

Sermon Discussion Questions:

TEXT: Matthew 28:18–20

The following outline and discussion questions have been prepared to accompany the sermon from 12/09/2018, All Nations: The Unfinished Task. These questions can be used for discussion in small groups, family devotions, or for personal reflection.

Main Idea: The Great Commission demands that we intentionally pursue those who have no gospel witness.

Outline:

- I. The Scope of the Task (Matt 28:19–20)
- II. The Status of the Task
- III. Embracing Our Part of the Task
 - A. Embrace your responsibility to share the gospel with people God puts in your life
 - B. We need to make a concerted effort as a church to prioritize missions efforts among the unreached.
 - C. Pray that God would raise up an army of full-time, long-term, cross-cultural missionaries.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Matthew 28:18–20. In the sermon, pastor Mark broke this text into three sections: The Warrant, The Commission, and The Guarantee.
 - Identify the verses and central concepts that comprise each of these three sections.
 - How should “The Warrant” impact the way we think about and pursue the Commission?
 - How should “The Guarantee” encourage our personal participation in and pursuit of the Great Commission?
2. Read Galatians 3:6–8.
 - How God’s promise to Abram, “in you shall all the nations (*panta ta ethne*) of the earth be blessed” (Gal 3:8; Cf. Gen 18:18; 22:18; 26:6) a gospel promise?
 - In what way do Gentile Christians become, in fact, “children of Abraham?”
 - In your own words, explain how the Abrahamic Covenant is a gospel promise.
3. How does God’s first promise to Abram (Gen 12:1–3 and the table of nations Gen 10:32) help us understand that the task of missions is to pursue ethno-linguistic people groups not political nations?
 - How does the concept of “people groups” help us measure our success in foreign missions?

- How can the concept of “people groups help us focus our efforts in foreign missions.

4. Take some time as a group to share how this message and the 2018 missions figures have impacted your thoughts about foreign missions. What has it changed? What questions has it raised?

5. Spend some time as a group praying:

- That God will open up opportunities to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the 8–15 people in your life that need Jesus.
- That God will help us, as a church, prioritize ministry and missions efforts.
- That God will raise up the full-time, long-term, language learning, cross-cultural missionaries that we need to reach all peoples for Jesus Christ. And that by his grace, he would be begin by raising up these missionaries from our church.

Status of World Evangelization 2018

From Various Perspectives

People Group Perspective

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations (ethne)" Matt 28:19



The Lamb is worthy of "...worship from every nation, tribe, people and tongue." Rev 5:9-12

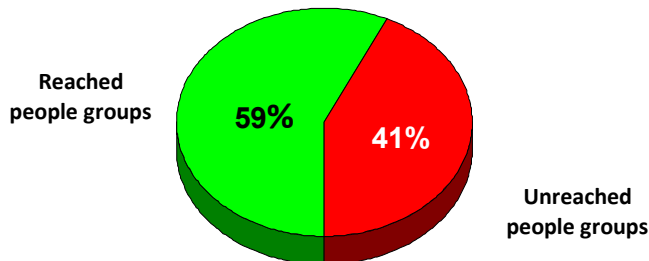
Where do we stand?

Individuals Perspective

"Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation" Mark 16:15



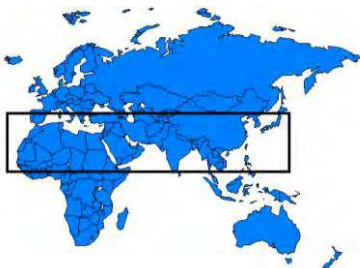
Ethnic People Groups: 17,000
Unreached People Groups*: 7,080 (41%)
Population in Unreached Groups: 3,140,000,000 (42%)



* Unreached defined as: a) less than 2% Christ-followers and b) less than 5% Professing Christian.

Countries with the most unreached people groups:

Country	Total People Groups	Least-Reached People Groups	% of Groups Least-Reached
India	2,554	2,289	90%
China	543	444	82%
Pakistan	422	414	98%
Bangladesh	326	294	90%
Nepal	274	266	97%



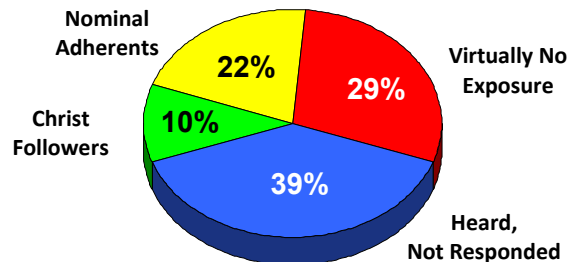
10/40 Window: The 67 countries of the 10/40 Window are home to over 5,900 unreached people groups. 5 out of every 6 unreached people groups are in the 10/40 Window.

50 Largest Unreached People Groups: Comprised of 1,500,000,000 (1.5 billion) souls. One in every five people on earth live in these 50 largest unreached peoples. Every group is larger than 10,000,000 and none have an indigenous church capable of reaching the rest of the group. 47 of these groups are in closed or restricted countries.

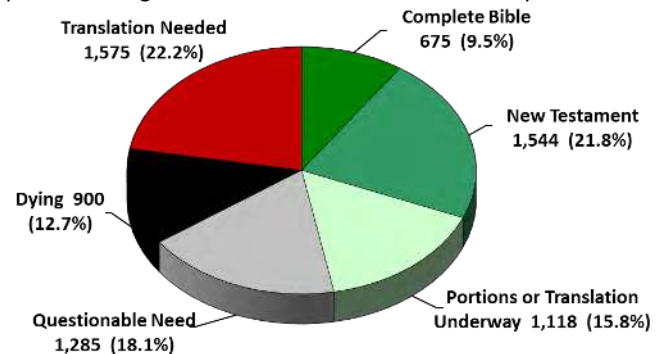
World Population: 7,600,000,000 (7.48 billion)

% of Population *	Population	Category
10%	.76 billion	Christ-followers
22%	1.67 billion	Nominal Christian Adherents
39%	2.97 billion	Heard, Not Responded
29%	2.20 billion	Virtually No Exposure

* Approximate Percentages



Bible Translation: Of the approximately 7,100 languages, about 1,530 have the New Testament available covering over 95% of the world's population. The goal is to start all needed translations by 2025.



Media: The Jesus film has been translated into 1,600 languages covering 98% of the world's population. Goal is to translate the film into any size language where someone is committed to use the film.

Resource	Languages	Website
Jesus Film	1,600	www.jesuskfilm.org
Online NT – Audio	1,500	www.bible.is
Online NT – Text	1,150	www.youversion.com

Challenges

- Christianity (all kinds) is growing at 1.2% per year, but Islam is growing at 1.9% and thus faster than general Christianity. The positive news is that Evangelical Christianity is growing at 2.6% and thus faster than Islam. (*Operation World* 2010)
- About 90% of all cross-cultural missionaries labor among nominally Christian people groups, only about 10% among unreached peoples.
- 81% of all Muslims, Buddhists and Hindus do not personally know a Christ-follower. (*World Christian Encyclopedia*)
- Out of every dollar of Christian giving to all causes less than one penny goes toward pioneer church planting among unreached peoples.
- While Christians of all types make up about 1/3 of the world's population, the absolute number of non-Christians is increasing.
- An estimated 95% of pastors worldwide have had no formal training.