

# Prayer Baptist Missions International

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“...the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much...”

## Praying for the Harvest

After decades of strife and civil war, a Comprehensive Peace Agreement has been implemented and southern Sudan voted by an overwhelming 98% majority to separate from the North. They will celebrate their first ever Independence Day on July 9, 2011.

The long civil war, has left South Sudan with no factories, no farms, no infra-structure and no fundamental churches. It is indeed a land of affliction.

Historically, the south Sudanese people have identified as Christian but, by their own acknowledgement, only in a nominal sense. One of their religious leaders recently commented, “...but we have very few born again Christians.” He went on to say that S. Sudan needs prayer and for people to come over and help them become a Christian nation. They are literally crying out for some one to “come over and help us.”

PBMI has heard their cry and, like Paul’s Macedonian call, we are firmly convinced that we have received a “*Sudanese call*” to help send church-planting missionaries into South Sudan. In September, we plan to conduct a survey of the spiritual climate and physical conditions in preparation for sending in missionaries.

In order to make this happen, we need some help from God’s people. You can help with:

- **Fervent Prayer** - for God’s wisdom. Though the need is urgent, we desire the Lord’s leadership. We don’t want to get ahead of God.

- **Our Filmmaker** - who will travel with us to document our survey. With grateful hearts we praise the Lord for hearing and answering this need and providing us a videographer to travel with us.

## The Sudanese Call



- **Financial help** - The estimated cost is \$3,000/per person; total for the four man team is \$12,000. Praise the Lord! We’ve already received \$2200. We are trusting God, by faith, to provide the remaining funds. If you would like to have a part in this exciting opportunity, you can by sending a contribution to PBMI marked for “Sudanese Travel Fund.”

- **Faithful Men** - please help us pray that God will call some men into this ministry. As soon as we get things organized, we MUST have

some missionaries ready to go while the opportunity is upon us. South Sudan is just one of the countries in the 10/40 window open to foreign missionaries. They need 1,000, or 100, or even ONE missionary RIGHT NOW. Indeed, the South Sudanese need someone to heed this “*Sudanese Call*.”

For more information, you can contact our Home Office at (864) 599-5132.

# H a r v e s t

BLACKFOOT — Thanks to a church planter from Wyoming, Pastor Joshua Sykes is ministering in Eastern Idaho.

Sykes has been pastor of the small congregation at Fellowship Baptist Church in Blackfoot since July of 2010. "When I was in high school, my home church had a mission conference each year and I met a church planter from Wyoming," Sykes recalled recently.

After majoring in pastoral studies at Crown College in Powell, Tenn., and meeting his wife Christine there, the couple spent three years raising support in North Carolina, New Hampshire and Louisiana.

They eventually joined a church planter in Saratoga Springs, Utah, and spent nearly a year there. "I kept looking and praying and a door opened up here," Sykes said. "I never thought of coming to Idaho before."

His church is not affiliated with a specific Baptist denomination but Sykes shares God's message using the King James Version of the Bible.

"My goal is to obey God's word," he said, citing Joshua 1:8. "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Sykes said, "I believe that's where God defines success as being obedient to His word." He said the Lord's great commission is to go into the world and preach his word.

## The Hands of Fellowship

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Sykes, Christine and their three children — Jesse, 6; Chloe, 5; and Elijah, 3 — aren't sure how long they'll be in Blackfoot. "I don't have a time limit on it," Sykes said. "As long as He wants me here. Our goal is to become a self-governing and self-supporting church."

When he isn't working in behalf of his church or his

family, Sykes enjoys spending time outdoors with his two Labrador retrievers. "I've been wanting to go pheasant hunting with them," he said.

An avid Duke Blue Devils basketball fan, he enjoyed following the NCAA tournament until his team was upset. "I was born into it," he said of his support of Duke. His mother works there as a secretary. His father is a maintenance man at an apartment complex.

Sykes' role model is his grandfather who ministered for 31 years.

He uses 2 Timothy 2:19 as his guiding scripture. It reads: "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

"That's an encouraging scripture," Sykes said. "I would like people to know that I love people," he concluded. "I can be a friend to anyone."



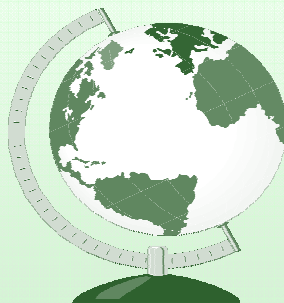
Pastor Joshua Sykes, his wife Christi and children Jesse, Chloe, and Elijah of Fellowship Baptist Church in Blackfoot, Idaho

Jesus came to earth to carry out a plan  
From sin to reclaim lost and fallen man.

For these He'll die; nailed to a cross  
Here for their sake to suffer loss.

He here will suffer death upon the hill  
Purchasing a pardon for whosoever will.

## Tell the News



And to the churches it is written clear  
In order to believe, men must first hear.

This responsibility God laid in our lap  
Betwixt men and hell to stand in the gap.

So, it is imperative we get off the pew,  
And go to the world; tell His good news.

*Anonymous*

# H a p p e n i n g s

## Romania - Isaac Lawrence Family

### A New Work in San Mihaiu Almasului

The work in San Mihaiu Almasului is going forward and as is to be expected the enemy is neither asleep nor lazy but is going about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. We thank you all again who gave money for the property, building and repairs.

We ask you to keep praying for us as we labor here and in the surrounding villages.

We were so thankful to the Lord for helping us get the full payment of the house and property paid off. Last week I paid the last of the surveyor's fee and he should have all his paper work finished in about 35 days. The cost of getting everything written up legally has been a little over \$3,000. We had about \$1500 left over after the last payment and we used that for more repairs.

We have opened up two rooms into one and now have a room about 15'x 31' for our main services. This is a great blessing and gives us so much more room. We have got most of the repairs and painting on the walls, windows and doors done, plus two concrete floors poured. We are praying that the Lord will continue to send us more finances as we need to finish a room downstairs with a floor, 3 new windows and a new door. Also we hope to put in a bathroom and a septic tank before Summer Vacation Bible School.

We have not yet set a date but we think that we may have 50 plus children attending. Bro. Sergio Sidor and his wife will be helping us

with that project and coordi-

nating quite a lot of the activities. They have been a blessing to us and a great help in the work. He put a lot of free labor into the building. Also we are going together to visit families, to pass out Bibles and to invite new people to come. We hope soon to find some free time to pass out Bibles in other villages nearby.

I used some of the Romanians who were coming to church to help us in the work and paid them a proper wage for here.

They were happy as the winter was hard on them. There were others who had come some to church but I did not work them and many of them got very mad at me and accused me of showing partiality, which

never was an issue. Also they accused those I did work of being greedy and said they do not want come to church any more. People are so childish and we do covet your prayers that the Lord will resolve this however he chooses and that Christ will be glorified. I am visiting the offended ones and inviting them back. So far we haven't had much success. Praise the

Lord that it hasn't effected the children any that I can see. Sunday there were 20 in Helen's class and we had about the same in the main service.

We are planning a special service for this Thursday to teach the people about the Lord's Passover and the transition to the Resurrection. Also we want to have a Resurrection Service on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your Prayers and support.

In Christ,  
Isaac Lawrence and family



Church house in San Mihaiu



Sunday School



Sidor Family -  
Our Co-laborers

Second Corinthians chapter eight is familiar territory for those who believe and preach Faith Promise missions giving. On numerous occasions, the example of the Macedonian believers has stirred our hearts to give more to missions. Even now when we consider that they were in a great trial of affliction and deep poverty, the fact that they gave “to their power...and beyond their power” causes us to search our hearts and make sure we are doing all we can.

*And we have sent with him **the brother**, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches; And not that only, but was also **chosen of the churches** to travel with us with this grace, **Providing for honest things**, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.*

2 Corinthians 8:18-22

In this chapter Paul gives four incentives for the Corinthians to give liberally and to follow through on the promise they had made a year before. The *first incentive* is the example of the Macedonian believers who gave beyond their power to give. In the *second incentive* Paul is assuring the Corinthians that their gifts would be **honestly handled** and **carefully distributed**.

This brings our attention to our text verses where we find the mention of “**the brother**”. A needed incentive to liberal giving is the assurance of honest and careful managing of funds. Dishonesty and mishandling of funds is one of the quickest ways to hinder giving. The church at Jerusalem understood this need, so they chose a brother who had a good testimony among all the churches to travel with Paul and Titus and be responsible for receiving the gifts and taking them safely back to Jerusalem to the saints who were in need.

Paul also approved of this need in verse 22 when he said, “*And we have sent with them **our brother**, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things...*” Prayer Baptist Missions and the individuals who handle the missionaries’ funds are of vital importance. Wise pastors and churches will follow the example of the early church and realize the importance of “*providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.*” This **unnamed brother** was chosen by the churches and sent out just as Paul, Barnabas, Silas, and Titus were. **As an administrator he was just as involved in the work of missions as they were.**

The *third incentive* to liberal giving is the *need of the saints* spoken of in verse 14, “*...a supply for their want...*” The church at Jerusalem was in a famine and under great per-

## “The Unnamed Brother”

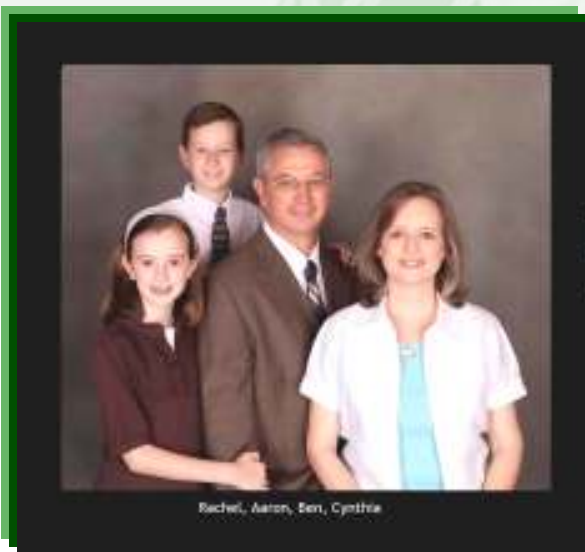
By Missionary Ben W Mayo

Who will give?

The *fourth incentive* is the example of our Saviour in verse 9. “*For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*” Will you go? If God is calling you, my prayer is that you will respond and go to the regions beyond to rescue the perishing. Will you give?

There is no greater example of giving than the example of our Lord that, though he was rich, he became poor. My prayer is that you have been challenged to give more than you ever have before.

*(Editor’s note: Brother Mayo is on deputation to serve as the Financial Secretary for PBMI. He has many years of experience in managing church finances and is uniquely gifted for this ministry. Brother Ben is “**the unnamed brother**” God has sent to help manage our financial resources and distribute them to our missionaries serving on the field. I pray you will consider having him in your church for a meeting and seriously consider supporting him in this vital ministry.)*



Rachel, Aaron, Ben, Cynthia

### Heed the Call

Paul is an example how we ought to be  
If we hear a voice calling you and me.

To a foreign field; a stranger to meet  
Perhaps a neighbor just up the street.

To go to Macedonia Paul did not delay  
To answer the call he went his way.

It is surely a sin their crying to hear  
And to their pleas to turn a deaf ear.

Jesus never asked us to travel anywhere  
Unless He promises he’ll go to be there.

If a soul is saved, into hell not fall  
That means someone must heed the call.

*Anonymous*