

Missions Defined:

“The mission” is to share ones faith with the intent to convert. Conversion is only a beginning. Lifestyle assimilation to faith must be accomplished.

Long term plans to disciple, usually include setting up a “mission” or church where teaching can be conducted daily and worship services held weekly.

The “missionary” is required to learn language, culture, and build relationships in order to make a lasting impact. Usually sent to a foreign country for 3 to 5 year assignments. Short term trips (1 week to 6 months) may include volunteers who raise funds to support an established missionary abroad.

Established Churches in The U.S., usually belong to a denomination who have a missions board, budget, and plan to send out applicants who pass requirements.

Aprox \$45 Billion is spent worldwide from Christian churches on “missions”, which includes salaries and buildings of long term, ongoing programs.

\$450 mill is actually spent on “unreached” peoples.

400k total Christian missionaries worldwide (Catholic and protestant)

Christian workers in the **Unreached** : 20,500 local workers (0.37%)

Baptist 100 mill members (SBC -15 mill members)3,600 foreign missionaries w a budget of - \$ 200 mill

Assembly of God – (65 million members) 1,200 missionaries / \$

Stand alone organizations – (non denominational)

Global Expeditions – 67k missionaries short term, 69 countries

Adventures in Missions (Lubbock Tex)– 1000 missionaries to 170 places

YWAM – trains 25,000 annually in 180 countries

"This proselytization will mean no peace in the world. Conversions are harmful to India. If I had the power and could legislate I should certainly stop all proselytizing ... It pains me to have to say that the Christian missionaries as a body, with honorable exceptions, have actively supported a system which has impoverished, enervated and demoralized a people considered to be among the gentlest and most civilized on earth" Ghandi

the Vatican was also co-sponsoring a meeting about how some religious groups abuse liberties by proselytizing, or by evangelizing in aggressive or deceptive ways. Iraq ... has become an open field for foreigners looking for fresh converts. Some Catholic Church leaders and aid organizations have expressed concern about new Christian groups coming in and luring Iraqis to their churches with offers of cash, clothing, food or jobs.... Reports of aggressive proselytism and reportedly forced conversions in mostly Hindu India have fueled religious tensions and violence there and have prompted some regional governments to pass laws banning proselytism or religious conversion. Hindu Monk

Not all evangelicals agree with these tactics. "It's not appropriate in a crisis like this to take advantage of people who are hurting and suffering", said the Rev. Franklin Graham, head of Samaritan's Purse and son of evangelist Billy Graham.

Missionaries say that the government in India has passed anti-conversion laws in several states that are supposedly meant to prevent conversions from "force or allurement," but are primarily used, they say, to persecute and criminalize voluntary conversion due to the government's broad definition of "force and allurement." Any gift received from a Christian in exchange for, or with the intention of, conversion is considered allurement. [Voice of the Martyrs](#) reports that aid-workers claim that they are being hindered from reaching people with much needed services as a result of this persecution. Alan de Lastic, Roman Catholic archbishop of New Delhi states that claims of forced conversion are false