

Pastor's Perspective...

It's Time to Go for Him

"Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? Ask of me and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession."

Psalm 2:1 & 7

Our greatest focus this year has been on our prayer life. The Lord promises that those who come to Him will never leave empty (Matt 11:28). Yet I have seen that my prayer life can consist of the things that I am concerned about and I can miss the person that the Lord is concerned about. Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful (did you hear that?) but the workers are few (did you hear that?) Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (Luke 10:2). An Evangelist was invited to our former church fellowship and he made this statement that has stuck with me: you are a part of every prayer that you pray. In John when Jesus ministers to the woman at the well, He challenges his disciples, "Do not say four months more and then the harvest. I tell you, open you eyes and look. They are ripe for harvest" (John 4:35).

Our prayers and our focus must be on what concerns the Lord if He is going to bless our fellowship. And our prayers must be big. In Psalm 2 he challenges us to ask for the nations. When you look around New Life, how many nations do you see represented? When we pray for the nations we will see answers to our prayers and the evidence will be among us. The word nation means ethnos or people group. Jesus said this after clearing out the Temple: "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations" (Mark 11:10). Again, we see the heart of Jesus. He calls to us to be concerned for all people groups and to pray for them to become a part of the one true nation, the holy nation, the nation of believers who have taken up their citizenship in the Kingdom of God.

It may seem like an impossible thing to pray for the nations. But let me challenge you to take a nation per day or even one nation per week. Ask the Lord for souls in these nations and pray for the missionaries. Then, when you are going about your daily business, open your eyes and look for the "woman at the well." Look for the opportunity to give someone "living water." This is Jesus' concern and we will be blessed if we go for Him, representing Christ and His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor Gene