

Become a Glocal Church

Dr. John Carmichael

[Mat 28:18-20 NASB95] 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- **World missions is not an optional activity but a command from Jesus, and the local church has a critical role in this global task.**

Why and how can we become a glocal church?

Here are six thoughts about becoming a glocal church.

I. The Great Commission: The Call to All Believers

- a. [Mat 28:18-20 NASB95] 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
 - i. Jesus commands His followers to go and make disciples of all nations. The local church is the body of believers that carries out this mission, not just locally but globally.
 - ii. This command is not just for missionaries; it is for every believer and every church to participate in supporting world missions.
- b. Supporting Scriptures:
 - i. Mark 16:15 – "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."
 - ii. Acts 1:8 – "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth."

II. The Local Church Is God's Chosen Vessel for Outreach

- a. [Eph 3:10 NASB95] 10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly [places].
 - i. God has chosen the church as His primary instrument to display His manifold wisdom to the world, which includes spreading the gospel across nations.
 - ii. The church must see itself as a global community, called to extend the message of Christ beyond its own walls. World missions is a divine privilege entrusted to the local church.
- b. Supporting Scriptures:
 - i. 1 Corinthians 12:27 – "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."
 - ii. Romans 10:14-15 – "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?"

III. The Local Church Supports Missions Through Prayer and Financial Giving

- a. [2Co 9:6-8 NASB95] 6 Now this [I say,] he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one [must do] just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

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Dr. John Carmichael

- i. The Apostle Paul emphasizes the importance of giving generously to support those who are spreading the gospel. This is an act of obedience and stewardship by the local church.
- ii. The church is called to be sacrificial in supporting missionaries financially and praying fervently for their success and safety. Both are essential aspects of world missions.
- b. Supporting Scriptures:
 - i. Philippians 4:15-19 – Paul commends the Philippians for their support and assures them that God will meet all their needs because of their generous giving.
 - ii. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 – "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people... that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

IV. Missions Is the Heartbeat of the Gospel Message

- a. [Jhn 3:16 NASB95] 16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."
 - i. God's heart for missions is evident in His sending of Jesus, and in turn, the church is called to reflect this mission. The gospel is for everyone, and the local church is the carrier of this life-changing message.
 - ii. The church cannot be content with only local outreach; the gospel must go to every nation, tribe, and tongue. World missions is a direct extension of God's love for the world.
- b. Supporting Scriptures:
 - i. Revelation 7:9-10 – A picture of a great multitude from every nation worshipping God, showing that missions is about reaching all people groups.
 - ii. 2 Peter 3:9 – "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

V. Supporting World Missions Brings Glory to God

- a. [Rom 15:8-11 NASB95] 8 For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises [given] to the fathers, 9 and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, "THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES, AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME." 10 Again he says, "REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE." 11 And again, "PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES, AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM."
 - i. Missions magnifies God's name among all peoples. As the gospel reaches the ends of the earth, God's glory is proclaimed.
 - ii. The ultimate goal of missions is to bring glory to God. By supporting missions, the local church participates in bringing glory to God on a global scale.
- b. Supporting Scriptures:
 - i. Psalm 96:3 – "Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples."
 - ii. Matthew 24:14 – "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

VI. Missions Is an Expression of Love for the Lost

- a. [Rom 10:1 NASB95] 1 Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for [their] salvation.
 - i. Paul's heart for the lost drives his mission work. Supporting world missions is a tangible expression of our love for those who have yet to hear the gospel.

Become a Glocal Church

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- ii. The local church's involvement in missions is not just a program but a demonstration of Christ-like compassion for the eternal souls of the lost.
- b. Supporting Scriptures:
 - i. Matthew 9:36-38 – Jesus had compassion on the lost and sent His disciples to pray for more laborers in the harvest.
 - ii. 1 John 3:16-18 – "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."
- **God wants us to become a Glocal church as we become personally involved in missions—through prayer, giving, and action.**
 - **Add to your prayer life praying for ministers and ministries.**
 - **Increase your giving to include helping people in other countries. Consider Compassion International.**
 - **Plan to take a short-term mission trip next year. Every high schooler should take at least one mission trip before graduation.**