



UNCHANGING MISSION

GOSPEL PARTNERS

Revelation 5:9–10

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever. So worship is the fuel and goal of missions.

— John Piper, *Let the Nations be Glad*

1. “Worship is the fuel and goal of missions.”

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2. Missions is authorized by the Lord of history.

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3. The cross is the central message of missions.

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3. The cross is the central message of missions.

1 Corinthians 2:1–5: ¹ And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴ and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

3. The cross is the central message of missions.

1 Corinthians 1:18: For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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Titus 2:13–14: ¹³ ...our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness
and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who
are zealous for good works.

3. The cross is the central message of missions.

2 Corinthians 4:7–12: ⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹ For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you.

4. A vast international family is the future of missions.

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