THE FUTURE OF MISSIONS?

Today, the number of Americans without any religious affiliation is rising. Researchers believe Evangelical Christians may now represent only 7-9% of the population (The Great Evangelical Recession, pg. 26). Giving in the American Church has also been falling, and only two cents of every dollar donated goes to overseas missions.

The challenges facing the American missions movement are real—especially considering the great size of the unfinished task. Seven thousand people groups remain unreached by the gospel (JoshuaProject.org). But as Pioneers celebrates 40 years of ministry in 2019, we think that the American Church can still innovate in the face of great challenges.

Since God gave Ted Fletcher a vision to ask for the nations and establish Pioneers in 1979, Pioneers missionaries—with the support of the American Church—have gone out to 297 people groups! For four decades, we have relentlessly pursued the unreached. In 2019, we renew that commitment.

CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

FOCUS

- Send missionaries to 30 UPGs in 2019
- Launch a new recruitment effort to appoint 250 new missionaries in 2020
- Equip thousands of missionaries with digital and physical security tools
- Strengthen Pioneers’ international missions partnerships across India and Africa

FUNDRAISING

- $1,000,000 Goal

For more info, visit Pioneers.org/Pursuit.
ANIKA’S STORY

Polio left Anika unable to walk. This little Indian girl could only sit and watch as her family toiled in their fields to make a living. Traditional taboos associated with Hindu karma also meant many people avoided her. But there was a local pastor who was different. While walking to church, this pastor saw Anika by the side of the road. As a partner with Pioneers in ministry to the disabled, the pastor felt led to ask Anika’s family if he could take her to church. “She can go to the church,” they said. “She stays home all day with nothing to do.”

Every Sunday, this pastor would pick Anika up, put her on his back, and carry her two kilometers to church. There Anika met Jesus. She found peace and joy. Her parents could not help but notice the change in their daughter’s heart, and they started attending church as well. Within a year, Anika and her whole family came to know Jesus! Today, Anika’s father is a church planter in a network of local churches and NGOs that work with Pioneers to share the love of Jesus Christ. Recently, 17 people in Anika’s community came to faith!

PURSUING THE NATIONS

Anika’s story started with a Pioneers missionary from the West being called to India. This missionary, who has a daughter with disabilities, has been humbly used by God to empower the Indian Church to confront—in grace and love—a culture that ostracizes the disabled. Today, the result is a network of believers ministering in 375 villages in Northern India! This is the legacy the American Church can leave in international missions. Through Pioneers’ 2019 Pursuit of the Nations Campaign, we can:

- Send missionaries to 30 UPGs in 2019
- Launch a recruitment effort to appoint 250 new missionaries in 2020.
- Equip thousands of brave missionaries with the latest tools for digital and physical security
- Strengthen Pioneers’ international missions partnerships across Africa and India

INNOVATING IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES

To confront the challenges before us and renew our 40-year pursuit of the nations, Pioneers is focusing on spiritual vitality, innovation, and leadership excellence. Our spiritual vitality relies on prayer. We must relentlessly pray that God will bring all peoples into His kingdom, and that He would provide more workers for the harvest (Luke 10:2). U.S. Base staff are participating in Chick-fil-A’s WinShape Leadership program and learning how to “lead like Jesus.” And regarding innovation, the U.S. Base has partnered with leaders in Design Thinking (who have served clients like Volkswagen and 3M) to create our own Innovation Lab.

Through the 2019 Pursuit of the Nations Campaign, Pioneers is reaching out to the American Church through targeted social media advertising in order to recruit the next generation of missionaries. We partner with others like CRU and OM to see the whole Church mobilized for the harvest, including those holding fulltime, salaried jobs (doctors, engineers and others who can work abroad, embedding with the local church). We are even reaching out to the next generation of children in the church, teaching them about God’s heart for the nations through a curriculum called WorldViews (World-Views.com).

Pioneers is committed to helping the American Church send more workers into the harvest fields. This year, we will send missionaries to 30 unreached people groups around the world. Through innovation in 2019, Pioneers aims to appoint 250 new missionaries per year, starting in 2020! To support this effort, we are working to remove financial...
...barriers. For only $100, a potential missionary can now visit the U.S. Base for a week of exploring missions.

In response to the challenges that missionaries face in the most unreached places on earth, we are also equipping thousands with the latest training in digital and physical security. We developed a cutting-edge online security training program. This training has been so effective that seven other organizations have used the program for their workers as well—equipping about 25,000 missionaries! In 2019, we want to continue to offer our missionaries and partners the best in digital security and training for physical security.

Finally, in order to catalyze something bigger than an American missions movement, Pioneers is investing in two strategic places in 2019. In sub-Saharan Africa, we have an opportunity to strengthen Pioneers-Africa’s workforce of 268 missionaries. As members of Pioneers’ first international sending base, Pioneers-Africa’s missionaries are a highly effective, veteran workforce. One African leader has catalyzed hundreds of Bible studies with thousands of disciples! This year, we will partner with Pioneers-Africa to complete an addition to their headquarters that will finish their onsite training facilities.

We also want to invest in the project that led to Anika’s story. This project, called Enabled, is led by a Rhodes scholar and is perhaps Pioneers’ largest field initiative to date. Through Enabled, pastors equipped with wheelchairs for the disabled are finding access to Hindu strongholds. They are generating so much favor with local villages that these communities are even standing up to the Hindu nationalists who want to run Christians out of town. By supporting Enabled’s community health and disability outreach, we can serve 375 villages in an area with a population of 1.5 million people.

IMPACT & LEGACY

Through the 2019 Pursuit of the Nations Campaign, we—as the American Church—can stand together and echo the words of Paul in Romans 15:20: “My one ambition is to proclaim the gospel where the name of the Messiah is not known.”

Through your prayers and generous giving, we will accomplish the following:

- Missionaries sent to 30 UPGs in 2019
- Thousands of missionaries equipped to securely serve in the most unreached places
- 250 new missionaries appointed in 2020 and in the years after
- 268 African missionaries strengthened and emboldened by our support
- The gospel presented in word and deed before 1.5 million people in India

JOIN THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT

Will you join Pioneers in renewing a commitment to relentlessly pursue the nations? For the 2019 Pursuit of the Nations Campaign, we are seeking to raise $1,000,000. Your giving can make a difference:

- $100,000 can meet the remaining need for the Pioneers-Africa headquarters
- $50,000 can cover the cost of Pioneers’ efforts to mobilize fulltime professionals
- $10,000 can provide 100 wheelchairs for Enabled’s ministry in India
- $5,000 can fund digital media strategies that will lead 4,500 Americans to take a next step into the Great Commission

GIVE NOW

▷ Give online at Pioneers.org/Pursuit
▷ Give by mail with checks payable to Pioneers. Include a note to direct your gift to the 2019 Pursuit of the Nations Campaign (account #151221).
▷ Mail to Pioneers at 10123 William Carey Drive, Orlando, FL 32832
▷ Contact us with any questions about the campaign at 407-581-7311 or development@pioneers.org.