The Holy Spirit gives Christians power to live on Mission. It is the will of God that everyone enjoys eternal life with Him in heaven (2 Peter 3:9).

God's method to bring the world to understand His plan is for Christians to allow the Holy Spirit to empower them to live on a mission to influence nonbelievers to place their faith in Jesus. Jesus' last words to believers right before He ascended into heaven were, *"... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts1:7b-8) The Good News – that forgiveness of our sins is possible by believing that Jesus took the penalty for our sins when He died on the cross – must be shared!

HELPFUL Suggestions

UNDERSTAND MISSIONS

- Study/memorize key Bible verses through which missions is taught. Some examples are:
  - Memorize Acts 1:8 and define your "Jerusalem" (local), "Judea" (area), "Samaria" (region), and "the ends of the ear."
  - Memorize the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).
  - Memorize Isaiah 6:8.
  - Read the book of Jonah.
  - Read the book of Acts.

- Keep in touch with current mission information by subscribing to or visiting:
  - Missions Mosaic magazine, published monthly by the Southern Baptist Convention's Women's Missionary Union. Subscribe online at wmustore.com.
  - On Mission magazine, published quarterly by the North American Mission Board (NAMB). Visit them online at www.onmission.com.
- Review some of these resources to help you learn about and prepare for mission experiences
  - Books
    - *Radical* by David Platt
    - *From Success to Significance* by Lloyd Reeb
    - *The Mission-Minded Child* by Ann Dunagan
  - Biographies of missionaries
    - William Carey, Hudson Taylor, Lottie Moon, William Tyndale, Amy Carmichael, Jim and Elizabeth Elliot, John Wycliffe, etc.
  - Visit Voice of the Martyrs' web page at www.persecution.com.
  - Research a different culture for the purpose of ministering to that people group.
  - Learn a foreign language.
  - Watch these movies for inspiration:
    - End of the Spear
    - Tears of the Sun
    - Chariots of Fire

HELPFUL Suggestions

SUPPORT MISSIONS: PRAYER

- Pray regularly for Memorial's current mission efforts: Operation Christmas Child and Guatemala.
- Pray regularly for San Jacinto Baptist Association's Honduras Mission effort (sanjacintobaptist.com).
- Pray regularly for missionaries sponsored by the NAMB and the IMB. Both organizations publish prayer guides on their websites.
- Go to Operation World's website at www.operationworld.org for a world prayer guide.
- Ask God to impress on your heart an unreached people group to pray for regularly.

SUPPORT MISSIONS: GIVING

- Financially support those you know and know of who are going on mission trips.
- Give to Memorial's Operation Christmas Child effort.
- Give to mission activities at home and abroad through the NAMB's Annie Armstrong Easter offering, IMB's Lottie Moon Christmas offering, and WMU's Mary Hill Davis offering.

HELPFUL Suggestions

SUPPORT MISSIONS: IN PERSON

- Participate in local mission opportunities individually or together with a team. A few examples are:
  - Memorial's Guatemala Mission effort
  - Operation Christmas Child (www.samaritanspurse.org)
  - San Jacinto Baptist Association's Honduras Mission effort (sanjacintobaptist.com)
  - Love Network (281-422-5683)
  - Pregnancy Resource Center East (prcebaytown.org)
- Go to www.going.imb.org and read about ways to volunteer to serve in missions overseas and then use your skills, talents, and interests in a mission adventure.
- Go to www.namb.net/vol and search for an American mission project that matches the skills and capabilities God has given you. Consider using some or all of your annual vacation for a family mission trip.

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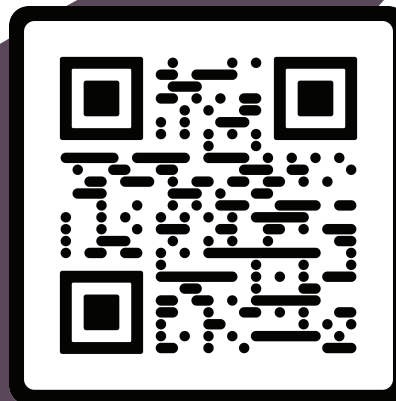**STERLING CAMPUS**
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