

ARTICLE

FBC (E) MISSION AWARENESS
SUNDAY

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

PRAYER FOR WORSHIP TEAM

FBC Today

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



FBC MISSION AWARENESS SUNDAY

When discipling young Christians, we often teach them how to study the Bible and how to pray. We also encourage them to attend church every Sunday, undergo water baptism, be a member of a local church, participate in a Life Group, and serve the

body of Christ because we believe that these are mandatory requirements for any individual in their walk with Christ. However, we seldom encourage the Christians we disciple to participate in mission exposure trips.

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON
 23 March 2025
 Preacher **Edward Stetzer**
 Missions Tentative Passage

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Is mission exposure trip optional or is it mandatory in the Christian training curriculum?

Many of us like to think that mission is optional and not compulsory. We like to think that mission is for the selected few who are "called."

Jesus' Great Commission to His disciples "to make disciples (imperative mood) of all the nations" is a very significant commandment because Jesus delivered it to His disciples by **an appointment**.

After Jesus had His last supper with His disciples in Jerusalem, He told them, "I will go ahead of you to Galilee" (Mt 26:23). In other words, Jesus told His disciple to meet Him in Galilee after His resurrection.

Jesus' appointment with His disciples in Galilee was the arguably the most important thing in Jesus' mind after His resurrection. When the women met Jesus that morning, He told them, "Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me" (Mt 28:10). Jesus wanted the women to remind His disciples that He has a meeting appointment with them in Galilee.

Jesus could have given The Great Commission to His disciples in Jerusalem after His resurrection, but He did not. He wanted them to make a 150km journey from Jerusalem to Galilee for that special appointment.

The day finally came when the disciples met with Jesus Christ at His appointed time and at His appointed place in Galilee. And on that mountain, Jesus gave The Great Commission to them:

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. [Emphasis mine] And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Mt 28:16-20, ESV)

The very fact that Jesus chose to give The Great Commission to His disciples at an appointed time and an appointed place (Mt 28:16) reveals to us that The Great Commission ("to make disciples of all nations") is a very serious commandment that we must not take lightly. Jesus mandated His followers to go and make disciples of all nations. Therefore, mission work is not an optional or elective course in the Christian curriculum as many of us like to think.

As Christian parents, Clementine and I emphasized to our children the importance of Christian practices (e.g., attending church for worship every weekend, participating in age-appropriate groups and studies, serving in the church, etc.). And of course, we also encouraged them to participate in mission trips. By God's providence, Clementine and I, and our children in their teenage years, had the opportunities to participate in several different mission trips to Jordan, Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, South Africa, Kenya, and India when we were living in Qatar. These mission trips have opened our minds and our hearts to see the works of God in saving His people in different parts of the world.

Clementine and I came back to Malaysia in 2020 during the COVID-19 Pandemic. In 2022, we decided to join FBC. In 2023 and 2024, we had the opportunity to participate in FBC-organized mission exposure trips to the Philippines. We were really blessed by our experiences and what we could do to make disciples during these trips.

The FBC Mission Committee has set-up a Mission Awareness Sunday at 2pm in Globe Café on March 16, 2025. Our intention is to encourage FBC members to get involved with Jesus' mandate to make disciples of all nations. It is open forum to share and discuss the mission programs for FBC.

We encourage you to come to this forum to get to know the FBC Mission Committee members (e.g., who we are, what we do, etc.) and to know more about the Mission Partners of FBC. We will also share our current mission plans for this year, e.g., mission exposure trips to the Philippines and to Sabah, a possible medical mission to Sabah that is still a work in progress. If you don't think you are up to taking a trip to Sabah or the Philippines, we also have some local programs among the local minority people groups that you and your family or your Life Group can participate in.

I look forward to seeing you at the FBC Mission Awareness Sunday. Note that this forum is not a one-way communication. We also like to hear your suggestions on how we can make FBC a more missional church.



By Victor Ong

Victor works as a Technical Advisor with ExxonMobil and serves as the FBC Mission Director. He and his wife host the Putra Height Life Group.



PRAYERSPOTLIGHT

PRAYER FOR WORSHIP TEAM

Pray for God to provide fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit on the worship team so to empower them to minister with integrity and passion. May His anointing flow through them, touching hearts and drawing souls closer to God.

Pray that God will instill in each member a hunger and thirst to find their deepest satisfaction in His presence. May they continue to find spiritual nourishment in Jesus, the Bread of Heaven.

Pray for unity within the team, allowing them to work in harmony, blending their voices and instruments seamlessly so as to lead the congregation into a more profound worship experience.

Pray for God to instill a spirit of humility that transcends their musical talents and abilities. Guard their hearts against subtle temptations of pride and ego, so that they will direct the focus of all hearts towards God himself.