



Introduction:

- A lack of understanding creates a _____ between lost mankind and God. There is no spiritual life, because there is no spiritual understanding.
- Our mission as a church is to _____ this gap.

How can we bridge this gap of a lack of understanding?

It will take people who will stand in the gap.

- God has no other plan to bridge this gap other than _____.
 - ◆ *“And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.” Ezekiel 22:30*
 - ◆ *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?” Romans 10:13-14*

It will take the systematic _____ of God’s Word. Acts 19:8-10, 20

- It is God’s Word that brings _____ and understanding.

◆ *“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.”*
Psalm 19:7-8

◆ *“Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.”* **Psalm 119:104**

◆ *“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”* **Psalm 119:130**

- Our missionaries are bridging the gap, seeking to bring understanding to darkened _____.

It will take willing hearts to learn and _____ God’s Word. Acts 19:17-19; Ephesians 4:20-21

- God’s Word was taught and Jesus was magnified (verse 17), and many _____ to believe (verse 18).
- Their lives were radically _____ by the spiritual truth Paul taught (verse 19).

- This is the mission. This is why we exist. We are all about taking the truth of God to people who have no spiritual _____ and are spiritually ignorant.
- Why? So that they can come to an understanding of the _____. We must bridge the gap!

Missions: What's the Big Deal? Romans 1 & 10

text pg# 1168 & 1178



Introduction:

- A _____ is somebody who has dedicated his life to preaching the gospel of Christ to other lands and other peoples.
- You may be asking yourself, “What’s the big deal?” “Why so much emphasis on missions?” “Is it really that important?” “Does it really matter if I’m involved?” “Why should I give to missions?”
- There are three key principles that will help us answer these questions.

First, the nations stand _____ before God.

- Romans 1:21-23 describes the condition of the nations.
 - What position does this bring before God? _____ (verse 18), judgment, and _____ (verse 32).
Romans 3:19
 - *“And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled.”*
Colossians 1:21

Second, the gospel of Christ is the _____ to the guilt. Romans 1:16

- *“But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light **through the gospel.**” 2 Timothy 1:10*

- This good news is for anybody and everybody who will _____ . Romans 1:16; cf. 1 Timothy 2:6, 4:10; Hebrews 2:9

Third, God expects us to stand in the _____ with the gospel.

- Romans 10 is very insightful:
 - Notice the understanding gap. They are _____ of God's righteousness. vs. 1-3
 - Notice the answer. An understanding _____ in Jesus Christ. vs. 4, 9-13
 - Notice how the gap is bridged. _____ speaking the gospel. vs. 14-17
- The gospel brings conviction to sinful souls, _____ to darkened minds, understanding to foolish hearts.
- God is not going to get the gospel to the nations any other way than through _____.

- Missions is about getting the gospel to guilty and condemned souls that stand no chance without it.
- We impact eternity in a positive way when we get _____ in worldwide mission's outreach.