

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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ON MISSION TOGETHER

GROWTH GUIDE



Handout: 07/15/18

Study: 07/22/18

Together In Sending

Rather surprisingly the word “missionary,” as such, is nowhere to be found in the English Bible. The word comes from a Latin word which means “to send” which in turn comes from a Greek word which also means “to send” in the sense of sending an envoy with a special commission.

The Greek word implies that there is an authority beyond the sent one – a sender. The messenger himself is not the authority. The messenger simply represents an authority. By simplest definition then, a missionary is a sent one. A missionary is a messenger or an envoy who is sent out on a special mission. A missionary is not so much one who goes out but one who is sent out.

Jesus often used this word in reference to His own ministry. For example, throughout the Gospel of John, Jesus constantly affirmed that the Father had sent him, as the following references show:

He said, “He who receives me, receives Him who sent me.” (John 13:20)

“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me.” (John 4:34)

“I came down from heaven not to do my will, but to do the will of Him who sent me.” (John 6:38)

“This is life eternal, that they may know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” (John 17:3)

He prayed, “that the world might believe that the Father has sent me.” (John 17:21)

His disciples too were sent ones. Just as Jesus was sent out by the Father, the twelve were sent out by the Son. We read for example:

“He appointed twelve, so that they might be with him, so that he might send them out to preach.” (Mark 3:14)

And in Matthew’s Gospel, “These twelve Jesus sent out...I am sending you out as sheep among wolves.” (Matthew 10:5,16)

And in John’s Gospel, “as the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” (John 20:21)

Moving on into the book of Acts we note how that various messengers and envoys continued to be sent. The ultimate sender of course, was still the risen Christ, the glorified Jesus, the Lord of the harvest, **but it is interesting to note that from the period of Acts onwards, this sending out was delegated to, and expressed through, the local church.**

The very first cross-cultural missionaries were sent out by the church at Antioch (Acts 13:1-4). The ultimate sender of course was the Holy Spirit acting on behalf of the Risen Christ. But the Holy Spirit never works in isolation to the church. He works through the church and sends through the church. The Holy Spirit uses the church as His sending agent.

A missionary then is a sent one – not so much one who goes out but one who is sent out, not so much one who is sent to, but one who is sent by. He or she is one who is sent by the risen Lord, and by the local church, working together in cooperation and fellowship.

Source: Your Church Can Make A World of Difference, By Allan Webb

KEY VERSE

Acts 13:3

“Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.”
NKJV

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 13:1-4

Introduction

1. How do you define the word “missionary”?
2. How would you describe the church in Antioch?

Tuesday: Acts 13:1-2; Romans 8:14; Acts 8:29

The Holy Spirit Calls

3. Who called Paul and Barnabas to be missionaries? How were they chosen?
4. Describe a time when you felt led by the Holy Spirit to do something.

Wednesday: Acts 13:3; Colossians 4:2-3; II Thessalonians 3:1-2

The Church Sends By Praying

5. Why is it important that we pray for our CBC missionaries?
6. Do you have a plan to pray for our missionaries? If so, what is it?

Thursday: Philippians 4:14-20; I Timothy 6:17-18

The Church Sends By Giving

7. Why should we give to missions?
8. Why is it easy to get complacent in our missionary giving?

CBC supports missionaries through our Faith Promise Missionary Offering:

Faith: This means you are trusting God to provide the money for your commitment.

Promise: This means that if God will do His part in providing the money you will do your part in giving it back to Him.

Missionary: This means that your designated gift will be used for supporting the missionary program of our church.

Offering: This means you are giving this amount over and above your tithe (10%) and other special offerings, which should be given to support the General Fund.

Friday: Acts:13:4; Romans 10:13-15; I Corinthians 9:19-23

The Missionaries Go

9. If the Holy Spirit calls you to go, would you be a missionary?
10. What might God be asking you to do for Him here?