

*Hello,*

*I'm*

*a*

*Missionary*

Author Unknown

Edited by

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to North America

(Editor's Note: This article was found in a missionary apartment in Lanett, Alabama. It did not have the author's name. I thought it was a very good article and wanted to distribute it. If the author will let me know that he or she wrote it, or if anyone knows who the author is, I will gladly acknowledge them. Until then, I will distribute it with the author unknown.)

“Oh no, not another missionary!” This is the typical nonverbal response of the brethren today. There seems to be a negative sentiment toward those who are called of God to go and preach the gospel around the world. Though the Bible refers to it in utmost importance, and it was once considered the highest of callings, the call of the missionary has lost its glory, privilege, and honor. What has happened to that call? Where has the burden gone? Please bear with me and read along. Consider these things.

#### **They did not ask for it!**

Though I have walked the Christian pathway for many years now, I have never met a single soul who has told me that they begged God to allow them to go to a foreign land to battle with a language barrier, to live in harsh conditions, and to be denied the privilege of home and of family. They did not ask to go and live in a land (or across the country) where many times they are not

accepted; oftentimes they are not even wanted. They are accused, abused, and sometimes even killed. They spend their lives in sacrifice for the sake of the souls of men, to proclaim the gospel to every land. Yet many times they return home in poverty and are rejected by many because they must “live by faith” and while “living by faith,” they must look to the brethren to supply their needs. **They did not ask for it!** When God allowed them to see the world—lost, dying, and pleading to God—they saw that someone must go. They did not ask to have a broken heart that could only see the condemnation of men. They did not ask, but they agreed with God. There is a need; someone must go. Someone has to tell the old, old story.

#### **God gave the command—“Go Ye!”**

**Yes, it is God's fault!** He made up the plan to evangelize the world. He decided that He would use man to fulfill this purpose. He decided to give man the highest honor and privilege upon the face of the earth. He wanted you and me to stand together and face the snares of the devil, to confront the flames of hell, and to dare to snatch some out of the fire. He said, “Go ye,” and He said, “Go teach.” A missionary is a missionary in obedience to what God has commanded us to do. God has ordained this plan. God had this way planned before the foundation of the world.

## **What is a missionary to do?**

The common response to this age-old question is “He must trust God.” The problem is that this equation seems to be somewhat unbalanced. We can agree together that the missionary should live by faith, but I submit to you that both the missionary and the church member should live by faith. To ask the missionary to live by faith, and not share the burden with him, is unscriptural. Galatians 6:2 says, “*Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.*” The Bible clearly teaches us that all should live by faith, all should sacrifice for the cause of Christ, and all should contribute to the salvation of men.

## **What is my part? What can I do?**

Some would ask, “What does this have to do with me?” Dear brother or sister in Christ, it has everything to do with you. The gospel will not be heard, the message of God’s precious sacrifice will not be shared, if not for you. Not all are called to go, but all must make their contribution. Thousands die each day without Christ; however, they can be reached. The missionary is ready and willing. He wants to go. He needs you to help him go. Here is what you can do:

1) Understand his heart. A missionary is not a beggar, a leech, or a

vagabond! He does not come to deprive you of anything; rather, he comes to give you the opportunity to participate with him. He is God’s soldier on a mission.

2) Understand the history. The missionary knows that God has ordained the call to missions. God designed this plan. It must be done His way!

3) Understand his heartbreak. A missionary only desires to get to the field that God has called him to. The only way that he can go and live is to depend on people such as you. Without your help, it cannot be done. He does not want to ask. He does not want to burden you with his need, but it is the only way. It is God’s way!

4) Take a walk in his shoes. Travel in a car for thousands of miles, sleep in a different place almost every night, have no place to call home, and deprive your children of their simplest desires. Wear out, give out, and burn out before you ever get to where God has called you to go.

## **Have you done your part? What more could you have done?**

“Only one life, ‘twill soon be past.  
Only what’s done for Christ will last.”

*Preaching the Gospel to  
the Sinner,*

*Encouraging the Believer,*

*and Exalting the Name of  
Jesus Christ*

*Until He Comes Again!*

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