

BMFP



FORGOTTEN CALL

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BAPTIST MISSIONS TO FORGOTTEN PEOPLES

The Urgency of Time



Jonathan & Rachelle Lyons
President

This year marks a very important milestone in my personal life. It was at the age of 55 that my dad went to Spain as a missionary after serving 18 years as a missionary in Liberia, West Africa. I was 12 at the time. The next 4 years God greatly worked, setting the direction of my life. I was saved at 12, surrendered my life to preach at 14 and then answered that call of the Lord to be a missionary at 16.

As I look back on those years, I think, "WOW, where did the time go?" It seems like yesterday I was living those years. Now I am 55 years old, and time seems to be a precious commodity to be treasured. There is a sense of urgency in my service for the Lord like there has never been before.

The word "time" appears 785 times in the King James version. That means the subject of time is very important to the Lord. The stewardship of our time must be a priority in our Christian life but also in the area of missions.

I find that everybody is busy doing something, but is that something the right thing to be busy about? It has been said that the only things that will last are the things that we have done for the Lord. Our focus here at Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples is on making the most of the time that we have and to invest in the things that will count in eternity.

There has never been a greater population of souls to reach than right now - almost 8 billion souls. There has never been a greater opportunity to reach those souls than right now. People of all walks of life, ethnic groups, and languages are all around us. There has never been a greater need for reaching those souls than right now. Time is running out!

Jesus gave the exhortation in Matthew 9:38, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Let's put feet to our prayers and be good stewards of the time that the Lord has given us. There is an urgency to influence others for the cause of Christ because he is coming soon!

People!

Baptist Missions To Forgotten Peoples is about People. BMFP is about people who are generally Forgotten. Dr. Burge reminded us many times that God does not call missionaries to a location on the map but to the people who occupy that location. And those people may occupy more than one location in the world. People!



Jon & Carolyn DeRusha
USA Field Administrators

God loves people. Christ died for people. As a nine-year-old child the Holy Spirit made that truth very clear to me. If I had been the only person in the world God would have loved me and Jesus would have died for me. This is true of every individual in all of human history. God is a people God. Jesus came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). God uses people who have been reached to reach people who are still unreached.

The United States is known as "The Melting Pot" of the world. For example, "Nearly 39 million immigrants have come to the US since 1965, with most coming from Asia and Latin America. The current Chinese population in the USA is 3.8 million, and the Indian population is 4.4 million." (<https://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/united-states-population>). These are people within the USA. A visa is not required to go to them. Is your church near pockets of these people?

Jews, African American, Hispanic, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, American Indian, Somali, Arab, Filipino, etc., etc. People! Then there are the prisoners, the young people roaming the streets, the homeless, etc., etc. People!

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Your Mission, if you choose to accept it:
A SURRENDERED LIFE
TOP SECRET
Mission Possible Youth camp
July 11-16, 2002
Twin Lakes Christian Camp, Ashboro, NC

Your Contact: Terry King
tking@bmfp.org or 904-810-2005

Continued from front page
by Jon DeRusha

Question: What percentage of attendees on Sunday morning live within a one-mile radius of the front doors of your church? As the demographics of cities have changed, more and more of our churches are comprised of people from the 'burbs' while the local population is largely 'forgotten.' "Jerusalem" is still a part of the Great Commission. Why are we neglecting them? What are we willing to change in order to change this phenomenon? We will give account to God for our neglect. People!

God uses people to reach people. People reaching people get out of their comfort zone. They have vision. They take the initiative. They get started even if it is faltering. They learn the skills (language, culture) necessary to reach 'forgotten' people. They love people!

Will you be a people-reaching Christian? Is your church located in the neighborhood of a 'forgotten' people group? Do you need to hire trained staff whose ministry is reaching out to them and training church members to do the same? Do you need to bring in a supported missionary whose vision and passion is reaching 'forgotten' people? Do you have a vision for it? Do you have a passion for reaching 'forgotten' people?

Give us a call. Let's have a conversation about reaching 'forgotten' people. Is God calling you to be a missionary to 'forgotten' people? Go to www.bmfp.org and complete the application form. Give us the privilege and joy of laboring together with God in His love for people.

New From the Field

Gordon & Lori Horton
Canada
hortons@cbcfordurham.org

Praise the Lord! Ray, our only church member hospitalized due to the virus, was able to go home on March 15. However, please continue to pray for him. He has a long road of recovery ahead. Thank you for all your prayers during his hospital stay, he truly is a walking miracle. During this time, we were able to finish our church kitchen, after six years of planning. I suppose that is better late than never (ha, ha)! We are grateful for Phil Smith, a CLAIMS representative, who came in November and did all the remodeling, and a local carpenter who did all the cabinet doors and drawer fronts. Praise the Lord we had it all finished by the end of February, in time for our church dinner.

I am so thrilled to see more of our families becoming more faithful to all the services of our church body

and growing in the Lord. Several of our families are beginning to enjoy coming on Sunday mornings, and are now bringing their other family members. One of our families has had a burden to see their grown children in church. Now, after years of praying, one daughter and her children came. Then, on the next Sunday, their other daughter and husband came with their two children! Sabrina and Katie's Junior Church is also really growing. It is exciting to see all the little children excited about class and following them around the church.

Editors Notes

The BMFP leadership team has always been dependent on prayer. Yet, in the last two years our fervency and unity in prayer has grown dramatically. You are a vital part of that ministry of prayer! Recently, we have been adding our building projects and financial needs to the Forgotten Call. We do that because we know when God's people pray, the Lord provides. This month, would you pray for and share the burden of Mike and Pam Eastridge for our missionary kids?
-Matt Quitter

Mike & Pam Eastridge
Church Rescue
thepulse@cprministries.us

Every other year, our BMFP family gathers for a time of encouragement and fellowship at our BMFP Family Stateside Retreat. At this September's retreat, Pam and I will be privileged to host the missionary kids (MKs) for their own daily time together. Serving alongside Mom and Dad, they witness both the hardships and the hallelujah's of missionary life. Pam and I would like to ask for your help in offering these MKs a program of activities, awards, and involvement which provides encouragement and grateful recognition for their youthful role as missionaries. Through a special offering to the MK-22 project, you and your church can be a blessing to our youngest missionaries. I can assure you that their parents will be blessed as well. Contributions may be sent directly to BMFP along with your monthly support. Be sure to indicate on your check the amount that you wish to designate to "MK-22." If you prefer to use our home address, make your check payable to CPR Ministries and indicate "MK-22" in the memo line. Please let us know if you would like to have a promotional slide or need additional information.

"Missions is not about 'What can I spare?' The question is 'What's it going to take?' Risk. Abandon. Sacrifice. Complete dependence on Christ. Everything. Are you passionately committed to God's glory among all peoples?"
- Unknown

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

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