

Continuing Missionary Education
Answer Key to Study Questions for
Discovering the Biblical View of Missions
By James Poitras

Lesson 1 – Discovering the Heart of Missions

1. In the Gambia, what is often the answer to the question: “Do you know Jesus?”
In the Gambia, this question is answered with, “No, I don’t know Jesus. Are you Jesus?”
2. Where did the journey of missions biblically begin?
The journey of missions began biblical in the beginning of the Bible with the Book of Genesis.
3. What does the foundation of the biblical study of missions concern?
The foundation of the biblical study of missions concerns what God says about missions throughout His Word.
4. According to John Stott, what is our mandate for evangelization?
John Stott says the mandate for evangelization is the whole Bible.
5. Why must we guard biblical theology?
We must guard our biblical theology because it greatly affects our success or failure.
6. The scriptural basis of missions can be compared to what architectural structure?
The scriptural basis for missions can be compared to a pyramid. It is not a pyramid that is built upside down with its point on one or two isolated verses in the New Testament from which we build the lard structure called “missions.” Instead, the pyramid is built right side up with its frame running from Genesis to Revelation.
7. Name ten (10) things (of the 26 mentioned) that biblical theology does.
Biblical theology:
 - a. Looks at the entire Bible to discern the larger themes used
 - b. Studies historical events and their circumstances to reveal God’s purpose
 - c. Describes the Bible’s message in the words and ideas of the writers involved
 - d. Looks at the larger, broader picture
 - e. Recognizes the partnership between God and man in bringing salvation to the lost

- f. Allows us to see the world through God's eyes and with His agenda in mind
- g. Seeks unifying themes of Scripture
- h. Believes all parts of the Bible become relevant to each other
- i. Traces themes historically rather than looking at discrete topics logically
- j. Assumes that the main theological lines of the Biblical narrative are discernable and that we are called by God to learn, teach, and apply them in our churches and lives
- k. Looks at the way God reveals Himself and His purpose
- l. Lets the Bible speak for itself and to us today;
- m. Views doctrine in its historical context
- n. Takes the historico-grammatical approach to hermeneutics
- o. Studies what writers said, thought, and regarded as truth
- p. Takes into consideration that stages of development as themes are revealed progressively
- q. Assumes that revelation is embodied in biblical history
- r. Unlocks the Bible for the present generation
- s. Assumes that the Bible is inerrant, inspired, and relevant
- t. Contains eternal truths and serves as a basis for right doctrine
- u. Looks at the acts of God throughout history and the subsequent interpretation of these acts
- v. Concerned with the reason why something is written
- w. Relates the different biblical parts that are consistent with the total content of the Bible
- x. Looks closely at the relationship between God and the nations in light of the gospel
- y. Studies the missions, *Missio Dei* (Latin "Mission of God" or "Sending of God"), and kingdom themes used throughout God's Word
- z. Develops an appropriate foundation for missions theology, while discerning how it fits with theology as a whole

8. Who starts, sustains, and promotes missions?

God is the one who starts, sustains, and promotes missions.

9. According to George Peters, what is "the one intention of God"?

George Peters tells us that "sin" is written in big letters across the pages of God's Word. Only Genesis 1-2 and Revelation 21-22 are exempt from its harmful stain. The remainder is a record of human sin and divine intervention bringing about salvation (Peters 1972, 15).

10. What is the foundation of missions?

The foundation of missions is the biblical theology of missions, found throughout the whole Bible. All Scripture must be consulted to determine its contribution to our understanding of missions. God's mission is revealed from Genesis to Revelation. It reveals God's purpose, vision, and action throughout human history. Ralph Winter said, "The Bible actually begins with missions, maintains missions as its central theme throughout, and then climaxes in the Apocalypse with spontaneous outbursts of joy because the missionary mandate has been fulfilled" (quoted in Richardson 1984, 153). "Missions can go forward only if based on an adequate biblical and theological foundation" (Hesselgrave 2005, 344).

11. What three (3) setbacks mark the bleak introduction to Genesis history?

- a. The Fall
- b. The Flood
- c. The Failure at Babel

12. Who is the patriarchal pioneer of missions?

Abraham is the patriarchal pioneer of missions and received a cross-cultural missionary call.

13. What three things did God promise Abraham?

The promise to Abraham referred to the promise already announced to Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:15) and enlarged to Shem (Genesis 9:27). It reveals God's heart – past, present, and future. The key word – the same given to Adam – is *bless* or *blessing*. Five times in three verses we read about it. God promised:

- a. I will make you a great nation.
- b. I will bless you, and
- c. I will make your name great.

14. How many Old Testament passages magnify God's promise to bless all nations?

Over three hundred (300) declarative passages in the Old Testament magnify God's promise to bless all nations.

15. What Psalm is often called the "missionary psalm"? Why?

Psalm 67 is often called the "Missionary Psalm" because of its worldwide perspective on God's blessings.

16. Locate the reference of the first missions mandate.

The first missions mandate is located in Genesis 12:1-3. This passage remains the formative theology and organizing principle of missions and God's desire to bring salvation to all people groups. "Indeed, here is where missions really begins. Here is the first Great Commission mandate of the Bible. It is the thesis that dominates the strategy, theology, and mission of the Old Testament" (Kaiser 2004, 13).

17. What is the heart of the Bible?

After the Day of Pentecost, the apostle Peter continued to identify the pulse of the Old Testament. “And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, ‘Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed’ “ (Acts 3:25-26, NIV). The promise remains. All nations will be blessed through Abraham’s seed. He became the heir of the world (Romans 4:13), the father of many nations (Romans 4:17), and the father of all who follow Christ (Galatians 3:29). In Galatians 3, Paul revealed – not one but five times – the longstanding connection between the gospel and the Abrahamic covenant. This covenant is the heart of the Bible. We are Abraham’s seed, and the earth will be blessed if we go to them and proclaim the gospel.

18. How do the blessings promised to Abraham come to us?

The blessings promised to Abraham come to us through Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:14-16).

Lesson 2 – Discovering the King of Missions

1. What has God always planned for His people?

God has always planned for His people to have a king and to be part of a kingdom.

2. According to Engel and Dyrness, what is Christian missions?

“Christian missions is the announcement, embodiment and extension of Christ’s reign in the world” (Engel and Dyrness 2000, 26).

3. Whose kingdom provided a glimpse of God’s future rule on the earth?

David’s kingdom provided a glimpse of God’s future rule on the earth, and served as a model to all other nations pointing them toward His future kingdom. It forecasted the coming of the Messiah, the anointed King that would bring salvation and deliverance to the nations.

4. How long will the kingdom promised in the Davidic covenant last?

Of particular interest in the Davidic covenant is that the Kingdom will be forever. This goes far beyond future kings of Judah right down to the throne of Christ. “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end” (Luke 1:32-33).

5. How many times is Jesus referred to as “the Son of David” in the New Testament?

Jesus is called “the Son of David” sixteen (16) times in the New Testament.

6. What two Gentile women are included in the genealogy of Christ?

The two Gentile women included in the genealogy of Christ are:

- a. Rahab
- b. Ruth

7. What is considered to be one of the greatest missionary books in the Bible?

The book of Psalms is considered one of the greatest missionary books in the Bible.

8. How many references to the nations of the world does Psalms contain?

The Book of Psalms contains one hundred seventy-five (175) references to the nations of the world.

9. Provide at least three (3) verses of Scripture from the Book of Psalms (out of the 46 listed in this text) that contain a missionary message.

Psalms 2:7-10 – “You are my Son . . . I will make the nations your inheritance”

Psalms 7:7-8 – “Let the LORD judge the peoples”

Psalms 8:9 – “How majestic is your name in all the earth?”

Psalms 18:49 – “I will praise you among the nations”

Psalms 22:26-28 – “all the families of the nations will bow down”

Psalms 19:1-4 – “their words to the ends of the world”

Psalms 22:27 – “All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord”

Psalms 24 – “The earth is the LORD’S”

Psalms 33 – “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD”

Psalms 45:17 – “The nations will praise you for ever and ever”

Psalms 46:10 – “I will be exalted among the nations”

Psalms 47 – “God reigns over the nations”

Psalms 48:10 – “Like your name; O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth”

Psalms 49:1 – “Hear this, all you peoples; listen, all who live in this world”

Psalms 50 – “From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets”

Psalms 57 – “I will sing of you among the peoples”

Psalms 59:13 – “It will be known to the ends of the earth that God rules over Jacob”

Psalms 65:5-8 – “the hope of all the ends of the earth . . . where morning dawns and evening fades you call forth songs of joy”

Psalms 66 – “All the earth bows down to you . . . Praise our God, O peoples”

Psalms 67 – “your salvation among all peoples”

Psalms 68:32 – “Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth”

Psalms 72 – “all nations will serve him”

Psalms 72:9 – “the desert tribes will bow before him”

Psalms 72:17, 19 – “All nations will be blessed through him . . . May the whole earth be filled with his glory”

Psalm 77:14 – “you display your power among the peoples”
Psalm 82 – “all the nations are your inheritance”
Psalm 83:18 – “You alone are the Most High over all the earth.”
Psalm 86:8-13 – “all nations will come and worship”
Psalm 87 – “the register of the peoples”
Psalm 96 – “sing to the LORD, all the earth . . . Declare his glory among the nations”
Psalm 97 – “The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice”
Psalm 98:3 – “All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.”
Psalm 98:9 – “He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.”
Psalm 99:1-3 – “He is exalted over all the nations. Let them praise your great and awesome name”
Psalm 102:15 – “The nations will tear the name of the LORD, all the kings of the earth will revere your glory.”
Psalm 102:22 – “when the peoples and the kingdoms assemble to worship the LORD”
Psalm 105:1 – “make known among the nations what He has done”
Psalm 106:8 – “reason for dividing the Red Sea”
Psalm 108:3 – “I will sing of you among the peoples”
Psalm 108:5 – “be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth.”
Psalm 110:6 – “He will judge the nations.”
Psalm 113:3 – “From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.”
Psalm 117 – “Praise the LORD, all you nations”
Psalm 126 – “It was said among the nations”
Psalm 135 – “our LORD is greater than all gods”
Psalm 138:4 – “may all the kings of the earth praise you, O LORD”

Provide the Scripture reference for the following prophetic statements: (10-18)

10. The increase of His government will have no end.

Isaiah 9:7

11. He will bring justice to the nations.

Isaiah 42:1

12. The ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Isaiah 52:10

13. I will give you a new heart.

Ezekiel 36:23

14. A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse.

Isaiah 11:1-3

15. My name will be great among the nations.

Malachi 1:11

16. I will restore David's fallen tent.

Amos 9:11-13

17. The mountain of the Lord's temple will be established and many nations will come.

Micah 4:1-2

18. I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Joel 2:28

19. TRUE or FALSE: Jesus Himself admitted to being the "King of the Jews."

FALSE (Matthew 27:11).

20. What kind of person does the Lord back?

The Lord backed Paul, and He continues to back anyone who endeavors to be a light to the nations and to bring lost souls into His kingdom. "But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it" (II Timothy 4:17).

Lesson 3 – Discovering the Fire Still Falls

1. What is the Bantu title for the Acts of the Apostles?

The Bantu title for the Acts of the Apostles is, "Words Concerning Deeds."

2. What is the key word in the Book of Acts?

Witness is the key word in Acts. It is mentioned thirty-nine (39) times.

3. How many regions were represented at Pentecost?

At Pentecost, people from every part of the known world – more than fifteen (15) regions – assembled. They were from "every nation under heaven" (Acts 2:5).

4. How many souls were reaped in the harvest of Pentecost?

The harvest began with the one hundred twenty (120) souls who were waiting in the Upper Room when the Holy Ghost fell for the first time. The sights and sounds of Pentecost drew thousands of curious seekers – the sound as of a rushing mighty wind and tongues like fire. Each person heard someone from the upper room

ensemble speak in “his own language” – one’s heart language remains the best vehicle of the gospel (Acts 2:6). Peter stood with the eleven and used his keys to open wide the door to the kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 16:18). He had the knowledge that allowed entrance into the Kingdom possible. Peter reaped a great harvest of three thousand souls (3,000) in one day.

5. What chapter tells the story of Saul and his conversion?

Acts chapter nine (Acts 9) tells the story of Saul and his conversion.

Match the phrase to the reference: (6-17)

6. “Witnesses to them and the Gentiles.”

Matthew 10:18

7. “I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.”

Matthew 8:10-11

8. “Preach the good news to all creation.”

Mark 14:9

9. “The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to people who produce much fruit.”

Matthew 21:43

10. “The gospel must first be preached to all nations.”

Mark 16:15

11. “Make disciples of all nations.”

Matthew 28:19

12. “The gospel must first be preached to all nations.”

Mark 13:10

13. “A house to pray for all nations.”

Mark 11:17

14. “To all who received Him.”

John 1:8-13

15. “Will be preached in His name to all nations.”

Luke 24:47-48

16. “Will draw all men.”

John 12:32

17. “Whoever believes in Him shall not perish.”

John 3:16-17

18. How long is the story of Gentile Pentecost?

The story of the Gentile Pentecost is one of the longest in Acts: seventy-seven (77) verses. This indicates the significance of this paramount step in fulfilling God’s plan.

19. Theology is to be based not on action alone but also on:

We will not base theology on action alone, but on God’s Word. The Book of Acts is a book of action. It breathes “advance” on every page! The Old Testament, followed by the Gospels, gives the theological basis for the inclusion of Gentiles in the church. The Book of Acts provides not only the theological, theoretical basis, but also the experiential, practical proof. Acts has a single message: God is interested in the expansion of His church to the ends of the earth.

20. Did Paul believe that circumcision was necessary for salvation?

Some Jewish Christians felt the only way Gentiles could truly be saved and part of the church would be if they were circumcised and followed the letter of the Law. Paul contended – and rightly so – that circumcision was not a necessary condition for salvation. “Gentiles do not have to enter the house of Christianity through the doors of Judaism.”

21. Who were the key speakers in the forum of the Jerusalem Council?

Peter, Paul, Barnabas, and James seem to be the key speakers in the open forum commonly referred to as the Jerusalem Council.

22. Who was known as “Camel Knees” because of his prayer life?

James the Just was well known as a man of prayer and wisdom. Tradition says that he was referred to as “Camel Knees” because of his prayer.

23. What marked the birth of the Pentecostal movement?

The first day of the twentieth century marked the birth of the modern Pentecostal movement. That evening, Agnes Ozman received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. A few days later, Charles Parham, his wife, and twelve of his students received their personal Pentecost.

24. What did Charles F. Parham claim about those who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit through speaking in tongues?

They believed that God was pouring out the “latter rain,” a term taken from Joel 2:23. The “early rain” had fallen on the Day of Pentecost. Charles F. Parham claimed that those who received the Spirit – speaking in tongues – were being equipped to “carry our God’s end-time global missionary mandate.” He believed that the tongues they spoke when they were baptized in the Spirit would direct them to the country they were to go as a missionary. They thought that their new speech would be used in missionary ministry.

25. What is the name of C. Peter Wagner’s book on Pentecostalism?

His book was titled *Look Out! The Pentecostals Are Coming*.

26. According to Gary McGee, what was the heart of Azusa Street?

Dr. Gary McGee, professor of Church History and Pentecostal Studies at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Springfield, Missouri, stated, “The heart of Azusa Street was about evangelizing the world in the last days . . . and the sense at the turn of the 20th century was that time was running out. So, the Spirit was empowering people to go overseas and preach the gospel.”

Lesson 4 – Discovering the Wall Has Been Torn Down

1. Can the mission of the church ever be separated from the mission of Jesus?

The mission of the church can never be separated from the mission of Jesus Christ.

2. The response to what question clearly defines the mission of Christ?

Answering the question, “What did Jesus come to do?” provides ample direction for what the church should continue to do. The response clearly defines the mission of the church.

3. Why are we to be witnesses to all men? (Include Scripture references.)

- a. All are sinners (Romans 3:10).
- b. All are unrighteous (Romans 3:10).
- c. All are condemned (Romans 5:16-18).
- d. All deserve death (Romans 6:23).
- e. All are in need of a Savior

4. What kind of people was the book of Galatians written to?

The Epistle to the Galatians was written to those that experienced freedom in Christ but were being pressured and persuaded to return to the slavery of religious rules, regulations, and legalism (Barton 2001, 755). Some were trying to sway the new babes in Christ toward circumcision and food laws. They were easy prey for

false teachers. Paul, their founder and leader, was trying to rescue them from these traps.

5. What three (3) Scriptures demonstrate that saving the Gentiles as well as Jews has always been in God's plan?

- a. Genesis 12:3
- b. Isaiah 42:6
- c. Isaiah 66:19

6. What are the famous words once recorded in graffiti on the Berlin Wall?

Graffiti on the Berlin Wall once read, "Eventually every wall falls." For twenty-eight years the wall served as "a long separation barrier" between West Berlin and East Germany. The Berlin Wall started to crumble as borders were opened on November 9, 1989, and East and West Germans were permitted to reunite. People called "wall woodpeckers" used sledgehammers in order to chip off souvenirs from the wall. I like that: "Eventually every wall falls" (Wikipedia, 2006).

7. What is the new dividing law that's been established?

The Cross built a bridge for both Jews and Gentiles to pass from sin to salvation. The wall of hostility was broken down. Before that, Gentiles were confined to the Court of the Gentiles and could not enter into the Temple proper. The New Testament world was clearly divided between "us" and "them." A new dividing line was established: those that are "in Christ" and those that are "not in Christ." Now a Jew that believes in Christ is no different than a Gentile that does. Both are equal.

Provide the Scripture reference for the following statements pertaining to the equality of Jews and Gentiles: (8-15)

8. Equal Condemnation

Romans 8:3

9. Equal position before God as sinners

Romans 1:18-3:23; Ephesians 2:1-3

10. Equal in their guilt in God's sight

Romans 3:9; 3:23; 6:23

11. Equal in access to salvation

Romans 10:11-12; Ephesians 2:8-9

12. Equal sharing of privileges

Romans 8:17; Ephesians 3:6

13. Equal members of the body of Christ

Galatians 3:28

14. Equal relationship with God

Romans 8:15; Ephesians 2:19

15. Equal status in the church

I Corinthians 1:2; Galatians 3:26-29a

16. What does each epistle reiterate?

Each epistle reiterates that God wants “all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth” (I Timothy 2:4).

17. What should the highest priority of the church be?

Global evangelism still should be the highest priority of the church.

18. What verse tells us that God’s love is universal?

Look at our final destination and take another peep at the universal goal of the Lord of the Harvest: “After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb” (Revelation 7:9, NIV). God retains a universal reach right to the end of human history (John 3:16).

19. Write out five (5) verses (with reference) that defend the position of the Gentile in the church.

A brief cross-section of Scriptures adequately defends the place of the Gentiles in the church and their role in a biblical theology of missions:

- a. “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16).
- b. “There will be suffering and distress for every person who does evil, for Jews first and Greeks as well. But there will be glory, honor, and peace for every person who does what is good; for Jews first and Greeks as well. God does not play favorites” (Romans 2:9-11, GW).
- c. “Is God only the God of the Jews? Isn’t he also the God of people who are not Jewish? Certainly, he is, since it is the same God who approves circumcised people by faith and uncircumcised people through this same faith” (Romans 3:29-30, GW)
- d. “But God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

- e. “As the Scripture says, ‘Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.’ There is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? And it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news?” (Romans 10:11-15, NIV).
- f. “But did the people of Israel really understand? Yes, they did, for even in the time of Moses, God had said, “I will rouse your jealousy by blessing other nations. “I will make you angry by blessing the foolish Gentiles.” And later Isaiah spoke boldly for God: “I was found by people who were not looking for me. I showed myself to those who were not as Gentiles. God has appointed me as the apostle to the Gentiles. I lay great stress on this, for I want to find a way to make the Jews want what you Gentiles have, and in that way I might save some of them” (Romans 11:13, 15, NLT).
- g. “Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him – to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen” (Romans 16:25-27, NIV).
- h. “We are writing to the church of God in Corinth, you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did all Christians everywhere – whoever calls upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and theirs” (I Corinthians 1:2, NLT).
- i. “For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men” (I Corinthians 1:21-25, ESV).
- j. “For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation” (II Corinthians 5:19, NLT).
- k. “Then he revealed his Son to me so that I could proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles” (Galatians 1:16, NLT).
- l. “While I was there I talked privately with the leaders of the church. I wanted them to understand what I had been preaching to the Gentiles. I wanted to make sure they did not disagree, or my ministry would have been useless. And

- they did agree. They did not even demand that my companion Titus be circumcised, though he was a Gentile” (Galatians 2:2-3).
- m. “The one who made Peter an apostle to Jewish people also made me an apostle to people who are not Jewish” (Galatians 2:8, GW).
 - n. “And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have been made like him. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For you are all Christians – you are one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham” (Galatians 3:26-29, NLT).
 - o. “Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh – who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands – that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ” (Ephesians 2:11-13, NKJV).
 - p. “For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace” (Ephesians 2:14-15, NKJV).
 - q. “And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:17-19, NKJV).
 - r. “This Good News is present with you now. It is producing results and spreading all over the world as it did among you from the first day you heard it. At that time you came to know what God’s kindness truly means” (Colossians 1:6, GW).
 - s. “If you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant” (Colossians 1:23, NIV).
 - t. In this new life, it doesn’t matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us” (Colossians 3:11, NLT).
 - u. “This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men – the testimony given in its proper time. And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle – I am telling the truth, I am not lying – and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles” (I Timothy 2:3-7, NIV).

“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come” (Matthew 24:14).

Lesson 5 – Discovering Our Role in Keeping with God’s Heartbeat

1. How is the theme of a library like the theme of the Word of God? Explain.

When asked, google responded to the question, “What is the central theme of the Bible?” with 6.6 million sites with an answer. One responder commented, “Seeking to know the theme of the Bible is rather like asking a librarian what the theme of his library is.” That post sparked Fred’s curiosity, so he called the local library, read the person’s post, and asked, “What is the theme of your library?” The librarian answered, “It’s obvious. The theme is collecting published knowledge; the bigger the library the more successful collecting.” Fred elaborated, “So it dawned on me. The Bible’s theme is knowledge of and about God (Arcura 2003). Jesus probably would have said, “Fred, You are not far from the kingdom of God” (Mark 12:34, NIV).

2. What are the top ten major themes of the Bible?

Many believe the Bible does provide a central theme, or several unifying themes, but there is a diversity of opinion on what that theme actually is. According to my research, the top ten (not in any order of importance) include:

- a. Redemption (buying man back)
- b. Covenants
- c. Kingdom of God
- d. Spiritual unfaithfulness (sin)
- e. Plan of salvation
- f. God’s healing love
- g. God’s love
- h. God’s gift in Jesus Christ
- i. God’s master plan, and
- j. God always maintains His side of the relationship.

3. What is the Bible all about?

The Bible is all about God:

- a. His creation,
- b. His desire to fellowship with mankind,
- c. His hatred for sin,
- d. His master plan of redemption,
- e. His activities on the earth,
- f. His revealing or unfolding of Himself throughout history,
- g. His kingdom,
- h. His love,

- i. His personality or attributes, and
 - j. His relationship with man.
4. God and the Bible are what?
Apart from the Bible, it is difficult to know God. Apart from God, it is difficult to know the Bible. The two are indivisible.
5. What is the widely used metaphor for God's nature?
Since July 1952, *Missio Dei* has become the most widely used metaphor reflecting God's nature. This term is always mentioned in reference to the Willgen Conference of the International Missionary Council. However, the expression was never mentioned during the conference. It was later used to summarize the main findings in the closing remarks of the conference.
6. What does "*Missio Dei*" mean?
Missio Dei is Latin for "God's Mission" or "the mission of God." As used in other languages, like Dutch, it is translated, "the missionary activity of God."
7. What are the four (4) main characters in the Bible?
The four main characters in the Bible are:
 - a. God
 - b. Mankind
 - c. The enemy
 - d. Savior
8. Where are these main characters introduced?
Before the end of Genesis chapter three, we are introduced to all the major characters in the Bible.
9. What does John Stott say is our mandate for world evangelism?
John Stott said, "Our mandate for world evangelization therefore, is the whole Bible."
10. What is the blueprint for God's master plan?
God has a master plan. The Bible reveals His blueprint, or as Walter C. Kaiser Jr. said, "The successive folds of a road map."
11. What verse of Scripture is referred to as protoevangelium?
In Genesis 3:15 God reveals His plan to save mankind from their sin and sets the stage for the rest of human history. This verse is referred to as protoevangelium.

12. In what passage of Scripture is the covenant with Abraham established?

In Genesis chapter 12, a covenant is established with Abraham to become the father of many nations. Through his seed all the nations of the world will be blessed.

13. What/Who was the fulfillment of all the Old Testament promises?

Literally hundreds of prophecies pervade the pages of the Old Testament prophets concerning the coming Messiah. The Gospels show how Jesus fulfilled Old Testament promises.

14. What did the Old Testament say about Jesus? What did the New Testament say about Jesus?

The Old Testament points forward to a Savior saying, “He’s coming.” The New Testament gladly proclaims about the Savior, “He is here!”

15. A response to lost souls is required from the church at what four levels?

A response is required from the church on every level:

- a. Globally
- b. Regionally
- c. Nationally
- d. Locally
- e. Individually

16. What is our primary task as Christians?

Our primary task as a church and as Christians on the earth is – and always will be – world evangelism.

17. What is the purpose of the UPCI as stated in the Forward of the UPCI’s church manual?

The purpose as stated in the Foreward of the *United Pentecostal Church Manual* is “to preach the gospel of Christ Jesus; to publish and distribute religious literature; to establish new churches; to send forth missionaries....” It is further the purpose of the UPCI “to seek out and to carry the gospel to the whold world, and to help establish self-supporting, self-governing, and self-propagating national churches” (*United Pentecostal Church Manual* 2006, 62).

18. What is the “Next Steps” program?

The Next Steps Program of the Global Missions of the UPCI, offers young people an opportunity to spend a couple of months overseas (three weeks of intense training, five weeks of hand-on ministry experience) during the summer with resident missionaries. It is an incremental experience toward a career missions assignment (Burk 2005, 36).

19. We are reached for Christ.

20. We are rooted in Christ.

21. We are readied for further outreach.

22. What six (6) things are needed to shift from missionary fields to missionary forces?

In order for the shift to be made from missionary fields to missionary forces, several things are needed:

- a. Missions awareness
- b. Missions mobilization
- c. Proper ecclesiology
- d. Prioritization
- e. Partnerships and
- f. Education

23. C. Peter Wagner sees missions not as a straight line but as a what?

C. Peter Wagner does not see missions as a “straight line” having a start and end; he sees it as a circle.

24. What three important steps bring the church to maturity as an indigenous church?

The three important steps needed to bring the church to maturity as an indigenous church are:

- a. Self-supporting
- b. Self-propagating
- c. Self-governing

25. Rev. Yaw Frimpong-Mansp maintains that missions is the total activity of the church. What five areas are specifically mentioned?

- a. Spiritual
- b. Social
- c. Political
- d. Economic
- e. Emotional

26. There is a seamless integration of what two kinds of love in the Bible?

There is a seamless integration of loving God and loving neighbor throughout God's Word.

27. What are the four most common views in relation to evangelism and how it should be done?
- Radical – Liberation Theology – Mission to promote justice and encourage Shalom in society
 - Revisionist – Holism Theology – Minister to society and individuals to both the physical and spiritual; body and soul/spirit
 - Restrained – Holism Theology – Mission to minister to society and individuals socially and spiritually; giving priority to evangelism
 - Traditional – Prioritism Theology – Mission to make disciples everywhere. Other Christian ministries are good but secondary and supportive (Hesselgrave 2005, 122).
28. What two social –action programs did Paul speak of in his writings?
- Paul spoke of two social-action programs in his writings:
- Tending to widows, and
 - Taking an offering for relief of the poor in Jerusalem.
29. What are the three (3) perspectives with how social transformation can be integrated with evangelism?
- Three perspectives with how social transformation can be integrated with evangelism are:
- Consequence* of evangelism
 - Bridge* to evangelism, and
 - Full partner* with evangelism.
30. What are the seven mistakes partnerships should avoid?
- Daniel Rickett of Partners International outlines seven mistakes partnerships should avoid:
- Assuming you think alike,
 - Promising more than you deliver,
 - Starting the trip without a map,
 - Underestimating cultural differences,
 - Taking shortcuts,
 - Forgetting to develop self-reliance, and
 - Running the race with no end.
31. What does Larry Pate say about missions?
- Larry Pate, in his chapter titled “Pentecostal Missions from the Two-thirds World,” does an excellent job of showing the slow start by western missionaries in engaging their national counterparts in world evangelism. Western missionaries, he contends, rarely challenged churches to carry the gospel into cultures that were not

their own. He feels they sent an unspoken message, “You evangelize your people. We will be the missionaries.”