

BE A BRINGER

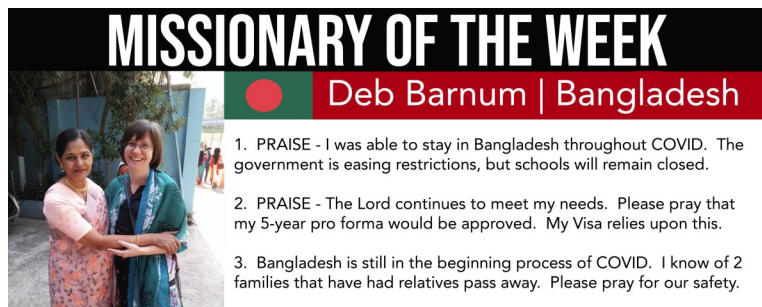
“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a


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



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK
 **Deb Barnum | Bangladesh**

1. PRAISE - I was able to stay in Bangladesh throughout COVID. The government is easing restrictions, but schools will remain closed.
2. PRAISE - The Lord continues to meet my needs. Please pray that my 5-year pro forma would be approved. My Visa relies upon this.
3. Bangladesh is still in the beginning process of COVID. I know of 2 families that have had relatives pass away. Please pray for our safety.

GROWTH
GUIDE

WELCOME
Home

Handout: 07/26/20

Study: 08/02/20

Bringing Others Home

Jesus, Messiah tells a parable in Luke 14:16-24 where the host of a great banquet sends out his servants and invites many guests. In shame-honor cultures, timing is everything with such cultural events. The day has been set, and guests are required to confirm. They RSVP that they will be ready! Elaborate preparations have been made to welcome an exact number of guests to this grand feast. Now everything is ready, so the master sends his servants to welcome the invitees in their proper attire to his... home!

The servants return and report that the guests turned down the invitation, at the last minute! The host is totally disappointed and very angry. He has been disrespected at the final hour! All they offered were senseless excuses: one said he was buying land and had to go check its value before the settlement process. Another purchased ten oxen and was on his way to the farm to inspect them. A third recently got married and felt he needed to spend time with his wife. Since they all previously confirmed, these were all insincere, insolent excuses that insulted a gracious host. They were avoiding the call, didn't want to be inconvenienced, and had more important obligations. In short, they were rejecting the host's goodness.

The host has lost face, the rich food was going to waste, and he certainly wanted his home full! Now he tells his servants, "Go to the streets and lanes and bring in the poor, crippled, blind and lame". But still there was room! So, he commanded, go out quickly to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in that my house may be filled! (His grace included those on Jesus' guest list given to the Pharisees v.13) These sidelined folk felt unworthy and were hesitant to come, so needed to be compelled! The servants were to go with a sense of urgency, personal obligation, and strongly persuaded these socially good-for-nothings and non-religious Gentiles! There's a role reversal here: the invited refused to come, but those excluded now participate!

God invites everyone to his heavenly... Home. Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us. There's room enough for us and "the others" – lost sheep without a Savior (Jn.10:16). No one must take the Gospel of grace for granted! God's offer expires soon! Jesus is coming again, or we may die! "Other" people need the Lord! Remember, not everyone will accept God's invite but there's still room! So, we must compel others to come to Christ. Our Lord commissioned us to, "Go, Home to our family" and "Go into all the world to the nations!" Let's go out and bring others... Home!

Source: "Bringing Others Home" by Dr. Chris Gnanakan

KEY VERSE

Luke 14:23 (NKJV)

Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Luke 14:15-24; Romans 1:16

Introduction

1. What was the best celebration or party that you have been a part of? Why was it memorable?
2. This week we will be learning about a parable that Jesus told in Luke 14:15-24. What stands out to you most about God and his invitation when reading this parable?

Tuesday: Luke 14:15-17; Isaiah 55:1-7; Revelation 22:17

You Are Invited

3. When did you first realize that God was inviting you into a relationship with Him?
4. Who did God use to invite you? Who can God use to invite to His home?

Wednesday: Luke 14:18-20; I John 2:15-16; Luke 14:27

Excuses, Excuses

5. What do the excuses of the guests reveal about them and their hearts?
6. What excuses do people give to not accept God's invitation? What excuses have you made in your life for not following Him?

Thursday: Luke 14:21-23; II Corinthians 5:12-21

Go Out And Compel All To Come

7. What does the invitation to the poor and others reveal about the heart of God?
8. What does it say about God's heart that he wants His house to be filled?
9. How does this parable speak to the urgency with which we share the invitation?

Friday: Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 13:47-48; Acts 28:28

Let's Go Out To Bring Others Home

10. In what ways do you "go out" to give people God's invitation?
11. What does it mean to "compel" people in Luke 14:23? How do you go about inviting people home to God?
12. What is your role in evangelism? What is God's role in evangelism?