

Steps Into Missionary Service

Essentially, God's global orchestration of mobilizing laborers into the Great Commission can be divided into three stunning movements: *His Great Calling* of workers (creating missions sympathy), *His Great Sending* of workers (creating missions symmetry), *His Great Blessing* through workers to all nations with the gift of eternal and abundant life in Jesus (creating missions symphony)!

The supporting work of the Holy Spirit among believers in this Great Commission symphony is one of reminding us of the missions mandate to go to all, accompanied by placing a missions mantra in our hearts for all nations, and finally guiding us through the missions matrix from where we are to where He wants us to be in His Kingdom service.

Every believer has a contribution to make in this greatest of all God's creative masterpieces. But how can you and I find our way into that role? Beginning at the trailhead of today, below are some strategic steps for your personal missions map to get to, over and beyond your missions' bridge. We expect your path will include the major mile markers of having your passion awakened, vision focused, wisdom applied, mission launched, and destiny fulfilled. So grab all your survival gear for the most exhilarating and eternally significant trek of your life!

EXPLORING PATHWAYS

Move toward what's out there for you, using the following guiding principles:

PRAYER (Psalm 32:8; Isaiah 30:21)—commit your journey completely into His hands.

PERSPECTIVE (John 4:35; Matthew 9:36)—see what God sees when He looks at the lost and broken world. Do a study of God's will and heart for the nations.

PASSION, PREFERENCES, AND POTENTIAL (Ephesians 2:10)—journal about your design—see patterns in your life circumspectly, that reveal your temperament, talents, and even tripwires of vulnerability. Where have you come from and where does it seem you are headed? For what are you and aren't you gifted or called?

POSSIBILITIES (Ecclesiastes 11:1–6)—With your design in view, sow broadly in looking into options. Research via the web, mission mentors, conferences, churches and mission agencies. List what's out there that resonates with your spirit.

PLAN (Proverbs 16:9)—From the mix of being a pray-er, giver, goer, sender, or promoter, write out what you suspect a good composite for you might be. Consider what task, target, and term of services might work for you? Scratch out a flexible do list to test specific options, and get it onto your calendar!

PREP (Jeremiah 12:5)—What about timing, training, and teaming? What gaps need to be filled before you proceed further? Add these to your do list.

PLUNGE (James 1:22)—Engage in negotiation about an opportunity in the Great Commission, apply for it, get assessed and oriented (if appropriate), and get going—move out confidently, expecting God to use you. Charting bold rescues and launching fresh hope, dare your new destiny in and for the nations and to the ends of the earth—and to God be the Glory! (Habakkuk 2:14)