A MISSIONARY HEART

Part 9 of The Savior King. Psalm 67.
Peter Foxwell. The Cornerstone Church. November 8, 2026.
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GOD'S MISSIONARY HEART

- We're continuing through Old Testament highlights — today, a theme: God's missionary heart for the nations.
- God's missionary heart was revealed to Abraham: "I will bless you … and you will be a blessing … all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you" (Genesis 12:2–3, CSB). A promise Solomon prayed for (1 Kings 8:43) and Isaiah foresaw (Isaiah 49:6).
- The promise was ultimately fulfilled in Jesus.

OUR MISSIONARY HEART

- God has a missionary heart, and he wants his people to have one too — the apostles' commission is now ours: "Go … and make disciples of all nations."
- The goal (Revelation 7:9): "a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language … standing before the throne and before the Lamb" (CSB).
- Maintaining a missionary heart is challenging. Fuel the fire by praying Psalm 67 for the nations.

GOAL ONE: BLESSING (VERSE 1)

- “May God be gracious to us and bless us; may he make his face shine upon us” (Psalm 67:1, CSB). Verse 1 echoes the high priest’s blessing over Israel (Numbers 6:24–26).
- Should today’s church pray for blessing? Yes — God is a good Father, and a favored church testifies to his greatness and goodness.
- Thank God for the blessings already ours in Christ: “Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3, CSB).

GOAL TWO: SALVATION (VERSE 2)

- “… so that your way may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations” (Psalm 67:2, CSB). Goal two: the nations know God — we are blessed SO THAT salvation comes to the nations. Back then, the nations saw God’s blessings on Israel and were drawn in. Two blessings are mentioned:
  - Verse 4: God is a righteous King; his people are treated justly and fairly.
  - Verse 6: Israel’s abundant harvest would show that God is a faithful, covenant-keeping God (Deuteronomy 11:13–14).
- Today we go to them — Paul’s prayer is our blueprint (Ephesians 6:19, CSB): “Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.”

GOAL THREE: PRAISE (VERSES 3–5)

- “Let the peoples praise you, God; let all the peoples praise you” (Psalm 67:3, CSB). Here’s the psalm’s surprising revelation: salvation is not our ultimate goal — the final aim is praise.

- John Piper: “Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn’t.”
- When this age is over, missions will be no more — it is a temporary necessity — but worship abides forever.
- Our ultimate goal must be God’s honor — not blessings for us, or even love for lost people. What propels us is a passion for worship: the whole world praising the one, true God.
- That’s the fire that sends people to live among strangers — captured by Habakkuk’s vision: “the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD’s glory …” (Habakkuk 2:14, CSB).

A MISSIONARY CHURCH

- The Cornerstone Church was founded in May 1997; by October that year, we were supporting two missionaries in Olongapo City, Philippines.
- Our founding vision (Revelation 7:9–10): “In eternity, around the throne of God, thousands of worshippers will be brought there by the people of Cornerstone Church” — the Blue Water community AND the nations.
- A missionary church shares the gospel in its meetings and online, shares Jesus with family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers, and supports those who go where we cannot — today, outreach and mission workers locally and worldwide; their list is at the Welcome Center.
- If a missionary heart is new to you — or on the back burner — embrace it by praying:
  - Pray for The Cornerstone Church to be faithful in sharing Jesus and supporting missionaries.
  - Pray for our missionaries and outreach ministries.
  - Pray for yourself: a growing love for God and a desire for his praise among all people; open doors to share Jesus; and ask the Lord if he wants you to step into vocational missionary work.

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Use any or all of the following questions to guide your group's conversation about Sunday's sermon. Read Psalm 67.

Observation (what it says)

- Read Psalm 67:1–2. What does the writer ask God to do for his people, and how does verse 2 connect those requests to people beyond their own community?
- As you look through Psalm 67, what words or ideas repeat? What do those repetitions draw your attention to?

Interpretation (what it means)

- How does the "SO THAT" at the beginning of verse 2 help us know what fuels a missionary heart?
- The sermon says, "Salvation for the nations is not our ultimate goal. The final aim is praise" (verses 3–5). Do you agree or disagree? Explain. How does that change your perspective on sharing your faith and on mission work?

Application (where it lands in real life)

- Read Ephesians 6:19–20. Think of someone you regularly see at work, in your family, or in your neighborhood. What might a natural, respectful conversation about Jesus look like with that person, and what would you ask the group to pray for beforehand?
- When you picture people from every nation worshiping God together in Revelation 7:9–10, what stirs in you — and where do you notice a gap between that picture and your own desires or priorities?
- Pray, asking the Lord to make the Revelation 7 vision a reality very soon.