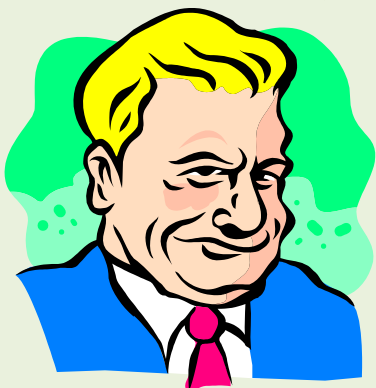


Oh, no!

Not another missionary!



This statement could be made from a Christian who fails to see the benefits of supporting another missionary. Our heavenly mandate is not an option but a command. **This Great Commission to many has become the great omission.**

Why? Because some Independent Baptist churches do not see the importance of getting involved in the Great Commission. **You can gauge this by their annual missions budget.**

The following tract is designed to show you why you benefit from being involved in the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through financially participating in a great way in your church missions program

First, you can not Obey the great commission with out supporting God's missionaries.

Did you know there are many verses in the Bible that you cannot follow without getting involved in the support of God called, Biblically based, dedicated, Independent Baptist missionaries?

When a missionary comes by your church whom God has called to certain area of the world, he does not represent an interruption in the church schedule but an opportunity.

The missionary enlightens you

about your mission.

When the missionary shares his call and burden **the church is enlightened** about a region of the world that they may not already know about.

This will enable you to see with your own eyes the fields through the presentation of the missionary. Jesus told us to lift up our eyes unto the "fields." How would you do this more effectively than to hear firsthand from a missionary who shares the field of his calling with you?

The missionary will enable you to do God's mission.



In this mandate, Jesus did not say look at the "field" singular, but He said look on the "fields" plural.

John 4:35 "Say not ye, There

are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, **Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.**"

You cannot do this without the help of the missionary who God sends your way. His desire is to show you his field so you can get a greater vision for another area of the world where souls are perishing without the Gospel.

Your missionary enjoins you to do what you need his help to do.

Also, the missionary will help you do something that is impossible for you to do without him. **He will help you fulfill Christ's command** found in Matthew.

Matt. 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

He will help you to advance.

My friend, we can only be at one place at one time. But, when we get involved in the giving of missions dollars to the regions beyond, we can sponsor missionaries to go in our behalf. You cannot do this without the missionary. **You need that missionary to go as an ambassador in your behalf.**

This mandate is clearly seen in the book of Acts also.

Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses unto me both** in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

He is God's soldier that you are sending to the battlefield.



Notice that we are to be a witness in the four geographical regions of the world all at the same time. You can only do this by spending your time in the form of currency in support of missionaries that go in your behalf. **You can go with the missionary in your prayers and also your time.**

That time is represented by the time it

takes you to earn the money you give to any given field for the reaching of the lost.

The missionary equips you to assault the gates of hell by prayer.

Another mandate which **you cannot do is to intelligently pray** for a mission you don't know about. **A missionary** who truly has a burden will convey that burden to you. He **can place a face to a mission field** as you see his slides and feel his heart for the people that he is trying to reach. **If**



you do not have missionaries come to your church, you will not see the fields God is targeting for evangelism. You will not get to see the people who need to be reached with the Gospel. Therefore, you will be left in the dark as to what God is doing in this big world. You will not be able to do what Jesus said in the following verse of scripture.

Matt. 9:37 "Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; **38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.**"

Not only will you be able to pray for the missionary and his family, but **you will also be able to pray for God to send laborers to that needy field.**

The missionary may encourage you to go to the mission field.

Many times God calls unsuspecting persons who start praying for a given mission field to go

themselves to reap the golden grain. This would not happen without the help of the God called missionary who shares the need in your church.

Missionaries may pray for you.

Another thing that you could not do without the aid of the missionary is you could not have the opportunity for your family to fellowship with some of the most sacrificial, dedicated Christians on earth.



Did you know that this fellowship can give you an opportunity to share your prayer requests with people that usually have a special gift of faith? The fact that most missionaries must learn to hear and heed the voice of God, obey His bidding to go, and their home to some far flung field of the world is usually an indication that faith is present.

There are many people that ask a missionary to pray for some special request after hosting the missionary family.

A Biblical illustration of this principle shows the benefit of hosting the man of God in the example of the widow of Zarephath.

God told Elijah to.. I Kings 17:9 “Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.” Elijah, an Old Testament prophet, was commanded by God to go to a poor widow and let her care for his needs. You would think that God would have the prophet go to someone who could afford hosting

him. But God told him to stay with the poor widow who did not have any food in her closet, nor any money to care for him.

Notice the following verses:

I Kings 17:10 “So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”

The best thing that this poor widow could have ever done was to have the man with the mission to stay at her house.

You see, Elijah, as most missionaries did not have a lot of money but he did have a lot of faith. It was because of the prayers of this widow’s new guest that she did not die in the famine.

Someone said that the best thing to do when the church budget is suffering is to take on another missionary.

Luke 6:38 “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”

Missionaries help educate our children about world missions



Another benefit of having the missionary by is that it will challenge children to give their lives for the mission field. Most young people are called to the field when they hear the challenge from a missionary for perishing areas of the world. Untold billions are still untold! The mature Christian’s highest ambition is for God to call and use their children in some form of full time Christian service. This challenge would not come without the exposure of having a missionary come by your church. The prophet Jeremiah said in Lam. 3:51 “Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.”

Your child’s focus during a missions meeting in your church could cause him or her to want to give their life to reach people with the Gospel. I know this is true for many children today. You see, these children are the hope for missions tomorrow.

Missionaries will help to enrich your life in earth and in heaven.

Lastly, another great benefit for you is to see God reward your faith as you pray for and sponsor the missionary who is reaching the lost in His mission field.

in the Bible, there are great examples of churches with a missions emphasis who greatly benefited from their world outreach missions ministries.

The church at Philippi received this promise from God for supporting its missionary founder Paul.

Phil. 4:19 “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

They learned to give of their resources and God gave them of His riches. Now, it is one thing to utilize our own resources. Yet, the church at Phillipi knew what it was like to receive of God’s heavenly treasures. They were involved in God’s world wide missions program in the support of God’s missionary Paul. See another example of missions in I Thess. 1:8.

Jesus Said in Matt. 6:19 “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:”

I would venture to say that missions is your best opportunity to do what Jesus commanded. So, if you ever hear someone indicate that you cannot afford to support another missionary, simply look at these Bible mandates, examples, and benefits. Then, you can reply with confidence that you cannot afford not to be involved in a greater way with world wide New Testament missions giving.

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