

Dr. David Thompson  
*Christian & Missionary Alliance Missionary*  
*Gabon, Africa*

Dr. David Thompson and his wife, Rebecca (Becki), have served in the C&MA for over 30 years! They currently serve the Lord in Gabon, Africa. Both David and Becki are familiar with tragedy because of the missionary efforts of their parents in Vietnam. David's parents, Ed & Ruth Thompson, were martyred at the hands of the Viet Cong and Becki's father, Reverend Archie Mitchell, was taken captive by the Viet Cong -- never to be seen again. Even Becki's mother, Betty, spent eight months in a Hanoi prison camp. Despite these experiences, both David & Becki responded to God's call on their lives to serve Him as missionaries. We are blessed to have them join us for this last Sunday of our Missionary Conference! The Thompson's have three children, Josh (married to Esther); Rachel (serving as a missionary to Cambodia); and Jeremy (married to Vera). This past November, Josh & Esther had their first child, and David & Becki's first grandchild. Then, in December, a second grandchild was born to Jeremy & Vera!

Dr. David Thompson is the Medical Director and surgeon at the Bongolo Evangelical Hospital in Gabon, Africa. In addition, Dr. Thompson is the Executive Director for the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS). He also is the program director for PAACS surgical training program in Bongolo.

**Sermon Notes:**



# International Mission Partners

Long Beach Alliance Church • February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 • Pastor Chris Lankford

# Getting It Done.

## Are you in?

**GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES  
OF ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING  
THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER  
AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL  
THAT I COMMANDED YOU; AND LO, I  
AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO  
THE END OF THE AGE.  
~MATTHEW 28:19-20 (NASB)**

## The Great Commission Fund & Faith Promise Card



One of the innovative and unique aspects of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) is something called "The Great Commission Fund." Unlike most missionary organizations and denominations, the C&MA does not require its missionaries to raise their own financial support. Instead, Alliance missionaries and their ministries are financed through the Great Commission Fund. C&MA churches and individuals give to this fund regularly, which provides money and support which our missionaries need on the front lines.

The advantages of this approach are clear...

- It supports the greatest cause in history, reaching people with the Great News of Jesus Christ.
- It places missionaries into their countries quickly.
- Missionaries can concentrate on their ministries, instead of having to always worry about fundraising back at home.
- It assures that great missionaries (not just great fundraisers) are sent to the mission field.
- Missionaries from other organizations all agree, the C&MA method of support for the field is the best in the world!

There are some disadvantages, too...

- The fund is so large, it sometimes seems like an individual doesn't really make much of a difference.
- Instead of supporting your favorite missionary, you are supporting 1,100+ different missionaries -- most of which you don't know.
- The Great Commission Fund can seem impersonal, since the numbers and finances are so vast.

The advantages clearly outweigh the disadvantages! One of our goals at LBAC is to overcome the few disadvantages that might be present in the Great Commission Fund (GCF), by encouraging our church to get involved personally in a dynamic Missions Conference and have the opportunity to personally participate in giving to the GCF through a "Faith Promise."

A Faith Promise is a financial commitment you believe God will enable you to fulfill during a specific period of time. When you participate in the GCF through a Faith Promise, you become a "shareholder" in reaching lost people with the Great News of Jesus Christ. Your giving connects you to believers beyond the doors of our church -- literally to the worldwide body of Jesus Christ. Your Faith Promise is a commitment between you and God. You will never be asked for payment.

Author John T. Seamands states, "this requires faith; not faith-to-get, but faith-to-give. Ninety-nine percent of the time we exercise faith it is to receive something from God. We must learn to exercise faith to give something for God and His mission in the world."

The Faith Promise is a simple concept, with radical implications. Will you trust God to enable you and/or your family to give beyond what you can calculate in your budget? Will you trust that God will give you "extra" money this year (a bonus, a special financial boost); just so that He (God) can give you the opportunity to give more to missions?

Will you trust that if you make a Faith Promise to God and give to missions accordingly, that He will follow-up your faith with the provision for what you prayerfully commit?

For the Faith Promise to "work," we must have a deeper heart for God's missionary endeavors than we ever have before. If our heart is transplanted with God's heart for the lost, we will be able to give more than we ever thought possible.

Sacrificial? Yes. Risky? Without a doubt! Worthwhile? Absolutely!

Long Beach Alliance Church has always been a place where God has provided, with miraculous abundance, for missionary needs. Will you carefully consider your role in the amazing work of God in reaching the whole world with the Great News of Jesus Christ?

# I'm In.

Matthew 28:19, 20