

Revolutionizing the Church: Disciples Go on a Short-Term Mission Every Day

By Bob Young

Francis Chan, in his introduction to David Platt's book, *Follow Me*, reminds us that disciples of Jesus go forth on short-term mission efforts every day. We must understand that the mission field is everywhere around us, beginning immediately outside our front door. When we look at our own society and culture, it is certainly true that we Christians go into the mission field every day. Every Christian is called to be a short-term missionary, going forth with the spirit of Jesus to share good news, to put in a good word for Jesus, and to advance the gospel.

Phil Slate, missionary, professor of missions, and missions consultant, advises: When someone asks for money to go on a short-term mission trip, the first question to ask is, "What are you going to do?" Because not all mission work is.

Two applications—

The U.S. scene. The church would grow rapidly and perhaps exponentially if all disciples of Jesus grasped this simple truth. Every day I am a short-term missionary on a short-term mission trip. Local churches in the U.S. would multiply the number of contacts with the unchurched and with unbelievers. Spiritual conversations would multiply, the gospel as the perfume worn by every Christian would permeate the world.

Foreign missions. Mission works would blossom and explode if short-term mission efforts were focused on God's mission of sharing good news and advancing the gospel. Baptisms would occur daily, disciples would make disciples. The gospel would echo to the ends of the earth!

A frank summary, hoping that churches, church leaders, mission committees, and Christians will "get it"—

- Every Christian is called to be a daily short-term missionary.
- Do not send a short-term missionary who is not.
- Do not do short-term missions that are not.