



The Going Gospel Celebrating 110 Years of the AFM!

Key Scripture: Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

REWIND

Remembering where we come from

The term “Missional” has become a buzz word in church-circles, the concept is as old as the church.

In fact, it is the mission and calling of the church.

What is the essence of missionality?

It starts with God.

He is the great Missionary.

He is the first “Sender”. (Missio Dei)

He sent His Son - John 3:16

God also sent the Holy Spirit

Then He sent us - John 20:21

The church in essence is a “sent-entity” - both individually and collectively.

The early church was a missional church

Missional vs Attractional

“Go and be” vs Come and see”.

Market place vs church building

Missional = “Christ incarnated” in the community (Acts 4:13)

The early church didn't have a missionary board or missionary program.

God's mission in the world is still redemptive.

He wants to use His church as His main instrument.



Missions was never intended to be a spoke in the wheel, but the hub, the cone.

WHAT ABOUT THE AFM?

While the term/concept of missional is a “modern” word, the true meaning thereof was initially part and parcel of the AFM.

- John G Lake - Came to do mission-work
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)
- Few full-time workers but many full-time witnesses
- The role of divine healing
- Open Air and tent meetings (On the market-place)
- The very real presence of the Holy Spirit

The early AFM was indeed in practice and spontaneously a Missional Church.

CONCLUSION

It is God’s mission that calls the church into existence. In other words, we can no longer see the church as the starting point when thinking about mission. Instead, the church must be seen as the **result** of God’s mission.

In the words of South African missiologist David Bosch: “It is not the church which undertakes mission; it is the *missio Dei* which constitutes the church.” Or stated in a slightly different manner; “it is not so much that God has a mission for his church in the world, but that God has a church for his **mission in the world.**” (Christopher Wright)

The AFM indeed was such a church and ought to be dead-serious to be such again!