

# BMFP



# FORGOTTEN CALL

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## BAPTIST MISSIONS TO FORGOTTEN PEOPLES

### The BMFP Spirit



**Jonathan Lyons**  
President

A lot can be said about a person, church or mission board that has the right spirit. Having the right Christian spirit will go a long way in encouraging others in their walk and ministry for the Lord. On the other hand, having the wrong type of spirit can be hurtful and discouraging. The Lord has called us to the ministry of reconciliation which is based on building the right kind of

relationships. There are all types of people in the world and yes, we can get frustrated, but nevertheless we are responsible for how we respond to others. When dealing with the area of missions, this becomes a worldwide issue. While it is true that we cannot please everyone all the time, "if it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peacefully with all men." There are three types of spirits that can help us to accomplish this:

**The Glad Spirit:** The Bible tells us to, "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, rejoice." This is the kind of spirit that helps us to be glad in any circumstance we find ourselves. The Apostle Paul was not enjoying his circumstance, but he was rejoicing in spite of the circumstance. You never see Paul complaining but he was always continuing and content.

**Gentle Spirit:** We are told, "and the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle to all men, apt to teach, patient." There are those that just have a fighting spirit. Everything seems to be about an argument. We should not have a reputation of always being argumentative and strifeful. Remember the proverb, "a soft answer turneth away wrath but grievous words stir up anger."

**Godly Spirit:** This is the type of spirit that should prevail in all of our life activities. Being Christlike should be a goal that every Christian is pursuing. Everything we do should magnify the Lord and bring Him honor and glory.

At Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples, we strive to have a Glad spirit, a Gentle spirit, and a Godly spirit. This is our goal starting with the leadership and throughout our missionary family. As missionaries, pastors, and laymen it is so important that we have a reputation and testimony of being people with the right kind of spirit.

### The Importance of Being Spirit Filled

Ephesians 5:17-21

In writing to the believers at Rome, Paul addressed being filled with the Holy Spirit. If you notice, in v.17 Paul speaks about understanding the will of God, and then immediately follows with a short section on being filled with the Spirit. Obviously, being filled with the Spirit is part of the will of God for every believer. As Christians, as servants, pastors, evangelists, and missionaries we need to be Spirit filled to do the work of the Lord. I wonder how many who are indwelt and sealed by the Spirit are filled with the Spirit. When we are unloving or unlovely, lack joy or inner-peace, short and impatient, rough in our dealings with others, when we lack faith or self-control, when we are proud and do wrong – we are not filled with the Spirit. It is when we are filled with self that the negative characteristics of our sinful human nature are displayed. At any given time, we are under the control of the Spirit or the flesh (self) as the result of our yielding to one or the other. "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other" (Gal. 5:17).



**Pastor George Alquist**  
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We often neglect being filled with the Spirit and rush off into our ministry, our field, our work, and our daily lives with only the weakness of the fleshly nature as our strength. There are three areas that comprise the 'weakness of the flesh.'

**1. Weakness of Fleshly Body.** We are all familiar with the limitations of the human body as well as its lusts. The Lord addressed this in Matt. 26:40-46. Do you think the disciples wanted to pray with Jesus? Do you think they were embarrassed? Of course. What was the problem? The weakness of the flesh. The flesh only wants to do 3 things; eat, sleep, and have fun. When we pray or read our Bibles the flesh says, "Are we eating, are we having fun? No. Then let's go to sleep!" The physical body is dominated by the fleshly sinful nature and only the power of God by the filling of His Spirit can give us victory (Rom. 7:19-24).

**2. Weakness of Fleshly Mind.** As the fleshly body is desirous of experiences contrary to God's will, the fleshly

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by George Alquist**

mind is desirous of thoughts contrary to the will of God. (Rom. 8:6-8) What causes pride? The fleshly mind. (Col. 2:18) What caused Thomas to doubt? What causes Christians to think wrong thoughts or give up? The fleshly mind. (Col. 1:21; Heb. 12:3) Only being filled with the Spirit enables us to control our thinking and renew our minds. (II Cor. 10:5; Eph. 4:17-32; Rom. 12:2; I Cor. 2:11-14).

**3. Weakness of Fleshly Will.** Every sin is a sin of choice. The body desires, the mind decides, the will yields. Only by being filled with the Spirit can we keep the Lord's commandments (Rom. 6:12-14). Being filled is yielding, by an act of the will to the Holy Spirit. Because our physical flesh, our fleshly mind, and our fleshly will are weak we need the power of the filling of the Holy Spirit to be all that God wants us to be and do all that God wants us to do.

**What Do Mission Boards Do?**

Mentorship and friendship are an important part of missionary care, especially in adjusting to the mission field. Every missionary has expectations about what it will be like when they get to the field. Likely, reality is far different from the expectation. It is not glory, nor glamour, but plenty of hard work. Walking through this time together with an experienced team helps manage expectations and eases discouragement, the top two factors in missionaries leaving the field.

**Mike & Pam Eastridge  
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Please pray for the many Gospel seeds sown during our work in Pembroke and for the Isclaw family as they open this new chapter of ministry. There were only a few days at home to plan and pack before heading north to Ashtabula, OH for our 56th Sunday School & Teacher Training Workshop at Bible Baptist Church where I once served as Pastor. Once again, I was able to share my passion for turning teachers into class builders with a group of willing workers. The following week we made our way to Butler, PA to conduct a Back to the Books Kid's Retreat for the New Testament Baptist Church. We praise the Lord for one lad who trusted Christ as his Savior. After two additional meetings with supporting churches we made our way to MK-22 Project in Pigeon Forge, TN where we ministered to our wonderful BMFP missionaries between the ages of 6 and 16!

**News From the Field**

**Denny & Melissa Mitchell  
Homeless  
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We were able to attend the bi-annual retreat with our BMFP family. The theme this year was "Let us Magnify His Name." No matter what we go through, we can still magnify the Lord. It was such a blessing to be with our BMFP family. We are thankful to be a part of Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples. If you feel the Lord dealing with you to go to the mission field, I highly recommend this mission board. Truly, we are a family.

The Lord is so good! After our last prayer letter was sent out, the Lord supplied the money to purchase the building from a very generous donor. We are in the process of the purchase and have run into a couple of legalities that we hope to have worked out very soon. We are still raising funds for repairs and can't wait to be able to do some much-needed upgrades to the building. We appreciate each donation that has come in so far for the building.

God is so good! We are thankful for every opportunity He gives us to share His love. Let us Magnify His Name!

*"The Gospel is not an old, old story, freshly told. It is a fire in the Spirit, fed by the flame of Immortal Love; and woe unto us, if through our negligence to stir up the Gift of God which is within us, that fire burns low."*

*- R. Moffat Gautrey*

**Patrick & Victoria Weimer  
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Icelandic-speaking services have picked up in attendance and visitors. Each new visitor is an opportunity to share the Gospel with a family. What a blessing that is! With the number of workers who speak Icelandic, we are reaching our max capacity to effectively minister to the children in the bus ministry. We have many from the international church willing to help with logistics during the Icelandic-speaking services. However, there is a great need for workers who speak Icelandic. The international services we offer in English have always fluctuated from week to week due to the flow of immigrants in our region. We had one join the church this past Sunday. It is a joy to have the opportunity to minister to a variety of people from many different lands. Our theme has been from the beginning, "Reaching the World through Iceland," and that is exactly what the Lord is allowing us to do.

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

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