

FBC's Philosophy of Missions

(Revised 6/28/12)

We believe, as individuals and as an assembly of called-out children of God, we are privileged to have been commissioned by Jesus Christ along with all who have put their faith and trust in Him alone for salvation throughout the ages. This commission is both rooted and clearly presented within Scriptures (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 24:44-53; John 20:21-23, 30-31; Acts 1:8-11); furthermore, this commission encompasses going throughout the world, preaching/witnessing of the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who are lost, baptizing them after they establish a relationship with Jesus Christ in faith through grace, and mentoring them in all the truths taught by Jesus as found in His Word (discipleship). In short, it is the fulfillment of FBC's motto-"helping families know God, love God, and live for God through the preaching of the Word of God."

God has given us a clear blueprint in His Word for how He desires each of us, and corporately as a church, to fulfill this commission He has placed upon us. Within the New Testament, we see Jesus beginning the work of laying the foundation of the church through the calling out of His own and teaching them by His Words. Upon His death, the apostles were given the instruction to disperse and evangelize. In fact, Acts 1:8 elaborates on where they were to evangelize, thereby fulfilling their Savior's commands: in Jerusalem (their present realm of influence) and to Judaea, Samaria and the uttermost part of the earth (their future realm of influence). The rest of the New Testament presents the Biblical methods used to accomplish the Lord's will. As the apostles and other believers spread throughout the known world, they left new churches in their wake. Furthermore, the epistles recorded for us in the New Testament demonstrate the discipleship taking place through the means of teaching both the doctrines of the Bible and their practical outpouring in the daily living of every believer. Through the Biblical record of Paul's numerous missions trips/outreaches, we can see the partnership engaged into by both the missionary (Paul and others) and the supporting churches (Church at Philippi and others).

The goal is to see a church born as soon as possible from each and every evangelistic endeavor; that church being a local assembly of called-out converts organizing and establishing a New Testament church that strives to fulfill the Lord's commission given to them. Hence, we see the successful work of missions achieved through the local church which is reproducing itself around the world, seeing souls saved, new converts baptized, and disciples made in fulfillment of the commission given to all of us.

We confidently use the term "church-planting missionary" for those individuals and families that are called of God to accomplish Jesus' commission around the world utilizing the methodology found in the Bible (this includes those called of God as aides to the church-planting missionary-for example, single lady missionaries, field directors, and construction missionaries). The desire of FBC is to carry out the commission of Jesus in our local communities, while at the same time, partnering with church-planting mission projects and laborers throughout the world via our missions program.