



MISSIONS NUGGETS

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Why Do We Stand Here?

Acts 1:9 tells the remarkable story of Jesus ascending to heaven by rising up into the clouds before many witnesses. This entire remarkable occurrence is recorded with only sixteen words (NIV): "He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight."

Can you imagine that moment? The disciples and all the Christians gathered there must have stood transfixed with their eyes skyward as Jesus disappeared from view. I'm not sure how long they gazed. Maybe only a few seconds, perhaps a few minutes. "What comes next?" must have been the question on their minds.

Suddenly their question was answered. Two angels stood beside them asking them, "Why do you stand here? Jesus is coming back." *Get busy* was their message. This is still the message for the Church today. In the midst of work, soccer practice, grocery shopping, and running errands, it's easy for us to forget our one and only purpose for living on this earth. We are to be busy reaching people around the world with the gospel.

Across the world are millions of needy people who not only need food, care, and love, they need a relationship with Jesus. Most of them earn only \$3 in a day. For us, that's what we might spend on a fancy cup of coffee. Our three highest priorities must be our support of missions around the world, our training up of the next generation of children here, and our witness to the lost around us through our love, concern, and participation.

BGMC strives to support our missionaries all around the world. As well, it strives to teach the next generation to have compassion for the world. And it teaches children that each of us has a responsibility to participate at church through volunteering and to go to those around us and share the gospel.

If those two angels showed up today, they might not ask "Why do you stand here?" They might say, "Slow down. Get your priorities in order! There's a world to reach, and time is short!" Let's all reexamine our lives to insure we are doing all we can to reach the world.

