

LOCAL CHURCH MISSION ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT



CONTENTS

<i>About</i>	2
<i>Gather a Team</i>	2
<i>Vision</i>	3
<i>Before Your Team Begins</i>	3
.....	
<i>Individual Assessments for Church Members</i>	4
<i>Assessment for your Team</i>	5
<i>Gather Data</i>	6
<i>Discuss Together</i>	6
<i>Pray Together</i>	6
.....	
<i>Further Discussion & Engagement</i>	7
<i>Prayer</i>	8
<i>Presence</i>	9
<i>Gifts</i>	10
<i>Service</i>	12
<i>Witness</i>	13
.....	
<i>Appendices</i>	14
<i>One Church's Story Among An UPG</i>	15
<i>Definitions</i>	19
<i>Explore More: Recommended Resources</i>	22
<i>Explore More: Some Practical Ideas</i>	24
<i>Who Will Be Local UPG Champions?</i>	28
<i>Why We Encourage Cross-Denominational Collaboration to Reach UPGs</i>	29
<i>Start Here</i>	30



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CHURCH NAME _____

PASTOR NAME _____

COUNTRY / REGION _____

EMAIL or PHONE CONTACT _____

ABOUT.

*A unique part of our heritage is bold mission & deep reflection. As we continue to live out that rich history, it is important for the local church to spend time in honest reflection about mission engagement. In this assessment, we encourage you to spend time with others in your leadership team asking: **God, how are you calling us make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, & witness boldly? How do You want to use our local church to reach the unreached in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, & the ends of the earth?***

GATHER A TEAM.

Who are the team members from your church who will prayerfully go through this assessment together? *List their names here. We recommend lay leaders as well as staff.*

*“All authority has been given to me in heaven & on earth.
Go, therefore, & make disciples of all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father & of the Son & of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.
& remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Matthew 28: 18b-20

VISION FOR THIS ASSESSMENT.

This assessment has the following goal: to help the local church take one more step in fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

This assessment is not intended to shame or lead to legalism, but to help us focus on our aim to love God & love people here, there, & everywhere. How is God uniquely leading our church to love him & to love others? How can we better equip the body of Christ to do so?

Reflection takes time. As such, we recommend meeting more than one time to allow for prayerful consideration of these matters. See the appendix for the story of one church reaching a UPG, key definitions, resources, & practical ideas.

BEFORE YOUR TEAM BEGINS...

1. We recommend sending out page 4 by itself to 5% or more of your congregation. This data can help guide your team as you honestly assess your local church. These should be printed, filled out, & accepted anonymously from your church members. Set these aside & pull them out a team together in a later step.
2. We recommend each leadership team member spend some personal time in the Scriptures before meeting. For each section, we offer the following Scriptures for prayer & reflection. What other Scriptures would you add?

PRAYER	Matthew 9:35-38 // Psalm 2:8 // John 15:7 // Matthew 6:10 // 1 Tim 2:1-4
PRESENCE	Matthew 28:18-20 // John 1:14 // John 13:34
GIFTS	Matt 6:21 // Philippians 4:16-17 // 1 Peter 4:10 // Malachi 3:10 // Psalm 67
SERVICE	Isaiah 58:6-12 // Philippians 2:1-11 // James 1:22-25
WITNESS	Acts 1:8 // Matthew 24:14 // Revelation 7:9-10

FOR INDIVIDUALS: LOCAL CHURCH ASSESSMENT

Thank you for your willingness to answer questions about our local church. This is part of a larger mission engagement assessment, & your input is valued. Please answer honestly from your point of view. This survey is anonymous.

This assessment is not intended to shame anyone or lead to legalism, but simply to help our leadership focus on our aim to love God & love people here, there, & everywhere. Together we are seeking to answer the question: *How is God uniquely leading our church to love him & to love others? How can we better equip the body of Christ to do so?*

Please fill in the bubbles using the following subjective measures:

1 - Strongly Disagree 2 - Disagree 3 - Neutral 4 - Agree 5 - Strongly Agree

● ○ ○ ○ ○ ● ● ○ ○ ○ ● ● ● ○ ○ ● ● ● ● ○ ● ● ● ● ●

I regularly & intentionally pray for those who are lost in my family, friends, co-workers, & neighbors.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I know what an unreached people group is. <i>Define the term on the back of this page.</i>	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I regularly pray (& fast) for unreached people groups.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I regularly participate in an accountable community group that strongly encourages me in sharing the Gospel.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I have opportunities to be trained in an ongoing basis in how to make disciples.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I support cross cultural workers & indigenous global leaders by encouraging them, talking with them on the phone or Zoom, praying for them, visiting them, etc.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I financially support cross cultural workers or indigenous global leaders or mission agencies that serve unreached people groups.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I understand my spiritual gifts and feel supported to use my spiritual gifts on mission in my city, my region, & around the world.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I have had the opportunity in the past year to go on a short-term mission trip to share the Gospel or plant churches.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I have engaged in serving unreached people groups in the past year in my city, in my region, and around the world.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I know how to clearly communicate the Gospel & lead someone to Jesus.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I have opportunities to be trained in an ongoing basis in how to share the Gospel.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
I have engaged UPGs in Gospel-sharing this year in my city, in my region, & around the world.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○

FOR LEADERSHIP: OUR CHURCH'S MISSION ENGAGEMENT

Print a copy of this page for each member of your leadership team. Have each person fill in the bubbles with their leadership perspective using the following subjective measures:

1 - Strongly Disagree 2 - Disagree 3 - Neutral 4 - Agree 5 - Strongly Agree
 ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ● ● ○ ○ ○ ● ● ● ○ ○ ● ● ● ● ○ ● ● ● ● ●

PRAYERS	
The majority of our church regularly & intentionally pray for those who are lost in their family, friends, co-workers, & neighbors.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church knows what an unreached people group is.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church regularly prays (& fasts) for unreached people groups.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
PRESENCE	
The majority of our church regularly participates in an accountable community group that strongly encourages them in sharing the Gospel.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church have opportunities to be trained in an ongoing basis in how to make disciples.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church supports cross cultural workers & indigenous global leaders by encouraging them, talking with them on the phone or Zoom, praying for them, visiting them, etc.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
GIFTS	
The majority of our church financially support cross cultural workers or indigenous global leaders or mission agencies that serve unreached people groups.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church understands their spiritual gifts and are supported to use their spiritual gifts on mission in your city, your region, & around the world.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
SERVICE	
The majority of our church have had the opportunity in the past year to go on a short-term mission trip to share the Gospel or plant churches.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church have engaged in serving unreached people groups in the past year in your city, in your region, and around the world.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
WITNESS	
The majority of our church knows how to clearly communicate the Gospel & lead someone to Jesus.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church have opportunities to be trained in an ongoing basis in how to share the Gospel.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
The majority of our church have engaged UPGs in Gospel-sharing this year in my city, in my region, & around the world.	○ ○ ○ ○ ○



GATHER DATA FROM ASSESSMENTS:

1. Open up the anonymous individual assessments from your congregation. Have someone total up the bubbles to get an average for each point.
2. Gather the leadership assessments. Have someone total up the bubbles to get an average for each point.

DISCUSS TOGETHER:

1. Discuss how the congregation’s responses compare to the leadership assessment.
2. Are there similarities?
3. Are there any major differences?
4. Are there any particular points that surprised you?
5. Is there another point you would want to add for measurement at your church?

PRAY TOGETHER:

Questions to consider asking God...

1. How are You leading our church to love You & love others?
2. How can we lead others to Christ?
3. Will You teach us to obey your commands out of love, not out of legalism?
4. Who are you calling us to pray for? Will you open up our eyes to see the lost around us?
5. Will you help us discover more about your plan to reach the nations with the Good News?
6. Will you fill us with your Holy Spirit?
7. Will You raise up cross cultural workers from our church?
8. What are you wanting to say to us, God?
9. Give us ears to hear & mouths to speak & feet to follow.



***FURTHER DISCUSSION
& ENGAGEMENT***

PRAYER

READ & PRAY TOGETHER:

- Matthew 9:35-38
- Psalm 2:8
- John 15:7
- Matthew 6:10
- 1 Tim 2:1-4

REFLECT TOGETHER:

1. How can we lead & encourage our church to pray for the lost?
2. How can we teach about unreached people groups to our church?
3. How can we encourage intentional prayer for UPGs, cross cultural workers, & global workers in individuals?
4. How can we pray corporately together over these things on a regular basis?
5. Is God calling us to a season of prayer & fasting for UPGs?
6. Are we laboring in prayer for great kingdom advancement? How can we help foster a heart for prayer in our church?
7. What are some stories of prayer or celebration that we can share with our church to inspire them to pray fervently?
8. Are we joining with other churches in prayer for the unreached?

PRESENCE

READ & PRAY TOGETHER:

- Matthew 28:18-20
- John 1:14
- John 13:34

REFLECT TOGETHER:

1. Are we actively inviting the presence of the Holy Spirit to do a work through us that we are completely incapable of accomplishing ourselves apart from the Spirit & power of God?
2. How can we encourage our mid-term & long-term cross cultural workers with our presence? Let's get creative.
3. How are we be present in ways that touch UPGs in our city? In our region? Around the world?
4. How are we actively making disciples and teaching others to obey, like in the Great Commission in Matthew 28?
5. How can we foster a spirit of accountability & loving obedience in our community groups or Bible study groups as we meet together?
6. How can we connect our community groups or Bible study groups with opportunities for engaging the unreached face-to-face in our communities & around the world?

GIFTS

“Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Matthew 6: 19-21

MEASURE TOGETHER:

A	Our annual church budget	\$	
B	Our annual mission budget	\$	
C	Total annual mission dollars that go directly to support missions to UPGs (not including church staff support or administrative costs)	\$	
D	Total annual mission dollars that go directly to support local missions	\$	
E	Total annual mission dollars that go directly to support global missions	\$	
F	Percentage of annual budget that goes to missions (B ÷ A)		%
G	Percentage of annual mission budget that goes directly to support mission to UPGs (C ÷ B)		%
H	Percentage of annual mission budget that goes directly to support local mission (D ÷ B)		%
I	Percentage of annual mission budget that goes directly to support global mission (E ÷ B)		%

READ & PRAY TOGETHER:

- Matthew 6:21
- Philippians 4:16-17
- 1 Peter 4:10
- Malachi 3:10
- Psalm 67

REFLECT TOGETHER:

1. Are we satisfied with our total church mission budget in relation to our annual budget?
2. Are we satisfied with the percentage of our mission budget that goes directly to reach UPGs?
3. Are we satisfied with how our mission budget is distributed locally vs globally?
4. Are our mission dollars being used intentionally & effectively?
5. If our treasure is where our heart is, then where is our heart based on the budget? Does this need to change?
6. What are some celebration stories of giving we can share with our church to inspire them to give?
7. Beyond financial giving, are we assessing our church member's spiritual gifts? Are these gifts being stewarded to reach the unreached?

SERVICE

READ & PRAY TOGETHER:

- Isaiah 58:6-12
- Philippians 2:1-11
- James 1:22-25

REFLECT TOGETHER:

1. Have we thought deeply about how to serve the poor in a way that is most helpful to them long-term? What will this require beyond simply giving monetary donations?
2. How are the disaster relief or mercy ministries we currently work with actively engaged in reaching people with the Gospel? Are there other organizations doing it better?
3. What opportunities are we providing for short-term mission teams to be sent from our church that directly work with the unreached?
4. Are our people trained in how to share the Gospel as they serve? How can they be better equipped?
5. Are our people trained in how to make disciples as they serve? How can they be equipped?
6. What are some stories of service we can share with our church to inspire them to serve?
7. How are we joining with other churches to serve (both inside & outside of our denomination)?

WITNESS

READ & PRAY TOGETHER:

- Acts 1:4-11
- Matthew 24:14
- Revelation 7:9-10

REFLECT TOGETHER:

1. Do our church members know how to communicate the Gospel message clearly?
2. What opportunities do we provide for our church members to be trained in sharing the Gospel?
3. How does our church view evangelism? Is it something reserved for the church staff & pastor or is it something that is actively encouraged & expected of our church members?
4. How does our church actively seek to witness to the unreached peoples in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, & to the ends of the earth?
5. What are some specific stories we can celebrate of witnessing among the unreached through our cross cultural workers?
6. What are some stories we can celebrate of lay people & church staff evangelizing in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, & the ends of the earth?
7. How are we joining with other churches to evangelize in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, & to the ends of the earth (both inside & outside of our denomination)?



APPENDICES

ONE CHURCH'S STORY AMONG AN UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP

Union Chapel Ministries
Muncie, IN
Rev. Gregg Parris

Every Christian and every local church should be intentionally and strategically engaged in fulfilling the Great Commission.

This mantra stems from a serious consideration of the role of the pastor, parishioners and the greater church in fulfilling the Great Commission. It is the result of a careful and prayerful wrestling with the question of the church's apostolic calling. Every pastor knows we have a destiny greater than our local congregation. We must be about the discovery of that destiny and the leaders, strategies and resources necessary to see it fulfilled.

The following is one local church's journey in targeting and reaching into an Unreached People Group: I was first exposed to the idea of Unreached People Groups, The 10/40 Window, etc., at Asbury Theological Seminary under the tutelage of Dr. J.T. Seamands. From that exposure and other references I became, as a young pastor, a "missions enthusiast." Therefore, our local church developed Great Commission awareness and practices. We routinely supported local and extra local mission initiatives. As we experienced a growing sense of God's call to an Unreached People Group we realized a more strategic investment of our mission energy and dollars would be to abandon the traditional "shotgun" approach to mission support, i.e. giving as much money to as many cross cultural workers and agencies as possible, to a "rifle shot" approach, i.e. focusing the vast majority of our energy and resources toward a particular UPG. What followed was a process of discovery lasting six years that culminated in our "adoption of an UPG." God clearly directed us to strategically focus on a nation in Central Asia. We launched our first long-term team, seven people, all members of our local church in 1995. We now have a twenty-eight year story filled with miracles that would fit comfortably into the Book of Acts. Twenty-two of our parishioners have lived full-time in Central Asia. Four hundred+ of our parishioners have ministered in Central Asia.

To our knowledge, the only exposure to the gospel in that part of the world (along that section of the "Ancient Silk Road") was by cross cultural workers, subsequently

martyred, in the fourth century. When we arrived in this traditionally Muslim country in 1995, there were only a few hundred believers in the entire nation. Today there are many thousands of followers of Jesus! Our original MOU stated, "We want to reach as few indigenous people as necessary in order to see a Christ-ward movement established among these peoples."

We continue to support (financial, continuing education, networking) and cultivate meaningful friendships and support paradigms with a good number of indigenous Christian leaders in Central Asia.

Among the many miracles we have witnessed over the years, perhaps my favorite, is from the first young family we reached for Christ in a small obscure village. This young couple had two small boys. Fast forward twenty plus years and today the older of those two boys leads one of our teams planting house churches. Very gratifying.

OUR CORE VALUES

1. The local church is God's primary instrument to evangelize the world.

This concept is a shock to many, but we believe it is essential to embrace if we are to fulfill the command of Christ to take the gospel to every person. We believe this is scripturally and practically correct. We have a strong commitment to the primacy of the local church in God's plan.

2. Planting new churches is the most effective way to reach lost people.

We believe in working to complete world evangelization. We believe in focusing on planting churches among unreached peoples. We are passionate about church planting.

3. The senior pastor is the key influence in the local church for the cause of missions.

The pastor must, in cooperation and concert with the church leaders, lead the way to mobilize the local church in missions. The pastor must lead the charge in every area if the local church is to maximize its efforts to reach the world for Christ.

4. The local church must develop a corporate purpose and personality related to missions.

Missions must be who you are as a church, not just what you do. Missions must be your church's personality, not just a program. Missions must be the mission of the church! Acts 1:8 is the corporate strategy for outreach in the local church, encompassing local, regional and global influence.

5. God intends for every believer to be esteemed as a gifted minister and on mission with Him to the ends of the earth.

We believe that everyone must be trained and released to evangelize, not just professional clergy. Every believer, no matter how young or how old, is important to God and useful in His kingdom cause. Mobilization requires 1) Biblical Teaching - We must communicate the global heart of God as a basis for missions. 2) Personal Application - Philosophy of life, the way people view themselves in the light of God's global cause, must change. Matthew 6:21. 3) Practical Implementation - Avenues of involvement must be created for people to use their gifts, experiences, abilities and resources for His global cause. People must be assisted to identify opportunities and become personally involved (personalization is relevant to the current generation and will become more important to subsequent generations).

6. Team ministry is paramount to planting churches.

We believe that team ministry is a fundamental principle for all relevant ministry, regardless of the ministry focus or aim. The team concept provides support, nurture, encouragement, accountability, submission, appropriate roles and complimentary ministry expressions.

7. We prefer partnerships over mere support relationships

A "support" paradigm is one of supporting others financially in order for them to do ministry on your behalf. This is the traditional mission agency approach: "You give us the resources and we'll do it for you."

We believe in Strategic Partnerships. The "partnership" paradigm implies developing relationships/friendships, acknowledges shared vision/values, out of which grow projects.

It must not be an either/or, but a both/and approach. Both "support" and "partnership" approaches are valuable and useful to God. However, it is our conviction that for future generations, the individual cross cultural workers and mission agencies must see themselves as servants, facilitators, and partners with the

local church in the global cause. This shift will enable churches to embrace the New Testament model and allow them to be more effective in fulfilling their God-given role, thus accelerating the cross cultural mission endeavor.

Therefore, we remain open to synergistic partnerships, believing that much more can be accomplished working together than could ever be accomplished alone.

8. Prayer is essential to fulfilling God's purposes.

We believe that ultimate fulfillment of the Great Commission will require a great release of God's power. We believe the church has been called to partner with God in the most important work of prayer. We will continue to enjoin the millions of intercessors God is mobilizing in our day to see His glory released on the nations.

DEFINITIONS

People group: A people group is an ethno-linguistic group with a common self-identity shared by the various members (PG). Members typically share language, cultural characteristics, religion, and common history. People groups don't always live in their country of origin but may exist in a diaspora with each occurrence constituting a different people group, e.g., Kurds of Iraq and Iraqi Kurds living in the US.

The Greek phrase "panta ta ethne" used in Matthew 28:19 (The Great Commission) and typically translated as "nations" is more accurately translated as "people group." In the context of evangelization, "a people group is the largest group within which the Gospel can spread as a church planting movement without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance" (Lausanne). Barriers of understanding or acceptance might include ethnicity, language, religion, caste, and geography (JP).

People groups may be described as reached or unreached and engaged or unengaged. See definitions below.

Reached:

Reached refers to the state of having lasting access to the gospel. Key elements of lasting access include: healthy local churches, pastoral training, evangelism and discipleship in the local language, and Scripture in the local language (GI).

Unreached (Least-reached):

Unreached is typically defined as a population with fewer than or equal to 2% Evangelical Christians and fewer than or equal to 5% Professing Christians (JP). The percentage thresholds are based on sociological observations about the critical mass necessary to sufficiently spread ideas to the broader population without outside assistance. (IMB). However, the 2% threshold is problematic because many other factors come into play when analyzing gospel access and advance (Rad).

The term Least-reached is often preferential since Reached/Unreached implies an either/or mentality when in reality the status of "reachedness" occurs on a spectrum (JP). Unreached or least-reached can be applied to people groups and places. Unreached is not synonymous with Unsaved or Lost as unsaved and lost people have access to believers, churches, and/or Christian resources (see "Unreached people group", Rad).

Unreached (Least-reached) people group (UPG):

A UPG is “a people group within which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians able to evangelize this people group” (Lausanne). Statistically speaking, these populations consist of fewer than or equal to 2% Evangelical Christians and fewer than or equal to 5% Professing Christians (JP). These are people “among whom Christ is largely unknown and the church is relatively insufficient to make Christ known to its broader population without outside help” (Rad).

Two key factors are typically present in UPGs: 1) The majority of the group may have heard the name Jesus but they know nothing of him or they may have never heard his name, and 2) There is no known church presence or no contact with a community of believers (Rad). Additionally, UPGs often do not have a complete Scripture, or even some Scripture, in either oral or written form, in their native (heart) language. In other words, an unreached people group lacks access to the gospel message.

Similarly, geographic locations where no church planting exists may be referred to as Unreached Places. Churches planted in those locations could serve multiple people groups (IMB).

Engaged:

Engaged refers to active church planting being underway (JP). There are four essential elements of effective engagement: pioneering missionary efforts in residence, commitment to work within local language and culture, commitment to long-term ministry, and effort toward a self-sustaining church planting movement (IMB). A UPG might be engaged in that church planting efforts have begun, but until lasting gospel access is established, it is debatable as to whether they are considered reached (GI). Engaged is not the goal; reached is the goal. But people groups must first be engaged to be reached (FV).

Unengaged:

Unengaged refers to no known active church planting being underway (JP). In these cases, the essential elements of effective engagement (see Engaged) have not begun or are not all present.

Unengaged unreached people group (UUPG):

A UUPG is a people group with no known active church planting underway (JP). While there might be focused prayer and advocacy for a group, those efforts do not constitute engagement (see Engaged) (IMB). A population of indigenous believers at the 2% or fewer threshold might be present. All UUPGs are a subset of UPGs.

Frontier people group:

A frontier people group is a UPG with: 1) virtually no followers of Jesus (<0.1% Christian adherents), 2) no known movements to Jesus (e.g., renewal, Church Planting Movements, Disciple Making Movements), and 3) a need for pioneer cross-cultural workers (JP). Workers sent to these groups usually begin ministry with non-believers rather than partnering with existing believers (as they might in UPGs) because there are no known believers (JP).

Great Imbalance:

The Great Imbalance in missions refers to the fact that 1% of all foreign missions financial resources goes to the Least-reached populations of the world and 3% of all cross-cultural workers serve among the Least-reached populations of the world (GFM). These statistics emphasize the need and urgency for strategic gospel engagement to UPGs.

Explore More: Recommended Resources

- *Step In* by Global Frontier Missions <https://www.globalfrontiermissions.org/step-in>
- Waymakers: www.waymakers.org
- Joshua Project: joshuaproject.net
- Voice of the Martyrs: www.persecution.com
- Operation World: www.operationworld.org
- Perspectives: <https://www.perspectivesglobal.org/>
- The Missions Course by AIRO (formerly The Go Fund), <https://themissionscourse.com/>
- Explore the World Christian Lifestyle by Via (formerly Center for Missions Mobilization), <https://store.vianations.org/products/explore>
- God's Heart for the Nations by Jeff Lewis: 8-lesson book study for individual or small group
- MissionRev from The Traveling Team, <https://www.missionrev.org/> : 3-session church-wide conference led by their instructors
- The Unfinished Story by Simply Mobilizing, <https://simplymobilizing.com/the-unfinished-story/> : 4 sessions, small group, in-person or online, video and discussion, \$10
- Radical: radical.net : Radical exists to equip Christians to be on mission.
- *When Helping Hurts* by Brian Fikkert & Steve Corbett
- The Chalmers Center: chalmers.org : Together, we're changing how Christians approach poverty alleviation—for good.
- The Upstream Collective: www.theupstreamcollective.org : We help churches do missions better. Every church has a place in God's mission. Let's discover yours!
- Momentum Yes: www.momentumyes.com : MomentumYes is a free video series that will inspire and empower you to take the Good News to your neighbors and the nations.

- Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Missions: www.soe.org : equips the short-term mission world with excellence.
- Embrace: Showing and Sharing the Love of Jesus – 6-week small group study on evangelism with accompanying Church Resource kit, and youth and children’s curriculum. Also available in 1.5 day workshop format.
- World Methodist Evangelism – training, gatherings, and resources to empower Christ followers to share their faith. www.worldmethodist.org
- Every International – provides free video courses and stories as well as other resources to help you engage and share the love of Jesus with international students, refugees, and immigrants in North America. www.everyinternational.com
- Stetzer, Ed and Daniel Im. Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches that Multiply. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2016.
- Share The Gospel Using 3 Circles: https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.youtube.com/watch?v%3D5W8ynRMr59k%26ab_channel%3D%2523NoPlaceLeftTraining&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1712111949981337&usg=AOvVaw2LXhAavzlalaYmmj65xOpq
- Four Fields Discipleship Training: <https://noplacelleft.net/four-fields/>
- History of Methodist Missions by Wade Crawford Barclay
- Mission Next: <https://missionnext.org/> : Connecting God's People with Opportunities to Serve the Lord Among the Nations!
- No Place Left <https://noplacelleft.net>: The Lord wants everyone to come to repentance. SO what is the problem? 3.16 BILLION STILL UNREACHED #noplacelleft means a sustained and multiplying gospel presence in every people and place.
- e3Partners <https://e3partners.org/training-resources/> : Multiplying disciples and churches across the globe until every person & place has been reached for Christ.
- Everywhere to Everywhere <https://www.everywhere2everywhere.org/resources.html>
- Media to Movements <https://mediatomovements.com>
- Missionary Methods: St. Paul’s or Ours by Roland Allen

Explore More: Some Practical Ideas

PRAYERS

- Post pictures of your global cross cultural workers or UPG focus in the church building.
- Pray regularly in the service for your cross cultural workers.
- Pray for unreached people groups regularly.
- Talk about unreached people groups from the pulpit or with a special training class.
- Pray for those who are lost around you.
- Start a small group that will study together about UPGs & God's heart for the nations.
- Contact cross cultural workers and ask them for specific prayer requests. Offer to pray with them on the phone or on Zoom with a group.
- Gather with people outside of your church (inside or outside of the denomination) to pray together for the unreached.
- Start a prayer team focused solely on praying for cross-cultural workers, UPGs, international news issues, etc. or integrate these topics into an already existing prayer team.
- Host monthly prayer gatherings to pray for CCWs, UPGs, Luke 10 workers.
- Observe International Day for the Unreached (Pentecost Sunday) <https://athirdofus.com/idu/>
- Observe International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (1st or 2nd Sunday in November), <https://idop.org/> or <https://www.persecution.com/idop/> or <https://www.persecution.org/idop/>
- Show Prayercast videos regularly in services, Sunday Schools, small groups.
- Pray through the countries using Operation World by praying for one country every Sunday.
- Set aside periods of time to pray through non-Christian holidays like Ramadan or to pray in general for other world religions. <https://worldprayerguides.org/>
- Teach members to pray the THUMB prayer for the religions of the world.

PRESENCE

- For indigenous pastors & cross cultural cross cultural workers: send care packages, visit, email them, pray for them, ask about their needs, invite them to Zoom with small groups to share about their lives & work.
- Set up ongoing discipleship training opportunities for your church using 4 Fields.
- Encourage members to subscribe to an e-magazine or e-newsletter to learn more about issues in missions, the persecuted church, and strategies for global engagement.
- Mission Frontiers magazine www.missionfrontiers.org/subscribe.htm
- International Christian Concern <https://www.persecution.org/>
- Mission Network News <https://www.mnnonline.org/>
- Start a small group study with a global focus using the resources below or on the missions education resources webpage. See note in Explore More below.
- Send members to a Perspectives class in your area if there is one. If not, partner with other local churches to host a Perspectives class in your area or gather a small group to take it online together.
- “Adopt” a UPG. Begin by identifying a UPG that resonates with your church family, praying for them, and praying for the Lord to open doors to engage. **Maybe link to Gregg’s summary here about how their church did this. It’s obviously not so simple. I have a friend who coaches churches in this as well if we need anything more.**
- Start an ESL class at your church. Provide childcare to increase the likelihood of participation.
- As a church or as individuals, sponsor children attending Christian schools in unreached areas and communicate regularly with them. <https://www.globaleducationministries.org/>
- Contact the local university to inquire about opportunities to engage with international university students in your area. Have church families enroll as hosts for international students. The overwhelming majority of international students are never invited to visit an American home during their stay in the US.
- Host a Thanksgiving dinner and invite international students, an ESL class, or other group of internationals to attend.

- Encourage church members to visit international restaurants and stores in your area and intentionally forge relationships with the owners and workers. Return regularly to connect with them.
- Encourage church members to seek out and befriend internationals living in your community and invite them to their homes. Many internationals are never befriended by Americans or invited to visit American homes.
- Make disciples by multiplying disciples & training up disciple-makers. Seek out wisdom & ways to do that from people you know who are doing it! Ask them to guide or mentor your church leadership.

GIFTS

- Identify local UPG champions in your congregation. (See pg 28 for a starting point).
- Seek out mission organizations that can help your church create a mission budget strategy.
- Allocate \$ for indigenous pastors/cross cultural workers/organizations reaching UPGs
- Fund special projects that support UPG cross cultural workers or mission agencies
- Gospel-focused humanitarian projects
- Allocate \$ for Bible translation for UPGs
- Allocate \$ for Bible purchase/distribute to UPGs
- Form a council including lay members that can help determine where mission dollars will be spent.
- Send a short-term missions team to serve with UPG populations in the US
- Global Frontier Missions <https://www.globalfrontiermissions.org/>
- Global Gates <https://globalgates.info/>
- Send a short-term missions team to serve in an unreached area or with a UPG.
- Begin the process of identifying and raising up long-term cross-cultural workers from your congregation.
- Create a short and long-term missions strategy with budget goals for reaching UPGs.

- Help members identify their giftings, skills, and interests. Then help them plug into existing ministries or identify new ministries the church can engage with that fit your members' abilities and interests and fulfill a need in your community or beyond.
"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." - Frederick Buechner

SERVICE

- Start a group that can go through When Helping Hurts together to learn more about serving intentionally.
- Seek out service opportunities in your city that work with UPGs.
- If there are migrant workers residing in your community, seek out opportunities to serve them. Check with Latino churches and restaurants, charity agencies, Department of Agriculture.
- Volunteer to tutor international students in public schools who need help with English skills.
- If there are refugee resettlement programs in your area, seek out opportunities to serve. Most agencies welcome church teams and individuals.

WITNESS

- Set up ongoing evangelism training opportunities for your church using 3 Circles.
- Find people who are passionate about witnessing. Get them trained as a group so that they can train others in the church!
- Teach members how to create an oikos map and identify those in their circle who they can intentionally reach with the gospel.
- Teach members how to prepare and share their personal testimony using the 15-second testimony technique or other testimony-writing tools.
- Partner with an organization doing social media evangelistic outreach targeted to least-reached peoples or launch your own social media outreach team with members who are skilled in technology.
- Get creative! Ask! Seek! Knock! God is moving & He invites your church to join him!

WHO WILL BE LOCAL UPG CHAMPIONS?

Who are the people in our church who are on fire to reach UPGs?

How can we fuel their passion & “fan into flame” their gifts?

How can we allow them to participate as lay members in meaningful ways of bringing stories, training, stats, prayer, & other forms of engagement to our local church?

Who can we connect them with in our city and around the world?

Who are they discipling? How can we encourage discipling relationships that spread the passion for reaching UPGs?

Why We Encourage Cross-Denominational Collaboration to Reach UPGs

After over 2,000 years of Gospel preaching, one-on-one evangelism, and personal testimonies, over 7,000 people groups throughout the world are unreached with the Gospel. According to Joshua Project, over 3 billion people live as members of unreached people groups. It is safe to say that the unreached peoples of the world are unreached for a reason.....they are hard to reach. Despite the efforts of the Church to share the Gospel, many people have never heard the message because they live in circumstances that make Gospel witness difficult. They may live in very remote areas, or in nations that restrict the message of Christ, or places where other religions so predominate that the community persecutes those who proclaim or profess the Gospel. The unreached are unreached because they are very hard to reach.

- As such, the whole of the Church must work together to fulfill the Great Commission. When we do, several things will happen:
- We will please God, whose heart is thoroughly non-parochial.
- The gifts of the whole of the Body of Christ will be available to accomplish the goal.
- We can be a living testimony simply by our collaboration, as Jesus said, "by this will all people know that you are my disciples, by the love you have one for another."
- We will have greater resources, greater wisdom, and greater strength for the accomplishing of such a great task.
- We can benefit from the connections and networks of one another.
- We will grow, the Church will be strengthened, and God will be glorified.
- The Gospel will advance, the unreached will be reached, and the Great Commission will be fulfilled.

If we chose to be restrictive, and not work together, many years from now a generation will be talking about the unreached of the world and how to reach them.

Start Here

Begin with the end in mind.

“This good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed in all the world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” - Matthew 24:14

Developing a Mission Strategy & Budget can be a difficult task for any size church. It can be daunting to think about accomplishing anything of significance, but God is using churches of all sizes to complete the missionary task of reaching UPGs through the power of his Holy Spirit.

“Not by strength or by might, but by my Spirit,” says the Lord of Armies.” - Zechariah 4:6.

“...behold I am with you.” - Matt.28:20

Our team suggests starting with the following steps toward following Jesus on his mission to reach the world with the Good News.

1. **Pray:** For God to lead, teach, and inspire. Gather a small leadership team who will pray together.
2. **Learn:** What is a UPG? What is the difference between the unsaved and the unreached? What is “The Great Imbalance?” What does the Bible say about the responsibilities of the whole Church concerning the whole world?
3. **Pray:** Ask God to show you the people He has chosen to help your church become engaged with reaching UPGs.
4. **Gather:** Gather those people together to begin to learn more about UPGs, our responsibilities as the Church toward the Global community, and how your church can begin or expand the work of reaching the unreached of the world with the message of the Gospel. Pick an educational resource to walk through together as

a leadership team or as a whole church. Some suggestions are listed on pages 22 & 23.

5. **Assess:** Try to discern where your local congregation currently is in terms of their knowledge of UPGs and the responsibility of the Body of Christ in reaching them with the Gospel. Take this survey as a group, and discuss how it can best be used by the congregation as a whole.

6. **Pray:** For God to guide you as a group in helping your church know in their understanding of The Great Commission, UPGs, The Great Imbalance, Where you are as a church, and how to grow in Great Commission faithfulness in reaching UPGs. Pray for other churches in your region who are doing the same.

7. **Plan:** Develop the steps needed for your church to understand the need, recognize the commission, and experience the excitement of reaching UPGs. Reach out to other churches in your region who are already doing this work or who want to collaborate.

8. **Pray:** Ask God to prepare the hearts of your congregation for the work of reaching UPGs.

9. **Implement:** Begin the working of each step of your plan with the whole of the church. What other churches in your region can join you in this task?

10. **Pray:** For UPGs around the world, and for the group your church targets to reach.