



YOUR

FOREIGN MISSIONS BULLETIN

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March, 1962

New Churches Assure Missions Advance

DUPLICATE

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO WIN A SOUL ON A MISSION FIELD?

Dear friend:

Thank you for your letter asking the approximate cost of winning just one person to Christ on a foreign mission field.

There is no way of answering your question aside from pointing to the abundant harvest fields which are found in many lands such as Brazil, Nigeria, Taiwan, and Korea, where people are won in thrilling numbers as the gospel is preached and many responses are received.

This, however, is not the full measure of the cost of winning people to Christ on mission fields. We must turn to places, where, amid religious fanaticism, missionaries labor year in and year out with very few professions of faith, yet with magnificent service rendered in the name of our Lord. The cost in terms of steadfastness, long-suffering, and dedicated service of these missionaries could never be measured in any kind of terms.

If we want to measure the full cost, it would have to be in terms of missionaries like Dr. William L. Wallace who died in a Communist prison, or missionary Lucille Reagan who gave her life in Nigeria, or John Oliver who died in a plane crash in Brazil, in line of duty. It would also have to be measured in terms of the great number of missionaries this year, who, while on their fields of service have received word from home that the life of a dear mother or father was rapidly ebbing away, and who longed to stand by the dear one's side, but who remained in the place of duty while that one went on to be with the Lord.

If we divide the number of dollars given to foreign missions by the number of baptisms on the mission fields, we would get only a fragmentary picture of what is done, because for every person baptized there are probably five, ten, or twenty others who have had impressions in their hearts about the Lord Jesus Christ and who are in some stage of responding to Him.

In view of all this, I think there is no way in the world to give the approximate cost of winning one person to Christ on the foreign field except in terms of an old rugged cross outside Jerusalem's walls where our Lord gave His all for us. The cost, therefore, of winning a person to Christ anywhere in the world is all that we are and all that we have.

Sincerely yours,

BAKER J. CAUTHEN

1962'S MOST WANTED MEN!

WANTED: Pastors and laymen to attend the 1962 Foreign Missions Conference at Ridgecrest and Glorieta.

PURPOSE: Preparation for significant leadership in observance of 1963 BJA emphasis, "World Missions Year."

THEME: "Sharing Christ with the Whole World."

DEFINITION: "World missions is the presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the peoples of the world, both at home and abroad, with the purpose of leading them to personal faith in Christ and obedience to his will."

OBJECTIVE: The enlistment of all our Baptist people, churches, associations, conventions, and institutions in the evangelization of all the peoples of all the world.

NEEDED: Hundreds of pastors and laymen to participate in Foreign Missions Conferences at Ridgecrest and Glorieta.

VALUES: Fellowship with missionaries home from many nations.

Up-to-the-minute reports of actual conditions in today's world.

Inspiring accounts of Christ's victories.

Mutual sharing of ideas for accelerated missions advance at home and abroad.

A composite picture of Southern Baptists' ministry in foreign missions.

Comradeship with Baptists from many areas.

DATES: Ridgecrest—June 21 to 27, 1962

Glorieta—August 16 to 22, 1962

FOR RESERVATIONS: Write to:

Willard K. Weeks, Manager
Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly
Ridgecrest, North Carolina

or

E. A. Herron, Manager
Glorieta Baptist Assembly
Glorieta, New Mexico

BAPTISTS AT WORK IN MEXICO

Baptist work began in Mexico in 1862. First Southern Baptist missionary to Mexico was John Westrup in 1880, "at the princely salary of \$400.00 a year." Many interruptions have occurred during this century of Baptist work in that country. Today, however, there are 54 Southern Baptist missionaries in Mexico, 112 churches, 255 chapels and missions, with 10,592 members; 958 baptisms were reported last year. There is one Baptist Seminary with 49 students enrolled. The 46 bed Baptist hospital treated more than 4,500 patients last year.

The Baptists of Mexico, will be engaged in their first nation-wide Simultaneous Revival Crusade, March 4-11.

They request that every Southern Baptist church co-operate with them in intercessory prayer.

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS - CHRISTIAN PARTICIPATION

Does God continue to be active in human affairs? How can today's events in Southeast Asia or Africa be related to God's eternal purpose in history? Where can accurate information concerning world conditions be found?

THE COMMISSION, Southern Baptist World Journal, brings timely, factual, interpretative news to its readers. Mission news—thrilling stories of what God is doing for world redemption and news of the world's basic needs will inspire and challenge Christians to pray, give, and go.

Pastors can strengthen church life, deepen compassionate concern, and increase Christian participation in world evangelization by encouraging church members to subscribe to and read THE COMMISSION. The enclosed pamphlet suggests subscription plans for individuals and churches.

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