "satisfied with favour, and full with the blessing of the LORD: [and told to] possess thou the west and the south." Here, God takes this "burden" (son of a handmaid) and "blesses" him abundantly, leaving him satisfied with favor. It is clear that they could be content, complete, and compassed with the blessings of God.

Have you ever thought that your life has many more burdens than blessings? Perhaps we all have. There are three areas of the Christian life that can truly turn our burdens to blessings:

**Our Worship** - If we keep our heart focused on the Lord, our problems will seem small. We should dwell upon the goodness of God, and being content with who God is! Always remember that God is greater than our problems.

**Our Work** - Stay busy serving the Lord, and keep your mind set upon the Great Commission. When we are satisfied in serving the Lord Jesus, our mind does not have time to dwell upon the "things" that mean so little. My friend, there is so much work to do!

**Our Will** - being surrendered to His will. Remember that God will do a better job with your life than you will! Simply allow Him full control.

**Editors Notes**

The Great Commission, given to all who come to the Lord Jesus Christ, should be the central focus of the church. Yet, encouraging people to take part is a full-time job. One of the ways to get people involved is to have in veteran missionaries that focus on the value of a life yielded to Christ; growing in faith through giving, the peace and contentment of the Lord's provision, and the joy and satisfaction of obedient service. Bro. Lyons and our Field Administrators thank the Lord for every opportunity to preach and teach missions in the local church. We especially love to have BMFP Sundays, where we can encourage while teaching how the local church, grace giving, and mission agencies work together to send and secure missionaries as they reach forgotten peoples. Our desire is to help every pastor and church in the fulfillment of the Great Commission! Please contact us if we can help you. -Matt Quitter

**Prayer Nuggets For Your Missionaries**

Pray For Your Missionary's Family. They are invading the devil's territory and he will do everything he can to attack and destroy their family. Remember to pray for the husband and wife's relationship. Pray their love will grow stronger towards each other. Pray for their children, their spiritual growth, education, etc. Pray that the Lord will use them as a family unit in the work of the Lord.

*"If missions languish, it is because the whole life of godliness is feeble. The command to go everywhere and preach to everybody is not obeyed until the will is lost by self-surrender in the will of God. Living, praying, giving and going will always be found together."*

- Arthur T. Pierson

**News From the Field**  
**James & Virginie Carney**  
**France**  
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Praise God for His guidance and to advance his kingdom. We finished out 2021 with several blessings. In November, we paid off the church building and parking lot. The same day I was contacted by an architect about coming to look at our situation. Estelle GARCIA, an architecte from Charleville-Mézières, came and said she would check with our town authorities and let us know if we are allowed to build. This was a big plus because most architects that we have encountered refuse to work for religious outfits.

December 29, 2021, the architect informed us that we are allowed to build on our parking lot if we respect the various construction codes. This is great news. Her services are quite steep (\$55,000)! Please pray that she will be willing to draw up the plans for our church building project. Usually the architect wants to coordinate the work and file all the necessary work permits, but this adds too much to the bill; we just want the blueprints so we can hire out the work ourselves. God is at work in France!

**Corre & Claudia Meyer**  
**Spain**  
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God was very good to us during our 3 month furlough. He allowed us to raise additional funds for our building project and to partner with new churches with prayer and financial support which will go a long way in helping us with our living expenses.

We are very excited to be back home in Spain! We are excited to share that our Christmas service had the highest attendance we have ever had at our church! 18 first time visitors heard a very clear presentation of the Gospel!

That evening, a college student, Albert, who had been coming to our church, sent me a text message saying he wanted to give his life to Christ! I met him the next day and he placed his faith and trust in Jesus Christ and now we are doing a discipleship together. All we can do is praise God!

***For Thou Shalt Go To All That  
I Shall Send Thee***

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