

# DISCIPLESHIP track

Gospel › Missions

## for Missions

Jesus' last words to the apostles prior to his ascension charged them to be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). The Apostle Paul made it his ambition to "preach the gospel, now where Christ has already been named" (Romans 15:20). The church has been given a command to take the gospel to places it is not currently and this happens through people proclaiming the gospel in words, through the power of the Holy Spirit. This track is designed to help you understand what your role in missions is (goer or sender) and equip you to live it out in a God-honoring, Christ-exalting, Spirit-empowered way.

### consider.

- Why should people go to other people groups to proclaim the name of Jesus when there are lost people in the United States?
- Why should we send people to other countries instead of supporting nationals to do the work?
- Can you imagine yourself being in a different culture and learning a different language? Why/why not?
- What is the role of the church and a missions organization in sending out missionaries?

### pray.

#### Ask God to...

- give you wisdom and understanding as you go through this track.
- give you discernment as to what your role might be in missions.
- give you a deep longing for gospel light to penetrate the darkest parts of the world.
- send out laborers for the harvest.

### do.

- Memorize Psalm 67
- Pray regularly for yourself, for missionaries, and for the lost across the world.
- Spend regular time in God's Word.
- Incorporate Operation World or PrayerCast.com into your prayer time or family devotions.
- Support current missionaries well through prayer, communication, and financial contributions.
- Join the missions committee and seek to use your gifts and talents through it.
- Be a member of the church and be actively involved in a Discipleship Group.
- Share your faith with neighbors, family members and co-workers now.
- Familiarize yourself with the world and unreached people groups through JoshuaProject.org.
- Go on a short term missions trip to gain cross-cultural experience.
- Read biographies on missionaries.

### read.

- *Let The Nations Be Glad*, John Piper
- *The Missionary Call*, M. David Sills
- *The Shadow of the Almighty*, Elisabeth Elliot
- *The Insanity of Obedience*, Nik Ripken



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# **purpose.**

The primary call on all our lives is to glorify God by following Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. The desire and ability to live out this call are the result of a beautiful merging of God's sovereign grace and our dependent effort. At Grace Church we are committed to coming alongside anyone who is interested in examining and accepting this call. It is our joy to follow Jesus with you.

# **covenant.**

One of the most popular and tragic counterfeit versions of Christianity in existence today is the one which suggests that people can choose to follow Jesus to some (or even most) of the places that he goes—that people can come to Jesus on their own terms. Throughout the time of his ministry, however, Jesus made it plain that people would follow him wherever he might lead them and whatever it might cost them or they would not follow him at all (i.e. Matthew 8:19-22; Luke 14:25-33). Jesus will meet us wherever we are but he alone determines where we're going. Indeed, the bible makes plain the fact that there is a high cost to following Jesus. But the bible also makes plain that the reward is incomparably greater (Matthew 13:44) and that the strength to do so comes ultimately from God (Philippians 2:12-13).

Consequently, we want to mutually enter into a covenant—an agreement that is serious and significant. Before agreeing to begin this discipleship track, know that it should only be entered into after much prayer (with your spouse if you are married), consideration, and with a whole heart. It may bring spiritual challenges but it will most certainly bring God's help and reward.

- I agree to finish this discipleship track. Given the significant investment that others are making in me I acknowledge the need for punctuality and uninterrupted attendance.
- I agree to be honest and forthright—speaking the truth in love and being willing to receive feedback, even if it hurts. We can only help each other if we are willing to be transparent and vulnerable.
- I commit to completing assignments and coming prepared to engage fully.
- I commit to consistent prayer for the person that I'm meeting with.
- I commit to the consistent disciplines of reading God's Word and prayer during this discipleship track.
- Finally, I commit to leading at least one other person through this discipleship track in the future.

In short, we're asking you to commit to taking this seriously and sharing it with at least one other person as an expression of your love for God and the calling He's placed on your life.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_