

# HeartCry

MAGAZINE

# Mission & Methodology

SPECIAL EDITION 2009





Dear Family of God,

It is our privilege to greet you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel (II Timothy 1:10). The purpose of this “Special Edition” is to clearly communicate the mission statement, ministries, doctrine, and principles of the HeartCry Missionary Society. In the following pages, we have included those things which should be of greatest interest to the fellowship of believers who form part of this ministry through their prayers and giving, and to those who may be inquiring.

From the very outset, we hope to make it clear that we are a ministry of a local church - a simple fellowship of believers gathered together with a common interest and calling to labor in the Great Commission. We have no purpose for self-promotion and have no ambition except that of obeying the Lord’s will. Although we have experienced a good measure of God’s blessing in our endeavors, we are not indispensable to the growth of His kingdom. If we were to perish tomorrow, it would not in any way hinder the mighty advance of His will, nor diminish the increase of His harvest. We exist and bear fruit only because of God’s gracious purpose (John 15:16). He is not served by human hands, as though He needed anything (Acts 17:25). He will make His Name great among the nations (Malachi 1:11) with or without us.

Although we have this sure confidence in the Lord’s character and decree, we are not unaware of the times, nor are we without passion. At the dawn of this new millennium, we stand at the threshold of countless opportunities to witness the revelation of God’s glory among the nations. To tarry is to miss out on the greatest open door the Church has ever known. It is not a time for small visions, narrow minds, and tight spirits, but a time for boldness, courage, and dependence upon the faithful promises of God. It is a time for taking up crosses, counting things lost, and following the Master.

For all these reasons and more, the HeartCry Missionary Society is trusting God for His all-sufficient grace that we might be of some useful service to the Master in this greatest of all endeavors. May we be found faithful until the Lord’s standard is raised on every continent, in every nation, and among every people. May God’s good providence fulfill His every promise to gather a people for His Son and to make His Name great among the nations!

In His Name,

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# Our MISSION

The goal of our ministry is to glorify God through the preaching of the Gospel and the establishment of biblical churches throughout the world.

## REASONS

***The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe.*** Thus, men are converted and the church is established through the preaching of the Gospel – The Son of God incarnate, bearing the sins of His people, crucified on a Roman cross, dying under the wrath of God, and rising from the dead (Romans 1:16).

***A biblical church is the will of God.*** The establishment of local churches was the goal of the apostolic ministry (Ephesians 3:10-11, 21; 4:11-13).

***A biblical church is the “pillar and support” of the truth.*** Therefore, it is the great and en-

during bulwark against error (1 Timothy 3:15). The church is the “salt of the earth,” and the only entity that can preserve a nation or people from self-deceit and self-destruction.

***A biblical church is foundational to a self-sustaining, ever-multiplying mission effort.*** The missionary endeavor is advanced as an ever-increasing number of strong autonomous churches are participating in the Great Commission.

***A biblical church is the result or “mature fruit” of a genuine work of God.*** Therefore, the goal of planting a biblical church should serve to focus and guide all missionary endeavors.

## NATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

***It is manifested locally and visibly.*** Although there is a universal aspect to the New Testament church, it is manifest to the world as an identifiable local body of believers.

***It is spiritual.*** Though not unstructured or unorganized, the church is both created and sustained by Christ through the Holy Spirit. Thus, it is more an organism than an organization, institution, or mechanism.

***It is autonomous.*** The fellowship is self-governing and self-sustaining. It is to be elder led, deacon served, and congregationally governed.

***It is collective and interdependent.*** Its members minister to one another according to their callings and spiritual giftings.

***It is driven doctrinally or theologically.*** Biblical doctrine must prevail over pragmatism and cultural sensitivity. The church exists under the headship of Christ, and must be governed by His Word. Thus, the Scriptures are the inspired and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice for the church.

***It is missionary.*** The fellowship should be directly involved in the establishment of new churches of like faith and practice, both in its own locality and throughout the world.

***It's chief end and motivation is the glory of God in Christ.*** While the church should exhibit a genuine and tireless love for humanity, its greatest concern must be the interests, will, and glory of God.

## OBSERVATIONS

The establishment of a mature, biblical church is a costly and arduous endeavor. Apart from some unusual working of the Spirit, it may take years of a missionary's life to establish one biblical work.

While we recognize the need for the rapid advance of the Gospel, we cannot find any other biblical methodology except that of laboring to plant biblical churches.

The mere gathering together of believers or recent converts should not be regarded as a church. Although all churches must pass through this stage, it is only the beginning of a work. If the gathering does not go on to maturity in spirituality, leadership, etc., it will quickly disintegrate.

The effectiveness of all missionary endeavors should be determined by the perseverance in sound doctrine and practice of the individual convert and the established churches. Evangelistic decisions and even baptisms are not

sound measures for determining the effectiveness of a missionary or a missionary society.

We recognize our own frequent failings and constant need of greater sanctification. Therefore, we will remain open to working with believers and churches that demonstrate great need in their understanding and application of Scripture if they are teachable and sincerely striving toward greater conformity to Christ and His doctrine.

The greatest need of the church both here and abroad is the training of men in sound doctrine, Godliness, and the communication of truth to God's people. Therefore, we can best advance the cause of Christ in the world through the training of his ministers in biblical doctrine and practice.

Missions is not about sending missionaries, but sending God's truth through the medium of missionaries.



# Our THEOLOGY

The great end of any missionary society or fellowship should not be the sending forth of missionaries, but the sending forth of God's truth through missionaries. It is unwise and even perilous to make missions or evangelism a rallying point for believers or congregations of diverse or undefined doctrinal viewpoints. Truth and the desire to make it known among the nations must be the uniting force.

Since missions is primarily a task of communicating God's truth to the nations, biblical doctrine is primary. Any missionary society or agency that does not concern itself with biblical doctrine or generalizes its doctrinal statement in order to maintain fellowship with the greatest number of professing Christians (i.e., supporters) has lost its very purpose and possibly its very soul.

**The Scriptures.** The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are the only sufficient, certain and authoritative rule of all saving knowledge, faith, and obedience.

**God.** There is but one God, the maker, preserver and ruler of all things, having in and of Himself all perfections, and being infinite in them all; and to Him all creatures owe the highest love, reverence and obedience.

**The Trinity.** God is revealed to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

**Providence.** God, from eternity, decrees or permits all things that come to pass, and perpetually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and all events; yet not in any way as to be the author or approver of sin nor to destroy the free will and responsibility of intelligent creatures.

**Election.** Election is God's eternal choice of some persons unto everlasting life—not because of foreseen merit in them, but of His mere mercy in Christ—in consequence of which choice they are called, justified, and glorified.

**The Fall of Man.** God originally created man in His own image, and free from sin; but, through the temptation of Satan, man transgressed the command of God, and fell from His original holiness and righteousness; whereby His posterity [i.e. descendants] inherit a nature corrupt and wholly opposed to God and His law, are under condemnation, and as soon as they are capable of moral action, become actual transgressors.

**The Mediator.** Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, is the divinely appointed mediator between God and man. Having taken upon Himself human nature, yet without sin, He perfectly fulfilled the law, suffered and died upon the cross for the salvation of sinners. He was buried, rose again on the third day, and ascended to His Father, at whose right hand He lives forever to make intercession for His people. He is the only mediator, the prophet, priest, and king of the church, and sovereign of the universe.

**Regeneration.** Regeneration is a change of heart, wrought by the Holy Spirit, who makes alive those who are dead in trespasses and sins, enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the Word of God, and renewing their whole nature, so that they love and practice holiness. It is a work of God's free and special grace alone.

**Repentance.** Repentance is an evangelical grace, wherein the Holy Spirit makes a person aware of the manifold evil of His sin, so that He humbles Himself with Godly sorrow, detesting sin, and abhorring (i.e., hating) self, with a purpose and endeavor to walk before God so as to please Him in all things.

**Faith.** Saving faith is the belief, on God's authority, of whatsoever is revealed in His word concerning Christ; accepting and resting upon Him alone for justification and eternal life. It is wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, and is accompanied by all other saving grace, and leads to a life of holiness.

**Justification.** Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal of sinners who believe in Christ, from all sin, through the satisfaction that Christ has made. It is given not for anything wrought in them or done by them, but on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ, they receiving and resting on Him and His righteousness by faith.

**Sanctification.** Those who have been regenerated are also sanctified by God's word and Spirit dwelling in them. This sanctification is progressive through the supply of divine strength, which all saints seek to obtain, pressing after a heavenly life in cordial [i.e., willing] obedience to all Christ's commands.

**Perseverance of the Saints.** Those whom God has accepted in the beloved, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere to the end; and though they may fall, through neglect and temptation, into sin, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bring reproach on the church, and temporal judgments on themselves, yet they shall be renewed again unto repentance, and be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

**The Church.** The Lord Jesus is the head of the church, which is composed of all His true disciples, and in Him is invested supremely all power for its government. According to His commandment, Christians are to associate themselves into particular societies or churches; and to each of these churches He has given needful authority for administering the order,

discipline and worship which He has appointed. The regular officers of a church are bishops (or elders) and deacons.

**Baptism.** Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus, obligatory upon every believer, wherein He is immersed in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, as a sign of His fellowship with the death and resurrection of Christ, of remission of sins, and of His giving Himself up to God, to live and walk in newness of life.

**The Lord's Supper.** The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of Jesus Christ, to be administered with bread and wine, and to be observed by His churches till the end of the world. It is in no sense a sacrifice, but is designed to commemorate His death, to confirm the faith of Christians, and to be a bond, pledge, and renewal of their communion with Him, and of their church fellowship.

**The Lord's Day.** The New Testament church gives the example of assembling on the Lord's day (i.e. sunday) for the reading and teaching of the Word of God, worship, prayer, and mutual encouragement – stimulating one another to love and good deeds. It is fitting to view the Lord's Day as a celebration of Christ's resurrection and the redemption of His people.

**The Resurrection.** The bodies of men after death return to dust, but their Spirits return immediately to God - the righteous to rest with Him; the wicked to be reserved under darkness to judgment. At the last day the bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised.

**The Judgment.** God has appointed a day, wherein He will judge the world by Jesus Christ, when every one shall receive according to His deeds: the wicked shall go into everlasting punishment; the righteous, into everlasting life.

*\* Acknowledgements: the Heartcry Missionary Society's doctrinal confession is taken in part from the Abstract of Principles set down by James Pettigru Boyce, the principle founder of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1859), the first chairman of its faculty (1859-1887), its first president (1888), and its most distinguished professor of systematic theology.*

# Essential CONVICTIONS

**1. Missions is an Impossibility apart from the Power of God.** All men of every culture are born radically depraved, at enmity with God, and restraining the truth. The conversion of a man and the advancement of missions are an absolute impossibility apart from the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit in regeneration. Modern church growth strategies and many new mission methodologies often overlook this essential truth.

**2. A True Gospel must be Proclaimed. The Gospel is the power of God for salvation (Romans 1:16) and the preaching of the Gospel is the great “means” and “methodology” of missions.** The Gospel is, first and foremost, God in Christ reconciling the world to Himself (II Corinthians 5:19). It answers the eternal question of how a just God can rightly justify wicked men (Romans 3:26). It points to Christ alone, who bore the sins of His people upon the cross, was forsaken of God, and crushed under the full force of His just wrath against sin. The Good News of the Gospel is that through Christ’s death, the justice of God was satisfied and salvation was won for a great multitude of people. This is evidenced by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead - “He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification” (Romans 4:25).

**3. The Gospel Transcends Culture.** The greatest need of all men of every culture is the clear proclamation of the Gospel. Men are saved through the Gospel and continue in sanctification through continued growth in the full counsel of God’s Word. Although differences in culture are to be considered, it is more important for the missionary to be biblically sensitive than culturally sensitive. A missionary was once asked how he preached the Gospel to a certain remote tribe. He declared, “I do not preach the Gospel to a remote tribe. I preach the Gospel to men!”

**4. Incarnational Missions is Essential.** Although there may be some effective non-personal means of communicating the Gospel, there is no substitute for one man living among a people, teaching the Gospel to them, and living out his faith before them. God sent his own Son, and He became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:1,14; 3:16).

**5. Superficial Evangelism is one of the Great Obstacles to Missions.** Non-theological preaching, entertaining skits, and Gospel films are no substitute for the biblical exposition of the Gospel. Inviting men to raise their hands and pray a prayer is no substitute for the biblical call to repentance, faith, and personal discipleship. Biblical assurance of salvation does not flow from a past decision or a prayer, but from the examination of one’s enduring lifestyle in the light of Scripture.

**6. Church Planting is the Primary Work of Missions.** There are many gifts and callings in the body of Christ, but all of them are to work together on the mission field with the primary goal of planting a biblical church. It is one thing to do mass evangelism and to boast of the numbers of decisions— it is quite another to establish a biblical church.

**7. True Missions is Costly.** Amy Carmichael explained that missions is no more and no less than an opportunity to die. We live in a fallen world that is at enmity with God and opposes His truth; therefore, missions and suffering go hand in hand. Any advancement of the kingdom of Christ into the dominion of the devil will be met with warfare. There are many countries and people groups where martyrdom cannot be avoided.

# Indigenous MISSIONS

Although HeartCry recognizes the great importance of sending missionaries from the West to the unevangelized peoples throughout the world, we believe that we are led of the Lord to support indigenous or native missionaries so that they might evangelize their own peoples. We seek to work with indigenous congregations, elders, and missionaries of integrity and faith in the unreached world to help them evangelize and plant churches among their own peoples.

## Fulfilling the Great Commission

How do we fulfill the Great Commission? There are two distinct mission strategies that we must consider. They are very different, but not in opposition. We need not think that we must use one to the exclusion of the other. Both are viable in their own right and should be employed to fulfill the Great Commission. These two mission strategies are:

**A Cross-Cultural Mission Strategy** - This is the traditional strategy for doing missions, whereby missionaries are sent to a nation, people group, or culture outside their own. Example: A North American missionary agency sending and supporting a North American missionary to Eastern Europe.

**An Indigenous Mission Strategy** - This strategy does not send missionaries from one nation, people group, or culture to another, but works through missionaries that are native to the country in which they are ministering. Example: A North American missionary agency providing the support for a Romanian missionary to work in Romania among his own people.

## Cross-Cultural Missions

The Church has a long and glorious history of cross-cultural missions. The apostle Paul was a cross-cultural missionary in that he went outside his own people, the Jews, and outside his own country, Israel, and preached the Gospel to the Gentiles. William Carey and Amy Carmichael in India, Hudson Taylor in China, and David Livingstone in Africa are all examples of cross-cultural missionaries.

It is not difficult to see that cross-cultural mission work is indispensable to the Great Commission. How can a people group who is entirely without the Gospel come to a saving knowledge of Christ unless missionaries from

another culture are sent to them? The apostle Paul writes in Romans 10:14-15:

*“How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!’” (NASB)*

Cross-cultural missions are biblical, historical, and necessary wherever there exists a people group completely devoid of the Gospel message or where the Church is still struggling to take root in a culture or people group. In many areas of the world today, there are entire people groups that have no knowledge of Christ. For them to be reached, Christians must leave their own peoples and lands and go to them, bearing the Good News.

## Indigenous Missions

After two thousand years of missionary activity, over half the world has still not heard the Gospel. The traditional mission method of only training and financing North American and Western European missionaries is not sufficient in itself to reach the world. There are simply not enough missionaries or available economic resources from the West to reach all the nations of the world! A solution to this problem is to support indigenous or native missionaries to work within their own countries and people groups.



In the following paragraphs, we will consider a few of the most important advantages of sending and supporting indigenous or native missionaries to reach their own people. Before we do, we want to iterate that the indigenous missionary strategy does not eliminate the need for cross-cultural missionaries. This is not an either/or, but a both/and situation. We are not arguing for a moratorium on North American and Western European missionaries, but fully recognize the need for thousands more on the field! We are simply seeking to prove that the indigenous missionary strategy is an equally viable missionary method.

**1. Human Resources** It is a fact that, before going to war, military strategists consider the size of their population as opposed to that of their enemy. This simply means that the amount of human resources available to carry out a task is extremely important. The world is a very large place with more than six billion people. If every Christian in America was a foreign missionary, there would still not be enough missionaries to preach the Gospel to all peoples. If we continue to depend only on missionaries from the West, much of the world will never hear the Gospel.

**2. Financial Resources** It costs a great deal of money to send and support North American and Western European missionaries. Many missionary families require \$3000 to \$4000 a month to work in a foreign land where the average salary is often less than \$200 a month. In contrast, the indigenous or native missionary is able to live on the same salary as his fellow countrymen. This adds up to a tremendous increase in economic power. For what it costs to support one North American missionary with a monthly support of \$4000, it is possible to support 20 indigenous missionaries!

**3. Language and Culture** Any cross-cultural missionary will testify that language and culture are two of the greatest obstacles to the work. It often takes a cross-cultural missionary his first term (4-5 years) just to learn the language and adjust to the culture. Five years and a quarter of a million dollars are spent on the mission field to learn the language, adjust to the culture, and do a minimum of ministry. In contrast, the indigenous or native missionary has no need to learn the language or adjust to the culture that he has known since birth. From his very first day on the mission field, the indigenous missionary can concentrate on his two priorities - evangelizing the lost and planting churches.

**4. Identification** There is much anti-American and anti-European bias in many of the least

evangelized countries of the world. In many people groups, it is virtually impossible for a western missionary to preach the Gospel because he is rejected for his nationality long before he has the opportunity to communicate his message! In contrast, the indigenous missionary has little problem with such bias because he is of the same flesh and blood as those to whom he preaches. When he is rejected, it is not for the sake of his flag, but for the sake of his Gospel. Another problem that missionaries from the West often face is their inability or unwillingness to live on the same level as those to whom they minister. Western missionaries often live in homes that seem like mansions to the native; they drive expensive cars, while the native takes a bus; and they send their children to private school, while the native sends his to public school. In contrast, the indigenous missionary's support is adjusted according to the average salary of his own country. He lives in the same neighborhood, takes the same bus, and his children attend the same school.

**5. No Difficult Transitions** For the cross-cultural missionary, church planting is often not as difficult as the later transitional period when the missionary bids farewell and the church comes under national leadership. The church often suffers a great deal during this transitional period, loses members, and is greatly discouraged. Having experienced the prestige of a western missionary as pastor, the church is often no longer willing to accept one of its own. This is not a problem when the church is planted by an indigenous missionary and is under his leadership from beginning to end.

**6. Focus** It seems that many North American and Western European mission agencies have lost their focus. The Great Commission is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel, saving souls, discipling believers, and planting churches. Many western agencies seem to have an exorbitant number of missionaries working as administrators and "facilitators", and few ministering as preachers and church planters.



# Missionary TRAINING

As Christians living in the West, we have an almost unlimited access to the Scriptures, we may study in the Bible institute or seminary of our choice, and we are privileged to have most of the great books of Christianity translated into our own language. This has been God's blessing upon the West, and there is no need for us to apologize for our abundance. It is only required of us that we be good stewards in using our resources for the advancement of our own faith and in making the same resources available to our brothers and sisters in the rest of the world.

The HeartCry Missionary Society works with indigenous missionaries whom God has raised up for Himself in some of the most remote places on the earth. Although they are often without much formal training, God has taught them and made them competent. There is a sense in which we would do well to sit at their feet and learn, but there is another sense in which their lives and ministries would prosper even more if they had at least some of the resources that abound among us. It is, therefore, HeartCry's goal to provide whatever training and resources necessary to advance the Gospel through these indigenous missionaries around the world.

Before we continue, we must acknowledge that much damage is being done to the work of God on the "foreign field" by some of the teachings which are exported by Western Christianity. The superficial evangelism and church growth strategies that have done so much damage to the cause of Christ in the West are having a greater and greater influence upon Christ's ministers in the Third World. In some cases, the very columns of the Christian ministry - expository preaching, intercessory prayer, sacrificial service, and personal evangelism - have been given a back seat to seeker-friendly strategies and state-of-the-art media presentations.

It is HeartCry's goal to encourage indigneous pastors and missionaries to continue striving to know God and submit their lives and ministries to the dictates of His Word. To put it bluntly, our passion is to demonstrate to God's men that God's Word is all-sufficient

for all things in life and ministry. It is "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work" (II Timothy 3:16-17 - NASB).

In striving towards our goal of building up the indigenous church and its ministers, we have adopted the following means: Bible Conferences, Bible and literature distribution, and theological training by extension.

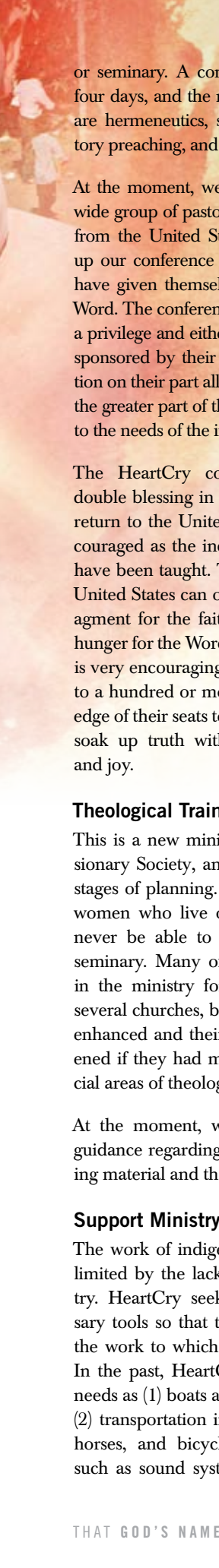
## Literature Distribution

Many indigenous missionaries and pastors in the foreign field have been limited by their own poverty from having an adequate library to use as a resource in studying the Scriptures. There are ministers on the foreign field who have served for years and have been used of God to plant several congregations, and yet they have never even owned a concordance or Bible dictionary. How much more prosperous would their ministries have been if they had been privileged to have even the most basic tools for Bible study?

It is for this reason that HeartCry seeks to provide individual books and pastoral libraries to indigenous missionaries and pastors in the foreign field. A pastoral library may include a Study Bible, an exhaustive concordance, a Bible dictionary, a one-volume commentary on the Bible, and a systematic theology. The cost of a pastoral library is usually little more than \$150 to \$200 (U.S.) and yet the fruit of such a gift cannot be measured. It is humbling to see indigenous workers who have labored for years literally weeping with joy upon receiving an exhaustive concordance and a Bible dictionary. For many, it is the answer to years of prayer.

## Bible Conferences

We consider the training of indigenous missionaries, pastors, and evangelists to be one of the greatest privileges entrusted to us by God. This training takes its most personal form in our annual and semi-annual Bible conferences that are held in the countries where it is most needed. Throughout the year, we are able to have an influence on the theology and praxis of hundreds of worthy laborers who have often not had the privilege of studying in a formal Bible institute



or seminary. A conference is usually held for four days, and the main areas of concentration are hermeneutics, systematic theology, expository preaching, and pastoral ministry.

At the moment, we have been blessed with a wide group of pastors, teachers, and evangelists from the United States from which we make up our conference teams. They are men who have given themselves to know God and His Word. The conference speakers see this work as a privilege and either pay their own way or are sponsored by their home church. Such dedication on their part allows us to continue directing the greater part of the donations entrusted to us to the needs of the indigenous missionary.

The HeartCry conferences function as a double blessing in that those who teach often return to the United States as blessed and encouraged as the indigenous missionaries who have been taught. The Gospel ministry in the United States can often be a source of discouragement for the faithful pastor who sees little hunger for the Word among his congregants. It is very encouraging for him to teach the Word to a hundred or more laborers who sit on the edge of their seats to hear every word and who soak up truth with overwhelming gratitude and joy.

### **Theological Training by Extension**

This is a new ministry for the HeartCry Missionary Society, and we are still in the initial stages of planning. There are many men and women who live outside the West who will never be able to attend a Bible college or seminary. Many of them have already been in the ministry for years and have planted several churches, but their ministries could be enhanced and their churches further strengthened if they had more training in certain crucial areas of theology and ministry.

At the moment, we are seeking the Lord's guidance regarding the development of teaching material and the structure of the training.

### **Support Ministry**

The work of indigenous missionaries is often limited by the lack of proper tools for ministry. HeartCry seeks to provide these necessary tools so that the missionaries may fulfill the work to which the Lord has called them. In the past, HeartCry has provided for such needs as (1) boats and motors on the Amazon; (2) transportation in the form of automobiles, horses, and bicycles; (3) media equipment such as sound systems, projectors, and evan-

gelistic films; (4) computers; and (5) clothing. Although we always seek to be cautious in designating funds to anything other than "international missions", we recognize this ministry to be nearly indispensable to the work of God, especially in some of the more remote parts of the Third World.

### **Chapel Construction**

Many churches on the foreign field are limited in their ministry by not having an adequate meeting place, or the cost of renting prevents them from obtaining the necessary capital to purchase their own land and begin construction. HeartCry seeks to assist such churches by providing the funds necessary for the purchase of property and the building of a permanent structure sufficient for meetings. Land purchases and construction costs usually range from \$1000 in rural areas to \$50,000 in highly populated, urban areas. To date, the largest donation given by HeartCry to an indigenous church is \$60,000. This amount was given over a period of time to the Iglesia del Salvador (Church of the Savior) in Barranco, one of the least evangelized areas of Lima, Peru.

### **Bible Distribution**

Our Bible distribution is limited almost entirely to believers. Many Christians in the foreign field do not own a Bible. We have known of congregations with only one Bible, where the pastor was required to ask permission from the church in order to carry the Bible with him during missionary journeys to other villages. Our strategy for Bible distribution is as follows: (1) We purchase Bibles in bulk rate in order to lower the cost. (2) We purchase Bibles inside the country of distribution in order to avoid problems with shipping and customs. (3) We purchase hardback Bibles with pages that are glued and sewn together. Paper back Bibles with glued pages are cheaper, but will not last. (4) Our Bibles contain both the Old and New Testaments, and a concordance, the only study tool that many believers will ever own. (5) We sell our Bibles at a discount rate rather than giving them away for free. We take great pains to insure that no genuine believer leaves without a Bible, but we do require that something of value be given. We have given Scripture in return for chickens, fish, coffee beans, etc. By purchasing the Bible instead of receiving it as charity, the believer's personal dignity and sense of responsibility remain intact. The believer's offering is used to purchase more Bibles for other believers.



*“Taking precaution that no one should discredit us in our administration of this generous gift; for we have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.”*

*II Corinthians 8:20-21*

## A Word to the Inquirer

*“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.”*  
*John 4:35*

As a Christian, you have been called to participate fully and sacrificially in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) in either going to the unreached or supporting those who go. However, it may not be God’s will for you to do so through this ministry. Please seek the Lord in prayer and in the study of the Scriptures before sending financial support. Please do not send financial support to this ministry if you are not being faithful in giving to your local church.

## Foundational Principles

† ***Every need of this ministry will be obtained through prayer.*** We may share our missionary vision with others and even make known to them the specific tasks which the Lord has laid on our heart to do, but we may not raise support through prodding or manipulating our brothers and sisters in Christ. If this ministry is of the Lord, then He will be our Patron. If He is with us, He will direct His people to give and we will prosper. If He is not with us, we will not and should not succeed.

† ***We intend to never enlarge our field of labor by contracting debts.*** This is contrary to both the letter and the spirit of the New Testament. In secret prayer, God helping us, we will carry the needs of this ministry to the Lord and act according to the direction that He gives.

† ***We will not compete with other biblical mission agencies,*** but will use the resources that God has given to us to work in partnership with them. If the Lord directs, we will sacrifice our own goals and resources that other mission works may be helped and the Kingdom of God increased.

† ***In meeting any need,*** those of us who are supported financially by this ministry will be the first to sacrifice all things necessary for the advancement of His Kingdom.

† ***The staff that is employed full-time in this ministry is worthy of their labor.*** They should be afforded that which is required to live with dignity and to demonstrate that the Lord is gracious to supply the needs of His servants. To neglect their welfare would give excuse for the unGodly to bring unjust accusations against the Lord that He is either uncaring or unable to meet the needs of His servants. Those whom this ministry supports shall not be given so much as to waste the Lord’s resources, acquire luxury, or live above those who so graciously give to the Lord’s work. To seek wealth and luxury in the ministry is to deny the call.

† ***We will not measure the success of this ministry by the amount of money given,*** Bibles distributed, or national missionaries supported, but by the Lord’s blessing on the work.

† ***Our Goal is not to enlarge ourselves,*** or to become a key figure in the Great Commission, but to be faithful and obedient stewards by the grace that is given to us. Our only vision is the crucified, risen, and exalted Christ.

## Sharing the Vision

After much deliberation and prayer, we have determined that while it is not in keeping with the Scriptures to solicit funds, it is neither proper to hide the needs of others from our supporters. Therefore, it is within God’s will for us to share our missionary vision and specific work with other Christians, make known the valid needs which we receive from the mission field around the world, and publish reports of God’s faithful dealings with us. This may be accomplished through the following means:

† ***Our Bi-monthly Magazine.*** The main purpose of the HeartCry magazine is to inform our supporters regarding the direction of our mission work, our stewardship, and the things that have been accomplished through their giving. We also seek to provide articles, reports, and testimonies from the field that will encourage the readers in their walk with God and in the work of the Great Commission.

† **Our Website.** The HeartCry website has much the same purpose as our magazine, but with more detailed information and the greater flexibility of the internet. One area of special importance will be a page entitled “Ways to Give” where supporters will be able to review a list of valid needs sent to us from missionaries all over the globe.

† **Visiting Churches upon Request.** We will not solicit churches or individuals for donations under any circumstance, but we will visit churches and other Christian gatherings (mission conferences, etc.) upon their request. Our presentation to any church or conference will always be in conformity to the requests of the leadership. Most often we are asked to make an oral presentation, with or without media, and to set up an information table. In our presentation, we will share our purpose, convictions, methodology, and present work, but we will never solicit funds.

† **Answering Personal Inquiries.** In the past, we refused to answer personal inquires from churches and individuals regarding the needs of HeartCry and our missionaries throughout the world. This was done in an attempt to trust only in the Lord and to avoid the temptation to seek the help of men. Although our conviction was admirable, it was not necessarily biblical, and it frustrated the attempts of many people to be involved in the work of missions. After great consideration, the searching of Scripture, and prayer, we have determined to answer all genuine inquiries from Christians who desire to give in a more informed way to HeartCry.

## General Fund

The General Fund is the backbone of the HeartCry Missionary Society and is our top prayer priority. Apart from these needs being met, HeartCry cannot function. All donations given to the General Fund go to the following:

† **Missionary Support.** The HeartCry Missionary Society supports missionary families on five continents, in the regions of Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America, and North America. This is our primary ministry and the highest percentage of all giving goes to this ministry. The great majority of our missionar-

ies are church planters with families. We have made a commitment to provide for their support, and they depend upon us monthly.

† **Administration:** It is our desire to glorify God by keeping all administrative costs to a bare minimum. All our office space, along with all utilities, are provided free of charge by the Grace Life Church of the Shoals.

## Designated Giving

After much deliberation and prayer, we have determined that while it is not in keeping with the Scriptures to prod or manipulate our brothers for funds, it is neither proper to hide the valid needs of others from sincere inquirers. For this reason, we have included a page on our website entitled “Ways to Give” where supporters might review a list of needs sent to us from missionaries all over the globe. The needs have been validated by our field directors and all donations given toward any selected need will go directly to it. These needs will vary greatly.

## Accountability

The HeartCry Missionary Society is under the authority and supervision of the Grace Life Church of the Shoals (1915 Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals, AL 35661, Tel. 256-381-7495), and is accountable to them in all areas of life, ministry, and Christian profession. The HeartCry Missionary Society provides a biannual financial report. All donations are tax deductible and are verifiable by receipts sent from HeartCry to each supporter.

Algeria American Samoa Andorra Anguilla Antarctica Antigua and Barbuda Argentina Aruba  
Australia Austria Bahamas Bahrain Bangladesh Barbados Belgium Belize Benin Bermuda  
Bhutan Bolivia Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana Bouvet Island Brazil British Indian Ocean  
Territory Brunei Darussalam Bulgaria Burkina Faso Burundi Cameroon Canada Cape Verde  
Cayman Islands Central African Republic Chad Chile China Christmas Island Cocos (Keel-  
ing) Islands Colombia Comoros Congo Cook Islands Costa Rica Cote D'Ivoire Croatia Cyprus  
Czech Republic Denmark Djibouti Dominica Dominican Republic East Timor Ecuador Egypt  
El Salvador Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia Falkland Islands Faroe Islands Fiji Finland  
France French Guiana French Polynesia French Southern Territories Gabon Gambia Germany  
Gibraltar Greece Ghana Greenland Grenada Guadeloupe Guam Guatemala Guinea Guinea-  
Bissau Guyana Haiti Heard and Mc Donald Islands Honduras Hong Kong Hungary Iceland  
India Indonesia Iraq Ireland Israel Italy Jamaica Japan Jordan Kenya Kiribati Korea Kuwait  
Lebanon Lesotho Liberia Liechtenstein Luxembourg Macau Macedonia Madagascar Malawi  
Malaysia Maldives Mali Malta Marshall Islands Martinique Mauritania Mauritius Mayotte  
Mexico Micronesia Moldova Monaco Montserrat Morocco Myanmar Mozambique Namibia Na-  
uru Netherlands Antilles Nepal New Caledonia New Zealand Nicaragua Nigeria Niger Niue  
Norfolk Island Northern Mariana Islands Norway Oman Pakistan Palau Palestine Territory  
Panama Papua New Guinea Paraguay Peru Philippines Pitcairn Poland Portugal Puerto Rico  
Qatar Reunion Romania Rwanda Saint Helena Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia  
Saint Pierre and Miquelon Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Samoa San Marino Sao Tome  
and Principe Saudi Arabia Serbia Steig I Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Slovakia (Slovak  
Republic) Slovenia Solomon Islands Somalia South Africa South Georgia and the South Sand-  
wich Islands Spain Sri Lanka Suriname Svalbard and Jan Mayen Swaziland Sweden  
Switzerland Taiwan Tanzania Thailand Togo Tokelau Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tunisia Tur-  
key Turks and Caicos Islands Tuvalu Uganda Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom  
United States Minor Outlying Islands United States of America Uruguay Vanuatu Vatican City  
State (Holy See) Ven- ezuela Virgin Islands (British) Virgin Islands (U.S.) Wallis and Futuna  
Islands West- ern Sahara Yemen Zaire Zambia Zimbabwe and beyond...

A MINISTRY OF GRACE LIFE CHURCH OF THE SHOALS  
FOR MORE INFO, GO TO [WWW.HEARTCRYMISSIONARY.COM](http://WWW.HEARTCRYMISSIONARY.COM)