

And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear sound, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle?

1st Corinthians 14:8 NLV

.....
First Love Ministries, Inc.

Prayer Study #150

Sending out Missionaries

With Holy Communion

Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaem who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. Acts 13:1-4

Prophetically, we were told in a word from Pat Carver, an international minister who has gone to be with the Lord, that we would be sending people out from our hub or headquarters like a wheel's spokes all over the world. Since that prophetic message in 1985, we have seen people associated with our ministry go all over the world in places like Ireland, Russia, China, Zambia and other African countries, Poland, Central and South America, and Israel to name a few.

There is a great joy here when one of our members goes to the nations to share the awesome message, the good news of the Gospel, to people who are lost. We believe that those who are sent out should go with our personal activation and stirring of the Gifts of the Spirit by the laying on of hands and sent with our prayer covering. We also believe that we are to fast and pray before we send people out.

In Acts 13 the men in Brother Paul (Saul) and Brother Barnabas' group are referred to as prophets and teachers. However, in Acts 14 Paul and Barnabas are called apostles. In the New Testament language the actual word for those who are sent out is *apostle*. The word *apostle* literally means "one sent forth." *Missionary* also means "one who is sent." However, in modern Christianity, according to Derek Prince, the word *missionary* is used in many cases where it would not be scriptural to use the word *apostle*. Nonetheless, there are similarities in the calling of an apostle and a missionary.

Today we recognize this person as one called by God to go forth as a missionary. We ask those who are ordained and the leaders here to come forward and lay hands on this person. This act of laying on of hands publically acknowledges that the leaders feel God has chosen this man for this task. Also, the laying on of hands stirs up the spiritual gifts in this person and claims for this person the special spiritual wisdom, grace and power which he needs for the successful accomplishment of this God-given task.

I ask all those who lay hands on this person to agree in prayer with me: *Increase, O God, the faith and passion of this man that he may more earnestly desire and more diligently seek, the salvation of his fellow man, through the message of love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Send forth a mighty call on this one who goes to win the lost to Christ, to minister to those who know Christ, and to be an example to all men with a heart of love, sincerity and honesty, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, that multitudes may be brought from the kingdom of evil to the Kingdom of your dear Son and our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Today we will conclude this service with the sacrament of Holy Communion:

You that do earnestly repent of your sins and who show the love of Jesus to your fellow men and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God and walking from henceforth in His holy ways, take this sacrament of the Holy Spirit and humbly confess your sins before God. We remember, Jesus, how you instituted holy communion on the night that you were betrayed as you gave thanks and took the bread, which symbolized your body, and broke it saying, "Take eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, you took the cup and said, "Drink you all of this, for this is my blood of the New Covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, and as often as you shall drink it, do it in remembrance of me. AMEN.

His broken body, which communion symbolizes, is in fulfillment of His Word in Isaiah 53:4-5 *Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed.*