

Renewing Joy to the Nations

Intro: A Season Focusing on Outreach. Lifelines Missions Offering May 18 & 25 Each Week Highlights & Brochure

I. The Joy of the Great Commandment Fuels the Great Commission.

His purpose in redeeming us is to be known by all. **The Great Commandment brings forth the Great Commission.**

Matt 22.36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”
37 And he said to him, “You shall **love the Lord your God** with **all** your heart... soul and ... mind. **39** And a second is like it: You shall **love your neighbor as yourself**. **40** On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Isa 12.3 **With joy** you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

4 And you will say in that day:

“**Give thanks** to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

5 “**Sing praises** to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

II. God is Committed to Transforming the Nations.

Matt 28.19 Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Matt 24.14 And this gospel of the kingdom **will be proclaimed throughout the whole world** as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

III. Domestic Ministries are the goal of Frontier Missions.

Tension in a mission-driven church between those who have a passion for ministering here to our own needy culture, and the radical advocates of taking the gospel where they don't even have access to the Source of any ministry at all.

Among our own culture: Ministries relating to evangelism, poverty, medical care, unemployment, hunger, abortion, crisis pregnancy, runaway kids, pornography, family disintegration, child abuse, divorce, hygiene, education at all levels, drug abuse and alcoholism, environmental concerns, terrorism, prison reform, moral abuses in the media and business and politics, etc., etc.

Frontier missions, on the other hand, is the effort of the church to penetrate unreached people groups with the gospel and establish there an ongoing, indigenous, ministering church.

Now stop and think about that! **Frontier missions is the exportation of the possibility and practice of domestic ministries** to unreached people groups.

Why should there be tension between these two groups of people? **Frontier People** honor the **domestic people** by agreeing that *their work is worth exporting*. **Domestic people** honor **frontier people** by insisting that *what they export is worth doing here*.

IV. Love From Every Tribe!

Rev 5.9 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,

V. Types of Missionaries (Author & Finisher — Pioneer & Perfecter)

Timothy left his hometown and labored in other places where churches were already established. **Finisher, Perfecter**

Paul was a **Pioneer, Author!**

[Rom 15.20](#) and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, **not** where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation, [21](#) but as it is written,

**“Those who have never been told of him will see,
and those who have never heard will understand.”**

VI. God is Most Glorified & Our Joy is Greatest when it Expands to Others.

It's amazing that those who've suffered most in following the Lord have the greatest joy.

[Mark 8.34](#) And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. [35](#) For ***whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.***

[Matt 16.25](#) ... loses his life for my sake will ***find*** it.

Samuel Zwemer — after fifty years of missions labor (including the loss of two young children in North Africa) — said, “The sheer joy of it all comes back. Gladly would I do it all over again.”

Both Hudson Taylor and David Livingstone, after lives of extraordinary hardship and loss said, “I never made a sacrifice.”

Heidi Baker, Brother Yun (Heavenly Man), Leanna Cinquanta, all suffered with joy.