



God's Presence and His Power in the Mission Field

Matthew 28:18-20

The Biggest Challenge is over

The eleven disciples and all the followers of Jesus were frightened by the crucial hours of cruel betrayal, trial, suffering, agony and the horrible crucifixion. But the resurrection of Jesus was like a new dawn of the bright day of Hope when our Lord broke the pangs of death. On the cross, forsaken and alone, He entered into a death grapple with the powers of darkness. On the cross, He broke the hold of the forces that mastered the human spirit and vanquished the would be powers against mankind. As apostle Paul puts it, He triumphed and mastered them and made an open show by leading them as a conqueror would lead a train of captives in open display before his subjects (Ephesians 4).

In the words of Ray Steadman,

“In the crucifixion story you see Him standing as a lone prisoner before Pilate in judgment, and then passing into the darkness of the garden, from there to the whipping post, and then to the cross where He was nailed up to die. In the anguish and haze of that awful six hours, He grappled with these forces of darkness and vanquished them. Thus, the only crown He ever had as an earthly king was a crown of thorns; the only throne He ever mounted was a bloody cross; the only scepter He ever wielded was a broken reed”.

But the great power of God was displayed at the resurrection, when God raised Jesus out from the sealed tomb of the Romans and declared Him to be the Son of God. The great message of the Gospel, then, is that Jesus is not up yonder on some throne. He is not waiting in some distant judgment hall to pass judgment upon His enemies and persecutors. Jesus has already prayed for His enemies. Now they only have to confess!

God's Presence and Power go before you.

New challenges we face in the mission field will be overcome. Jesus Christ must be preached and believed as the King of all authority both in Heaven and Earth. Jesus promised His disciples in the great commission:

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen”.

The commission is given in light of the authority that is given unto Jesus.

- This is an authoritative command, not a suggestion. The command is to make disciples, not merely converts or supporters of a cause. The meaning of the word disciple used here is that of a scholar, a learner, a student. The totality of the commitment expected from a disciple is expressed in the command - to baptize them.
- Disciples are made through teaching, though not with words only, but with the power of the always-present Jesus, who will be present with His people until the job of making disciples is done i.e. the end of the age.
- The content of the teaching is to be all things that He has commanded us. The responsibility of the followers of Jesus is to present the whole counsel of God to those who are being made disciples.

We all need to count on God's presence with us, especially in places particularly resistant to the gospel, the “gospel deserts” of the world. But we can easily forget God's presence on the mission field. That's why Jesus tells us in His Great Commission not just to go, not just to make disciples, and not just to teach them everything He taught, but also that He will be with us always, “to the end of the age”. Jesus has all authority and He is ever-present in the mission field. Amen.

... Pr. T S Abraham

Remember these missionaries and their mission work:

Assam:

Deepak, Bisudas, Daniel, Joyen, Krishtopher, John, Markuch, Debendra, Shuklal, Ranjit

Chhattisgarh:

Pramod, Rajeshwar, Stephen, Shyamlal, Suresh

Karnataka:

James, Madhu, Michael, Meshach, Devadhan, Murthy, Dayandha, Samson, Philip

Kerala:

Melody, Maxwell, Aneesh

Odisha:

Sugdev, Lal

Punjab:

Satnam, Samuel, Ravi

Uttar Pradesh:

Pavan, Jai, Ravi, Brij

Tamil Nadu:

John, Johnson, Stephen



Schedule of Events for 2024

<p>Jan 2024</p> <p>Jan 6: Fasting Prayer Jan 27: SS and PYPA Anniversary</p>	<p>Feb 2024</p> <p>Feb 3: ICPF Prayer Feb 10: PYPA Feb 17: Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Mar 2024</p> <p>Mar 2: Fasting Prayer Mar 9: PYPA Mar 23: Outreach</p>
<p>Apr 2024</p> <p>Apr 6: Fasting Prayer Apr 13: PYPA Apr 27: ICPF Youth Meeting</p>	<p>May 2024</p> <p>May 4: Fasting Prayer May 11: PYPA May 17-18: General Convention May 25: Picnic</p>	<p>Jun 2024</p> <p>Jun 4: Fasting Prayer Jun 8: PYPA Jun 14-15: ICPF Conference Jun 22: Outreach</p>
<p>Jul 2024</p> <p>Jul 6: Fasting Prayer Jul 13: ICPF Conference Jul 19-20: VBS Jul 27: ICPF Youth Meeting + Group Meetings</p>	<p>Aug 2024</p> <p>Aug 3: Fasting Prayer Aug 10: PYPA Aug 23-24: Youth Convention</p>	<p>Sep 2024</p> <p>Sep 7: Fasting Prayer Sep 14: PYPA Sep 21: Picnic</p>
<p>Oct 2024</p> <p>Oct 5: Fasting Prayer Oct 12: PYPA Oct 19: Outreach Oct 26: ICPF Youth Meeting + Group Meetings</p>	<p>Nov 2024</p> <p>Nov 2: Fasting Prayer Nov 9: PYPA Nov 23: Thanksgiving Service</p>	<p>Dec 2024</p> <p>Dec 7: Fasting Prayer Dec 21: Outreach Dec 31: Year-End Service</p>

Feb @ Bethel Pentecostal Assembly

Sat	Feb 03rd 05:00 - 06:00 pm	ICPF meeting
	Feb 10th 06:30 - 09:00 pm	PYPA
	Feb 17th	Prayer Meeting
Sun	09:40 - 11.00 am	Sunday School /Bible Study
	11:00 - 01:00 pm	Worship
Mon	09:00 - 10:00 am	Women's Conference Prayer
Mon	07:30 - 08:30 pm	Youth Conference Prayer
Tue	08:00 - 09:00 pm	Intercessory Prayer

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Editorial Board

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