

# *The Heart of the Great Commission*

**Mission is the overflow of love from the enjoyment of divine fellowship. As we partake in the Father's pleasure in His Son, and the Son's pleasure in His Father, as well as the Spirit's enlivening of their mutual love, it causes us to share their love for the world. Thus, we become like what we worship.**

Michael Reaves. *Overflow*. Moody Publishers. 2021. p. 55.

# Christar Mission Statement

- ***The Mission of Christar is to glorify God by establishing churches among the least reached Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and Asians worldwide.***

"To have a deeper love for God when we return from the field than when we left...."

# The Greatest Commandment: Love God

- **“Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!”**
- ***“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”***

# The Greatest Commandment: Love God

## Love for God is ALL-ENCOMPASSING

"When the Bible tells us to love God with mind, heart, soul, and strength, it is not telling us to do four different things but giving us four different ways to do one and the same thing. *The point is to love God with everything we have.*" Phillip Ryken (Emphasis mine)

# An Essential Question: **Why** do we love God?

**Because of the gospel!**

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“**But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...” (Ephesians 2:4-6)

# Proposition

**Proposition:** “Loving God with everything we are and have is *THE* essential element of fulfilling the Great Commission!”

*Or*

"The most important reason we obey the Great Commission is because we live the Great Commandment..."

# Implications

It speaks to...

- our **MOTIVATION** for mission... the “why”
- our **APPROACH** to mission ... the “how”
- the **OUTCOMES** of engaging God’s mission

# The Motivation for Mission Engagement

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *obedience to our Savior's commands is normal.***

- John 14:15
- 1 John 5:3

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *it informs HOW we engage in the Great Commission.***

John 20:21

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *living for self is not my purpose and priority.***

- 2 Corinthians 5:14
- Acts 20:24

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *our attitude toward the things of this world changes.***

- ❖ **God's kingdom becomes our treasure**  
**Matthew 13:44**

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❖ **We become generous with what God has entrusted to us.**

**Mark 14:3-9**



# The Manner for Participating in the Great Commission

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *people notice. Our witness is not about duty...but a natural communication of what we live in your relation to God.***

- Acts 4:13
- 1 Peter 1:8
- Romans 15:13

*“Going out on mission is not the primary thing; it is a secondary thing. I want first and foremost for you to love God so that your mission is nothing other than speaking to the world about who you love. To go on God’s mission is to speak of Him out of a heart that is captivated by His beauty.”*

Reeves, Michael. Overflow.

*“Nearness to Him, intimacy with Him, assimilation to His character -- these are the elements of a ministry of power. When we can tell our people, ‘We beheld His glory, and therefore we speak of it, it is not from report we speak, but we have seen the King in His beauty’ -- how lofty the position we occupy! **Our power in drawing men to Christ springs chiefly from the fullness of our personal joy in Him, and the nearness of our personal communion with Him.**”*

Horatio Bonar, Words to Winners of Souls

# The Manner for Participating in the Great Commission

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *there is a deepening understanding of Jesus' presence, being loved by God, and knowing God.***

**John 14:21 & 23 - “He who has my commandments and keeps them is the one **who loves me**; and **he who loves me will be loved by my Father**, and *I will love him and will disclose myself to him...* <sup>23</sup>*If anyone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and **we will come to him and make our abode with him.***”**

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *there is peace in the face of pain and death.***

- Philippians 1:20-21
- Psalm 119:165
- 1 John 4:18

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *there is recognition that discipleship begins in the home...***

## **Deuteronomy 6:6-9**

Loving God must govern *our heart* (v6)

Loving God must govern *our home* (v7)

Loving God must govern *our habits* (v8,9)

# The Outcomes

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission, *our obedience to our Redeemer will cause some to think that we do not love our family.***

Matthew 10:37

# The Outcomes

**When the Great Commandment is the heart of the Great Commission,**  
*transformation takes place in our lives!*

- Romans 8:28, 29
- 2 Corinthians 3:18



The Heart of the Great Commission...

**NURTURE YOUR  
LOVE FOR GOD**