

### **Entering the Mission Field-"Blessed are the merciful:for they shall obtain mercy."**

#### **Matthew 5:7**

Those of us who have received mercy and grace through Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior may consider the many diverse and challenging ways God gives us to show mercy and grace on the mission field. Visiting other peoples, races, cultures, and nationalities allows us to grow, to see things we might otherwise miss, to volunteer in a host of fruitful endeavors and to share our faith in lands we might otherwise never visit. The Lord reminds us of His purpose to proclaim the Gospel in the passage from Isaiah 52:7.....

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

The Apostle Paul echoed these words in Romans 10:15, speaking of the messengers who help to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 28:19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations....," words which are just as important today as they were when Paul embarked on his first missionary journey to Cyprus, Perga, Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe.

Recent outreaches to Egypt and Mexico remind us of the encouraging promise of Jesus that, Matthew 16:18 "I will build my church."Just as Philip preached to the Samaritans and spoke to an Ethiopian official, so too have we seen firsthand the tremendous opportunities to share our faith, encourage fellow believers and witness the power of the Holy Spirit in action.

## Missions

Written by Glenn

Friday, 20 August 2010 10:05 - Last Updated Sunday, 12 September 2010 16:53

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In Acts 13:1-3, we read this wonderful and encouraging passage:

"In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon, called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" so after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off."

If you sense the calling to go on an upcoming mission, seek the Lord in prayer, inquire of His plan for your life. You may support the mission team in prayer, through finances, or in the sharing of your talents and gifts in music, language, arts & crafts, men's or women's ministries, children's ministries, personal testimony, evangelism, community outreach or many other fields of opportunity.

The mission field reminds us of the perseverance of the Saints as told in Hebrews 10 the working out of God's plan as revealed in Psalm 27, and the compassion of God as expressed to Jonah 4:11 "Should I not be concerned about that great city?" There are blessings which follow obedience, and we are deeply encouraged by what God has shown us.

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