

## Class Schedule

~~Week 1: Missions? The goal is the glory of God.~~

~~Week 2: Why missions? A Biblical theology~~

~~Week 3: The justice of Hell and the need for conscious faith in Christ.~~

~~Week 4: The role of the local church in missions.~~

~~Week 5: Suffering~~

~~Week 6: History of modern missions~~

Week 7: Trends in modern missions: unreached people groups and movement-thinking.

Week 8: Challenges in modern missions:  
Contextualization and gospel proclamation

Week 9: Short-term missions: Their nature and usefulness

Week 10: Doing missions in a restricted-access country

Week 11: Taking the gospel around the world from here at home

Week 12: Getting "here" to "there" – steps to moving out in missions

Week 13: Capitol Hill Baptist's Vision for Missions

## Core Seminars – Christian Living

### Trends in Modern Missions

Week 7 – February 20, 2022

## Introduction

"The Great Century" of missions (1792-1910)

Edinburgh World Missionary Conference of 1910

## I. Unreached People Groups

### *Defining People Groups*

"The largest group within which the Gospel can spread as a church planting movement without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance" (Lausanne, 1982)

"A homogeneous population group identified by a common Language, heritage and religion." (International Mission Board)

### *Unreached People Groups*

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Questions or comments? Email Riley Barnes ([riley.barnes@capbap.org](mailto:riley.barnes@capbap.org))  
or Caleb Morell ([caleb.morell@capbap.org](mailto:caleb.morell@capbap.org)).

“... No church movement having sufficient strength, resources and commitment to sustain and ensure the continuous multiplication of churches... [i.e.] if less than 2% of the population is evangelical Christians.” (International Mission Board)

*What does the Bible say about “people groups”?*

1. Christ has died for a definite group of people (Acts 20:28, Titus 2:11-14)
2. Christ’s bride, the church, will consist of people from every tribe, and language, and nation (Rev. 5:9, 7:9-10; Dan. 7:13-14)
3. Christ’s mandate to his church necessarily involves preaching the gospel to all peoples (Matt. 28:18-20)

→ What are potential downsides of overdefining “people groups”?

## **II. An Encroaching Timeline**

*What does the Bible say about Christ’s second coming?*

1. Jesus will return bodily to gather his elect and to judge his enemies (Acts 1:11, 1 Thess. 4:16, Matt. 24:30-31).
2. Before Jesus’ return, the gospel will be preached to all nations (Matt. 24:14; Mark 13:10)

3. The time of Christ’s coming is known only to the Father (Matt. 24:36, 42-44; Mark 13:32, Acts 1:6).

→ If it’s true that Jesus is coming back but that we aren’t meant to know when, what posture does Jesus intend for us to have in regard to missions?

## **III. Church Planting Movements**

*The “Non-Residential Missionary” Model*

*The Church Planting Movement Model*

“A rapid and exponential increase of indigenous churches planting churches within a given people group or population segment.”

## **Conclusion: What’s the alternative?**

*Recovering the “Fourth Dimension” of the Great Commission*