

October 10, 2021

A HEART FOR MISSIONS: OUR FIELD IS THE WORLD

God has richly blessed the congregations of our AFLC and their several cooperative ministries over the relatively few years of our fellowship together. We have many reasons to praise the Lord for all He has done and is doing in our midst—all because of His grace!

Through these four-plus decades of our existence, thousands have been brought to a saving faith in Jesus Christ through the mission outreach of our congregations and our work together. Eternity alone will reveal the impact of God's Word and Spirit in our midst! What a thrill it will be to meet Americans, Canadians, Brazilians, Mexicans, Indians, Ugandans, Tanzanians, Latvians, Estonians, Russians, and so many more in Heaven—people who were saved because of the “missionheart” God has given to so many among us.

But even as we praise the Lord for the powerful effect of His Word and all that He has done and is doing, we must face the reality that “untold millions still remain untold.” . . . As congregations working together who want to be true to the Great Commission of our Lord, *our field is the world!*

Our Lord's final words just before His ascension were a call to witness “to the remotest part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Again and again, He made it clear in His days on earth that His heart was for the salvation of all. “Go into *all* the world,” He said. Bring the message of repentance and faith “to *all* the nations” (Luke 24:47). . . .

When our Lord died on Calvary's cross, it was not only for us—but for every last man, woman, boy, and girl on the face of the earth! . . . “For God so loved *the world* that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life” John 3:16 NKJV).

Surely our current mission work in various places must remain as a prime focus of our prayers and support, but *our field is the world!* Every person in every nation, including our next-door neighbor, is precious in the sight of God—so precious that His only Son shed His blood that they might be saved! . . .

As we acknowledge together that *our field is the world*, as we look on the fields—the fields that are *already* ready for harvest, as we consider who is calling us to enter into the harvest—Jesus Christ Himself—and all that He assures us by way of His presence, His provision, His protection, and His power, may we be quick to respond with the prophet, “Here am I! Send me.”

—Dr. Francis W. Monseth, excerpt from recently published *One Thing I Seek: Selected Writings of Francis W. Monseth*, AFLC Heritage Series Volume V (Minneapolis: Ambassador Publications, 2021), 219–223.

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