

Missions Splash – January 2014



Songs and Mission – Part 2, praising God before the nations

Read: Psalms 67, 96, 138, and 145.

The promise that God would bless all peoples and nations on earth through Abraham's offspring (Genesis 12:2-3; 18:18-19) was embraced in the understanding and songs of the Israelites during the kingdom period. The Israelites were to maintain their relationship with Yahweh in the Promised Land. As they continued to obey him, they would experience his blessings. The nations would wonder who the god was whom they served and the Israelites were to point the peoples to Yahweh. Their relationship with Yahweh was to model and witness to the rest of the world God's character (who he was), how he related with his people, and how he sustained them. The Israelites looked forward to the time when all members of creation would know and worship Yahweh.

- What reasons do these Psalms give for telling the nations about Yahweh?
- What are some of your favorite songs in which the community of believers praises God for who he is and calls others to join you in praise?
- In the Old Testament, the Israelites witnessed about God by living in relationship with him (modeling as an example) and telling about (pointing to) him when the nations observed or came to them. This is different than the type of witness found in the New Testament of the call to Go, as one being sent out to the nations, to tell about God and his salvation (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 10:2-3; John 20:21). Describe the most common and most effective type(s) and examples of witness to the nations used by your local church. Would God want you to try a new type, method, or example of witness to the nations?
- How can we experience now a little bit of what it will be like when all of creation worships Yahweh?

Missions News for Your Church

"The villagers, men and women became very much surprised to see the power of the Holy Spirit that they wanted to know more about our faith and our God." This South Asia Jesus Film Team was able to share about God, and it didn't end there. Read "[Jesus is Greater](#)" in *Where Worlds Meet*.

"An African village with 120 families held a meeting and decided to send five religious leaders to the house of a Nazarene zone leader in a nearby town. The elders gave him the message from the village leadership, 'We need to convert to (your) religion.'" The story and request for prayer was in the [NMI Prayer Mobilization Line](#).

When a reggae band, a missionary, and a desire to participate in God's mission came together in the Philippines, good things happened. Read "[Top reggae band boosts Nazarene work in Philippines](#)" in *Engage*.

Promotional and Informational Tools for NMI Presidents

The NMI 100th Anniversary celebration of supporting Nazarene global missions has begun. Between now and October 2015, every Nazarene district in the world is invited to celebrate by choosing and completing one project to directly invest in mission work in another country or district. The list of specific ministry needs from all Nazarene regions is online at nazarenemissions.org/NMI100. Join with the other churches on your district to be used by God in witnessing to the nations.

The South America Region has started distributing a regular newsletter called [SAM News](#), which is available online. For email subscriptions, click [here](#) and complete the right side box.

Nazarenes have been giving to the [Alabaster Offering](#) since 1949. Over 100 million U.S. dollars given to Alabaster has assisted in the purchase or construction of more than 9000 church buildings, schools, hospitals, and other properties. [Ideas, examples](#), and [Alabaster building pictures and stories](#) for introducing the offering in your church are found on each of these web pages.