

JULY 30, 2023



Missions
Priorities to
Choose from



### Options

- 1. Respond to individual or mission organization requests
- 2. Look for cheapest nationals over "there"
- 3. Focus on sending our own people.
- 4. Focus on unreached people groups
- 5. Address mercy and justice needs
- 6. BAM business as mission
- 7. Global partnering
- 8. Integration of local and global, particularly relates to migration

### What is an unreached people group?

See Video – What is an Unreached People Group?

https://vimeo.com/128750127

### Unreached People Groups

Jonah 1

• What do we learn about Jonah?

• What do we learn about God?



### Jonah

Inclined to rebel against God and refuse to proclaim the gospel

His rebellion led him to live a disoriented life

He seemed to believe the identity the world gave him and not what God said

He had faith in God, but not much fear of God

### God

God is sovereign

God's Word is authoritative

Why are there so many unreached people today?



See video from Radical.net



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33uwulf-uvo

### Reaching for the unreached is HARD

Why is it hard? Why is giving to ministry for the unreached so low?

What can we do this week to aid in ministry to the unreached?

- Evangelize and love our neighbor
  - What do unreached see in Americans? (alcohol abuse, adultery, cursing, horrible treatment of people, high levels alternative lifestyles, 1.6 weapons/resident, abortion, high crime rate, high drug abuse)
- Learn more about unreached groups/ministry to unreached
- www.stratus.earth

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

### "We know one way to 'do church."

Many people of other world religions depend on physical structures for religious practice.

Some areas cannot have typical "church."

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

"We expect pagans to act like followers of Jesus."

People burnout living in dark places.

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

# It's hard to raise money for something you can't talk about.

Security is a high priority

Mountainous villages in Africa (no westerners)

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

New believers will get in trouble with their families, community, and/or government.



# Family of Muslim Background

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

"My country of origin determines my religion."

Prejudice against Christianity – America

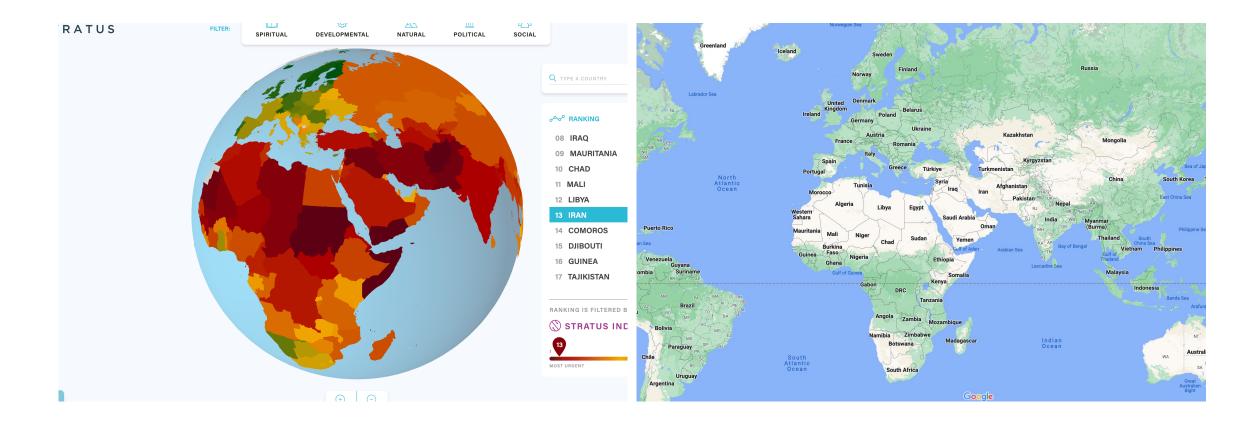
"If I follow Christ, I am without a home country."

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

It's just hard to live in these places. The climate is tough. The country is poor. Good medical care is hard to find.

Unreached groups are commonly found in regions with difficult climates.





# Fewer gospel voices in hard places

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

### It can be expensive!

"Often times the only way to access unreached people is through projects and human needs response."

Seem especially so when considering ROI

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

#### It is HARD on frontline workers.

Christians over "there" are people too.

Anxiety, worry, high blood pressure, sorrow

Need constant support and encouragement

(Reflections from Dr. Nik Ripken)

We can have a "harvest" mentality.

What makes a mission worth attempting?

Low hanging fruit v. origin of command

Invitation v. proclaim

Would we go if we never see any fruit?

Does the end justify the means?

### Questions

"Is Jesus worth it?"

"Is Jesus worth causing the death of someone who embraces Him?"

How valuable is Jesus?

What is worse, physical death or spiritual death?

Would we travel to visit gospel workers in hard places just to encourage them and not "do" the ministry?