

Quotes about Christian Missions

"A church without a missions or a mission without the church are both contradictions. Such things do exist, but only as pseudostructures"

- (Carl E. Braaten. *The Flaming Center*. 1977:55)

"The church is the church only when it exists for others...The church must share in the secular problems of ordinary human life, not dominating, but helping and serving"

- (Dietrich Bonhoeffer; words written in prison in 1944)

"Just as one could not speak of the church without speaking of its mission, it was impossible to think of the church without thinking, in the same breath, of the world to which it is sent."

- (Bosch. *Transforming Mission*. 1991:377)

"The church exists by missions like fire exists by burning."

- (Emil Brunner)

"Mission is the very lifeblood of the church. As the body cannot survive without blood, so the church cannot survive without mission. Without blood the body dies; without mission the church dies. As the physical body becomes weak without sufficient oxygen-carrying red blood cells, so the church becomes anemic if it does not express its faith. The church . . . establishes its rationale for being—its purpose for existing—while articulating its faith. An unexpressed faith withers. A Christian fellowship without mission loses its vitality. Mission is the force that gives the body of Christ vibrancy, purpose, and direction. When the church neglects its role as God's agent for mission, it is actually neglecting its own lifeblood."

- (Gailyn Van Rheene)

"For Jesus, there are no countries to be conquered, no ideologies to be imposed, no people to be dominated. There are only children, women and men to be loved."

- (Henri Nouwen)

"In our lifetime wouldn't it be sad if we spent more time washing dishes or swatting flies or mowing the yard or watching television than praying for world missions."

- (Dave Davidson)

"We must be global Christians with a global vision because our God is a global God."

- (John Stott)

"His authority on earth allows us to dare to go to all the nations. His authority in heaven gives us our only hope of success. And His presence with us leaves us no other choice."

- (John Stott)

"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies."

- (J. Hudson Taylor)

"The greatest missionary is the Bible in the mother tongue. It needs no furlough and is never considered a foreigner."

- (William Cameron Townsend)

"Why do we insist on building the largest and most impressive structures in our city

when people on the other side of town are hungry, jobless and worshipping in storefronts?"

- (K.P. Yohannan)

"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become."

- (Henry Martyn, missionary to India and Persia)

"I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light"

- (John Keith Falconer)

"You can give without loving. But you cannot love without giving."

- (Amy Carmichael, missionary to India)