**ARE YOU A MISSIONARY?**

When I hear the word *missionary* I immediately think of very special people who give up their homeland, their culture, and all their extended family members to go to a primitive land where a new language must be learned and modern conveniences are not readily available. I think of people like Adoniram Judson, Hudson Taylor, David Livingston, and others – trailblazers who opened the world to evangelism.

One dictionary defines a *missionary* as “*a person sent on a religious mission, especially one sent to promote Christianity in a foreign country.”*  But are these evaluations comprehensive and accurate? NO! I think not!

A *mission* may be defined as “*an important assignment carried out for political, religious, or commercial purposes, typically involving travel*…” It is also “*the vocation or calling of a religious organization, especially a Christian one, to go out into the world and spread its faith*…”

Remember the TV show, “Mission Impossible?” That was a spy show where the team was given secret assignments that involved espionage and usually travel to a location for carrying out their “missions.”

May I suggest, as I have for years, that Christian missionaries need not always go to a foreign land, or learn a new language, or work in a place where Christianity is unheard of…

Pat (who was raised in Kansas) and I (raised in Illinois) met in Missouri, fell in love and got married and then were called to the mission field of (wait for it) CALIFORNIA! Are you a missionary? (I think so!) What is YOUR mission field? Let’s win the world to Jesus!