

FOLLOWING JESUS TO THE NATIONS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD... AND BEYOND

Adopting God's Heart for the Nations

- We are blessed to be a blessing to the nations (Genesis 12:2-3)
"I will bless you and...all the families on earth will be blessed through you."
- God meant for Israel to be a light to the whole world (Jonah, Daniel, Esther and Ezekiel 5:5)
- Peter affirms Abrahams 'blessed to be a blessing to the nations'. (Acts 3:25)
"...through your descendants (that's us) all the families on earth will be blessed."

Reaching out to every culture isn't just a few people's thing, it's God's thing. If it's God's thing, it's my thing too!

We start small, we start somewhere we already are, and we start soon.

1. Welcoming the Foreigner

- Intentionally find those with least access to Jesus Christ:
T.H.U.M.B (Tribals, Hindus, Unreligious, Muslim, Buddhist)
- Recognize it's a deeply biblical practice to welcome the foreigner.
(Deuteronomy 10:18-19, Zechariah 7:10, Ruth 2:11, Matthew 25:5, Matthew 2:13)
*"God shows love to the foreigners living among you and gives them food and clothing.
So you, too, must show love to foreigners."*
- Befriend International Students and welcome refugees!

Take a thousand small steps of yes in an intentional direction.

2. Praying Passionately

- We wrestle, we seek, we listen, we ask God on behalf of those with least access to Jesus Christ.
We do it on our knees. (Ephesians 6:12)
"For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places."
- Salt our prayers with strategy by increasing our Missional Intelligence (MQ).
- Prayer moves the heavenlies, but it also moves YOU.

3. Going into All the World

- Go and make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20)
"Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations..."
- People who go are already welcoming the foreigner and praying passionately.
- When we put kingdom feet on uncharted ground, something happens on earth, as it is in heaven.

4. Giving and Sending Generously

- We get a return on our global investment later (Matthew 16:19-21)
"...wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."
- Lavish welcome, hospitality, and generosity on your cross-cultural workers.
- 99 out of every 100 dollars given to "missions" in the United States goes to reach peoples and places that already have Christians and churches.

5. Mobilizing Inspirationally

- Talk about this to others! (Numbers 10:1-2)
"Make two silver trumpets of hammered silver for calling the community to assemble and for signaling the breaking of camp."
- Mobilizers desire to see other people inspired, recruited, trained and released into an important calling.
- We can speak here for those who cannot speak for themselves, those without access to Jesus Christ.

DIGGING DEEPER + NEXT STEPS:

Ways to befriend an international student *(from Across the Street and Around the World, page 43-44)*

- Sign up to be an international friend at your local university
- Open your home to students for a holiday meal.
- Attend cultural events at a university campus.
- Volunteer to pick up students on arrival.
- Organize fun group events to see sites in your state.
- Be a family away from home, and invite them over when they get lonely.
- Provide transportation to and from the grocery store.
- Participate in (or start) conversational English classes.
- Host a tea party for women in your home.
- Invite them to read the Bible with you!

www.isi.org www.ism.intervarsity.org www.nav-ism.org

Ways to love refugees well *(from Across the Street and Around the World, pages 52-55)*

- Help refugees keep their dignity.
- Give refugees time, friendship, and resources to heal emotionally.
- Show them the ropes in their new country.
- Empower refugees instead of enabling them.
- Be a friend.

www.worldrelief.org www.rescue.org www.lirs.org www.crs.org

One small step to start soon this week:

- Find an international friend: Go eat at an ethnic restaurant and talk to the owner.
- Pray passionately: Choose an unreached people group at joshuaproject.net - learn about them, pray for them.
- Go into all the world: Sign up for a short-term trips or contact a long-term sending organization.
- Give and send generously: Connect with a visiting cross-cultural worker this week. Give them a lavish gift.
- Mobilize inspirationally: Browse mobilizing ideas at AcrosstheStreetandAroundtheWorld.com