



ICOC Global Missions Report September 21, 2010

Introduction: The Missions sub-committee was formed to assess the needs and opportunities we have as a body on a global scale. In this effort we have the task of evaluating our efficiency, capacity and organization on a global scale.

Romans 15:20 “It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known...”

2010 Missions Contribution Survey

Disciples Today provided the online Missions Survey

Russell Taylor (Administrator Phoenix COC) was key Editor of the Survey

All ICOC Staff, Admin and Missions Societies were notified

Responses - 75% of US churches, estimated 90% of \$\$\$ reported... most of Canada, some Asia/Europe

Results:

(See Missions Support Summary Page)

Observations:

- Encouraging! Our family of churches gave approximately \$9 million to missions in 2009
- Regional level of organization varies... Some US areas have mission societies, some don't
- As you would expect – distribution of support varies around the world – from \$62 per member to \$1,237 per member (average was \$159 per member)
- Important Note – Survey only shows what was given...
 - o Does not reflect any attempt to assess needs for each region
 - o Does not reflect how funds were distributed in each region

Where do we go from here?

Annual survey – continue to improve/refine survey (please respond!)

More discussion about how to meet needs around the world

We know that missions is a complex discussion... we believe that with this information, we are at a better place to have more informed discussions...

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

'Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, as it is written: 'He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little.'

- I. **Focused Devotion to the Mission:** Building and maintaining close relationships with mission churches (first, second and third world missions) – via Pairings/Partnerships, Member Mission trips, conferences, maximize the use of technology- (Skype calls, USTREAM, etc.), mutual respect and education.
- II. **Multidimensional Influence:** Shepherd training, specialized ministries (cooperation with Campus One Year Challenge –Singles etc.), women's ministry, on going leadership training, innovation, inspirational growth (Faith Flagship Ministries) Community Services exchange.
- III. **Missions Development Committee:** There is a need for our committee to expand and research the following areas:
 - a. **Missions Efficiency** (disparity – equity of world wide giving, Consider a Tithe of total budget) Best practices vs. Better practices. 20/20 plan of support, projects vs. general church support...
 - b. **Missions Organization** – Is what we are doing the best way? Consideration – Diversify a church's portfolio of mission support Ex. San Diego, Coastal LA. Middle East & MCA
 - c. **Missions Capacity** – 9 million is a huge amount... Are we making the best use of these funds? What have we learned in the last 25 years? What are the other resources we have at our disposal besides financial?

Proposed Committee: Members from each geographic group.

Conclusion:

Colossians 1:6 All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth."

Pray, Believe, Share, Love > Do your best and let God do the rest!