

Missions Splash - July 2011



The Mosaic Covenant, the People of Israel, and Mission – Part 1, A Holy People

Read: Exodus 19:3-6; Leviticus 11:44-45; Lev. 19:1-2; Lev. 20:7-8; Lev. 20:22-26; Lev. 22:32-33, Lev. 26:11-13; Deuteronomy 10:12-16; Deut. 14:1-2; Deut. 26:16-19.

Following the covenant made with Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3), and the dramatic rescue of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt in the exodus, God revealed another covenant. The Mosaic covenant was spoken to and through Moses to the people of Israel. It revealed in detail how God's mission would continue. This small, unorganized ethnic group would be a people set apart from other nations and known as the people or nation of Israel. By setting them apart, God made them holy. They would be "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Exod. 19:6), that God would use to carry out his mission through them.

In order to maintain this holiness, God gave detailed instructions for all aspects of life to reflect the worship of the Lord alone. From the Ten Commandments (Exod. 20) through Deuteronomy, God gave tabernacle, dietary, legal, civil, social, physical, environmental, sacrificial, ritual, and priestly instructions. As God dwelled among them and these practices were followed, the nation of Israel would be uniquely defined from all others around them.

- Have you been redeemed, set apart, made holy? When and how?
- In what ways have you allowed the worship of God alone to permeate the aspects of your life? Are there any aspects of your life that still need to be permeated or made holy (relationships, family life, work, school, time, entertainment, finances, church involvement, attitudes, success, use of power or authority, etc.)?
- Consider your church community, including worship, fellowship, events, administration, outreach, and service to others. Are all aspects permeated with holiness? If not, which area(s) need to be redeemed for God to carry out his mission through them?

Missions News for Your Church

"The hearts of the Chilean Nazarenes are so open and giving. It was almost more than I could take. They simply love God and love each other, too. There was such a spirit of unity..." Read the experience of a Work and Witness team member who volunteered in Chile in [Engage](#).

Nazarene youth participating in the 30 Hour Famine, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, and World Vision have partnered since 2007 to assist more than 3000 families in the Mzimba region of Malawi out of poverty. Nailes, a widowed mother, and her children were one of these families whose lives have been transformed through this ministry. Read her story on pages 5 and 6, "The Face of Transformational Development – Malawi," in [The Heart of Africa](#) from Helping Hands Africa. Go to the [30 Hour Famine](#) for more information about the ministry.

"The Saturday evening outreach was met with stiff resistance as sticks and stones were thrown at them. The young people in the village crowded around the outreach team shouting and singing secular songs, but the energetic and Spirit-filled youth team went onto a serious prayer for the village and its people." Find out what happened next in Liberia in [Engage](#).

Promotional and Informational Tools for NMI Presidents

Are you looking for some creative ways to teach children about God's mission? Go to the [Eurasia Region NMI "Missions with Children" webpage](#) for some ideas. Please share your ideas for teaching and involving kids in missions to add to the collection!

A partnership with your pastor is important as the Holy Spirit leads your church to effectively participate in God's mission. Here are some ideas for NMI presidents for [Partnering With Your Pastor](#).

Please ask your church to pray for the faculty, staff, and over 49,000 students at [57 Nazarene educational institutions](#), who are being trained as preachers, teachers, evangelists, nurses, and vocational lay leaders. Learn how students are being trained in Papua New Guinea and Burkina Faso on pages 13 and 14 in [Mission Connection](#).