

MISSIONARY

A Missionary is simple a person fulfilling the mission God has given him to do.

In reality we are all Missionaries of and for God. Our mission is the same that Jesus spoke to the disciples when He returned to Heaven;

“Matt 28:18-20...18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

How God desires us to fulfill our mission is as individual as His people.

I have come up with a little acronym; “PEGG” to describe what I believe are four important aspects on how we can carry out this most important command of God.

P –Prayer: All God’s work begins and continues with a strong base of Prayer.

This is something we can do whether we are young or old, strong or weak, rich or poor, educated with degrees or illiterate like many in the world, eloquent in speech or unable to utter a sound; God doesn’t look on the outward appearance but on the heart. We can pray alone or with others, I Thess 5: 17 says, we are to pray without ceasing.

E—Encourage: Again this is something we can all do. Some have the gift of encouragement but we can all encourage others. Again it costs nothing, how cheap is a smile, a word or a hug? A small cost of time maybe to call or send a note. Letting someone know you are aware of a problem or potential problems and just letting them know you care. One of the greatest gifts you can give to missionaries on the field or workers here at home is to let them know you are praying and thinking about them. Discouragement is a tool that Satan loves to use; you can make it useless by Encouragement. Encouragement is powerful it can keep

people on the mission field, pastors in the pulpit and teachers willing to continue on, it also can be the means by which people come to church and find salvation.

G—Giving: What do you have that has not been given you by God? God challenges us to Mal 3:10-11—"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field, "Says the LORD of hosts;"

We miss so much when we think with earthly understanding. The result of obedience is blessing but we don't give to be blessed. God will stretch us so we will know what He can really do. Jesus commends the widow who gave all she had; I often wondered what happened to her, but one thing I am sure of is that God satisfied all her needs and that while hers may not have been a life of plenty but it had to be a life of joy in and fellowship with God.

G—Going: God says we are to "go.... and teach all nations:"

This is something most of us can do if we will get out of our comfort zone and willingly ask God where He wants us to go. We all have the field of family, friends, neighbors and even the uttermost parts of the earth. It was not even on the horizon of my thinking to go to Kenya at age 69. It was quite frankly daunting and the trips exhausting but the thought of being put on a shelf and not finishing my race well was something that was even more impossible. My personal goal, as I finish the race God has set for me, is to hear the wonderful words, "well done thou good and faithful servant..". I encourage you to not let the "things of this world" block out the wonder of being a servant and partner with God.