

THE SEND

OUR PERSONAL CALL TO GLOBAL MISSIONS

“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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20 (NIV)



A Letter From The Editor

BY NNEOMA EWURUM

Beloved,

I'm excited to share our theme for this month's newsletter: Our Personal Call To Global Missions. For the first time in our church's history, we celebrated Pentecost Sunday, which historically takes place 50 days after Easter. Till today, I'm still in awe of what God did in our church that day. Leading up to Pentecost Sunday was such a palpable hunger and cry for a move of God and we experienced just that! He showed up mightily just like in the Upper Room in Acts Chapter 2. There were so many testimonies of divine encounters, transformed lives, healing, deliverances, all to the glory of God. The mighty move of the Holy Spirit reminded us once again

that we are called to be witnesses- not just locally but to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 captures this beautifully: “But you shall 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”. Wow! We get filled so we can go and pour it out! It's that simple. We are empowered by the Spirit to go, to pour out boldly and to carry the gospel to every nation and people group. Each of us has a personal call, a divine invitation, to participate in God's mission of redemption and reconciliation worldwide.

I pray this newsletter serves as a clarion call for us to embrace our part in God's global purpose. I pray that there is such a stirring in our hearts that gives birth to a fresh passion for nations. May God grant us the grace to step out in faith and embrace this call in Jesus name.

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Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judas and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

An Inspiring Journey to Global Missions

BY TAYO AKINLABI (AN INTERVIEW WITH PASTOR FUNMI ADEBAYO)

Jesus said in John 20:21 - “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you”. The “YOU” in this command isn’t limited to the early disciples – it is a mandate for every believer with a charge to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20). Peter reminds us we are “a holy nation”, chosen to “proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness to His marvelous light – 1 Peter 2:9”. Pastor Funmi’s journey

journey to global missions. Here are some excerpts from our conversation:

How did you first sense God’s call to missions in your life?

I heard about missions for the first time as a young lady in 1986 after I completed my high school education, two years after I gave my life to Christ. I attended a fellowship meeting where a missionary spoke about unreached people, particularly in northern Nigeria. A statement from the missionary about single ladies working among these people deeply impacted me. This motivated me to attend more mission awareness conferences as the Holy Spirit continued to impress missions on my heart. These meetings connected me with like-minded missionaries.

connecting it to Baptist missionaries he knew and told him I am convinced God was calling me to serve Him in missions. Though initially displeased, my father eventually understood after an in person meeting with him.

How did you overcome fears or doubts, especially as a mother?

I had a lot of fears and doubts about the future, but I drew strength from the Holy Spirit through reading missionary biographies and seeing examples of young people who served God in missions. We also faced financial challenges especially after having children. As a mother, it was difficult to see our children’s needs and be unable to meet them.



embodies this very mission. From her first stirring toward missions to how she overcame doubts and fears, mobilizing churches for missions, her story reminds us that the Great Commission is lived—not just learned. Pastor Funmi is a wife, mother, grandmother and the Deputy International Director of The Kingdom Projects (TKP) - a missionary organization committed to mobilizing recruiting, training, and sending laborers to reach the unreached nations with the Gospel. We had the opportunity to ask her about her

How did your family respond when you decided to go into missions full-time?

I didn’t inform my parents initially while I spent time praying and trusting God to guide me. After college, I decided to take a step towards fulfilling God’s call by registering and attending the School of Missions in Plateau State, Nigeria. I told my mother first about this call but struggled to tell my father who had secured a job for me. I wrote a letter to my father because I was afraid, explaining missions work,

After discussing with my husband, I had to start teaching for two years to assist with meeting some of these needs. Despite all these challenges, I have witnessed God’s provision in all areas of my life and ministry and family, including specific instances of tuition provision for our children. God is always faithful!

What does it mean when we say every believer has a role in the Great Commission – to pray, go, or give?

When we talk about the Great Commission, we must realize it didn't begin in the New Testament. From Genesis to Revelation, we see that missions is rooted in the nature of God. As someone who belongs to God's family, I see myself as a stakeholder in His mission. Just like in a family business, where each child may have a different role but still contributes to the same goal, every believer has a part to play in what our Heavenly Father is doing. That's how I understand the call to missions - it's not limited to a few; it includes us all. Missions means crossing cultural boundaries, sometimes even without leaving our cities. At times, we are sent to the nations, and at other times, the nations are brought to us. I don't believe in dividing roles into neat

What is the role of the church in missions?

The local church is essential to missions because the Great Commission is the Church's shared responsibility. Many churches now recognize missions as part of their purpose, offering platforms, resources, and even volunteers. Our strategy includes speaking engagements and outreach programs like Touching Lives at Christmas. True partnership goes beyond financial support - it's about churches actively engaging in and owning the mission.

As you look ahead, what excites you most about how God is moving in missions today, and how can every believer be part of what He's doing?

can bring the gospel into their professional spaces. It's a new direction I'm personally exploring—how to mobilize the body of Christ to see missions as possible not just abroad, but right where they are. The fact that I get to be a part of what God is doing in this generation fills me with deep gratitude. It is a huge privilege. Every time I hear stories of breakthrough—especially in places like the Arab world where I have a special burden - I'm reminded that our prayers and efforts are not in vain. Doors are opening, people are responding to the gospel, and God is moving mightily. Truly, the future of missions is bright. And the best part is that we're not just spectators - we're part of the story God is writing around the world.



boxes—go, give, or pray—as if you can only choose one. In reality, a single person can do all three. I've experienced that in my own life, and I've seen it in the lives of others. You may never board a plane but giving and prayer is vital to missions. Supporting missions is not a passive task—it's active. Every believer has a role. Even if you're not on the front lines, you can be praying daily for unreached people groups. Missions is not the job of a few; it is the calling of the entire Church.

One thing that really excites me is seeing how far missions has come since I first got involved. When I look back and compare the early days to now, there has been so much progress. More people are becoming aware and stepping into missions. While there's still much work to be done, the growing interest and engagement from the Church gives me great joy. I am especially excited about the emerging opportunities for missions in the workplace. God has been showing me how believers



The Gospel On Our Feet

BY AYOMIDE FASHAKIN

I've always had a fascination with shoes. Sneakers specifically. What kid didn't? I wanted the real deal. Nike or Adidas. It also had to be the original ones, not the knockoffs with upside-down swooshes or Adidas logos that didn't quite form that distinct triangle. My parents, however, had other ideas. They were more focused on getting shoes that would "last", and that I could grow into. The practical kind, not the fashion kind. They had clearly not received the memo that the other parents seemed to have gotten about fitting your kids with the popular name brands.

kind of dynamism with which he played. I guess my parents were onto something after all.

Sports isn't the only arena where shoes matter. In fact, in some situations, the right footwear isn't just about performance, it can be the difference between success and disaster. One historical story that fascinates me is Napoleon's retreat from Russia during his campaign to dominate Europe. He had invaded the country earlier in the summer, but when the brutal Russian winter arrived, his soldiers were unprepared. Many wore thin, worn-out shoes, and some resorted to wrapping their feet in rags or animal skins.

The result was catastrophic. Frostbite and gangrene spread rapidly, and

The Apostle Paul certainly understood the importance of proper military attire and chose the perfect imagery when telling believers to put on the whole armor of God (Eph 6:11). He likely had in mind the gear worn by Roman legionnaires - standard issue equipment designed for both protection and mobility. Chief among these was their footwear: the caligae. They were thick-soled, studded with metal, and crafted to keep the feet cool during long marches while providing grip and stability on uneven terrain. In ancient warfare, a common tactic was to bury sharpened spikes or spears in the path of advancing troops. If a soldier stepped on one unprotected, it could pierce his foot and leave him immobilized. These reinforced soles were designed to prevent exactly that.

It's for this reason that Paul includes footwear among the essential elements of the believer's armor. What we have on our feet matters because standing firm in the spiritual battle depends on it. It is how we remain grounded when the enemy attacks. It's striking that every time Paul urges us to put on the armor of God, he immediately follows with the command to stand. Stand firm, stand strong, stand our ground (Eph 6:11-14).

Beloved, we are under attack on every side. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - this is the very essence of the world's assault on the soul (1 John 2:16). And what does Paul say we should wear on our feet for this battle? He calls them the "preparation of the gospel of peace" (Eph 6:15).

These are the shoes that every believer must put on in the fight



Over a decade later, I watched a video of Zion Williamson's Nike PG 2.5 shoes exploding just 30 seconds into a marquee matchup between Duke and UNC. Until that day, I'd never even heard of shoes exploding. Zion developed an injury and was out for about three weeks, and Nike lost a billion dollars in market valuation the next day. It turns out the shoes he had on weren't designed to support the

over 100,000 soldiers died from the cold alone. Historians widely regard this moment as the beginning of the end for Napoleon. From this point forward, his dream of European domination began to unravel and the empire he had built started its long descent toward collapse. I often wonder how different Europe's history might have been if his army had been properly outfitted for war.

against the devil. Every believer! This isn't a battle you can delegate or fight by proxy. The Great Commission is the call our Lord Jesus has given to every one of us. If the Church is committed to the Great Commission, are you? There are laborers in the harvest fields, are you among them? And if you're not out in the fields reaping, are you helping to provide the seed, the water, and the tools?

I often think about Paul's missionary journeys. What did he eat? Where did he stay? How did he travel? Yes, he worked with his hands, when necessary (Acts 18:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 2:9; Acts 20:33-35), but he was not without support. Throughout his letters and the book of Acts, we see evidence of

This is exactly the kind of partnership he speaks of in Romans 10:15. Before the feet of those who bring good news can be called beautiful, someone must send them. Paul certainly had Isaiah 52:7 in mind, and it's a fascinating reference. In ancient times, the outcome of a battle could often be discerned by the messenger's movement. A lookout stationed on a hill would watch the runner, if he came swiftly, it meant victory; if he was slow, it signaled defeat. I'm reminded of the legendary run of Pheidippides, who carried news of victory from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens. His 26-mile run has been memorialized throughout history, and today the

put on the full armor of God: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit...don't forget your shoes!



people who housed him, fed him, and gave generously (Romans 16:1-2; Acts 16:15; Acts 17:5-7; Romans 16:23). Paul may have gone on the missions, but he didn't go alone, there was always someone sending, supporting, praying and sacrificing behind the scenes.

marathon stands as a symbol of endurance and resolve.

Beloved, just as the messenger's stride revealed the news he carried, we too have been sent to carry the greatest news of all: there is peace with God through the person and work of Jesus Christ. And this is how we stand firm. So, as you prepare each day to

UPCOMING EVENTS

Uganda Missions Trip 2025
www.ahowfc.org/missions

Benin Republic Missions Trip
 2026
 (More information to follow in
 December 2025)

JLM Ministry Trips
www.jidelawore.org

Missions Monthly Prayer
 "Till The Whole Word Hears"
 Last Sunday of every month
 6:00pm - 6:45pm
 (908) 293- 8320

Monthly Prayers for missions,
 missionaries, unreached
 people groups and lost souls.

For questions and more
 information on the missions
 ministry
 Email: missions@ahowfc.org

The Call

BY KAREN OWUSU

What if the very thing the world is waiting for is buried in our silence? What if our silence is the reason someone dies without ever hearing about Jesus? You see, the Gospel is the power of God for salvation, but it must be heard to be received. If we who know the truth remain quiet, how will the lost ever find their way home? God has assigned us with the message of reconciliation, not to keep it locked up in our hearts but to proclaim it boldly.

We are the vessels God has chosen to carry His message. The message of the Gospel that you and I have received



has the power to heal the broken, free the captive, and bring light to the darkest places on earth (Romans 1:16). Yet, many believers live quiet lives, comfortable within the four walls of the church while souls are still perishing in need of the Gospel. The world needs to know about Jesus. You and I have tasted and seen the goodness of God and someone needs that hope more than ever today. As wars rage, hearts grow cold, and souls are wandering in search of truth, God's voice is calling out louder than ever: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" (Isaiah 6:8).

When Jesus called His disciples, He interrupted their ordinary lives with an eternal assignment when He said, "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men". (Matthew 4:19). They left their nets, boats, and everything that was familiar to them and followed Jesus. They didn't fully understand what it meant to be "fishers of men" but they trusted the One who called them. In the same way, Jesus still calls. He still interrupts our daily routines to get our attention but what will be our response? The question is, are we willing to leave our own nets? The net may be anything holding you back from serving Jesus, your time, your plans, your fears, or even your reputation. Whatever it is, Jesus is still saying, "Follow Me".

The call is not reserved for a certain group of people but for all who are children of God. The laborers are few and the harvest are plenty. Over 3.2 billion people, roughly 41% of the global population remain unreached with the Gospel. The urgency of the Great Commission is not a suggestion but rather a command (Matthew 28:19). Leonard Ravenhill once said, "The opportunity of a lifetime must be seized within the lifetime of the opportunity." The call of God is not always convenient. It won't always make sense or fit into our five-year

plan for our lives, but it will always align with God's heart. The key is our willingness and our yes to God. The time is now. You see, when God called Isaiah, he didn't receive a blueprint, but he received a burden. And his response was this: "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8). Like Moses, Gideon, and Jeremiah, we may feel unqualified, but the call has never depended on our human ability but rather God is looking for available vessels. God equips those He sends and guides them every step of the way.

The Gospel must be preached, lived, and shared. You may never step on a stage or into a mission field abroad, but your daily yes to God can shift paradigms. The mission field is where you are currently positioned. Romans 10:14 says, "How can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ, but how will they hear unless someone opens their mouth and shares the message? The responsibility to preach is not just for pastors or missionaries; the call is for every believer.

We are God's messengers in the workplace, our homes, and everywhere we go. Every conversation, every encounter serves an opportunity to be the voice that points someone to Jesus. When we step out in faith, just like the disciples, we join in God's redemptive plan. Our "yes" may not be pleasing to our flesh but may be the beginning of someone else's salvation story.

Will you say yes?