

ROYAL RANGERS: TO THE NATIONS!

Royal Rangers has a task—present the Gospel to every boy in every nation. Matthew 28:18-20 is an urgent command that Rangers are obeying.

Currently Royal Rangers is in 65 nations. While we rejoice in these numbers, we are not satisfied. There are approximately 100,000 members outside America, yet this is just a scratch on the surface compared to the need.

The words of Loren Triplett, former director of Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) ring loud in our ears: "A missionary never measures success based on his accomplishments, but on the unfinished task."

Royal Rangers' unfinished task is huge!

In the region south of our U.S. home, Latin America and the Caribbean, live an estimated 85 million unsaved boys under the age of eighteen. Each day thousands of Africa's 200 million boys die from AIDS, conflict, and famine. Add these numbers to those in Europe, Eurasia, and Asia Pacific and the lives that represent Royal Rangers' unfinished task total well over 970 million.

What a massive un-reached population! 970 million. That's right, 970 million!

To meet this challenge, AGWM and Royal Rangers have created Royal Rangers International (RRI). The goal is to declare Jesus-salvation to millions of unsaved boys.

The strategy is so biblical it is working! We are *sending*, *equipping*, and *accompanying* missionaries to *empower* national leaders to reach boys for Christ.

Sending: Russ Turney, Asia Pacific Regional Director, often says, "Wherever we have sent missionary personnel, the Kingdom has grown."

Today, five missionaries devote themselves to preparing today's boy to become tomorrow's man. We pray that God will raise-up a host of Royal Rangers missionaries to span the globe. As more devote themselves to reaching boys, the Church will grow.

We pray for Royal Rangers to go, and we pray for those who send them. "Our challenge to every outpost in America," says Richard Mariott, National Commander, "is that they participate in sending a missionary, with prayer and monthly support (\$15/month is recommended), who is involved in evangelizing boys."

Equipping: Royal Rangers are actively equipping missionaries with tools for effectiveness.

Rangers from every state raise thousands of dollars for Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade (BGMC) each year. David Boyd, National Director, explains, "Royal Rangers across America are involving their boys in BGMC which teaches kids to know, care, pray, and give to reach the world for Jesus. Together the boys in America are reaching the children of the world!"

Hundreds of boys are Junior Light-for-the-Lost (LFTL) Councilmen and raise thousands of dollars for evangelism. Benny Ferguson, National Coordinator, exclaims, "Royal Rangers clearly have a heart for missions! It is evident by their partnership with LFTL to raise literature funds and become Junior Councilmen."

Accompanying: For some Royal Rangers this will represent a career that will take them to the ends of the earth.

For most, however, this involves periodically walking alongside a missionary. Royal Rangers specialists like Andy Whitman in Macedonia, Mark Broberg and Rawie Haas in Russia, Jeff Cooper in Costa Rica, and J.R. Gould in Kenya, often need qualified personnel to participate in leadership training and evangelism. As this list of missionaries grows, so do the opportunities to serve overseas.

Another way men and older boys help missionaries is through Pathfinders. These teams are comprised of individuals with skills to serve on construction projects. "Pathfinders," according to Gerald Jackson, AGWM-MAPS Representative, "has met a need to help build churches in remote areas where other teams would not go resulting in multitudes of people being able to respond to this Gospel which we proclaim around the world."

Royal Rangers are *sending*, *equipping* and *accompanying* missionaries, with the purpose of *empowering* national leaders to impact boys. Empowerment is providing the resources and setting the conditions that make people successful.

The resources needed overseas by those occupied in evangelizing boys is quality curriculum and training. In addition to these resources, RRI is occupied in promotional and consultative roles. These create the conditions that make Royal Rangers effective around the world.

Be involved in sending Royal Rangers to the world's 970 million "unfinished tasks," by presenting Christ to every boy in every nation. You are invited to contact the author.

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