

THE GREAT COMMISSION AND YOU

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We are living in an unprecedented period in world history, or more accurately, in HIS Story. After Jesus gave the Great Commission and ascended to heaven, the early church preached the gospel of the kingdom from Jerusalem to the known world as declared in Acts 1:8.

This tremendous expansion lasted 500 years before regressing significantly over the next 1300 years. The modern mission movement has grown since the 19th century. More progress toward completing the Great Commission has been made in the last 20 years than in the previous 200 years combined. There are numerous prophecies in the Bible that describe Christ's return. From the Old Testament to the New Testament, God has been paving the way for Christ's return. It's possible that ours is the final generation.

Today, our world and country face numerous challenging issues. However, as Christ's disciples now, we must see our times through the eyes of the disciples who came before us. The very first recipients of the message found in Matthew 24:14,

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed to...***all nations***, and then the end will come." ESV

The word "nations" in this verse, in its original language is "ethnos," which actually means "people group" or "tribe" instead of politically identified countries.

The indigenous peoples have a need for Jesus, just as we do. God will never stop using people of every race, language, and culture to fill out the Church because from the very beginning, redemption was intended for all peoples. And yet, in the country known also as "the only Christian Nation in Asia," there are still 13 Filipino tribes that have not been reached by the gospel and even receive little or no government aid, at all.

Consequently, in 2013, CPMT sounded the call to bless the 13. We thank and praise the Lord for all of you who have partnered with us and have been on this journey with us. Thanks to the Lord, our missionaries' presence in all 13 tribes led to things that brought glory to God. Over 800 people from these 13 tribes have decided to follow Christ.

During our planning in 2020, we sensed God refreshing our vision to turn the harvest field into a harvest force. Despite our limitations and challenges, God called us to partner with Him in bringing this vision to fulfillment through a bold objective: to ignite and send the 13 by 2025. If this were to happen, what would it look like?

By the year 2025, we aim that 4 of the 13 tribes will be actively involved in holistic disciple-making activities led by indigenous believers from their tribe, and that each community will be able to support at least one economic uplift initiative.

As these Christ-centered initiatives gain momentum, some of the reproducing leaders from the first 4 tribes might be gradually assigned to intensify the work among the other tribes. With the help of CPMT workers, this pattern of sending from one tribe to another can be replicated. By 2030, all 13 unreached people groups in the Philippines will have community-led sustainable development programs and disciple-making activities.

There are many things that an ordinary believer can do to help reach the unreached people groups:

1. Pray Intentionally. This means setting aside time each day to specifically pray for the unreached people groups.
2. Go as a full-time or volunteer worker. This could mean moving to another region to share the gospel directly, working in the office as a home-based mission worker, or just using whatever skills you have to help move the work in God's field forward.
3. Send workers. This could include financially supporting field and home-based missionaries working in these places.
4. Mobilize other believers. This could include raising awareness about the importance of reaching the unreached or organizing campaigns.

What is God telling you to do about this? ✝