

The Goal of Missions

The ultimate goal of mission is a people from every nation that glorifies God. In order to more fully understand what this means we must understand what the Bible means about people of "all nations." The Greek is "panta ta ethne." This is where we get our English word, "ethnic." Another way to say this is the gospel will be preached to all the ethnic peoples or people groups of the world. So then, what is a people group? A people group is the largest group through which the Gospel can flow without encountering significant barriers of understanding and acceptance. Our desire at TSC is to be a part of God's work as He is creating a new people for himself from every tribe, language, people and nation.

The Church is the Agent for Mission

The Church is the primary agent empowered by the Holy Spirit under the authority of Jesus to accomplish the great commission. We must partner with other churches and organizations, but not abdicate the centrality of the local church in global mission. The Church is the Bride and Body of Christ. [Ephesians 1:22-23](#) says, And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. In [Acts 1:8](#) we see the Church empowered by the Holy Spirit for witness to the ends of the earth. In [1 Corinthians 12](#) we see each believer gifted for ministry and a necessary part of the body. Every believer is called to embrace God's mission and fulfill the role God designed for him or her in the Kingdom. The whole church must be released for the mission of making disciples of all nations.

How Can We Serve the World?

- We must actively embrace the lost by sharing the Word.
- We must empower the poor through showing the Word.
- We must train and equip the church by teaching of the Word.

Our Strategy

We believe that God desires for Thompson Station Church to be His witnesses in all places, from our Jerusalem to our Judea to our Samaria and to the ends of the earth. If we neglect any of these areas, we fail to do our part as believers. These four categories, as defined by TSC are:

- **Jerusalem**- People of the same culture and context as us that are local. Almost all of TSC's ministry to the church falls under the category of outreach, trying to bring people IN to the church for programs, classes, etc. "Jerusalem" in a TSC context though, means to go out and engage the community for the purpose of sharing the Gospel outside the walls of the church.
- **Judea**- TSC desires to help church planters and organizations within the US to reach people and minister in reached and unreached contexts.
- **Samaria**- Going to people outside the US, or to a different ethnic group inside the US for the purpose of sharing Christ with them.
- **Ends of the Earth**- Going to the frontline of missions where the Gospel has not yet been heard by the vast majority of people, and where no opportunity is readily available (UPG's and UUPG's)