

ARISE TO MISSION

**How To Develop a Biblical World View and
move out effectively in missions**



Adapted from the World Perspectives
course and Paths to God's Glory

By Rev. Tim Gibson

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Assignments:

Unit 1: Read wmission1 chapters 1 and 2 completing blanks and assignments.

Unit 2: Read wmission1 chapter 3 completing blanks and assignments.

Unit 3: Read wmission1 chapters 4 and 5 completing blanks and assignments.

Unit 4: Read wmission2 chapter 7 and wmission3 chapters 11-13 completing blanks and assignments.

After Unit 4 students will return to their churches and they need to target one nearby UPG (unreached people group) and start to pray for, visit and stratagize how to reach them, writing down their progress.

Unit 5: Read wmission2 chapters 6, 8-10 and wmission3 chapters 14-15 completing blanks and assignments.

After Unit 5 will be the graduation and then, for some of the students, the practical placement overseas for a minimum of 3 months.

Unit 1

The Treasure Map

Unit 1 ...Section A








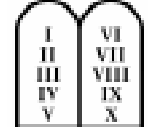

The Kingdom

The Bible is the most published and read book in history. What is it about this book that has drawn so many to read its pages in so many languages? Let us first look at how we view the Bible.

Check the 2 boxes next to the pictures below that best represent how you perceive the Bible.

To me, the Bible is like...

It gives me...

<input type="checkbox"/>		Bootcamp	Preparation
<input type="checkbox"/>		Coffee	Energy
<input type="checkbox"/>		Friend	Comfort
<input type="checkbox"/>		History	Information
<input type="checkbox"/>		Medicine	Healing
<input type="checkbox"/>		Food	Nourishment
<input type="checkbox"/>		Rescue mission	Salvation
<input type="checkbox"/>		Rule Book	Discipline
<input type="checkbox"/>		Sign	Direction

Which two did you choose and why?

1. _____
2. _____

The Bible as a Treasure Map

We see the Bible as many things. It gives us preparation, energy, comfort, information, healing, nourishment, salvation, discipline, direction and many other blessings. We are now going to look at it one other way: as a Treasure Map.



Just as a treasure map leads us to something of great value, the Bible leads us to the kingdom of God.

The idea of God's kingdom is central to Jesus' teaching and is mentioned over 40 times in the book of Matthew alone. It is so important that Jesus said,

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field." - Mt 13:44

Read the passages of Scripture found in *Ephesians 1:18-19, Ephesians 2:6-7, and Colossians 1:27.*

Describe the riches that are available to those in God's kingdom according to these passages.

Why has God given us this Treasure Map, the Bible, to lead us to the riches of His everlasting kingdom?

It is because even though man has disobeyed God, lost his way and become subject to another kingdom, God still loves us and wants us to experience life under His rule in His kingdom.

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
- Ro 5:8

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." - Col 1:13-14

While Satan is *"the ruler of the kingdom of the air (Eph 2:2)* and has built a temporary kingdom, God's kingdom will reign forever. John testifies, *"The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."* - Rev 11:15

The Bible, therefore, as a Treasure Map, is the unfolding drama of the development of the kingdom of God and His redeeming activity to share the riches of His kingdom with all nations. Dr. Ralph D. Winter suggests this sub-title to the Bible, *The Kingdom Strikes Back*, for the Bible describes the battle between two kingdoms and God's ultimate victory over Satan.

Entering the Kingdom

How does someone enter God's kingdom?

Just as a treasure map provides the way to get to its treasure, the Bible provides the way to get to God's kingdom.

Jesus said that we are to "...seek first his kingdom..." - Mt 6:33

and that we must "receive the kingdom of God like a little child." - Mk 10:15

Receive what?...God's rule. (i.e. God's rightful authority over a person's life)

The primary meaning of the kingdom is God's rule and reign in a person's life.

To enter God's kingdom is to come under God's rule, and this requires humility, trust and obedience.

Circle what Jesus says we must do to enter God's kingdom in the Scripture below.

"Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again, ...no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.'" - Jn 3:3,5

To be born again requires humility - to admit we are sinful.

To be born again requires trust - to believe that Jesus died for our sins.

To be born again requires obedience - to be publicly baptized.

Humility, trust and obedience will bring us under God's rule and into His kingdom according to the Bible, God's Treasure Map.

If you have never humbled yourself, put your trust in Jesus and obeyed His command to be baptized, the riches of God's kingdom await you. Prayerfully consider doing the following:

- | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| • Understand that God loves you and provides a new life in His kingdom | Ro 6:23 | Eph 2:8-9 |
| • Admit you are a sinner | Ro 3:23 | Pr 14:12 |
| • Realize that Jesus died for your sins and the sins of the world | Ro 5:8 | 1 Co 15:3-6 |
| • Trust in Jesus for eternal life | Jn 3:16 | Jn 6:47 |
| • Confess your sins to God and be publicly baptized | Ac 2:38 | Ro 6:4 |
| • Submit to God's rule and reign in your life, assured of your salvation | 1 Jn 5:13 | 2 Pe 3:18 |

If you have just now decided to enter God's kingdom under His rule, talk with a Christian leader or friend about your decision.

God never forces His kingdom, His rule, on anyone, but those who humble themselves, trust in Jesus and obey His command to be publicly baptized, can experience a lifetime and an eternity of its riches.

Advancing the Kingdom

To enter God's kingdom is just the beginning of a new life under God's rule. However, it does not stop there. God gives us the privilege of sharing the riches of His kingdom with others.

Underline the word "kingdom" and circle the word "nations" in the following passages of Scripture.

"When Jesus had called the Twelve together, ...he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God..."
-Lk 9:1,2

"Jesus replied, 'No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.' After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, ...'When you enter a town and are welcomed,... tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'" -Lk 9:62, 10:1,2,8,9

Jesus' final words to His followers as recorded in the book of Matthew include, *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."* - Mt 28:19

Jesus said to His disciples, *"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."* - Mt 24:14

What does Jesus expect us to do after entering God's kingdom?

Who does God want to see in His kingdom?

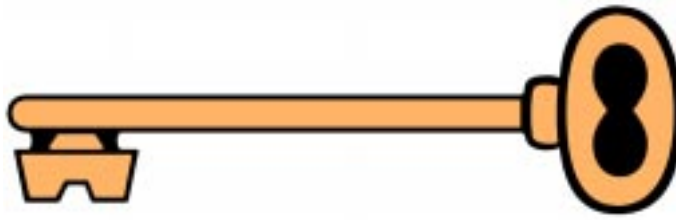
(Please check one box below)

- One nation
- A few nations
- Some nations
- Many nations
- All nations

"...there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation..." - Rev 7:9

Unit 1 ...Section A
The Kingdom

Key Thoughts



Describe how the Bible is like a Treasure Map.

How does someone enter God's kingdom?

What responsibility comes with entering God's kingdom?

Who would you rejoice over to see enter God's kingdom? Write down the names of these people.

Jesus said, "...*there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.*" - Lk15:10

Pray that all nations and every person whose name you have written above would discover the riches of God's kingdom as described in the Bible, our Treasure Map.

Ask God for wisdom in carrying out the responsibility of advancing His kingdom to all nations.

Unit 1 ...Section B

The Nations

God offers the riches of His kingdom - a new life of hope and purpose - to not only us or people like us, but to all nations of the world.



Circle the word “nations” in the following passages of Scripture.

Jesus promised that all nations would share the riches of His kingdom when He said, “*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*”
- Mt 24:14

Jesus also said, “*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...*” - Mt 28:18-19

The word “**nation**” in the Bible verses above means “**ethnic group.**”

It comes from the Greek word *ethne* and is a group of people who share a common ethnicity, culture, language, class or caste.

Who are these nations?

Check the boxes below that represent the word nation as used in the Bible.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> United States | <input type="checkbox"/> Bosnians of the former Yugoslavia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Berbers of Morocco | <input type="checkbox"/> India |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asia | <input type="checkbox"/> Taimani of Afghanistan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> France | <input type="checkbox"/> Australia |

The former country of Yugoslavia, for example, had three **nations** within it, including the Bosnians.

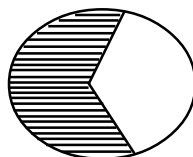
Other **nations** include the Berbers of Morocco and the Taimani of Afghanistan. These nations, or groups of people, are often called “people groups.”

The Biblical idea of **nation does not** refer to a **country** or **continent** with geographical and political boundaries such as the United States, India, Asia, France or Australia. These were set up by man. The nations(people groups), however, were established by God (See *Genesis 10*).

Today, there are approximately 24,000 nations or people groups in the world. Ten thousand of them are still unreached, or not disciplined, as Jesus commanded us to do.

The NATIONS or PEOPLE GROUPS Today

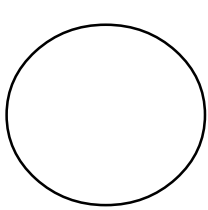
14,000 REACHED
(has access to the gospel and an evangelizing church within it)



10,000 UNREACHED
(has no access to the gospel and no evangelizing church within it)

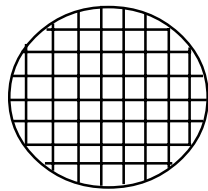
The Nations

It is extremely important to understand the Biblical concept of what a nation is because God's entire plan to redeem the world comes one nation at a time. The better we understand who these nations are, the better equipped we will be to fulfill the Great Commission. This page shows the progression of God's plan to redeem all nations for His glory. Each square in the grid represents a nation. The shaded squares are reached nations, and the unshaded squares are unreached nations.



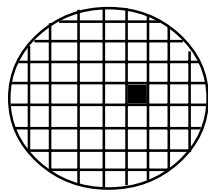
CREATION Ge 1:26-27 One nation (people) under God

THE FALL Ge 3:15 Sin separates man from God



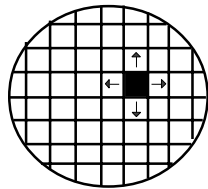
THE FLOOD Ge 10:32 The nations descend from Noah

TOWER of BABEL Ge 11:9 God scatters the nations to later reunite them one at a time

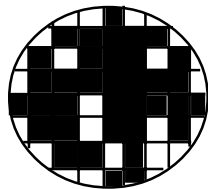


THE COVENANT Ge 12:1-3 Gal 3:8 God promises to bless all nations (peoples) through Abraham

ISRAEL Ex 19:5-6 Dt 7:6 God chooses one nation, Israel, to represent His kingdom to bless all nations

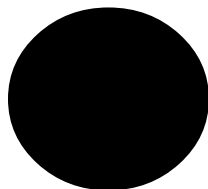


JESUS Mt 24:14 Mt 28:18-19 God sends Jesus to redeem all nations and restore His kingdom. Jesus commands His followers to make disciples of all nations



HOLY SPIRIT Lk 24:46-49 Ac 1:8 God empowers all believers, His church, to take the gospel of the kingdom to all nations.

THE CHURCH 1 Pe 2:9 Ten thousand left to go



APOCALYPSE Rev 5:9-10 Rev 7:9 -10 Rev 11:15 Rev 21:3 God rejoices as He receives glory from and lives among all nations in His restored kingdom

What do the scripture verses, comments, and shaded grid areas tell you about God's plan for the nations?

God has been faithfully advancing His kingdom and redeeming all nations for His glory. He invites us to join Him in sharing the riches of His kingdom with all nations. As we go through this study, we will see many practical ways we can join God today in advancing His kingdom, His rule, among all nations.

The Kingdom and Nations

The next two pages outline some of the major events and people of the Bible. God's concern and plan for His kingdom and the nations is evident throughout Scripture, where His kingdom is cited over 300 times, and the nations and peoples over 700 times.

**Within the Scripture verses listed on the next two pages, please do the following:
Underline the words that represent God's kingdom, rule and power, both now and in the future.
Circle the words that represent man, nation(s) and people(s).**

OLD TESTAMENT



CREATION

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them...rule over all the earth...' So God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." - Ge 1:26-27



THE FALL

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." - Ge 3:15



THE FLOOD

"These are the clans of Noah's sons, according to their lines of descent, within their nations. From these the nations spread out over the earth after the flood." - Ge 10:32



TOWER of BABEL

"That is why it was called Babel - because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth." - Ge 11:9



THE COVENANT

"The Lord said to Abram, '...I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you...and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.'" - Ge 12:1-3



ISRAEL

"Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. ...you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." - Ex 19:5-6

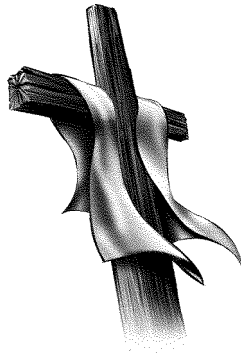


THE PROPHETS

"...and there before me was one like a son of man... He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed." - Da 7:13-14

The Kingdom and Nations continued...

NEW TESTAMENT



JESUS

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” - Mt 24:14



THE CHURCH

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...” - Mt 28:18-19

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” -Mt 16:19

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” - 1 Pe 2:9



HOLY SPIRIT

“The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem...I am going to send you what my father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” -Lk 24:46-49



APOCALYPSE
“The Unveiling”

“And they sang a new song: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.’” - Rev 5:9-10



“...there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb.” -Rev 7:9

Suppose the words you have circled and underlined are clues in your Treasure Map, the Bible. What are these clues telling you? _____

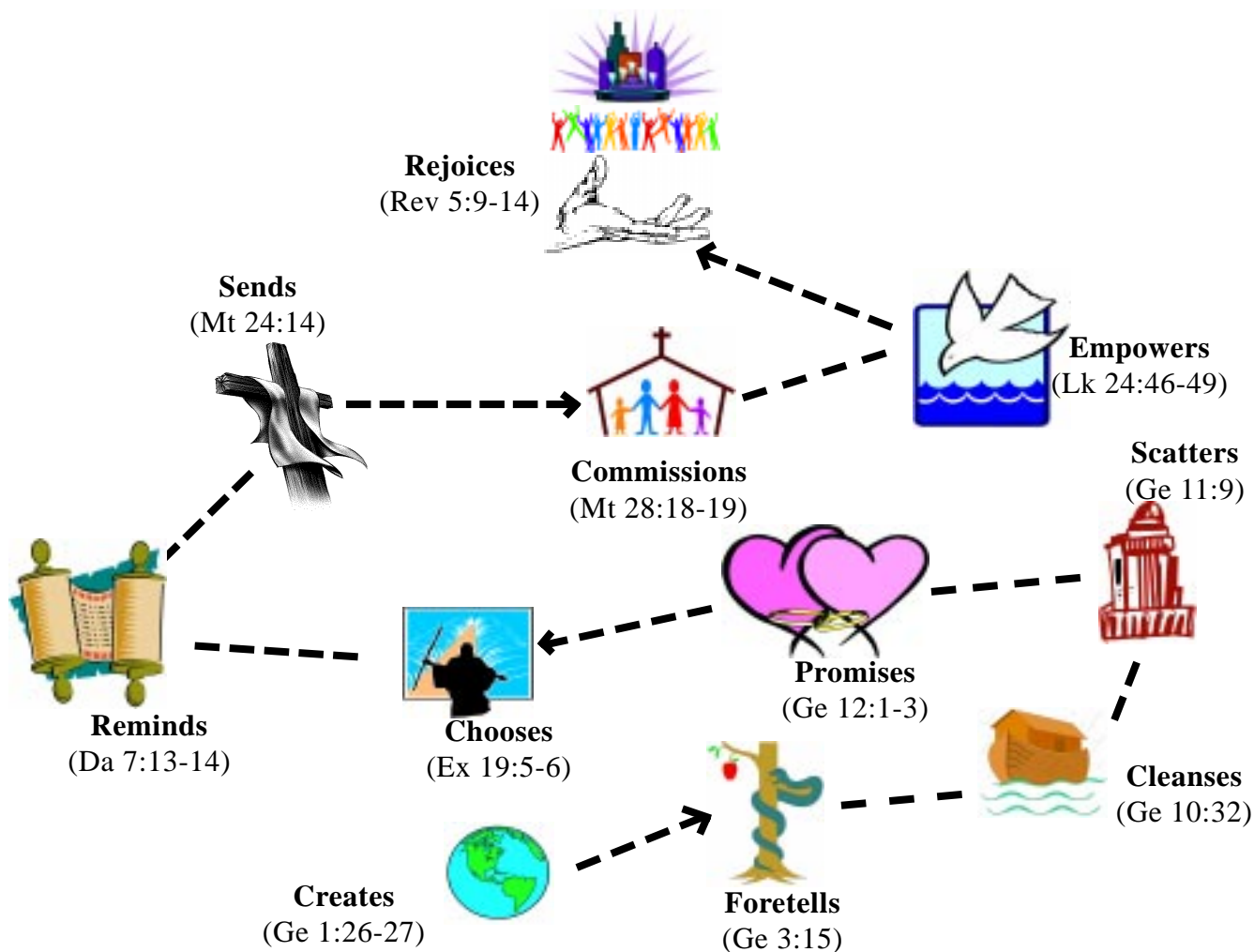
The Kingdom and Nations continued...

God has been actively and lovingly working throughout history, as recorded in the Bible, to regain the fellowship with man that was broken when man rejected God's rule. The Bible demonstrates God's personal and relentless intention to re-establish His rule over His people from Genesis through Revelation.

(See "The Global Thread Through Scripture" in the Appendix.)

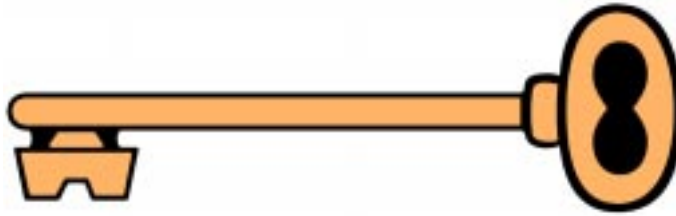
Creation	God creates <u>man</u> to rule for God by establishing His <u>kingdom</u> for His glory	Ge 1:26-27
The Fall	God foretells of a Savior to redeem <u>man</u> from sin and restore His <u>kingdom</u>	Ge 3:15
The Flood	God cleanses the earth of sin and saves Noah's family who births the <u>nations</u>	Ge 10:32
Tower of Babel	God scatters the <u>nations</u> over all the earth to redeem them one <u>nation</u> at a time	Ge 11:9
The Covenant	God promises to bless Abraham and to bless all <u>peoples</u> through him	Ge 12:1-3
Israel	God chooses Israel to represent His <u>kingdom</u> to all <u>nations</u>	Ex 19:5-6
The Prophets	God reminds His people of the coming <u>kingdom</u> for all <u>nations</u>	Da 7:13-14
Jesus	God sends His Son Jesus to redeem all <u>nations</u> and restore His <u>kingdom</u>	Mt 24:14
The Church	God commissions His Church to advance His <u>kingdom</u> to all <u>nations</u>	Mt 28:18-19
Holy Spirit	God empowers His Church to take the gospel of the <u>kingdom</u> to all <u>nations</u>	Lk 24:46-49
Apocalypse	God rejoices as He receives glory from all <u>nations</u> in His restored <u>kingdom</u>	Rev 5:9-14

Look at what God's been doing to restore His kingdom and redeem all nations for His glory!



Unit 1 ...Section B
The Nations

Key Thoughts



What does the word “nation” mean in *Matthew 24:14* and *Matthew 28:19* ?

Approximately how many nations are in the world today? _____

How many nations have not yet been discipled?
In other words, how many unreached nations (people groups) are there? _____

What role does the Church have in discipling or reaching these nations (people groups)?

Describe in your own words the Biblical theme of God’s kingdom and the nations as evident throughout Scripture.
(Review the previous four pages as well as pp. 73-75 in the Appendix)

Write a prayer that God’s kingdom would be restored and all nations redeemed for His glory.

Unit 1

The Treasure Map Summary

The Bible is like a treasure map leading all nations to the riches of God's kingdom. God loves each of us very much. He also loves people from every nation on earth. There is a song that so simply conveys that truth:

“Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight-
Jesus loves the little children of the world.”



Jesus said, *“I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”* - Mt 18:3-4

God desires that “little children” from all nations glorify Him in His kingdom. He invites us to join Him in accomplishing His purpose today.

Practical Application

Here are some things to consider applying to your life today.

- Prayer time Ask God to establish churches among the unreached people groups of the world. Pray the Lord's prayer in light of your understanding of His kingdom.
- Bible study Highlight the words “kingdom”, “nations” and “peoples” as you read and study your Bible to draw attention to this Biblical theme.
- Workplace / School Neighborhood Form friendships and look for open doors to share the gospel of the kingdom with others.
- Current Events Look at world, national and local news in light of God's plan to advance His kingdom to all nations.

Write at least one thing you learned from Unit 1's “The Treasure Map” study.

In what way do you see the Bible differently after this study?

Ask God to show you what role you are to play in advancing God's kingdom to all nations.

Who did God lay on your heart to reach out to in prayer and action?

Write what God has placed on your heart below.

Unit 2

Blessed to be a Blessing

UNIT 2...Section A

Top Line, Bottom Line

In Unit 1 we studied God's Treasure Map, the Bible, and how God is in the process of restoring His kingdom and redeeming all nations for His glory.

In Unit 2 we will look at how God has blessed us, and the responsibilities that come with those blessings.

List below **five blessings** you have received from God and put a star (*) by the greatest blessing He has given you. These blessings can be anything that have brought you encouragement, comfort or joy.

Blessings Received (Spiritual, Physical, or Material)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Now write below the **responsibilities** that come with each of those blessings in the same order as shown above.

For example, if one of the blessings you listed is your child, some responsibilities that come with that blessing are to feed, clothe and protect your child.

Responsibilities that Come with Those Blessings

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Now list below the **actions** you have taken to uphold those responsibilities.

For example, one action in taking care of a child includes going to work in order to buy food, clothes and shelter.

Actions Taken to Uphold Those Responsibilities

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Top Line, Bottom Line continued...

Please fill in the blanks of *Psalm 67:1-2*.

*“May God be gracious to _____ and bless _____ and make his face shine upon _____,
that your ways may be known on _____, your salvation among all _____.”*

This passage illustrates a Biblical concept that runs from Genesis through Revelation, which can be expressed as the **Top Line, Bottom Line**.

The **Top Line** refers to the **blessings we receive from God.**

The **Bottom Line** refers to **our responsibility to bless others.**

*For every blessing we receive from God,
there is a corresponding responsibility to bless others.*

In *Psalm 67:1-2* above,

Top Line Blessing

“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us...”

Bottom Line Responsibility

“...that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.”

What is the blessing we receive from God in *Psalm 67:1-2*? _____

What is our responsibility after receiving that blessing? _____

Top Line, Bottom Line continued...

Underline the Top Line Blessing and circle the Bottom Line Responsibility in the following passage of Scripture.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared for us in advance to do.”

-Ephesians 2:8-10

Read the following passage from Luke 12:48.

Jesus said, “From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.” - Luke 12:48

Circle what Jesus says happens to our responsibilities as we receive more blessings.

Decrease

Stay the Same

Increase

As our blessings increase, so do our responsibilities.

Review your answers on the first page of this study. Put an X on the scale below from 1 to 10 on how well you have upheld the responsibilities that come with the blessings you have received.

1-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----10

Rarely
Upheld

Always
Upheld

How do we uphold the responsibilities that come with the blessings we receive?

Here are some steps to help us do that.

- 1. Pray and seek God’s wisdom.**
- 2. Identify your blessings: “count your blessings one by one.”**
- 3. Identify the responsibilities that come with those blessings.**
- 4. Identify actions you can take to uphold those responsibilities.**
- 5. Be accountable to someone for those actions.**

Top Line, Bottom Line continued...

Food, Water, Health
Shelter, Family
Freedom, Peace
Faith, Hope, Love
Access to the Gospel

Some individuals and nations enjoy very few of the blessings listed above. Some enjoy many of them.

Either way, we are held responsible to bless others with the blessings we have received.

Jesus said, *“Freely you have received, freely give.”* - Mt 10:8b

How have you attempted to bless others? _____

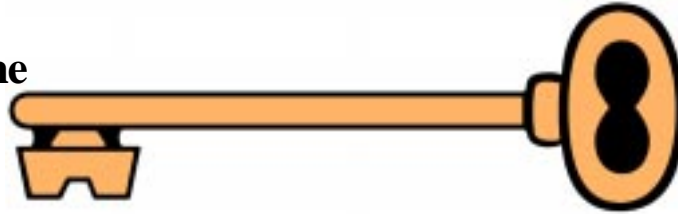
“...the Lord Jesus himself said: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” - Ac 20:35b

In what new ways might you be able to extend your blessings to the nations? _____

If you are willing, tell God that you will take responsibility to bless others with the blessings you have received. Ask Him to show you what actions to take.

In Section B we will turn to two key Biblical events that lead us to the ultimate **Top Line Blessing**, its corresponding ultimate **Bottom Line Responsibility**, and potential **actions** we can take to uphold that responsibility.

Unit 2 ...Section A
Top Line, Bottom Line



Key Thoughts

Think of someone you know who blesses those around them.

What brought this person to your mind? _____

**Jesus said that our responsibilities increase as our blessings increase (Luke 12:48).
List below at least one blessing for which you will take greater responsibility.**

**Ask God to help you uphold that responsibility.
Write down one or two actions you will take.**

Make a commitment to begin taking these actions.

**Write a prayer of thanks to God for all His blessings and for help in upholding the responsibilities
that come with those blessings.**

Unit 2...Section B

The 4,000 Year Connection

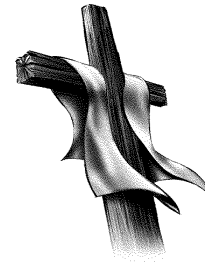
The **Abrahamic Covenant** shown below is when God promised to bless Abram and to bless all **peoples** through him. **Underline the Top Line Blessing and circle the Bottom Line Responsibility.**

*“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you;
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing...
all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”*
-Genesis 12:2-3



The **Great Commission** shown below is when Jesus restates the Abrahamic Covenant in the form of a command to His disciples, telling them to make disciples of all **nations** and promises to be with them to the very end of the age. **Underline the Top Line Blessing and circle the Bottom Line Responsibility.**

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.
And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*
-Matthew 28:19-20



Paul connects the Abrahamic Covenant with the Great Commission, when he writes, “The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘All nations will be blessed through you.’” - Gal 3:8

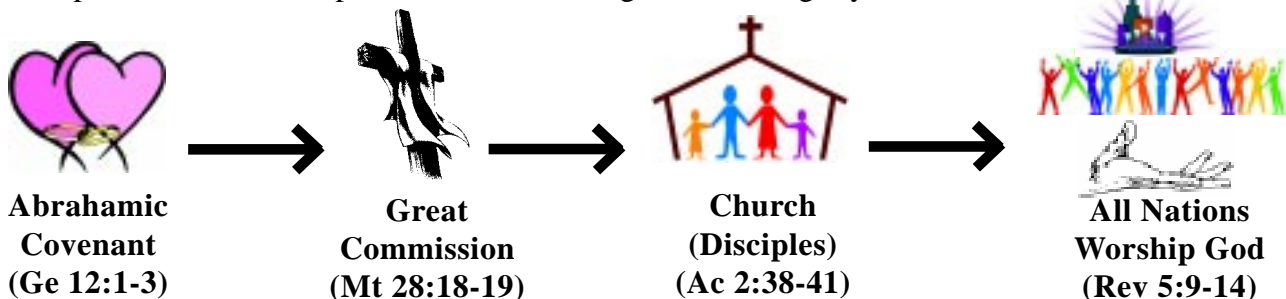
What is the responsibility that God gave to Abram in the Abrahamic Covenant?

What is the responsibility that Jesus gives to His disciples in the Great Commission?

God expects His people to bless all nations.

- Note how God eventually changed Abram’s name from Abram, which means “exalted father,” to Abraham, which means, “father of many nations.”

The responsibility to bless all nations began in Genesis with the Abrahamic Covenant, was reinforced by Jesus with the Great Commission and is now in the hands of God’s people, the Church. To make disciples of all nations is paramount in God’s plan to restore His kingdom for His glory.



The 4,000 Year Connection continued...

God made His promise to Abraham nearly 4,000 years ago.

What is our connection to both the Abrahamic Covenant and the Great Commission?

Abrahamic Covenant

“If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” -Galatians 3:29

As Abraham’s seed, we inherit both the blessing from God in the Abrahamic Covenant and the corresponding responsibility to pass on this blessing to all peoples.

Great Commission

“Jesus said, ‘If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.’” -John 8:31^b

As Jesus’ disciples, we again inherit both the blessing from God in the Great Commission and the corresponding responsibility to make disciples of all nations.

God has given us His ultimate...

Top Line Blessing - the keys to His kingdom through faith in Jesus Christ...

so that we may carry out His ultimate...

Bottom Line Responsibility - to open the doors of His kingdom to all nations.

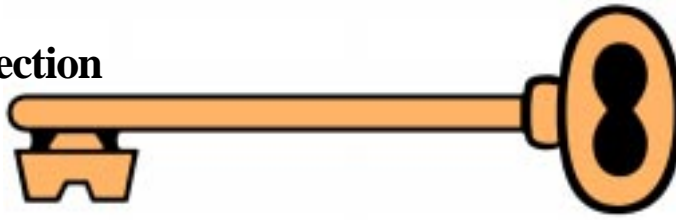
When Jesus says to make disciples of all nations, He is commanding His people to make disciples of all ethnic or people groups of the world. With only **10,000 unreached nations** or **people groups** left to disciple, we are nearing the fulfillment of both the Abrahamic Covenant and the Great Commission that we read about in Revelation 7:9!

“After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb.”



God blesses His people so that they can bless all nations!

Unit 2 ...Section B
The 4,000 Year Connection



Key Thoughts

What does the word “Abraham” mean? _____

Describe how Jesus restated the Abrahamic Covenant in the Great Commission.

Summarize in your own words the 4,000 year connection.

What role do you and all of God’s people have in regard to the 4,000 year connection?

The ultimate Top Line Blessing is
the keys to God’s kingdom through faith in Jesus Christ.

The ultimate Bottom Line Responsibility is
to open the doors of the kingdom to all nations.

Write a brief prayer of thanks to God for His ultimate Top Line Blessing.

Write a brief prayer of willingness to join God in upholding His ultimate Bottom Line
Responsibility.

Unit 2

Blessed to be a Blessing Summary

The **Top Line** is the **blessings we receive from God.**

The **Bottom Line** is **our responsibility to bless others.**

This concept runs throughout the Bible and connects us to God's strategy to redeem all nations as shown in the Abrahamic Covenant and the Great Commission. (See Appendix for Bottom Line Scripture references.)

To recap our first two Units...

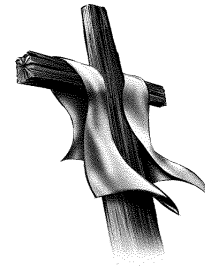
Our First Unit's main idea is that the Bible is like a treasure map:

- Leads all nations to the riches of God's kingdom.
- God desires to restore His kingdom and redeem all nations for His glory.



Our Second Unit's main idea is the Top Line, Bottom Line concept:

- God blesses us so that we can bless others.
- Every blessing received has a responsibility.
- We have a 4,000 year connection to both the Abrahamic Covenant and Great Commission.



Write a prayer that God's Treasure Map, the Bible, would be used to lead all nations to the riches of His Kingdom, resulting in the fulfillment of Revelation 7:9.

Listed below are some practical ways to live a balanced Top Line, Bottom Line life and take part in the 4,000 year connection as taught in Scripture.

- **Prayer** Count your blessings one by one and ask God how you can bless others.
- **Scripture** Ask that every unreached people group in the world be discipled.
Read the Bible from a Top Line, Bottom Line viewpoint.
Review the Bottom Line Scripture verses in the Appendix.
- **Gifts / Talents** Ask God how He can use your gifts & talents to bless the nations.
- **Work / Neighbors** Reach out to people from other nations where you live and work.
- **Research** Find out how your church is attempting to disciple unreached people groups.

Unit 3

Keeping a Promise

Unit 3...Section A

God's Redemptive Work

In Unit 1, we studied God's Treasure Map, the Bible. We studied how God has been restoring His kingdom and redeeming all nations for His glory.

In Unit 2, we studied the Top Line, Bottom Line concept of how every blessing has a responsibility that requires action. We also looked at our 4,000 year connection to both the Abrahamic Covenant and the Great Commission.

In Unit 3, we will take an historical look at God's master plan of redemption to share the riches of His kingdom with all nations.

Prayer plays an important role in God's plan. Jesus told us,

"This then is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'" -Matthew 6:9-10

How often have we prayed that prayer?

Is God's kingdom here now?

If not, when will it come?

And how will we know?

As we discussed in Unit 1, Jesus said we must *"receive the kingdom of God like a little child"* (Mark 10:15). Receive what? God's rule!

*"In order to enter the future realm of the Kingdom,
one must submit himself in perfect trust to God's rule here and now."*

-George Eldon Ladd

The primary meaning of the kingdom is God's rule and reign. On a personal level, the kingdom can be defined as God's reign in one's own life. The kingdom of God is within us if God reigns in our life, if we give Him control over our life. God desires that His kingdom be restored in the redemption of all nations, that He would reign as their Savior and Lord.

**Jesus taught us to pray that God would reign,
that He alone may be King over all the world.**

We are asking God to rightfully reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.



Let us see God's exciting plan unfold to reign as King of kings over all the nations!

The Ten 400 Year Epochs of Redemptive History

God has been actively keeping His promise to Abraham for the past 4,000 years, that all peoples would be blessed through Abraham. The chart below highlights the ten epochs of God’s redemptive work to restore His kingdom and redeem the nations for His glory.

Centuries	Period	Kingdom Thrust	Reason for Stagnation
2000-1600 B.C.	Patriarchs	Abraham obeyed & was blessed, then blessed the Canaanites Joseph was a blessing to Egypt	Genesis begins with life, ends with Death (Joseph in a coffin)
1600-1200	Egyptian Captivity	Moses represented God to Pharaoh in Egypt Joshua led Israel to promised land; Rahab served	Israel did not believe God Israel did not obey God
1200-800	Judges	Israel conquered peoples in name of God Ruth, the Moabite, came to Israel	Last verse in Judges: “Everyone did as he saw fit.”
800-400	Kings	David demonstrated a heart for the nations Temple built; Queen of Sheba visits	Solomon ended up loving world more than God
400-0	Post Exile	Esther and Ezra represented Yahweh in foreign land Israel returned to land	Israel forgot God Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar conquered
0-400 A.D.	Romans	Jesus says to make disciples of all nations Rome became “Christian”	Roman empire was “soft”; Christianity did not evangelize Barbarians
400-800	Barbarians	Church tried to create “New Holy Empire” Celtic monks go to Europe	Mixed Christianity with Paganism; limited outreach
800-1200	Vikings	Captive Friars witness to captors	Mixed Christianity with political power
1200-1600	Muslims/Crusades	Franciscan monks study/write	Plagues in Europe Crusades against Muslims
1600-?	Ends of the Earth	Martin Luthor opens kingdom doors to nations 4 Men; 3 Eras: Carey, Taylor, McGraven, Townsend	???

Review the Kingdom Thrust column. What are some reasons that God’s kingdom has advanced over the past 4,000 years?

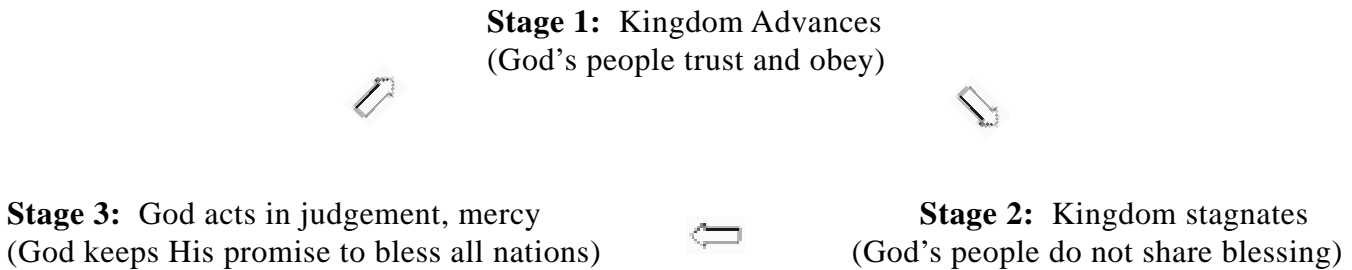
What are some reasons that God’s kingdom has stagnated throughout history?

The Ten 400 Year Epochs of Redemptive History continued...

During each of the ten epochs, we see a pattern repeat itself:

- 1st The kingdom strongly advances as God's people trust and obey Him.
- 2nd The kingdom becomes stagnant as God's people hoard the blessing and do not bless the nations.
- 3rd God acts in judgement of His people and mercy towards the nations to fulfill His promise to Abraham that all peoples will be blessed.

Pattern of Kingdom Advancement During the Ten Epochs of Redemptive History



We are in the tenth epoch of redemptive history.

How are God's people responding?

Let us look more closely at the past two centuries of redemptive history.

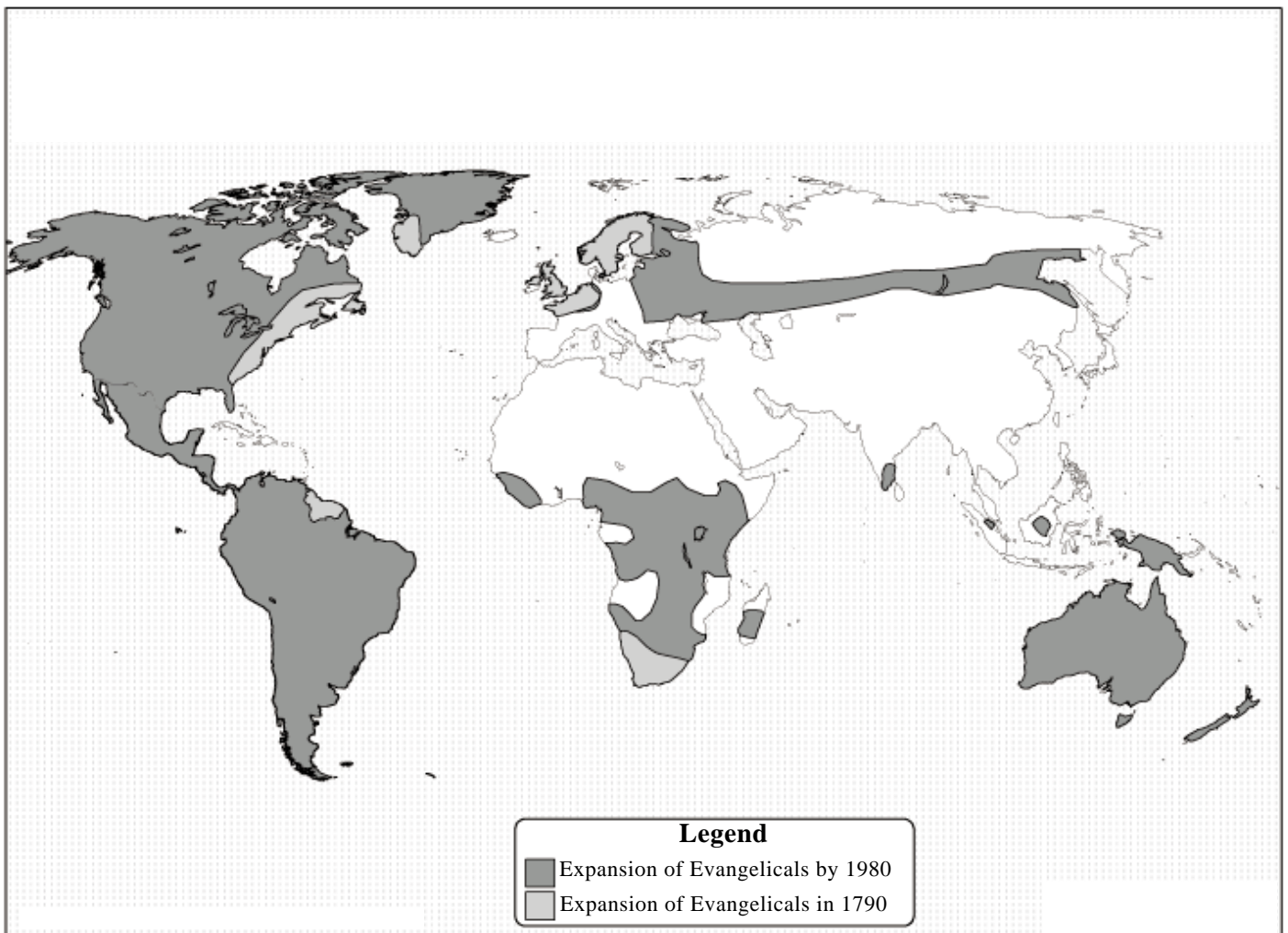


Tenth Epoch Growth

We are now living in the tenth epoch of redemptive history, which began in 1600. This epoch is known as the “Ends of the Earth” epoch. The kingdom of God has seen phenomenal growth within this epoch, especially in the last two centuries.

The word “evangel” means good news. The map below highlights the exciting expansion of the good news of God’s kingdom throughout the world from 1790 to 1980.

Evangelicals in 1790 and 1980



Tenth Epoch Growth continued...

The growth of God’s kingdom is even more dramatic when we look at the 20th century.

The explosive power of the gospel is represented in the statistics below.

- 70,000 new believers per day in the world
- 3,500 churches per week opened worldwide
- 28,000 new believers per day in China
- 20,000 new believers per day in Africa

Africa

1900 3% Christian
2000 60% Christian south of the Sahara

China

1950 One million Protestants
1990 70 million
2000 87 million (conservative estimate)

Korea

1900 No Protestant church (“impossible to penetrate”)
2000 30% Christian; 4,000 churches in Seoul alone

Latin America

1900 50,000 Protestants/Independents
1980 40 million
1990 70 million
2000 90 million

What might be some reasons for this tremendous growth of God’s kingdom?

“‘My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.’” - John 4:34-36

The Three Eras

The tremendous growth of God’s kingdom over the last two centuries has taken place through what Dr. Ralph Winter calls the “Three Eras of Modern Expansion.” These eras overlap each other, and yet have distinct areas of emphasis.

Four courageous men were used to initiate these eras. Thousands of other men, women and students pioneered new territory while advancing the kingdom during these three eras. Let us examine each era and the men who led the way.

<u>Era of Expansion</u>		<u>Ministry Focus</u>	<u>Pioneer Leaders</u>
First	1792-1910	Coastlands	William Carey
Second	1865-1980	Inlands	Hudson Taylor
Third	1934-Present	Unreached People Groups	Cameron Townsend & Donald McGavran

Each of these four men shared similar characteristics and experiences:

- Were people of prayer
- Sought God’s will for their lives by researching and trusting God’s Word
- Young when they began their ministries, but willing to take risks
- Offered fresh insights about people not exposed to the gospel
- Messages not readily accepted at first, but they were faithful
- Took many years to gather support for their ministries
- Wrote influential books and papers
- Organized and developed strategies around their ministries, establishing new structures
- Gospel spread and kingdom advanced through their efforts

First Era (1792-1910) - The Coastlands of the Unreached Continents

William Carey

William Carey began to take the Great Commission seriously when he was still in his twenties. His contemporary leaders, however, rebuked him with these words, “When God chooses to win the heathen, He will do it without your help or ours.” This did not deter the young Carey. He proceeded to patiently write the inspirational book, “An Enquiry Into the Obligation of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathen.”

This led to efforts in student missionary activities, women’s missionary prayer groups and missionary societies on both sides of the Atlantic. Their efforts focused on taking the good news of the kingdom to the coastlands of continents whose people had not yet been exposed to it, especially in Asia and Africa.

The Three Eras continued...

Second Era (1865-1980) - The Inlands of the Unreached Continents

Hudson Taylor

Hudson Taylor was also under thirty years of age when he began his ministry to the inland of China. Taylor brooded over maps, charts and statistics. When he expressed his concern about reaching the inland peoples of China, he was met with a negative response. He was asked if he wished to carry on his shoulders the blood of the young people that he would thus send to their deaths.

Stunned by the response, Taylor sought God's direction, which clearly came to him while walking on a beach, "You are not sending young people in the interior of China. I am." Taylor formed the China Inland mission, which sent 6,000 missionaries to China, planting the seeds of kingdom growth we saw earlier in this section.

The cause of Christ more so than China was Taylor's ultimate concern, and the second era saw the formation of history's most potent mission organization, known as the Student Volunteer Movement. Over 100,000 students volunteered to be involved in missions work. Twenty thousand actually went overseas while the other 80,000 began the Laymen's Missionary Movement. This era also strengthened women's missionary societies.

Third (and Final?) Era (1934-Present) - The Unreached People Groups

Cameron Townsend & Donald McGavran

Cameron Townsend and **Donald McGavran** both came out of the Student Volunteer Movement. **Townsend** began his ministry at age 23 in Guatemala. He was asked by a Guatemalan Indian, "If your God is so smart, why can't He speak our language?" Townsend soon began a 50 year ministry focused on overcoming language barriers in sharing the gospel of the kingdom, especially among the tribal peoples of the world.

When existing missions did not readily join Townsend's tribal challenge, Townsend founded Wycliff Bible Translators, dedicated to reaching new frontiers by translating the Bible into languages that unreached people groups could understand.

McGavran's ministry focused on overcoming social barriers. He studied India's caste system and social barriers to the spread of the gospel. He discovered "homogeneous units," or what we today call "people groups."

Only recently has any major attention been given to the unreached people groups of the world. Each one requires a unique, breakthrough strategy, a "bridge of God," to connect that people group with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Three Eras

These Three Eras of Modern Expansion are summarized in the chart below.

Modern Eras of Kingdom Growth	First Era (1792-1910)	Second Era (1865-1980)	Third Era (1934-Present)
Emphasis	Coastlands of unreached continents	Inlands of unreached continents	Unreached People Groups
Pioneers	William Carey Father of Modern Pioneer Kingdom Movement. First Protestant in the West to go and penetrate an Eastern culture for Christ, as mandated in Scripture.	Hudson Taylor Father of Kingdom Mobilization. He recruited thousands towards the interior of China. Began China Inland Mission.	Cameron Townsend Father of Bible Translation. He brought attention to thousands of tongues and tribes around the world. Began Wycliffe Bible Translators. Donald McGavran Father of “People Group” concept. He researched how peoples became Christian.
Writings	An Enquiry Into the Obligation of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathen	The Call to Service China’s Spiritual Needs and Claims	Tribes, Tongues and Translators The Bridges of God
Related Movements	Haystack Prayer Meeting Society of Brethren	Women’s Missionary Societies Student Volunteer Movement Layman’s Missionary Movement	Conference for World Evangelization Urbana Lausanne Committee

These four men were used to awaken the Church to think strategically about reaching the nations.

Describe the strategic contribution each one made.

“When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.” - Neh 1:4

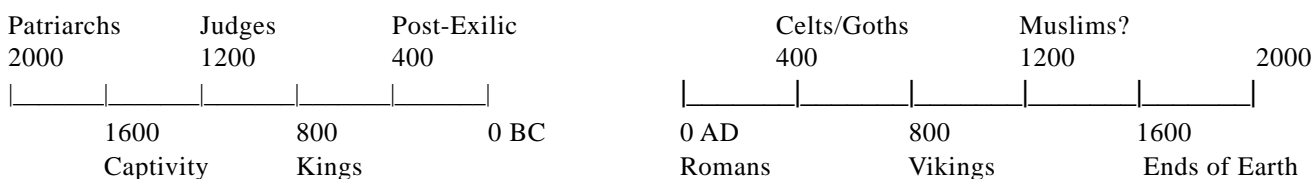
Just as Nehemiah prayed and then strategized on how to rebuild the wall, these four men prayed and strategized on how to advance God’s kingdom to the nations.

God Keeps His Promises

*“God is not man, that he should lie...
Does he speak and then not act?
Does he promise and not fulfill?”
-Numbers 23:19*

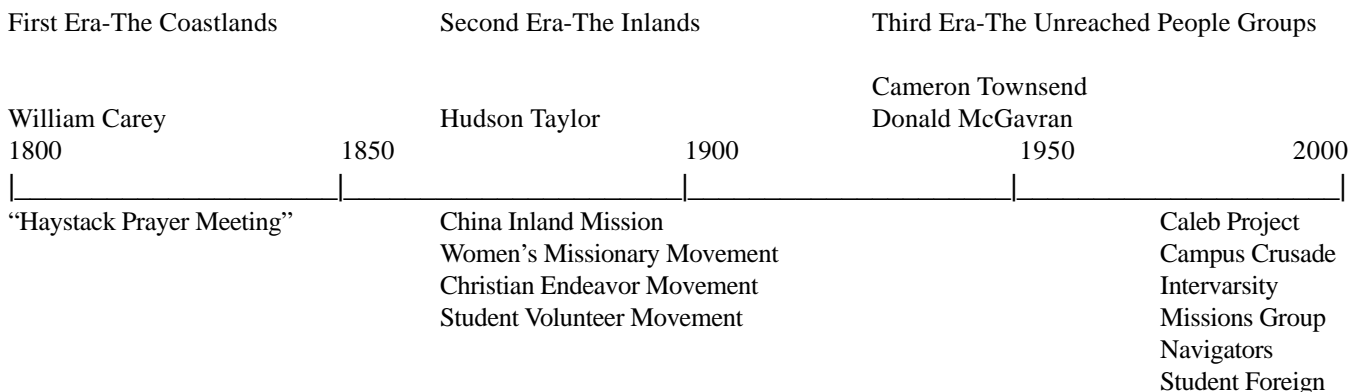
As we close this section, let us illustrate the unfolding of God’s master, redemptive plan. It is a plan to keep His 4,000 year old promise to Abraham to bless all nations by welcoming them as citizens of His dominion, and by sharing with them the riches of His kingdom.

The Ten 400 Year Epochs



Within the last epoch we see...

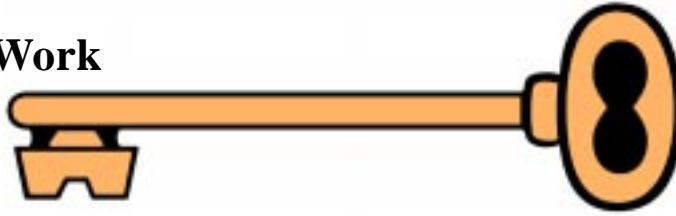
The Three Eras



Two Hundred Years of Tremendous Growth!

Unit 3 ...Section A God's Redemptive Work

Key Thoughts



Draw a line from each of the Three Eras of Modern Expansion on the left to its major emphasis of kingdom growth on the right.

First Era (1792-1910)

Unreached People Groups

Second Era (1865-1980)

Coastlands

Third Era (1934 - Present)

Inlands

What important principles can we learn by looking at History to see how God's kingdom has advanced?

Many unreached people groups do not have a Bible translated in their own language.

How would you feel if the Bible was not available in your language? _____

What would you do? _____

Pray that the Bible would be translated so that all people groups could read about and enter God's kingdom.

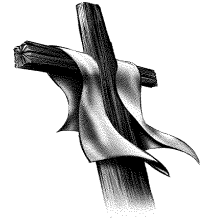
Think of a Biblical promise that God has kept in your life. Write it below and give God thanks.

"But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief." - 2 Peter 3:8-10^a

See the Appendix for more details on the "Bible in Print."

Unit 3 ... Section B

The Remaining Task



In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he wrote, "The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: 'All nations will be blessed through you.'" -Galatians 3:8

How do we join God in fulfilling the Abrahamic Covenant as we are blessed by Him to be a blessing to the nations? We will explore that question as we study the remaining task to take the gospel of the kingdom to all nations.

God promised to bless all peoples in the Abrahamic Covenant...

"...all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." - Genesis 12:3

Jesus commanded His followers to make disciples of all nations...

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." - Matthew 28:19

What is the Biblical meaning of the words "peoples" and nations"?

The English transliteration of the Hebrew word for "peoples" in *Genesis 12:3* is "mishpahot."

The English transliteration of the Greek word for "nations" in *Matthew 28:19* is "ethne."

Both words, "mishpahot" and "ethne," in these Bible verses mean ethnic groups.

God promised and commanded that people from every ethnic group on earth will be discipled. These people will submit to His rule and share in the riches of His kingdom.

Today, these ethnic groups are called "people groups" and are defined as follows...

PEOPLE GROUP A distinct ethnic group of people

"The largest group within which the gospel can spread along natural lines without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance due to culture, language, geography, etc."

The "natural lines" are common characteristics of the people within the people group, such as their common language and culture. Barriers to the gospel within a people group can include family and friends who do not understand nor accept the gospel.



There are 24,000 people groups in the world today.

The Unreached People Groups

Below is a summary of the 24,000 people groups in the world.

- 24,000** Number of **People Groups**
- 14,000** Number of **Reached People Groups**
- 10,000** Number of **Unreached People Groups**

We defined what a people group was on the previous page.
But what are reached and unreached people groups?

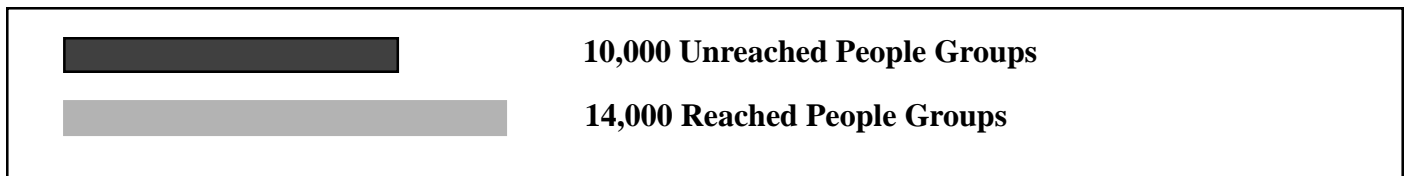
REACHED PEOPLE GROUP **A distinct ethnic group of people who have access to the gospel and a church within their group capable of evangelizing and discipling its own people.**

“A people group among which there is an indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize their own people.”

UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP **A distinct ethnic group of people who do NOT have access to the gospel and DO NOT have a church within their group capable of evangelizing nor discipling its own people.**

“A people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize their own people.”

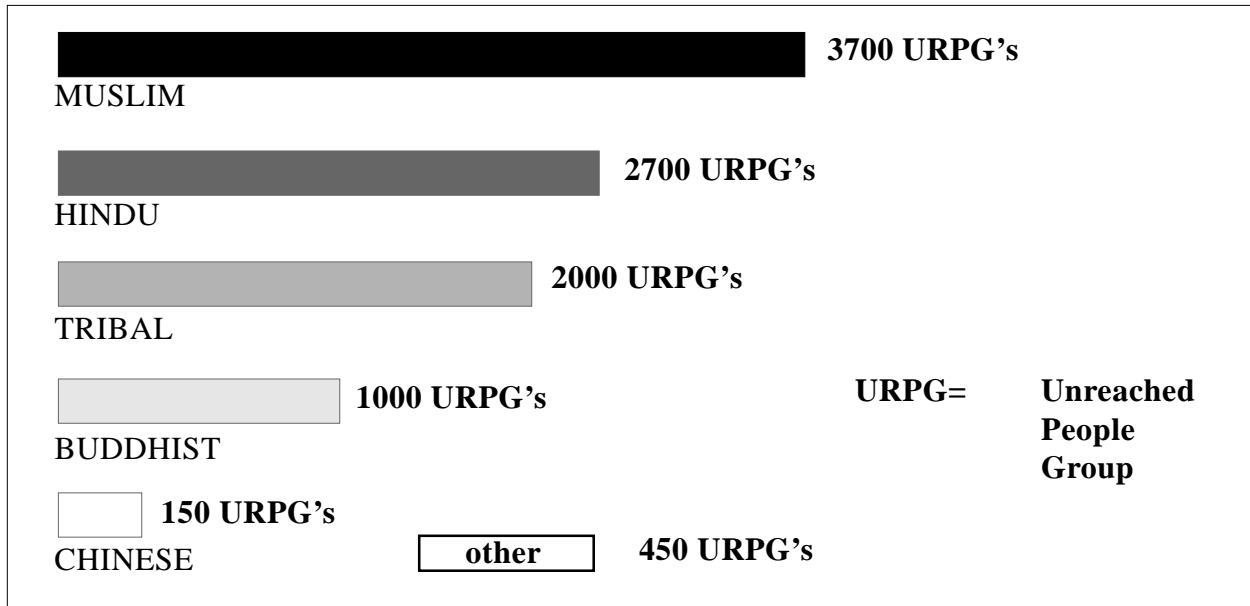
The 10,000 unreached people groups in the world need to be discipled to fulfill God’s plan for the nations. A single unreached people group could have thousands or even millions of individuals. These unreached people groups have ethnic and sociological traits so different from the cultural traditions of any existing church, that strategies are needed to plant an indigenous church in their midst.



The gospel of the kingdom has yet to penetrate over 1/3 of the 24,000 people groups of the world.

The Major Cultural Blocs

Who and where are the remaining 10,000 unreached people groups in the world?
A majority of them can be categorized within five major cultural blocs as shown below.



One way to remember these unreached people groups is to use the acronym, T-H-U-M-B.

- T...Tribal
- H...Hindu
- U...Chinese (sideways 'U' is a 'C')
- M...Muslim
- B...Buddhist

A “bloc” is a combination of nations or people groups forming a unit with a common interest or purpose. Over 90% of the world’s unreached people groups fall within five major cultural blocs: Muslim, Hindu, Tribal, Buddhist, and Chinese.

For example, there are 3,700 unreached people groups within the Muslim people groups around the world. See the appendix for a list of some of the 10,000 unreached people groups.

Have you ever prayed for people trapped in these major blocs?

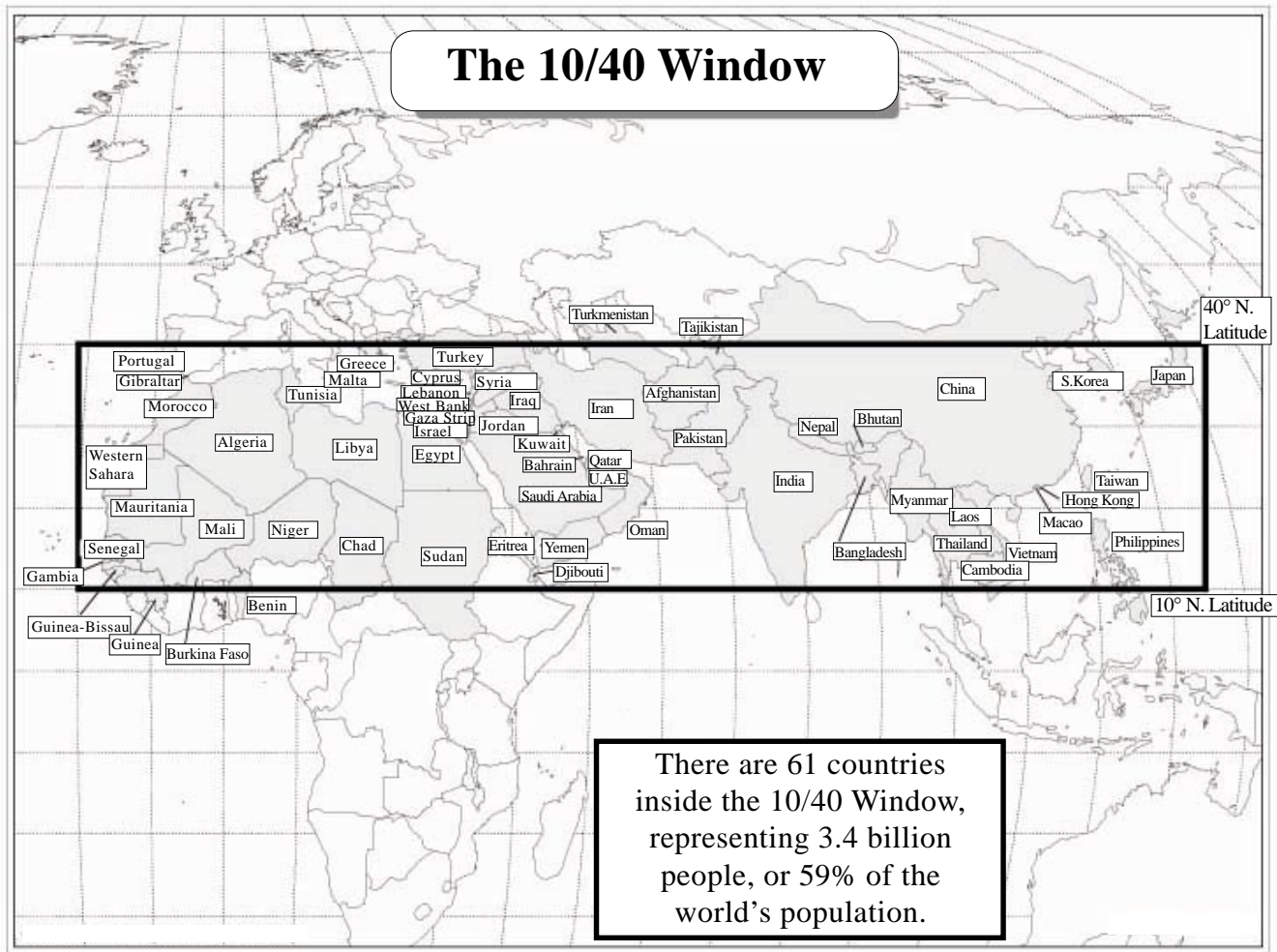
Write out a simple prayer that God would establish a strong, indigenous church within each of these unreached people groups.

Prayer, commitment, and partnerships are needed to disciple the remaining 10,000 unreached people groups of the world.

The Major Cultural Blocs continued...

Where are these unreached people groups?

Most unreached people groups live in an area of the world known as the 10/40 Window (see map below). The 10/40 Window is the area of the world between latitudes 10° and 40° north of the equator covering North Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

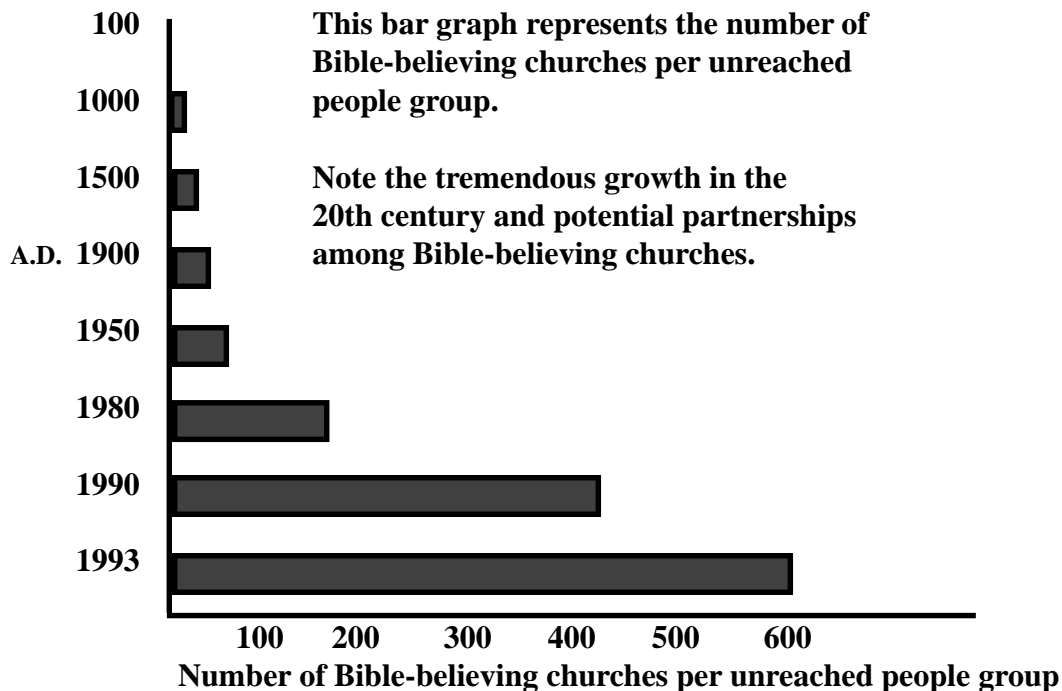


Compare the “10/40 Window” map above with the “Evangelicals in 1790 and 1980” map we saw on page 28. How do they compare and contrast?

Advancing the Kingdom to All Nations ... Working Together

The third era has seen tremendous growth of the kingdom of God. Yet much remains to be accomplished. How can God's people take part in reaching the remaining 10,000 unreached people groups? It will take prayer, commitment and partnerships!

For example, in 1900, there was only about 10 Bible-believing churches for every one unreached people group. In 1993, there were 600 Bible-believing churches for every one unreached people group!



Can small groups and churches participate in taking the gospel of the kingdom to the unreached people groups of the world? Absolutely!

- Rejoice with God for what He has done in the past, is doing in the present, and will do in the future
- Join God in fulfilling His promise to bless them and command to disciple them
 - Pray.... that churches would be established in every unreached people group
 - Study.. research unreached people groups God puts on your heart
 - Give... time and resources to missionaries going to the unreached
 - Adopt... an unreached people group (we will cover this in more detail in Unit 4)
 - Mobilize... members to develop a strategy to take the gospel to them
 - Partner... with other churches and parachurch organizations to reach them
 - Rejoice... as churches are planted among the unreached people group

Jesus said, *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, ...But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,.. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” - Mt 6:19-21*

Unit 3

Keeping a Promise Summary

God’s marvelous plan to restore His kingdom and redeem all nations continues to unfold before us. He has given us the keys to the kingdom. How will we use those keys to open the doors of the kingdom to the unreached people groups of the world?



Unlocking the doors of the kingdom to all nations for God’s glory!

To recap our first three Units...

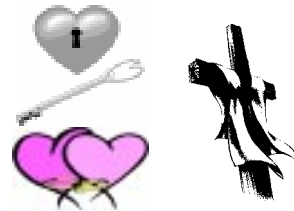
Our First Unit’s main idea is that the Bible is like a treasure map:

- Leads all nations to the riches of God’s kingdom
- God desires to restore His kingdom and redeem all nations for His glory



Our Second Unit’s main idea is the Top Line, Bottom Line concept:

- God blesses us so that we can bless others
- Every blessing received has a responsibility
- We have a 4,000 year connection to both the Abrahamic Covenant and Great Commission



Our Third Unit’s main idea is that God has been actively keeping His promise to Abraham, inviting us to join Him in redeeming all nations for His glory:

- Ten Epochs
- Three Eras
- Unreached People Groups
- Major Cultural Blocs
- Church Growth and Responsibility



Here are some ways to join God in reaching unreached people groups:

- Pray Study Adopt Mobilize Partner Give Rejoice

Ask God to show you how He wants to use you, your small group, and/or your church, to reach the unreached people groups of the world from where you are today.

Write what He puts on your heart below.

Unit 4

This Gospel of the Kingdom

Unit 4...Section A

Biblical World View

In Unit 1, we studied God’s Treasure Map, the Bible, and how God has been restoring His kingdom and redeeming all nations for His glory.

In Unit 2, we studied the Top Line, Bottom Line concept of how every blessing has a responsibility that requires action. We also looked at our 4,000 year connection to both the Abrahamic Covenant and the Great Commission.

In Unit 3, we studied the epochs of redemptive history, once again seeing God’s master plan unfold and man’s participation with Him to share the riches of His kingdom with all nations.

In Unit 4, we will consider cultural and practical aspects of sharing the gospel of the kingdom with all nations.

In two minutes, write down as many things that you think of when you hear the word CHURCH:



- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ |

Now circle every number that has to do with your culture. Examples may include one-hour services, pews in rows, a baptistery, or a church with a cross or steeple on top.

Jesus said, “...go and make disciples of all nations...” – Mt 28:19

The English transliteration of the Greek word for “go” in *Matthew 28:19* is “poreuthentes.” The word “poreuthentes” in this verse means going from one place to another, both near and far.

The English transliteration of the Greek word for “make disciples” in *Matthew 28:19* is “matheteusate.” The word “matheteusate” in this verse is a command meaning to bring others to be true followers of Jesus as their Lord and place their allegiance to Him as their Teacher.

Jesus is saying that as we go from one place to another, both near and far, we must lead others to be true followers of Jesus and hold to His teachings. Naturally, in our goings, we will encounter barriers of sharing the gospel in terms of language and culture. We must overcome these barriers through prayer, the Holy Spirit, and by sharing the essentials of the gospel of the kingdom in culturally appropriate ways.

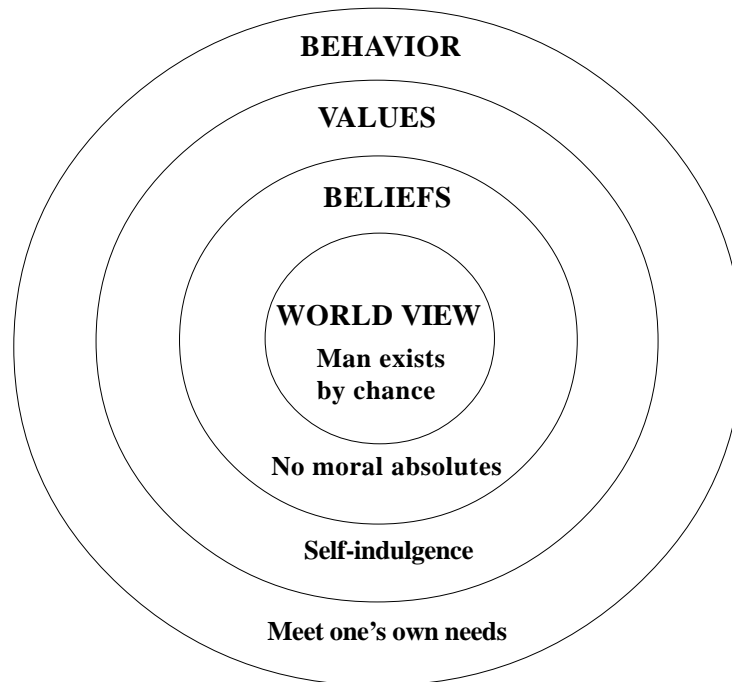


Our World View

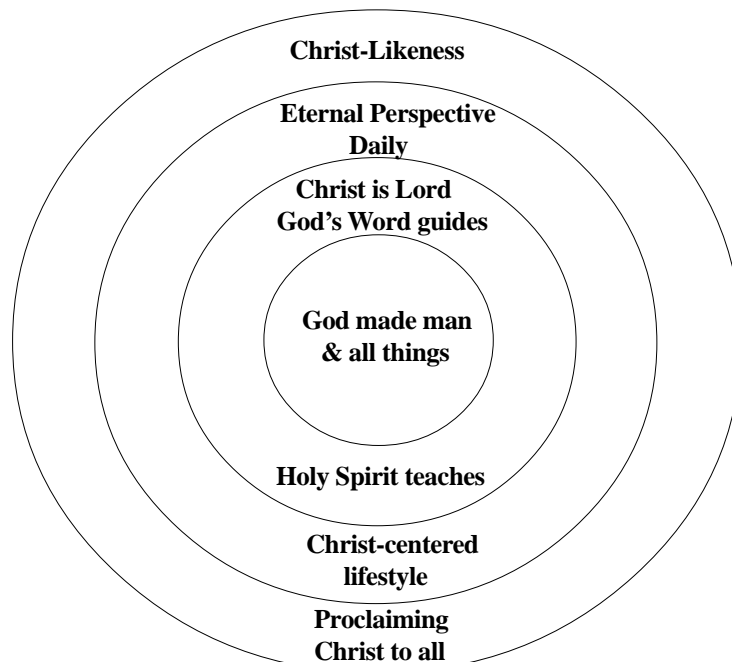
At the very heart of a person within any culture is their world view. It answers the most basic question: “What is real?” It is how they see the world. It influences what they believe, which then determines what they value, which finally drives how they behave. It is helpful to understand a person’s world view when sharing the gospel. This takes time and a good, strong relationship built on trust.

World View	What is Real?
Beliefs	What is True?
Values	What is Important?
Behavior	What is Done?

The following diagram illustrates a secular, materialistic world view:



The following diagram illustrates a Christian world view:



Why do we need to understand a person's culture? For _____

A simple example: Englishman visiting a missionary in North Africa whistling as he carries his belongings from the car to the house.

Whistling in English culture = _____

Whistling in African culture = _____

An Illustration: An Asian going to the beach in southern France. They would see a beach full of white people. Some lying in the sun, some without clothes, some with, some with hats on, some without.

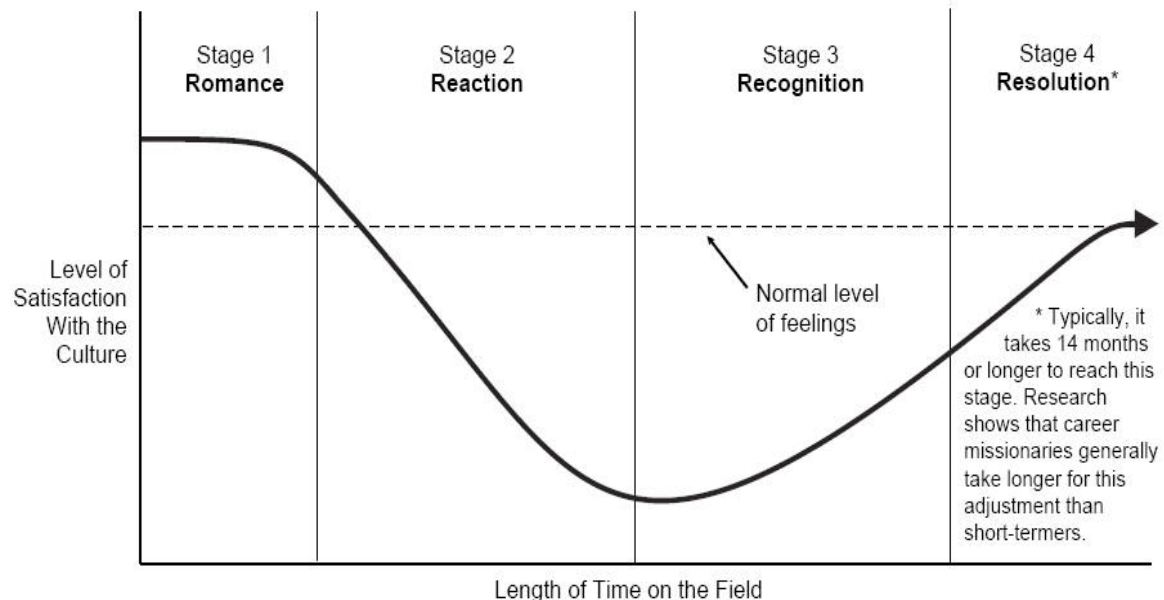
Behaviour-

Values-

Beliefs –

World View –

Culture Shock (*World Mission Part 3:11-16*)



Communication –The dynamics of communicating.

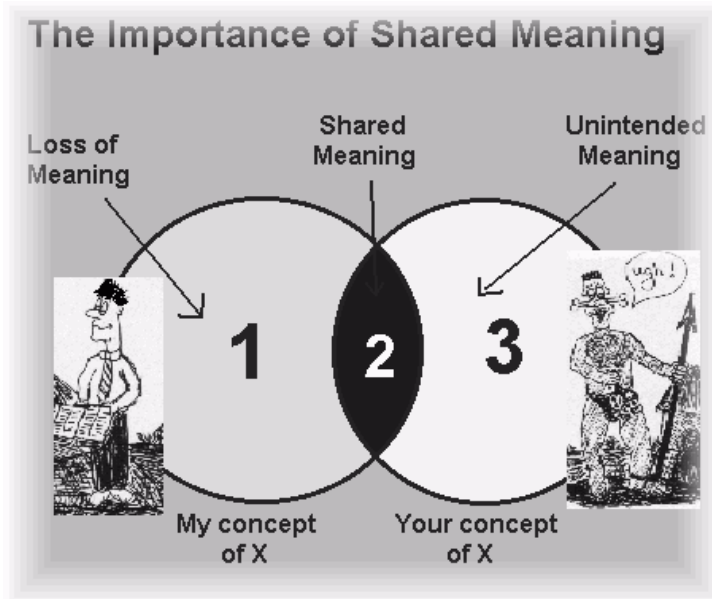
Communication = _____ of _____ between two people.



(a) When is communication effective?

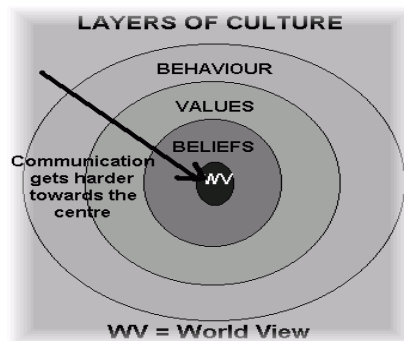
Communication must take place in area _____,

otherwise the communication will not be effective, even destructive in some cases. Give an example...



(b) 5 presuppositions about Cross-Cultural Communication.

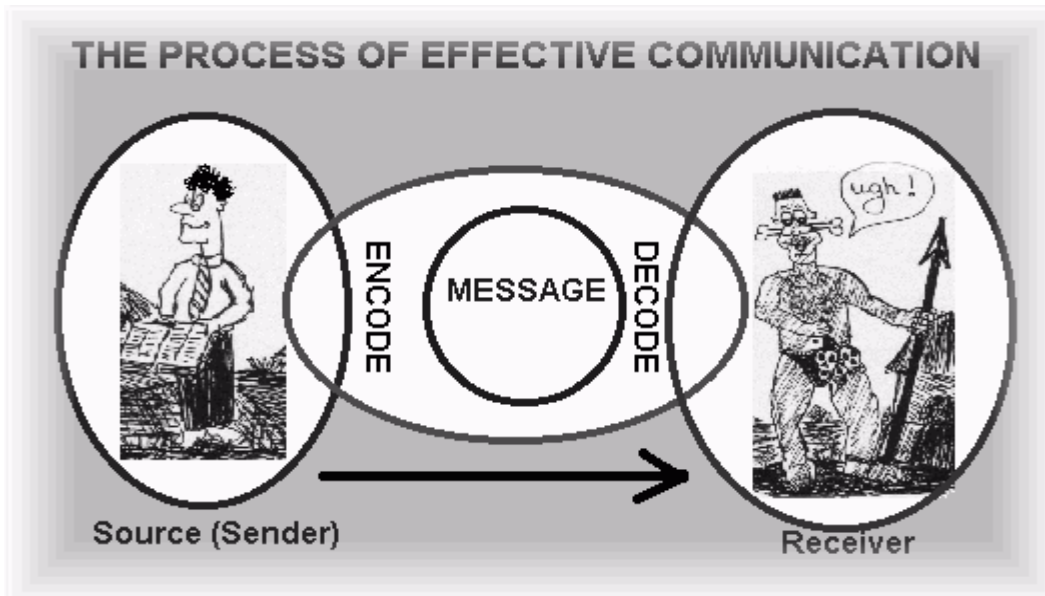
- (a) It is _____ for communication to take place (e.g. signs/smile)
- (b) Even though we can communicate Cross-Culturally, it is _____
- (c) Communication proceeds from the periphery to the _____.



- (d) Communication in the center is more _____ (take more time) To turn people to Christ you must penetrate to WV – real conversion. This means that TIME is needed in understanding/living in culture.
- (e) Communication Cross-Culturally is best on using the _____ of the receiver – their style of communication.

e.g. Communicating to the Masai:

The Process of Effective Cross-Cultural Communication

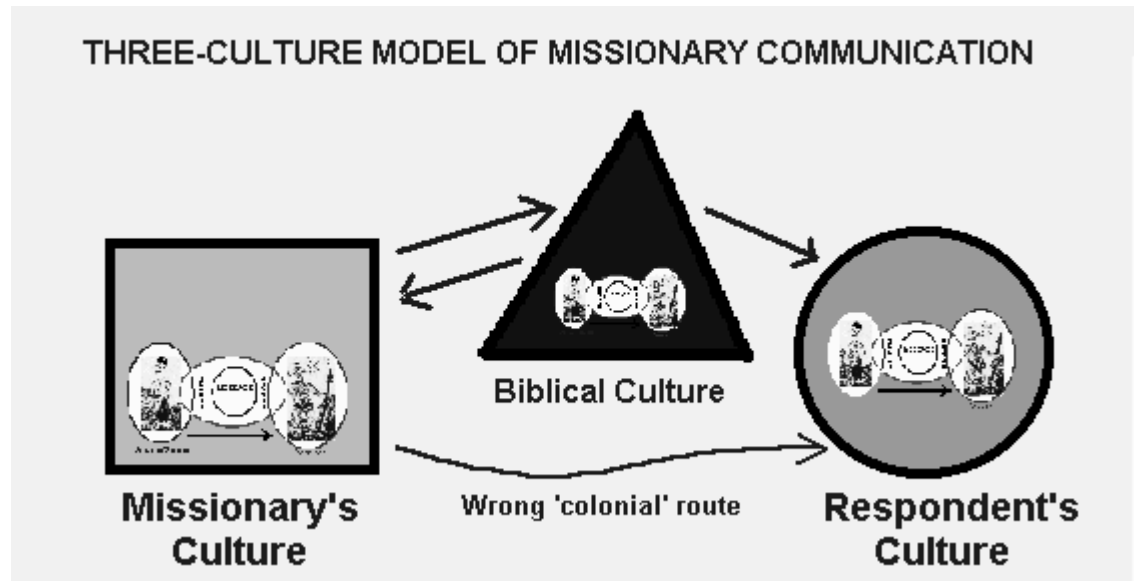


<p>Primary = Secondary = Tertiary =</p> <p>IDENTIFICATION...</p> <p>a. With _____ Acts 11:17</p> <p>b. With _____ 1 Cor 9:20-22</p> <p>c. With _____ Acts 3:12-13</p> <p>Right _____ _____ preparation.</p> <p>In the _____ Minister in _____</p> <p>Know your place in the team.</p>	<p>(1) What does God want me to _____?</p> <p>(2) How does God want me to say it? (Culturally _____)</p> <p>This can be _____ Or _____.</p> <p>Use REDEMPTIVE _____ (Acts 17:23,28)</p> <p>The only _____ _____ should be CHRIST CRUCIFIED (1 Cor 1:23-24)</p> <p>e.g. Hudson Taylor and shiny buttons.</p>	<p>We must have true _____ for them (Acts 17:16).</p> <p>Pray – reveal spiritual _____ holding them (sometimes manifest in the mission team itself). If you have not broken this first the best message will not!!</p> <p>The receiver must have A _____ heart (Matthew 7:24)</p> <p>REMEMER: Holy Spirit will teach all things as you make careful and prayerful preparations to reach across cultures – He will help you to have effective communication.</p>
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Contextualization.

(a) A Three-Culture Model of Missionary Communication

(World Mission Part 3:13-4)



Objectives...

- i) To communicate Christ to enable _____ unto salvation (not just words...communicate the REALITY of the person of Christ).
- ii) To _____ the message to 'faithful men who will be able to teach others also (2 Tim 2:2) in culturally relevant terms.

The missionary must _____ the Bible message with minimal intrusion
Of his own _____ understanding and _____ the message in
A culturally _____ form in the target culture so that the respondent will
_____ as much as possible.

This process is called **CONTEXTUALIZATION**, which means to

_____ Christ:

- (i) In the respondent's way of _____ the world.
- (ii) In their way of _____.
- (iii) In their way of _____.
- (iv) In their way of _____ expression.
- (v) In their manner of _____ making.

(b) The Process of Contextualization.

For this process the missionary must....

- (i) _____ himself. Ultimately there is but one point of contact with unbelievers of other cultures: that is the Missionaries disposition and attitude.
- (ii) Learn to speak the respondent's _____ with gestures, tones, order and attitude.
- (iii) Perceive the ' _____ ' of the respondent.

To achieve the above, the missionary must investigate the following 7 dimensions that make up the 'cultural grid' that the message has to pass through (*World Mission Part 3:13-9*)...

1. World _____.
2. _____ process (ways of thinking).
3. _____ forms (ways of expressing ideas).
4. _____ patterns (ways of acting).
5. _____ structures (ways of interacting).
6. _____ influences (ways of channeling the message)
7. _____ resources (ways of deciding).

Our World View continued...

**When sharing the gospel of the kingdom with those from other cultures,
we must seek to understand their world view.**

There is saying that goes like this, “People don’t care what you know until they know that you care.” People from other cultures know that we care when we show a willingness to bridge the gaps of language and culture. The following example illustrates how taking a genuine interest in a person from another culture, by asking questions to understand their world view, can lead to open doors for the gospel.

Sharing the Gospel: Bridging the Cultural Gap

Bread at Work



Several years ago, I was involved with a computer project at work. One member of the team was Mahavir, a contract worker from India. Mahavir was one of the brightest and most intelligent men I have ever met. After a meeting one day, I asked him about India, the caste system, and being a “Jain” (which is a form of Hinduism).

He openly shared with me what life was like in India as well as his world view. I then asked him what people in India think of Jesus. He said they respect him very much, so I asked if he would like to read the gospel of John once a week at lunch. He agreed.

During one of our lunch get-togethers, we talked about Jesus dying for our sins. He paused and reflectively said, “Jesus died for me.” The Holy Spirit had opened his heart to the gospel of the kingdom. He was baptized the next day at our church during the lunch hour.

Several months later, Mahavir returned to Bombay, India to be with his wife, family and friends. I learned later that the Jains of India are one of the least reached people groups of the world. What a privilege to have the opportunity to share the gospel with Mahavir. I pray that he is opening the doors of the kingdom to many in India today.

Have you befriended a person from another culture? _____

Did you have an opportunity to share the gospel with them? _____

In what ways did you try to be culturally sensitive? _____

Redemptive Analogies

Don Richardson, a former missionary to Irian Jaya, has coined the term “redemptive analogies” to show that God has placed His truth in every culture in ways they can understand.

Our job is to find out what they may be. Don Richardson’s book, *Peace Child*, describes how Don used two warring tribes’ tradition of exchanging a baby for peace, to share the gospel of God sending His Son, Jesus, as a baby for their peace. The two tribes would remain at war until each would give up one of their own babies to the other as the price for peace. Similarly, God gave up Jesus as a baby as the eventual price for our peace.

Sharing the Gospel: Bridging the Cultural Gap continued...

Baseball in the Ukraine

Several years ago, I was part of a baseball team scheduled to visit Simferopol, Ukraine for one week to teach and play baseball and share the gospel. One of the barriers I faced was the language. After learning the importance of overcoming barriers when sharing the gospel, it was on my heart to learn my testimony in the Russian language.

After learning the Russian alphabet, I asked a Russian friend to type a translated copy of my testimony and to record it on tape. Every day for 4 months I would listen to and mimic the sounds I heard coming from the tape, all in an effort to overcome the language barrier.

When we arrived in the Ukraine, our first day of baseball went great. Then it was time to share my testimony. As the translator introduced me, I looked up at those 100 or so kids and began to share my testimony in Russian. It got very quiet. They were hearing the gospel in their own language! Afterwards, nearly every ball player wanted more information about Jesus.

God can use whatever talents He has given us to share the riches of His kingdom with all nations, if we take the time to overcome barriers. We need to be creative and sensitive in sharing the gospel with people from other cultures in appropriate ways.



Teaching



Business



Dramatic Arts

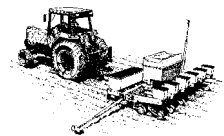
"I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some."

-1 Cor 9:22



Sports

Whether it is teaching English in China, conducting business in Malaysia, performing dramas in Poland, providing irrigation in Ethiopia, offering medical help in Bosnia, playing music in France or running sports clinics in Russia, we have opportunities to bridge cultural gaps that open wide the doors for the gospel.



Agriculture



Music



Medical

God-given talents can be creatively and effectively used to share the gospel with all nations, when time is taken to overcome language and cultural barriers.

Sharing the Gospel: Bridging the Cultural Gap continued...



“When you can put your church on the back of a camel, then I will believe Christianity is for us.”

- a Somali camel herder

Often the primary barrier in sharing the gospel with those of a different culture is a social barrier rather than a theological one. Many of our Christian traditions and practices hinder the understanding of the meaning of the gospel and the beauty of salvation through Jesus.

Here are some examples of traditions and practices that we need to be sensitive about when talking with people from another culture...

BIRTH CEREMONIES

WEDDING TRADITIONS (LIGHTING CANDLES)

CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

WESTERN WORSHIP SONGS (HYMNS, CHORUSES)

DAY & STYLE OF WORSHIP

DIFFERENT CLOTHING FOR WORSHIP (SUITS, DRESSES)

RELIGIOUS TERMINOLOGY

BURIAL TRADITIONS (CASKET)

What can we do to overcome social barriers?

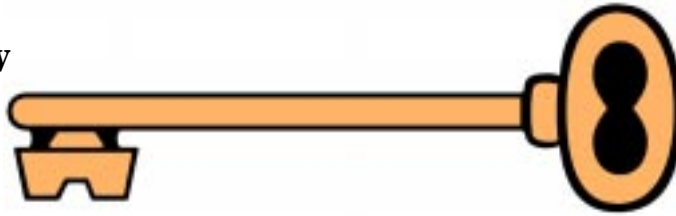
Here are some key points in sharing the gospel of the kingdom with a person from another culture (that may be utilized also in one's own culture):

- **Pray** – seek God's wisdom on how to approach the person or people group
- **Friendship** – establish a friendship; see them as a person(s), not a project
- **Learn** – study their culture and world view by asking them questions and researching their answers
- **Share** – exchange information about your own culture when appropriate
- **Invite** – ask them over to your home, dinner, event, church, Bible-study, etc.
- **Look** – find opportunities to share the gospel
- **Disciple** – provide direction, training for them to grow in Christ

Take a look back at a time when you may have had the opportunity to share the gospel with someone from another culture. What, if anything, would you do differently?

Unit 4 ...Section A

Biblical World View



Key Thoughts

Once we understand a person's world view, we better understand their beliefs, values and behavior.

Name one person who has a much different world view than you.

Describe how this person sees the world.

What are some of their beliefs?

How do their values differ from yours?

Describe how their values affect their behavior.

Based on what you have written, what would be some effective ways to share the gospel with this person?

My prayer is that you might have the opportunity to befriend this person, get to know them, bridge any cultural gaps and sensitively share your faith in Christ with them.

In closing, read about Philip's obedience in bridging a cultural gap in *Acts 8:26-40*.

Unit 4...Section B

Joining God

Jesus said to them, “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*” – Acts 1:8

Jesus’ last words to the apostles shows the progression of cross-cultural evangelism necessary to “*make disciples of all nations.*” – Matthew 28:19

Cultural evangelism can be expressed in three types: E-1, E-2, and E-3.

E-1 Evangelism (Jerusalem, Judea) This is when we reach out to people within our own language and culture. It is our “Jerusalem” and “Judea” and might include building a relationship with a neighbor or inviting a co-worker to church or a Bible-study.

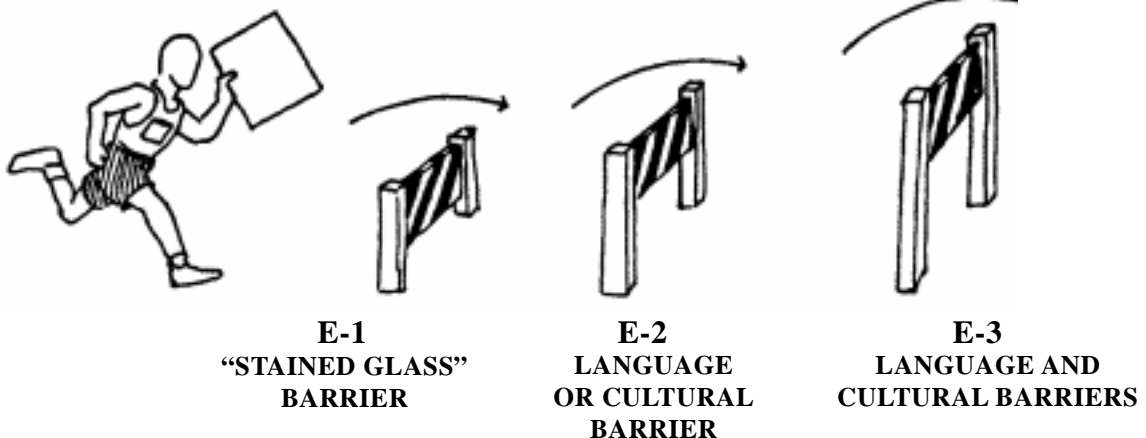
E-2 Evangelism (Samaria) This is when we reach out to people from a culture somewhat different but with similarities. It is our “Samaria” and may include talking with an employee at an ethnic restaurant or meeting with a co-worker who speaks English but holds to traditions of another culture.

E-3 Evangelism (Ends of the Earth) This is when we reach out to people from a culture that has language(s) and cultural intricacies to learn as well as geographical considerations. It is our “Ends of the earth” and may include immigrants, international students, refugees or unreached people groups.

No Unreached People Group will be won until someone undertakes E-2 or E-3 evangelism.

Biblical examples of E-1, E-2, and E-3 evangelism include...

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| E-1: Jesus speaks with Zacchaeus the tax collector. | Luke 19:1-10 |
| E-2: Jesus speaks with a Samaritan woman. | John 4:1-42 |
| E-3: Jesus challenges His disciples to go to all nations. | Matthew 28:19-20 |



The barriers get higher going from E-1 to E-2 to E-3 evangelism.

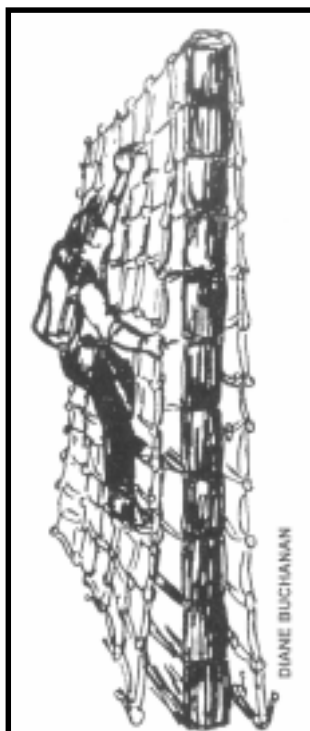
Cultural Evangelism: E-1, E-2, E-3 continued...

The following chart summarizes E-1, E-2, and E-3 evangelism.

Type	Definition	Barriers	Comments	Examples	
				Biblical	Today
E-1	Reaching out to people within one's own language	"Stained Glass": make message relevant	Most powerful: messenger understands culture	Jerusalem Judea	Neighbor, co-worker, student
E-2	Reaching out to a culture somewhat different but with some similarities	Possibly language cultural distinctive	Message must be contextualized; planted churches must be culturally appropriate	Samaria	Neighbor, co-worker, student from another culture
E-3	Penetrating and engaging a culture that is distant and very different from that of the messenger	Language(s) and cultural intricacies to learn	Most difficult: takes teamwork, sensitivity, endurance, time, and prayer	Ends of the earth	Unreached People Groups, immigrants, international students, refugees



E-1 Evangelism
Culture, language is the same



E-2 Evangelism
Culture, language somewhat different



E-3 Evangelism
Culture, language very different

Cultural Evangelism: E-1, E-2, E-3 continued...

Please check off all of the cultural evangelism types necessary in reaching unreached people groups.

- E-1 Evangelism: Reaching out to people within your own culture and language.
- E-2 Evangelism: Reaching out to people whose culture and language are somewhat different.
- E-3 Evangelism: Reaching out to people whose culture and language are much different.

Read each of the following passages of Scripture.

Describe who was involved and how Jesus took part in or encouraged evangelism.

E-1: Luke 19:1-10 _____

E-2: John 4:1-42 _____

E-3: Matthew 28:19-20 _____

Jesus encouraged His followers to reach out to people who were somewhat different than themselves, to speak the truth in love as opportunities arose to join God in sharing the gospel of the kingdom.

God often gives us opportunities right where we are to use our keys to the kingdom to unlock its doors for others to enter who are somewhat different than us. We need to be prayerfully looking for and willing to join God when He gives us these opportunities.

The Major Mechanisms

Overcoming cultural barriers is one of the challenges we have in sharing the gospel with all nations. It is sometimes our unwillingness to share the gospel with all nations, that God must overcome. He does so by employing four major mechanisms to share the riches of His kingdom with all nations.

The four mechanisms operate in two categories:

God's people GO to the nations

The nations COME to God's people

Voluntarily

Voluntarily

Involuntarily

Involuntarily

For example, Paul voluntarily went to the Gentiles while Jonah involuntarily went to the Ninevites. The Queen of Sheba voluntarily came to Solomon, but refugees involuntarily come to safety, often where God's people can offer help.

The chart below gives some Biblical and modern-day examples of those four mechanisms. The preferred mechanism is for God's people to go voluntarily.

	VOLUNTARILY	INVOLUNTARILY
GO	Jesus, Philip, Peter, Paul, Barnabas Short term mission trips Missionaries	Jonah Christians fleeing persecution
COME	Queen of Sheba Ruth International students International employees	Roman military Refugees

Whenever you come in contact with a person from another culture, one of two things has happened: either you have gone to their culture, or they have come to your culture. This has been done either on a voluntary or involuntary basis. God has used these types of cross-cultural contacts throughout history in keeping His promise to Abraham.

**God will keep His promise to Abraham to bless all nations.
He is looking for faithful and obedient children to carry it out.**

“The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, ‘...through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed because you have obeyed me’” - Genesis 22:15,18

We see God employing these four mechanisms to bless all nations throughout history and His Treasure Map, the Bible.

God either sends His people out to bless the unreached nations,
or God brings the unreached nations in to be blessed by His people.



God's people have either shared the riches of His kingdom obediently or reluctantly,
and the nations have either come willingly or involuntarily.

The Major Mechanisms continued...

The chart below outlines those same four mechanisms in more detail.

The mechanisms are on the left hand side of the chart, while four time periods and practical examples are shown across the top of the chart.

	Old Testament	New Testament	Early Church to 1800	Modern Era 1800-Present	Examples Today
GO Voluntarily	Abraham to Canaan. Hebrew Prophets preach & write to nations near Israel. Pharisees sent out “over land and sea” to win converts.	Jesus in Samaria. Philip to Ethiopian eunuch. Peter to Cornelius. Christians witness in Cyprus, Rome, Antioch. Paul and Barnabas lead missions teams.	Patrick, a Celt, to Irish Barbarians. Britain & Europe Friars to China, India, Japan, and America. Moravians use trades to send self-supporting missionaries.	William Carey and other missionaries of the 1st Era. Hudson Taylor and the 2nd Era missionaries. Two-Thirds world developing extensive mission force.	Short-term mission trips: going and supporting missionaries
GO Involuntarily	Joseph sold into slavery, witness in Egypt. Naomi witnesses to Ruth due to famine. Jonah-reluctant to go to Ninevah. Hebrews in Babylon witness to captors. Esther, Daniel, & others affect Medes & Persians.	Persecution forces believers out of the Holy Land, all over the Roman empire and beyond.	Ulfilas and exiled Arians go to Goths. Christian soldiers sent by Rome to England, Spain. Christians captured by Vikings; win them to Christ. Pilgrims and Puritans forced to America; start reaching Indians.	Christian soldiers in WWII return to start new mission agencies. Ugandan Christians flee to other parts of Africa. N. Korean believers flee to less Christian south.	Personal or business travel that results in contact with people from other nations.
COME Voluntarily	Naaman, the Syrian, seeks Elisha. Queen of Sheba comes to Solomon’s court. Ruth chooses to leave Moab for Judah.	Magi look for a king in Judea. Greeks seek out Jesus. Cornelius sends for Peter. Man of Macedonia calls to Paul for help.	Goths invade Christian Rome, learn more of the Christian faith. Viking raiders eventually won to Christ through their captives.	Influx of international students and businessmen to Christian West. Immigrants in former colonies move to Europe.	International co-workers, neighbors, students.
COME Involuntarily	Gentiles forcibly resettled in Israel by the king of Assyria (2 Ki 17).	Roman military occupation of Judea	Refugees from famines, wars.	Refugees from wars, natural disasters and oppressive regimes seek freedom, help.	Refugees seeking food, safety, medical help, freedom.

The Major Mechanisms continued...

Review the charts on the previous two pages.

Please check off all of the major mechanisms in which God has given you an opportunity to interact with someone from another nation.

- Go Voluntarily: across the street, town, country, world
- Go Involuntarily: personal or business travel
- Come Voluntarily: international co-workers, neighbors, students
- Come Involuntarily: refugees

Sometimes God sends His people to the nations.

Sometimes God brings nations to His people.

Briefly describe a time when God sent you out to build a friendship with someone from another nation across the street, town, country or world.

Briefly describe a time when God brought someone from another nation to you to hear the gospel.

Whether we go or others come, God will faithfully keep His promise to bless all nations.
We can bless our Father by choosing to go voluntarily.

Review the “GO Voluntarily” row on the previous page.

Ask God to show you opportunities to join Him in reaching the nations.

The Unreached...

need to hear the gospel.

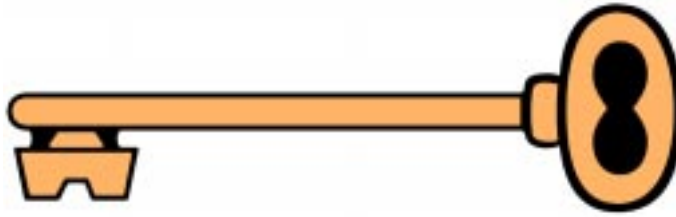


Illustrations by Mary Filidis and Julie Bosacker

Unit 4 ...Section B

Joining God

Key Thoughts



Briefly describe the concept of E-1, E-2 and E-3 evangelism.

God's people have either shared the riches of His kingdom obediently or reluctantly and the nations have either come willingly or forcefully.

Draw a line from the following people on the left with the major mechanism by which they came to know or share the riches of God's kingdom.

Jonah	Come Voluntarily
Ruth	Go Involuntarily
Refugees	Go Voluntarily
Paul	Come Involuntarily

Jesus said, "...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." - Mt 5:16

The psalmist wrote, "*Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in all the earth.*" - Ps 46:10

Prayerfully complete the following "Key Commitment" page.

Key Commitment

Please check off the boxes below that indicate your commitment to advance God's kingdom to all nations. Share this with a friend or group who can help you keep your commitment.



Pray for the unreached people groups of the world, especially the five major cultural blocs: Muslim, Hindu, Tribal, Chinese, Buddhist.



Read Bible and live life to obediently seek out Bottom Line responsibilities you can fulfill.



Read *Unveiled At Last* or another book to broaden your vision for God's kingdom among the nations.



Reach out to neighbors, co-workers and students from other cultures.



Study world events in light of God's redemptive plan, and pray for God's kingdom to expand.



Pray through *Global Prayer Digest* or *Operation World*.



Take the *Perspectives* study course.



Subscribe to *BRIGADA TODAY* by sending an email message to brigada-today-subscribe@egroups.com. The subject is ignored. More details will then be sent in response to your message. *Brigada* itself is free.



Invite an international student over for a meal, or take them shopping.



Teach English to a refugee or immigrant living in your area.



Adopt an Unreached People Group.