

# missions

[ F O C U S ]

*“To be disciples and make disciples in cross cultural mission;  
prioritizing teams working with unreached people groups both  
here and overseas”*

October 2010

## **The Missions Adventure**

In Matthew 28:19 Jesus gives us the great commission:

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”*

As we take these words of Jesus seriously, we realise what an adventure in faith this is. We are excited as we feel God giving us fresh momentum at Grace to increase our focus on Cross Cultural Missions and reach out to people groups who need the love of Jesus and the power of the Gospel.

Just before Jesus left Earth he instructed his disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to come, and having received the Spirit, they were to be His witnesses in Jerusalem (*their own city*), in Judea (*their own country*), in Samaria (*the Neighbouring Country*) and to the uttermost parts of the earth (*Foreign Cultures*) Acts 1:8.

As a Church Community, we desire to have a vision to effectively reach out to all these areas as God leads, and to plan, pray, give and send, so that we can do our part in God’s plan for the world.

### **Our Missions Team:**

We have different commitments to different missionaries. We want to support all of them with our love, prayers and communication. We have called the team we support financially through faith promise giving as ‘Our Missionaries’ and then we also have ‘Associate Missionaries’ who do not receive finance but need our love and prayers just the same.

## Our Missionaries are:



### **Al & Brigit Baker**

*Central Asia*

Alistair and Brigit are from Grace Vineyard and in the past have been actively involved in a team reaching out to students from Unreached People Groups who are studying in Christchurch. Since February 2010, they have been part of a church planting team working amongst an Unreached Muslim People Group in Central Asia.



### **Hollie & Richard Simmons**

*Perth, Australia*

Hollie grew up in our Beach campus before getting involved with YWAM. She completed her nursing training and went on to coordinate a Birth Attendance School in Perth, Australia. Hollie now leads teams to third world countries. She is married to Richard, who works with 'Create International' to evangelise the world's unreached people groups. Hollie and Richard are expecting their first child.



### **Evan & Maala Thomas**

*Israel*

Evan and Maala are based in Netanya, Israel, where Evan serves as a Pastoral Elder in a Messianic Congregation called 'Beit Asaph'. Part of his work is seeking to bring reconciliation between the various cultural factions in Israel. He is also involved in outreach to Israel and short term mission projects in the Diaspora.



## **Carolyn Chisholm**

*Oxford, North Canterbury*

Carolyn is a vibrant part of our Grace family. She is pioneering a new Father's Love School at the YWAM Base in Oxford, North Canterbury. Carolyn's vision is to see people disciplined into a revelation of the Father's love for them personally, and to then take this out to the world.



## **Godfrey & Glen Sim**

*Papua New Guinea*

Although Godfrey has been a part of Grace Vineyard for ten years, he has spent much of his life in Papua New Guinea (PNG). In 2009, Godfrey married Glen, who works for Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) in PNG. They have returned to PNG permanently to reach communities through MAF.

## **Our Associate Missionaries Are:**



## **Graham & Lucy Fawcett**

*Mozambique*

Graeme and Lucy have a strong call on their lives to plant churches and develop leaders to share the gospel in new territories. They have lived in New Zealand, Japan, Mozambique and Malaysia, and are now leading teams into unreached areas of Central Asia.

## **Faith Promise Giving**

From the times of the earliest church, missionaries were sent out to preach the gospel and plant new churches. Local churches gave generously to equip the needs of the missionaries and to support the new churches.

Faith Promise Giving is an exciting adventure in faith, where we trust God to supply money especially for Missions. Many Churches today operate this system, based on the Apostle Paul's example in 2 Corinthians 8 & 9, where he invites Churches to promise an amount in faith, gives an allotted time for the money to be gathered, and later comes and collects the money.

## **Faith Promise Is Not A Pledge**

How much you choose to give is between you and God. You can give anonymously, so no one will even know what commitment you have made. It is NOT a pledge to the church. If money is not available for any reason, you should not feel guilty if you cannot give it. It is a "faith adventure" ... believing in God to provide the money.

## How Our Global Missions Commitment Works

We would love to encourage every family and individual at Grace to do the following:

### **PRAY:**

The key is to prayerfully seek God about how much He would have you give to support overseas missions, above and beyond your commitment to our local church work. It is not just a question of working out what you can afford, or what is left over... but what you could commit to in faith.

In this sense, you step out in faith to give either weekly, fortnightly or monthly, trusting that if God has laid this amount on your heart, He will provide the money for you.

### **ACT:**

Fill in the *Faith Promise Card*, indicating the amount the Lord has encouraged you to give and place it in the offering bag or in the *Giving Letter Box*. The Faith Promise Cards will be collected on 6th December.

### **TRUST:**

Believe that God will enable you to regularly give the amount you have committed.

### **CHANGE OF LIFESTYLE:**

It maybe that to meet this offering, you choose to give up some “luxuries” or make some sacrifices in your lifestyle as God leads you. Most missionaries have to live this way, trusting there will be sufficient finance to fulfil their ministry.

## Why Fill In The Slip?

All the amounts are added up to give us the total amount promised for the year. Our Missions Team need to know what amount is promised so we can plan wisely for the year. When you fill in a slip it helps you to be committed to the amount you have written down. Keep your own record of the amount so you don't forget!

## How To Make Your Gift:

### 1. *Giving by Automatic Payment*

We encourage you to take the convenient option of using automatic payment for your World Mission Commitment. Forms are available from reception. Remember to mark the gift "Missions"

### 2. *Giving by envelope*

Offering envelopes are also available from the Information table. Take a supply of them. Carefully fill in the details on the envelope so your gift is used as you intend. [Note: Any giving intended for Overseas Mission must be marked "MISSIONS".

### 3. *Eftpos at Reception Desk.*

## **TAX CREDIT (FORMERLY TAX REBATE):**

You can get a tax credit of 33.33% of the amount you give to Missions up to your assessable income, providing you are part of our Giving System and have a *Giving Number* which is clearly marked either on your Automatic Payment or your Giving Envelope.

## **Grace Vineyard Missions Team**

Chris Parsons, Lorna Revis, Andrew Hill, Clark Alcock and Scott and Ruth Pickering oversee missions at Grace which is made up of leaders from both Beach and City Campuses.

Please feel free to email the team at: [missions@grace.org.nz](mailto:missions@grace.org.nz) for any enquiries regarding Faith Promise, or interest you may have in overseas missions (short or long term). There is also a pathway to missions at Grace brochure available for anyone wanting further information.

## **Making a Difference Together**

As a church community, we can make a huge difference to Global Missions efforts as we pray, give, support and trust God together!



[www.grace.org.nz](http://www.grace.org.nz)