

2008 *Vision & Goals*

AFLC World Missions



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World Missions Vision & Goals

At the last Annual Conference we were asked to come with a long range plan for the future.

Vision



“The World Missions Committee believes that time is short to reach many of the souls around the world. We are also aware that we are closer to Christ’s return than ever before. Therefore, we are compelled to reach as many as we can for Christ in the days ahead through prayer and mission endeavors that become self supporting and reproducing as quickly as possible.”

Vision:

By the Word and Spirit, equip indigenous leaders to nurture local congregations so that by the grace of God they may direct their own affairs, seek salvation for the lost, and mutually assist one another to the glory of God.

This falls in line with our Fundamental Principles

* Direct their own affairs (Congregationally governed and funded)

Fundamental Principle #1

According to the Word of God, the congregation is the right form of the Kingdom on earth.

Fundamental Principle #5

The congregation directs its own affairs, subject to the authority of the Word and Spirit of God, and acknowledges no other ecclesiastical authority or government above itself.

Fundamental Principle #10

Free congregations have no right to demand that other congregations shall submit to their opinion, will, judgment, or decision: therefore, domination by a majority of congregations over a minority is to be rejected.

* Seek salvation for the lost (Congregational propagation)

Fundamental Principle #2

The congregation consists of believers who, by using the means of grace and the spiritual gifts as directed by the Word of God, seek salvation and eternal blessedness for themselves and for their fellow men.

Fundamental Principle #3

Every free congregation, as well as every individual believer, is constrained by the Spirit of God and by the privileges of Christian love to do good and to work for the salvation of souls and the quickening of spiritual life, as far as its abilities and power permit. Such free spiritual activity is limited neither by parish nor by synodical bounds.

* Mutually assist one another (Congregational propagation)

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Fundamental Principle #7

A free congregation gladly accepts the mutual assistance which congregations can give one another in the work for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

Fundamental Principle #8

Such assistance consists partly in the mutual sharing of spiritual gifts among the congregations through conferences, exchange visits, lay activities, etc., whereby congregations are mutually edified, and partly in the voluntary and Spirit-prompted cooperation of congregations for the accomplishing of such tasks as exceed the ability of the individual congregation.

The Three-Self Principle



In order to accomplish our vision we must create self reliant works that reproduce. They must be:

- 3.1 Self governing
- 3.2 Self supporting
- 3.3 Self propagating

Self reliant does not mean an absence of relying on God, but being mature enough that they are not depending on others for their existence. Robert Reese describes it this way, “A Three-Self body of Christians has enough strength and responsibility to work for Christ whether others are available to help or not.”

Goals to accomplish the Vision



AFLC World Missions goals and vision for the future will be:

- 4.1 To develop an atmosphere of prayer for missions throughout the AFLC.
- 4.2 To prepare children to have a heart for missions.
- 4.3 To make a deliberate effort to reach an unreached people group for Christ through prayer, the Lord’s leading and provision. The people group will be determined by the World Missions Committee through prayer and research by December 31, 2008.
- 4.4 To provide contextualized training for pastors and leaders in the ministry by partnering with teachers and providing materials.
- 4.5 To make a strong commitment to involve leadership of existing churches and institutions to be a part of the transition to the Three-Self Principle.
- 4.6 To make the Three-Self Principle our objective for all new works.
- 4.7 To move existing works toward the Three-Self Principle by the end of 2010.
- 4.8 To work in mutual agreement with our world mission congregations to evangelize and plant at least one new congregation each in the next five years.
- 4.9 To show the love of Christ by being mindful of the personal needs of the poor.

Steps in the Plan



- 5.1 Come up with vision
- 5.2 Establish direction
- 5.3 Socialize the vision (within missions)
- 5.4 Communicate the vision (publicly)
- 5.5 Implement the vision
- 5.6 Evaluate the process