

Mega Episode: HeartCry, Humility, and the Great Commission with Paul Washer

00:00:05:07 - 00:00:31:14

Alex Kocman

Greetings and welcome to *The Missions Podcast*, the show that explores your hard questions on missions, theology, and practice to help goers think and thinkers go. I'm Alex Kocman, director of communications and engagement with ABWE. We're bringing you a special interview today, one that is longer than our standard episodes. And so, if you're following us in your podcast feed or watching us on the YouTube channel, this is exclusively for you.

00:00:31:14 - 00:00:52:19

Alex Kocman

This is not going out to every place where the show is usually heard because of its length, so enjoy this special episode! This is a special edition of the Missions podcast, and we're bringing you a conversation that I had with our president, Paul Davis, and with our friend Paul Washer of HeartCry Missionary Society. If you have any questions or comments about the show, let us know.

00:00:52:19 - 00:01:10:00

Alex Kocman

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00:01:10:00 - 00:01:31:21

Alex Kocman

You can learn more about that at [Missionspodcast.com/premium](https://missionspodcast.com/premium). Well, without further ado, we'll bring you now to the conversation we had with Paul Washer.

Well, I'm Alex Kocman with a joined by Paul Davis, ABWE president, and joined by a new friend, Paul Washer of HeartCry Missionary Society. I don't think you need much of an introduction, brother.

00:01:31:23 - 00:01:49:12

Alex Kocman

Someone's welcome to Google your name. If they're one of the 3 or 4 people listening that maybe isn't familiar with your, your reputation. But not as many people know about HeartCry. I'd like to see that change. I greatly appreciate the ministry of HeartCry. Yeah. So, tell us how HeartCry came into being.

00:01:49:12 - 00:01:51:03

Alex Kocman

What is HeartCry Missionary Society?

00:01:51:04 - 00:02:16:20

Paul Washer

Well, HeartCry Missionary Society is, is dedicated to advancing the Great Commission through the indigenous missionary that mean missionaries native to their own countries, while at the same time we, it is our great conviction that we need more cross-cultural missionaries than ever. There are some groups that work with indigenous and say there's no longer a need for cross-cultural missionaries, and that's absurd.

00:02:16:22 - 00:02:41:00

Paul Washer

We need both, and both can be used. When I went to the mission field in 1988, I was sent out by just, a local Baptist church, kind of in the middle of a cornfield in Illinois. And I went

there and, I began to work with, a veteran missionary there by the name of Homer Crain, and then within a year, started planning a church among college students.

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Paul Washer

And as I, as I ministered, there was this old missionary there by the name of Redford Trammel and, very unusual man knew a lot about missions. And he told me, said Paul, if in 40 years of ministry here in Peru, you can plant for churches, real biblical churches with biblical elders. He said, your life is a miracle.

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Paul Washer

He said, But Paul, there are so many indigenous pastors here who they never had the privilege of the training that you received in languages, in theology, and in hermeneutics and in so many gifts that you've been given because of where you were born. So, plant churches, but more so help indigenous men to become better. And I took that advice and, had the privilege while I was in Peru of meeting some of the most extraordinary Christians and ministers of the gospel and, my philosophy of missions to some degree was what is in my hand.

00:03:46:16 - 00:04:14:10

Paul Washer

And then look at the indigenous pastor and say, what's not in his hand? If I have it, I should give it to him. And so that's kind of how HeartCry began. We began, I would go into areas and I would teach theology. Teach doctrine. Tried to protect some of the rule and rule works and works in the mountains and jungles from heresy and cults and things like that and keep them in the very center of evangelicalism.

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Paul Washer

And then it just continued to grow. We started in Peru, and then, it went from there to, to Europe and then now it's, I think over 70 countries in 400 missionary families.

00:04:28:05 - 00:04:35:15

Paul Davis

How did you make that leap? All from one country. Your work to multiple countries?
Multiple.

00:04:35:18 - 00:05:00:15

Paul Washer

Well, it's kind of a long story. I, my hero, as from almost the moment I was converted, someone gave me the oral biography of George Miller. And so, the reason why I did everything I did is, is, you know, I became a Christian at a time where there were all these TV preachers asking for money and all this stuff, and, and I would look at George Miller, who never made his needs known except to God in prayer.

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Paul Washer

And, and I told the pastor, there in Illinois, Jack Russell, I said, that's the way I want to do what I'm going to do. So, I'm not going to raise money. I'm not going to let anyone know my need. And so, part of HeartCry is not just to support missionaries around the world, but to continue to show people that God will vindicate even the smallest confidence of his children.

00:05:26:19 - 00:05:46:07

Paul Washer

So, God would test me the whole while that I was in seminary. You know, will I make my needs known? Will I give this money away? Will I? What will I do? And then when I went to the mission field, it was the same thing, you know, needing to rent a building and pray that God would provide the funds and just so on and so forth.

00:05:46:09 - 00:06:10:19

Paul Washer

And then when I thought about supporting indigenous missionaries, I thought, this is a perfect opportunity to continue this. So, until today, we have zero tolerance if a worker at HeartCry were to say, you know, make their need, make our needs known, they'd be fired immediately. Now it is biblical to raise support. Yeah. And when you do it, there it is biblical.

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Paul Washer

We can see it in the New Testament, but it's just something that God laid on my heart. So, I had been in Peru for about nine and a half years, and I was running a mule train up through Sierra de Selva, which is the eyebrow of the jungle in the northern part of Peru. And it was my favorite thing to do, because you're just going from village to village, preaching, taking Bibles, workbooks, dictionaries, helping pastors.

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Paul Washer

And we do that in the mountains and also, in the jungle on the rivers, particularly the Marañon River. But I was I was there in the saddle Selva, in a valley that I love doing the very thing I loved. And I remember looking across the valley and I realized, I don't want to do this anymore. I want to help indigenous peoples all over the world, because I had spent a great deal of time battling with whether or not it was biblical.

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Paul Washer

Because many missionaries of indigenous. Yes, supporting indigenous missions was biblical because you'd hear these stories about people who had attempted to do it, and it just went bad. Right. And you'd hear things like, well, you'll ruin the missionary, or you're spoil the indigenous work or all this. And so, what I did is I took all the objections and I considered them wholesome objections, like, you must refute them with the scripture.

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Paul Washer

And if you can't, then you shouldn't do this. And what I began to discover is this there were several problems and the way it had been done before. First of all, men are sent out from local churches, so the local church often was not. The indigenous, local church was not involved, or the indigenous local church was not a biblical, mature church.

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Paul Washer

And I'm talking about biblical elders. Biblical government, church discipline, expository preaching. And then I also noticed that many of the men that were supported, a great many of them, did not qualify as elders, according to First Timothy chapter three or Titus one, and then that some that did when they began to be supported, they were reduced from a man of God to a boy who was to do a bunch of errands for the missionary.

00:08:21:00 - 00:08:23:15

Paul Washer

And so what? I came to the conclusion that.

00:08:23:16 - 00:08:26:21

Alex Kocman

Accidentally or sometimes sign of the missionary.

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Paul Washer

Sometimes just over just not seeing what they're doing, you know, run here, run there, work for me.

00:08:33:02 - 00:08:38:07

Alex Kocman

Do this one in some cultures too, like there's that reciprocity. Like maybe they feel obligated to do that, right?

00:08:38:08 - 00:09:00:23

Paul Washer

But in many cases, it was I felt like when you're an elder qualified man sort of sent out into the field by a church. Yeah. You have responsibility. Yeah. And if something does happen on your watch, even if it happens from other people, it is still your responsibility. Yeah. And I saw a lot of, well, at least some abuse.

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Paul Washer

And so, I began to talk to missionaries that I highly respected. And more and more, they were saying, yes, that's what has gone on. And so, building it from Scripture, I thought I saw that it was biblical. And so, when cry works in a place, there are many countries and people groups. We cannot work there with just indigenous missionaries.

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Paul Washer

Why? Because there's no strong biblical indigenous church that meets those qualifications. And that's why you need cross-cultural missionaries.

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Paul Davis

Yeah. So, there's organizations that will just look for a man of peace or a person of peace to talk about or, it's very different than what you're talking about here with, with a qualified man sent from a local church.

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Paul Washer

Right. We're talking about the Great Commission, if you really want to break it down. Are biblical churches sending out elder qualified men to plant other biblical churches and if you don't start with that, you're not going to finish with it. And so let me give you an example. So, let's say someone contacts us from Nigeria and we don't have a clue who they are.

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Alex Kocman

I've been here weekly, daily.

00:10:14:12 - 00:10:41:18

Paul Washer

And or it could be Switzerland, it could be anywhere. And they may be the finest person on the planet, but there's no way to validate it, right? There's no way to hold that accountable. But if there is a strong movement, like, for example, the Baptist in Zambia with Conrad and Bear Way and those men. Yeah, if they call me right now and say we have four men that we've trained in our institute, they are elder qualified.

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Paul Washer

I know what's going on. It'd be the same as if John MacArthur called me. So, we work with indigenous churches that either have a national or international reputation among, believers of like faith that are strong, confessional, doctrinal churches.

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Alex Kocman

I appreciate so much that you're holding those two things together. The models get pitted against each other. My first exposure to missions, I wouldn't say I grew up in the missions culture. Even though I grew up in the church. My first exposure to missions was people saying, hey, indigenous is the way to do it. The thing they live on so much less than Americans.

00:11:15:11 - 00:11:24:16

Alex Kocman

There's so much, better in the fish. And it's a better investment. Yeah. And there's merit to a lot of that. We can't ignore that. But it was a very utilitarian argument.

00:11:24:16 - 00:11:38:10

Paul Washer

Well, let me take it a little bit farther. So, they'll say, you know, the church is strong in a certain people group. There's no need for, a cross-cultural missionary. That's not true either. You see the Lord.

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Alex Kocman

Jesus like saying the harvest is ripe. There's no need for laborers.

00:11:42:04 - 00:12:16:08

Paul Washer

Well, here's the thing. The Lord Jesus is building his church. Yeah, there could be a place, for example, a very, very strong, work among a people group where the indigenous men were of the highest caliber. That doesn't mean the Spirit of God could not send someone there cross-culturally to contribute. Yeah. And so, I find out that little men who do not

spend much time studying scripture are much time in prayer, make a lot of silly rules, and make blanket statements that simply are not biblical.

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Paul Washer

Yeah, we need both.

00:12:18:10 - 00:12:41:22

Paul Davis

Along that line. Help a local church pastor, many local church pastors that I'm talking to, are trying to build strategies for their missions, and many times they'll put an emphasis and said, we're only going to do unreached people groups, or we're only going to do the church, only, a certain type of church planting in a certain place or amongst one people group or things like that.

00:12:42:00 - 00:12:57:03

Paul Davis

How does that factor in? Help me. When we're thinking of the local church pastor, he's got limited resources, right? And he wants to be a faithful steward of over those things and set priorities right. How does he biblically set priorities?

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Paul Washer

Well, first of all, Romans chapter 12, verses one and two, and it talks about renewing the mind. And you will know what the will of God is. So, first of all, we can talk about a lot of smaller things that aren't going to be they're not going to matter unless you have a proper doctrinal foundation. You must understand the doctrines of Scripture with regard to missions, with regard to the local church, with regard to the kingdom of heaven.

00:13:23:05 - 00:13:44:19

Paul Washer

And so, we need to, first of all, make sure we're moving within the realm of biblical teaching. Secondly, it says quite clearly in Second Corinthians chapter eight that God put an earnestness in Titus. His heart, to go to Corinth. Now, he apparently did not put that earnestness in the heart of Apollos, but he put it in the heart of Titus.

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Paul Washer

And Titus was constrained. He had an urgency. You didn't have to push Titus to go. You would have had to train him not to go. Okay, then when we talk about being called into the ministry for an elders, anyone aspires, desires, the office. And so, there's a subjective element. So once the church is taught biblically and the pastors moving in the biblical realm of what the Bible teaches about missions, then there comes a thing of seeking God's will, of prayer, and of seeking to discern also providence.

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Paul Washer

What is God doing? Who has God put before us? And to say, we're only going to do this, or we're only going to do that? You can only say that when you're talking about biblical principles, but when you're talking about the direction that we're going to go, I be very careful using that language, because you may have been dead set on doing something among an unreached people group or the most unreached people group in the world.

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Paul Washer

And as you're discerning God's will in the way he's working in your church, you find out that you need to plan a church, 25 miles away in a rural area in Illinois. And so, you need to be very careful with that kind of language, because ultimately, it's Jesus who's building his church.

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Paul Davis

And God may give gift to you a gifted theological educator. Who's not an evangelist, who's whose talents may be wasted on an unreached people group, but a group of young churches with untrained pastors that needs good theological training.

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Paul Washer

No one would refer, I think, to so Lima, Peru as, okay, this is a drastically unreached people group, right? There's needs just like there is in this town here, right? But Jesus is building his church and he knows what he needs. And in all our scheming, Jesus may be saying, I am going to raise up a PhD to and send him down to a seminary in Lima to teach Greek.

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Paul Washer

And so, we must be. There is a subjective element to the leadership. Another thing that we need to understand if we're not praying, renewing our mind and living a life of prayer, you just can't make these little formulas because in the end, it's dangerous. For example, I'll give you an example. Tom pace, who I talk about quite a bit when he left for the mission field in Peru.

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Paul Washer

He spent years up in hell, way up in the Andes Mountains. All right. God bless the work. You know, so many good things happened. He just didn't figure out one day that he needed to go to Lima. As he was a man of prayer. God begin to put another burden on his heart. Another burden, so that there was an earnestness, a desire for him to go to Lima and do something.

00:16:44:06 - 00:17:00:08

Paul Washer

And then when even when he got there, it changed a bit in God's providence. So, I want people to be very, very careful about, well, this unreached people group. And that's what we're going to do. You really need to make sure that you're discerning that in prayer and that providence is proving it.

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Alex Kocman

I I've seen that happen. I've seen all of that happen. Is it the Mees who, are they in Colombia? And it was his desire to reach this particular tribal group, who you're not allowed to reach. And the doors were closing in his face. He ended up taking a job teaching in the seminary there.

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Alex Kocman

But one of his students ended up being from this people group and was able to go. And now we're seeing conversions among this, this tribal people. Where there is persecution and the government doesn't allow you to come in and evangelize and all of that, because he was willing to say yes to where the Lord was leading in, which was to teach in a seminary.

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Alex Kocman

And so that's my concern because I, I think there's a way for a church to have a strategy where, where you do it and it's not a legalistic thing where you say like, well, we've prayerfully, you know, sort of like you've discerned within HeartCry, look, you can raise funds, but we're not going to ask, right? There's a way to have a rule where it's not this rigid, one size fits all.

00:17:58:16 - 00:18:16:09

Alex Kocman

You say, like, you know, you know, the Lord's going to use different pieces of the body. And but for us, we're going to here's our general principle. There's a way to do that. But where it goes off the rails is it becomes this rigid, one size fits all doctrine or dogma that's applied to everything. And that's my concern.

00:18:16:11 - 00:18:38:00

Alex Kocman

For as much as we want to emphasize, okay, go to the unreached, go to the unengaged unreached language groups. And we need to do that. But we also just need to recognize those definitions, as important as they are, those are our constructs. We're doing our best to discern where the needs are in the world. But the spirit could lead elsewhere.

00:18:38:02 - 00:18:55:04

Alex Kocman

The spirit might lead you to teach in a seminary. The spirit might lead you to not go. So maybe that's another area to explore is not everyone is sent. You'd say everyone. Every Christian has a great commission obligation, but not everyone is sent. Some people shouldn't go. They don't meet some of those qualifications. Right? Talk to us more about.

00:18:55:06 - 00:19:18:19

Paul Washer

Yeah. Let me let me back up. Yeah. For just a second. What we want to do is, is, always be putting ourselves in a position where we can do whatever the Lord wants. So that means a couple of things. Number one, our own personal spiritual qualifications. Someone can aspire to the office of an elder, but then he must qualify.

00:19:18:21 - 00:19:45:00

Paul Washer

All right, so we want to put ourselves in the scriptures and in prayer and practice piety so that whatever the Lord wants to use us for, we're ready. The other thing is, is even though I

don't think that it's wise to go, I've decided our church is just going to try to do unreached people groups. I think the thing to do, though, is to have data and knowledge of the needs in the world.

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Paul Washer

You know, an organization like this, data is so important. Where are the unreached people groups? Where are the needs and have an awareness of that? But that's when we humble ourselves before that and go, Lord, if I were to divide myself in a million pieces, I couldn't fix this. Where in my awareness of all the needs, where do you want me now?

00:20:07:04 - 00:20:29:20

Paul Washer

And Redford Trammell told me one time when I first came to Peru, he said, he asked me something. I said, well, Peru is God's will for my life. He said, no, it's not. He said, Peru's God's will for your life. Now you have no idea what the Lord is going to do. Now, another thing that's very, very important, and it's what you just brought up everyone is to have, be devoted to the Great Commission.

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Paul Washer

That's why we're here. And I'm sorry. It's just why we're here. We're here to take the gospel to the world. So, everyone the housewife, the businessman, the pauper, the millionaire, everyone who's in the church, that's what we're about. But we divide that into two segments. You're either called to go down in the mine, or to hold the rope for those who go down.

00:20:51:16 - 00:21:14:23

Paul Washer

But either way, there's going to be scars and there's going to be sacrifice. And so, I ask people, where are your scars? Where is your sacrifice? Just take an inventory of the last ten years of your Christian life. What does it cost you? How have you participated in the Great Commission? And I know men who have men and women who have gone to the field and paid a dear price.

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Paul Washer

And I know extraordinarily wealthy men and women that have stayed back, and their support of missions and missionaries and resources and everything have made the work possible, and they have sacrificed and risk to do so. So, it just depends where what does God want from us? Remember, we are so small, we are infinitesimally small. And all our little strategies and all our little things.

00:21:44:05 - 00:22:06:12

Paul Washer

Jesus Christ is the Lord of the church. He is also God's administrator of the Great Commission. He is building his church and so the main thing that we need to be concentrating on is knowing the scriptures, renewing our mind in the scriptures, and seeking God in prayer, and that Christ will lead us. And sometimes he'll do stuff quite extraordinary.

00:22:06:17 - 00:22:30:18

Paul Washer

For example, I would have said Paul to the Jews, and Peter to the Gentiles, or maybe out have Saint Paul to the Jews. And I put Peter in a closet. I don't know what I would have done, but it probably wouldn't have been what Jesus did. Yeah. You see. So, we need to be very, very careful. And in, in this age that we live where we hear so much about the renewal of studying theology and doctrine, that is so true.

00:22:30:20 - 00:22:40:19

Paul Washer

But apart from prayer, I'm sorry, or pretty much just intellect rituals that are like, lead weights. We must be people of prayer.

00:22:40:19 - 00:23:10:00

Paul Davis

We've talked a couple of times about qualified men and unqualified men. Would you take a moment and talk about doctor, the young man who's growing up in a church right now? Senses, perhaps gifts for ministry. He's fighting sin and losing. He's, He's an unqualified man. He's untested. He's. How does a church. Let's talk about what is he as a young man?

00:23:10:00 - 00:23:29:02

Paul Davis

What are the steps that he should be taking to prepare himself? And then how do you see local church in particular the local churches helping these young men that that that feeling that they're sensing maybe that they don't have a call to ministry yet, but they're sensing gifts for ministry in their lives.

00:23:29:08 - 00:23:52:10

Paul Washer

Yeah. I think that's there's something very important here. I think it's of extraordinary importance. And it's been left behind in Second Timothy. Paul says to Timothy, the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. And this is a principle. It's in the context of the local church.

00:23:52:12 - 00:24:15:15

Paul Washer

I could say primarily that young man ought to go to the elders and talk to them about what God's doing in his life. But first of all, I wouldn't expect my daughter to be talking to me. I

would be talking to my daughter. One of the things that true pastors, one of their tasks in the church is to nurture and train men.

00:24:15:17 - 00:24:33:08

Paul Washer

So, when they see a young man like that, they ought to go after him, and then they need to disciple them. And every time I bring that up, someone will go, oh, you mean, well, we'll start an institute. I said, why do you have to institutionalize everything? Why can't you meet with some, you know, coffee in a pipeline and.

00:24:33:13 - 00:24:50:16

Paul Washer

Yeah. And just so start training this young man. Start to start giving him good books. Teach him to pray. Most importantly, get him on a Bible reading schedule. There are guys who graduate seminary and make almost straight A's that haven't read through the Bible.

00:24:50:18 - 00:24:51:18

Alex Kocman

I think that that's true.

00:24:51:18 - 00:25:11:01

Paul Washer

And or are they're going to go to an intern program where they get 75 books to read. And I always say this, did you give them 66 books to read? Right. You know, so we want to get them in Scripture. We want to get them in Scripture. Another thing is that we need to understand something. A 17-year-old boy wants to be a brain surgeon.

00:25:11:03 - 00:25:19:05

Paul Washer

He's got a long road ahead of him. All right. Someone wants to be a missionary. The question is, what is a missionary?

00:25:19:07 - 00:25:21:00

Alex Kocman

Everyone's a missionary, Brother Paul.

00:25:21:00 - 00:25:45:09

Paul Washer

No, no. They're not. Let me just run through real quick. What is a missionary? So, the word missionary comes from missionary use in Latin, from the Latin verb *mittere*. And that term missionary use was first used by the Jesuits in the 16th century in sending Jesuits to the north to stop the Reformation. So that's I guess that's important to know.

00:25:45:11 - 00:25:46:17

Alex Kocman

Class. So?

00:25:46:18 - 00:26:10:01

Paul Washer

So is it a biblical term? The answer is yes, but here's what we need to understand. So, Jesus had 12 apostles. Okay. And when you hear about an apostle, a lot of times you'll hear, well, in the Greco-Roman world, an apostle was this a sent one with authority? Do you really think Jesus was going to the Greco-Roman world to define his terms?

00:26:10:03 - 00:26:35:18

Paul Washer

No. So in the Old Testament we have the sent one Shalala, Shalala the sent one. And, who spoke for God? The one who listened to this man. He listened to God because this man was only allowed to say what God told him to say. If you go to the Sanhedrin and the larger synagogues of Jesus time, they had apostles, they had Shylock, and the rabbis would say things like this.

00:26:35:20 - 00:26:54:09

Paul Washer

He who has spoken to Australia has spoken to the one who sent him. Now that sounds a lot like the language Jesus used, right? He said, he who listens to me has listened to the father. And he says, and he told his apostles, the one who listens to you listens to me. Now an apostle, there were the 12.

00:26:54:10 - 00:27:14:01

Paul Washer

Of course Judas followed. And then we have Paul. Paul said he was the last one. They were the apostles of Christ. They were sent out, under the authority of the resurrected Christ personally. And they were recipients of divine revelation. That's the apostles of Christ. But two times in the New Testament we have the apostles of the churches.

00:27:14:04 - 00:27:43:20

Paul Washer

Yeah, we have it in Philippians two and in second Corinthians eight, he talks about the apostles of the churches and what were they? So the apostles of Christ, they were sent out by the resurrected Christ. They had super ecclesiastical authority and they received divine revelation. Over here, the apostles of the churches were the ones who were tested by the churches, sent out as emissaries of the churches, and they could only speak as the church spoke.

00:27:44:02 - 00:28:04:12

Paul Washer

They were under the church's authority, so that. So that he who heard this apostle of the church heard the church, who sent him, that in the truest sense is a missionary. Now when we go back to the use of that term in in Philipians and second Corinthians, we find this, that it was used with regard to the men in Second Corinthians who were going to go collect an offering for Jerusalem.

00:28:04:14 - 00:28:29:12

Paul Washer

They were the emissaries or the apostles of the churches, the sent ones. Then when we look over in Philipians two, it's a Paradise. He's going to minister to Paul while he's in prison. And he's called their messenger, their apostle. So, what it means is this you have a local church with biblical elders, and they're constantly looking at the needs in the world or the needs 25 miles away.

00:28:29:14 - 00:28:53:00

Paul Washer

And then either they give a call, they become aware of a need somewhere, or someone in the congregation comes with a burden. All right. And someone says, you know, I need to go to this country and preach the gospel. I need to plan a church. Okay. Then the then the training comes, the testing comes. And when they're tested as an elder qualified man, they can go.

00:28:53:02 - 00:29:28:18

Paul Washer

Now. Missionaries. You say, well, you know, missionary today means anything from a church planting, preacher to someone who juggles balls in a clown suit. So, what is a missionary? A missionary is just, like I said, the Latin translation, basically the English transliteration of apostle. And so let's say that, we look in, Madagascar and there is a need for a church planter, and we have a man with a burden to plant churches in Madagascar.

00:29:28:19 - 00:29:53:17

Paul Washer

The elders test him, the congregation test him, train him. And when he is elder, qualified, those non-negotiable, qualifications, he can be sent. Okay. And he's a missionary. But let's say that we have, a missionary family in Kenya, and they have ten kids. And the mother is kind of stressed out. The church recognizes that sending church recognizes the need.

00:29:53:19 - 00:30:17:03

Paul Washer

And they go, we have a need of a young lady, very godly, who can go over and help. Is she a missionary? Yes. She is sent out by that local church to fulfill a specific need, and she has the authority to meet that need. Yeah, but that local church is discerning the need, discerning her call, discerning her qualifications, training her and sending her.

00:30:17:06 - 00:30:22:19

Paul Washer

And she is sent not to plant a church or to become an elder, but to do that, that very task.

00:30:22:19 - 00:30:41:08

Alex Kocman

And I'm so glad you clarified that because people get tripped up over that. Oh, so you're saying only elder qualified men are missionaries and that's not the case. And if the whole point of missions is to bring the church here to the church there. Well, you need every member of the body of Christ striving together for the faith.

00:30:41:10 - 00:30:57:21

Alex Kocman

Here's an objection. So, I've laid out not in that level of detail. That was beautifully helpful. But we've laid that out, in on this show in articles, and I can speak for you. I would, I would agree with everything you said. Somebody recently gave the objection to me, and I want to hear how you would answer it.

00:30:57:23 - 00:31:02:05

Alex Kocman

Are you positing a third office in the church? In addition to elder Deacon?

00:31:02:10 - 00:31:25:09

Paul Washer

No, no, not at all. First of all, there were messengers of the church in the New Testament. So, they're apostles of the churches. That's all there is to it. In there. It's in the text. You have to deal with it. Now, here's what I think we need to understand. So, Brother Paul, you're saying, you know, depending on the need and what the elders say, anyone can be a missionary.

00:31:25:11 - 00:31:43:18

Paul Washer

Well, let's back up. So now we need to go to Ephesians chapter four. And something very unique happens in this text. He says, and he gave some as apostles and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors, and some as teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service to the building up of the body of Christ.

00:31:43:22 - 00:32:06:14

Paul Washer

Now this is the only place where we get something this direct. How did Jesus determined to build up the body of Christ through the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers? Now, do we have apostles and prophets today? Yes we do, and Scripture related. We have them in the Bible. We have them universally. So the apostles are speaking here.

00:32:06:14 - 00:32:30:13

Paul Washer

They are. The prophets are speaking here. They are the great bulk of all our missionaries that we send should be evangelists, pastors and teachers. That's the great bulk is elder qualified proclaiming men. But along with that, just like we see in acts chapter six, there may arise a need for an administrator who can start a publishing company in Kenya.

00:32:30:19 - 00:32:53:09

Paul Washer

There may arise a young girl who needs to do discipleship with college students in a biblical local church in Geneva that's pastored by godly elders. So it's the church being informed, looking at the need and moving accordingly, and then qualifications mission has to be according to the authority they're given. A man is going to go out and plant a church.

00:32:53:09 - 00:33:18:08

Paul Washer

Must be elder qualified. That young lady must be pious and knowledgeable of Scripture. And so, the great preponderance of the missionaries should be church planting proclaimers, that they are a part of a group who are planting churches. And I think we need evangelists, we need pastors and we need teachers, and they're sent out in that capacity. That's what makes them missionaries, that what makes them emissaries.

00:33:18:11 - 00:33:26:15

Paul Washer

They are gifted men. So, it's not another office. They are gifted men who are being sent out to be emissaries of that church.

00:33:26:17 - 00:33:50:22

Paul Davis

I think you did a great job today encouraging our staff. You spoke to our staff at our Easter gathering, and you spent time talking with our administrators, our behind-the-scenes

people, and you talked about their reward. And I think you really encourage them. Could you tie that in? Because I think there's a piece that we're not talking about.

00:33:50:22 - 00:34:23:08

Paul Davis

We talked gently about the people that are holding the rope. Yeah. But there are women who are godly, pious women who are doing tremendous work on the mission field. But there's this category of people that I'm thinking of, missions committee, people who, who are serving in a local church and they're holding the ropes for missionaries. I think of people here at ABWE who are serving, thousands of missionaries around the globe faithfully.

00:34:23:10 - 00:34:26:03

Paul Davis

How do they fit into this biblical picture?

00:34:26:05 - 00:34:48:21

Paul Washer

First of all, you know, people ask me when we talk about church history. The first, first century particularly, they go, what was the greatest danger facing the church? Was it Nero? Was it, this persecution? Was it the Judaizers? What was the greatest danger facing the church? And I said, well, it's the widows in acts six.

00:34:48:23 - 00:35:12:20

Paul Washer

And they go, oh, why would you say that? I said, because it's the only place where those apostles knew. If you neglect widows, that brings that brings discipline from the Lord. We see that in the, the deportations and everything else. Part of it was you didn't care for the widows in the orphans. So they knew they had to do something interesting, but they were tempted to do it themselves.

00:35:12:22 - 00:35:35:21

Paul Washer

And that would have meant laying aside the ministry of the word and prayer to wait on tables. Then we see these extraordinary individuals who are selected to do that very thing. And so what happens soon? As soon, as soon as it gets through the problem, it says, and these they brought before the apostles, and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

00:35:35:21 - 00:36:06:10

Paul Washer

And then in verse seven, the word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples continued to increase. So, one of the great problems that we have, even in the local church, and I'm not talking about bad pastors, I'm talking about good pastors, is the reason why the ministry is so truncated is in most local churches. Even the good and godly pastors are oftentimes spending more energy doing the work of a deacon than they are the work of preaching and prayer.

00:36:06:12 - 00:36:33:18

Paul Washer

Do you realize that? So when it's on the mission field, it's the same way. What we have to realize is that the gift of administration and leadership, both of those are spiritual gifts. We also need to realize that it's arguably the two most godly men in all the Bible apart from Christ was, Joseph and Daniel, and both of them were administrators just going through your office today.

00:36:33:20 - 00:37:01:13

Paul Washer

It just cemented that more and more if we are going to have, a good conscience, if we are going to have a good testimony, the funds, the resources, the allocate portion of things, everything that goes along with it, legal requirements, everything accounting, then we must have brilliant men and women who are saying to themselves, by me doing this.

00:37:01:15 - 00:37:19:13

Paul Washer

People groups are going to be one to Christ. And I'm going to be honest with you, when I started at HeartCry, when I started it. A dear man told me it was my uncle who was like a father to me. He said, I don't doubt the piety. I don't doubt the prayer life. I don't doubt the doctrine.

00:37:19:15 - 00:37:47:18

Paul Washer

But if this is going to fail, it's going to fail administratively. You must have godly administrators. And that is it's proven itself every day of my life. A lot of people, you know, they know me as a preacher, but they don't realize that I can go. I can go a year and preach less than ten times because I am solving missionary problems, administrative problems and all kinds of things that are going on.

00:37:47:20 - 00:38:08:08

Paul Washer

But that's what God's called me to do. A team of administrators is absolutely essential, but they have to be godly. They have to be renewing their mind in Scripture. They have to know how to use all the tools that are available, and yet not lose sight that it's not by might, but by my Spirit, says the Lord.

00:38:08:10 - 00:38:43:01

Alex Kocman

And as you lay that case out, you're also indirectly explaining why, you know, people that go down this route of like, okay, let's think biblically about missions sometimes reach the conclusion. Therefore, the local church should do it all alone without a church sending missionary society's agencies. And while a church is free to do that, I think you're also indirectly making a case that those types of structures are lawful because there are certain administrative functions, that I think there are specialists who can be called to do that.

00:38:43:07 - 00:39:11:15

Paul Washer

Right. I do not believe that. And I know you don't either. I do not believe that some ministry like Far Cry, is just going to start sending and appointing and ordaining people, right? What we do is there are local churches in the United States who desire to support biblical missions, and there are local churches on the foreign field that are training godly men and sending them out and holding them accountable.

00:39:11:17 - 00:39:35:16

Paul Washer

We put the two together. And so if there are larger churches, you know, and there are and I praise God for them and they can handle the admin, they can handle the legal, they can handle all the governmental issues and everything that go on. Just a transference of funds to foreign lands, you know, having to constantly having to just do different things to give money to missionaries.

00:39:35:18 - 00:39:55:23

Paul Washer

If they can do that. Wonderful. And I do not think that some church should send you guys money or send HeartCry money for us to do missions, but if they have missionaries they want to support, we can provide. That means of gathering all that, of doing all the accounting, administrative work, the legal work, and making sure it happens.

00:39:56:04 - 00:39:58:19

Alex Kocman

And most churches are small treasures and don't have.

00:39:58:19 - 00:40:18:21

Paul Washer

And so a church, years ago began to support the work in Africa as it did the church in the States began to grow in its relationship. I encouraged them to have a relationship with the Africans. And, it was with Conrad and Bailey's group. And then as the years went by, I kept looking at the data.

00:40:18:21 - 00:40:35:03

Paul Washer

And so, I called the pastor one day and I said, hey, how's it going? He goes, going, well, I go, tell me about what's going on in Africa and your relationship. Oh, we're doing this, this, this. And I go, great. I think you've reached the point where you need to stop supporting HeartCry. And he goes, what do you mean?

00:40:35:05 - 00:41:04:01

Paul Washer

I said, your church has its own relationship with them. Your church has been funneling funds to all kinds of things. You're large enough. You're organized enough if you want to do it on your own. And so we're here, we're to provide and we're to help. And we can help people navigate the things theologically, you know, administratively. But at the same time local churches send out missionaries.

00:41:04:03 - 00:41:05:15

Paul Washer

We just help them get there. Yeah.

00:41:05:19 - 00:41:50:04

Paul Davis

One of the blessings that I see, too, from an individual level is there are individuals, godly men and women who are extremely gifted in things like, you know, actuarial sciences and, and finances and, and, and very difficult things that any one church may not need that person, but that person wants to serve. And in ministry and the blessing that I've seen in

coming here is that, we provide an opportunity for these very, very gifted people to have very fruitful ministries and a host of churches where their gifts would be.

00:41:50:04 - 00:42:03:03

Paul Davis

And a super abundance, and one local church that would be unneeded and unused and just wouldn't be useful in one church. But a thousand churches could use that gift and send talent.

00:42:03:03 - 00:42:11:10

Alex Kocman

Person to you have to think about, okay, am I if I'm only serving in the walls of my church? You know, is that burying the talent to some degree?

00:42:11:14 - 00:42:32:04

Paul Washer

The men that work with me, the administrators and stuff, you know, I've heard them say this. I have a desire. For example, I am an integrator, you know, a in business, mom, I'm an integrator. I can manage things. I can put all the departments together. And I love it. Like one guy told me one time, he goes in the new heaven.

00:42:32:04 - 00:42:49:00

Paul Washer

In the new earth, I'll be an integrator, you know? He goes, that's what I was born to do. But he said, I never dreamed that I would be able to use these skills to advance the kingdom. Right. And so he comes in and he's looking at, oh, there's a hole here, there's a hole there. We can do this better.

00:42:49:00 - 00:43:13:18

Paul Washer

We can put this together. You guys need to work together on this. We can solve this problem. And again, never forget, let's just go into Romans 12. Let's just look throughout. You know, we can go to first Peter. We can go to first Corinthians. The gift of administration, the gift of administration is extraordinary. And it's of extraordinary importance in the kingdom of heaven.

00:43:13:18 - 00:43:15:07

Paul Washer

With regard to the Great Commission.

00:43:15:08 - 00:43:36:03

Paul Davis

One of the initiatives that we talk about a lot is we have a Matthew 938 initiative, and this goes along with, I think, the philosophy you shared of, instead of letting your needs be known, praying for that. We're, every morning at 938, praying the Lord, praying earnestly the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the field.

00:43:36:05 - 00:44:08:09

Paul Davis

Talk a little bit about we've seen fruit, unexplainable fruit. That is greater than I would have dared ask my little faith. I can't attribute it to anything other than our prayerful focus towards God mobilizing. Talk about that in the local church. How do local churches, if we've seen fruit effectuated from prayer, I would think a local church.

00:44:08:09 - 00:44:27:16

Paul Davis

Ha! Very few churches are having an old fashioned prayer meeting. Right? Talk about what? What ideas again, would you give talking to the local church pastor? Now let's give him

some tools in his tool bag. How does he effectuate prayer for missions or for maybe ministry needs that he has?

00:44:27:17 - 00:44:36:01

Paul Washer

That's funny, because, in the car yesterday, for the last several weeks, have been writing a workbook on how to get the church to pray biblically.

00:44:36:03 - 00:44:39:07

Paul Davis

So see, I knew that. So. Yeah.

00:44:39:09 - 00:44:47:17

Paul Washer

Here's some of the big problems for it always starts with scripture. And if you go even churches do have prayer meetings and those are very few now.

00:44:47:23 - 00:44:49:02

Paul Davis

Right.

00:44:49:04 - 00:45:02:13

Paul Washer

First of all, when you look at acts chapter two, they were praying, we can go through out there and we find it's a biblical principle that a biblical church is going to have congregational praying. And if you don't, some serious changes need to be made, because.

00:45:02:13 - 00:45:04:17

Paul Davis

In 613 the church was praying again.

00:45:04:19 - 00:45:28:02

Paul Washer

That's what started the outreach to the Gentiles. And then when we look, you know, even at the upper room, every time fruit and advancement is mentioned, you will ask the father in my name. It just goes back to prayer. So prayer is not, you know, oh, there's nothing left to do but pray. It's not it's not the last, recourse.

00:45:28:02 - 00:45:51:23

Paul Washer

It's the first resource. Now, the thing is, though, just like there's unbiblical preaching, there's unbiblical praying. And most praying that goes on in a congregational meeting is unbiblical. So a prayer meeting turns into something like a, a town hall where for 30 minutes, people are just delight in sharing news, almost gossip. Right? And then they pray for a minute.

00:45:52:01 - 00:46:13:01

Paul Washer

Okay. Or preach. Praying. Okay. I'm going to tell everybody how much I know about theology in my prayers. And so it just goes on and on and on. The disciples came to Jesus and they never once said, teach us to walk on water or teach us to preach. They said, teach us to pray. We're not teaching people how to pray.

00:46:13:03 - 00:46:33:02

Paul Washer

We're not teaching them how to pray privately or corporately. So when we bring them together corporately, it is almost a torture. It's just misguided, all kinds of things. And so we've got to go back to Scripture and teach people how to pray. Teach them how to pray corporately. And then we start organizing it. Isn't it amazing?

00:46:33:05 - 00:46:55:13

Paul Washer

I call it the teenage syndrome. So a teenager walks up to their father dead. Tell me how to do this. He tells them he doesn't do it. All right. They walked up to Jesus and said, teach us to pray. And then his response was, pray. Then in this way, how many churches are private individuals modeled their entire prayer life around the Lord's Prayer?

00:46:55:15 - 00:47:16:21

Paul Washer

And so we have to teach churches to pray. We have to help them be organized in prayer. And then we have to give them the data to pray. And then there's something else. There's no such thing in the Christian life is these Hail Mary prayers. And I'm not referring to football or Catholicism. It's this. I'm just going throw up a prayer.

00:47:16:23 - 00:47:37:18

Paul Washer

Remember when the prophet is praying and he sends his servant to the sea seven times? Did you see anything? He finally comes back, said Adam. I saw a cloud the size of a man's hand in in Isaiah 62, and he talks about intercession, that he's going to put watchmen on the wall. So give him no rest until Jerusalem becomes a praise.

00:47:37:20 - 00:47:56:23

Paul Washer

They're watchmen on the walls. They're not just crying out to God. They're watching to see how it's being answered. And so we've got to dig in to this idea if we're going to pray for it.

We're going to pray for it until it happens or the Lord changes our burden. We're not just going to throw it up and let it go.

00:47:57:00 - 00:48:17:12

Paul Washer

That's not faith. Faith is wrestling with the Lord. And so you talk about Matthew nine. You know, praying for laborers. You know, all through in John chapter four, praying for laborers. That should be a weekly. That should be every time there's a weekly prayer meeting with the church. It should be praying that.

00:48:17:14 - 00:48:43:17

Paul Davis

One of the things I challenge missions committees that I often speak to when I'm speaking at a church or visiting a church, is I encourage missions committees to start every missions meeting, praying through the membership directory of the church, praying the Lord of the harvest. And I tell them to especially look for gifted young men, men who are potentially gifted for the ministry, that you should be praying for them regularly.

00:48:43:22 - 00:49:11:20

Paul Davis

Then I suggest to them that you should have intentional conversations with these young men. And let those young men know are the people responsible for missions. And our church are regularly praying for you and see gifts of ministry in your life such that if you begin moving towards missions, we would, we would be on board with that and, and that that's where the discipleship process can start.

00:49:11:22 - 00:49:20:02

Paul Davis

And but it's going to take intentional men and women taking time corporately. I think it starts with prayer. Right.

00:49:20:04 - 00:49:43:20

Paul Washer

So the does and here's another thing. I'll give you an illustration. There was a missionary in Peru who went back to his church in Georgia. Brother Carlton Allen, independent fundamentalist Baptist, worth his weight in gold. The man and a man forget he was. Oh, he was such a blessing on the field. But when he went back, I visited him at his church.

00:49:43:22 - 00:50:09:23

Paul Washer

You couldn't walk, I would dare say. But a few feet down a hallway without coming face to face with another missionary pitcher. I mean, it was everywhere. It was everywhere. That church gave more money than. Than a church. Probably 20 times its size. It's because, he said you can't let them forget. You know, he said, our people are good people, but they're bombarded with all kinds of things.

00:50:09:23 - 00:50:40:18

Paul Washer

I'm going to constantly be putting missions in front of their face, constantly. Not in a drudgery sort of way. For him, everything was a privilege. Everything was an opportunity. Look at what we can do. You know, and, it was men like that that really impacted my life. And one of the problems that are in our churches is we have a lot of good people, but they're thinking about mortgages and they're thinking about their kids, and they need to be reminded every time they walk in that building.

00:50:40:20 - 00:50:51:19

Paul Washer

They need to see pictures of missionaries. They need to hear missionary stories. And from the from childhood on up there, heroes need to be those who've taken the gospel to the world.

00:50:51:21 - 00:51:16:02

Alex Kocman

One small point to, I mean, yeah, we know the prayer meeting is the worst attended program that the church typically holds. Many of even maybe the people even listening or watching, depending on what your order of worship is. Maybe extended pastoral prayer is not a part of that, like pastoral prayer. As a part of your worship should be modeling what prayer looks like.

00:51:16:02 - 00:51:35:23

Alex Kocman

It shouldn't just be a transition piece from the music to the sermon. It should be, not extended in the sense of main repetitions. You know, Jesus warns about that as well. But modeling certainly how we are to pray and then praying for specific needs in the church, including praying for the missionaries.

00:51:36:05 - 00:51:59:06

Paul Washer

I think one thing, and I ask myself this, and I think all ministers should ask themselves, when was the last time someone walked up to you and say, said, teach me to pray like you pray because I've never heard anybody pray like you. And so prayer is something that is, I guess, is taught. But it's also quite another thing that we've got to get away from.

00:51:59:08 - 00:52:20:10

Paul Washer

Now I'm very, you know, confessional in all kinds of things. But never forget, we're not called to make our way back to the 17th century. We're called to make our way back to the first. Also remember this. There are churches that are anomalies, and they're works of God, but they're not the model. Let me give you an example.

00:52:20:12 - 00:52:47:20

Paul Washer

Charles Spurgeon. Martin Lloyd-Jones. Yeah. Even men like who I dearly love and greatly respect. As much as anybody on the planet. John MacArthur. Every some time God raises up men who are expositor that speak to the world, and they did not intend to make their church like that. They didn't try to figure out a strategy.

00:52:47:21 - 00:52:58:13

Paul Washer

All they did was preach, and it was in God's providence to do that with them. Yeah, there are men who are just as godly and just as great in the kingdom of heaven who have preached 40 years to 70 people.

00:52:58:16 - 00:52:59:06

Paul Davis

Right.

00:52:59:08 - 00:53:19:15

Paul Washer

And what we've got to realize is that the goal is not to try to make something like that. The goal is to be biblical. And if you say we cannot have corporate prayer because it's going to get in the way of what we're trying to do here, as far as, you know, expanding the church and making it larger, then you've got serious problems.

00:53:19:15 - 00:53:22:05

Alex Kocman

It's going to scare off the unbelievers. Yeah. Yeah.

00:53:22:07 - 00:53:47:09

Paul Washer

You've got serious problems. And I genuinely believe that when a church reaches a certain size and I can't say what that is, they've got to do something. Whether it's small groups or something. They've got to do something where the people can truly pray together and people can speak. Now, I'm not saying that, people get in a prophecy line.

00:53:47:09 - 00:54:08:20

Paul Washer

That's not what I'm talking about. Or give some, you know, silly silliness. But what I'm talking about is, when I was younger and church wasn't so sophisticated, people would be telling how they got saved. The people in the pew, or they would be sharing things that God showed them in the word. And it's a beautiful thing.

00:54:08:22 - 00:54:32:09

Paul Washer

And when a church comes under just, we all go to hear a great praise team and we all go to hear a fantastic expositor. Wonderful. But that's not necessarily New Testament church life. And so how do we create that interaction of iron, sharpening iron and, you know, admonishing and encouraging one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual fellowship.

00:54:32:09 - 00:54:33:09

Alex Kocman

As a means of grace.

00:54:33:15 - 00:54:40:19

Paul Washer

And that also brings about the missionary mindset when you start making it personal among the congregation.

00:54:40:21 - 00:55:20:12

Paul Davis

As a pastor. Very few of my favorite times in ministry were ever in the pulpit or in public ministry. They were the ones that come to mind immediately when you started speaking. Are those small group scenarios where we were with a we would host a small group of new believers in our home and watch these new believers struggle with Scripture and struggle to pray and struggle to, to understand the theological concepts that they that are blowing their mind as they, as they, are having their mind renewed by Scripture.

00:55:20:14 - 00:55:28:18

Paul Davis

Those were beautiful times. And they were one on one, two on one, five on one. Right? They were not 5000 on one.

00:55:28:20 - 00:55:53:21

Paul Washer

Well, I think one of the things is a problem is when I back in the 70s and 80s, in many ways, pulpits were quite weak and it was like you were going to grow, especially if you're in college through one on one discipleship. And through small discipleship groups and going through little discipleship manuals. And then we started seeing the pulpit really being front and center.

00:55:53:21 - 00:56:10:04

Paul Washer

And I praise God for that. There's been a renewal over the last two decades of expository. And we have examples of great support, expository. But that doesn't mean we should have left the small group discipleship thing behind. I think that's hurt us.

00:56:10:06 - 00:56:31:03

Alex Kocman

So, you know, speaking of trends within the church, slightly off course, but I'm curious to ask you, because we've on the one hand here talked about praying for more laborers for the harvest, but we've also talked about qualification. And not everyone is the type of person who's ready. We're called and should be sent out as an emissary of a church.

00:56:31:03 - 00:56:57:18

Alex Kocman

Right. We talked about that dynamic. So I'll have guys that I know and love godly men, pastors, in different circles. I like to network broadly, you know, who will say everything from why can't we mobilize anyone to go to the field? Tired of the lack of missions, support and enthusiasm? All the way over to I had, someone that I respect a lot reach out to me as a pastor this week.

00:56:57:18 - 00:57:05:05

Alex Kocman

And he said, everyone always talks about just being sent. It's like a it's like a mission field brain drain on our church. I can't get anyone to care about our town.

00:57:05:07 - 00:57:07:13

Paul Washer

And.

00:57:07:15 - 00:57:26:12

Alex Kocman

What do you I don't I don't know that any one person has, you know, the vantage point, to see all the trends and say, really? Which one is winning out? But what do you see in the churches that you're in and the ministers that you're interacting with? Are we are we sending too many men who are unqualified and we should rethink that?

00:57:26:14 - 00:57:29:12

Alex Kocman

Are we not sending enough? Is it a mix of both? How do you.

00:57:29:17 - 00:57:44:20

Paul Washer

I think it depends on what circles you're running in there. There are some people, you know, a kid, he got saved six weeks ago and he's got a TV. He's got his tevas on and a backpack full of Chinese tracks, and he's going to walk across the mountains of China and drop tracks out of his backpack.

00:57:44:20 - 00:57:48:05

Alex Kocman

Some denominations encourage them, and some teenager, like, just sends you right out.

00:57:48:05 - 00:58:17:00

Paul Washer

And a lot of mission organizations do. Yeah. And then there's the other, other side. And so, it goes back to you're going to I know this sounds so cliché, but if men would just start consuming this book, if they would take every need to the Lord in prayer, it'll start balancing it out. Lord, you know, my whole thing is when I can't talk to men about God, I'm going to talk to God about men, you know?

00:58:17:00 - 00:58:41:17

Paul Washer

Lord, I see hear a problem. We're not having enough men raised up to be sent out. Okay, washer, hit your knees. Wake up in the night. Watch, pray, cry out to God. Wrestle with the

Lord on this matter. Let him deal with you. Let him hear you. Let him test you. And whatever problem is it is going into scripture and just going.

00:58:41:17 - 00:59:03:04

Paul Washer

I am going to follow the biblical pattern here. What I see doctrinally, what I see in precept. And I'm going to pray and it'll work out. But to try to say too much, too little here, there and back and forth. For me it's moving in the realm of the flesh. There are going to be some churches that are going to be tremendous sending churches.

00:59:03:06 - 00:59:24:08

Paul Washer

There are going to be other churches that maybe hardly a missionary comes out from them, but economically they've, they've supported so many things. So, we just have to look at Lord, what are you doing. Brothers, it goes back to communion. We have this book, and I think you can look at my Bible. I can hardly read it. It's so marked up.

00:59:24:08 - 00:59:25:18

Alex Kocman

So no vouch for that. You?

00:59:25:20 - 00:59:58:00

Paul Washer

No. Nobody could say, okay, this guy doesn't. Yeah. Doesn't read his Bible. But we have this book and it is precious. We have God and we have prayer and Terry men Terry before him and Terry. I will not let you go. I will not let you go. I keep coming back to your door. Please, you know, until finally the burden is removed or you realize that you're actually outside of God's will in these passions of yours, or he actually does it.

00:59:58:01 - 01:00:26:04

Paul Washer

He says, you know that widow. She'll beat me under the eye. She will wear me out. He commands and says, don't give me rest until I do what I said. I'm not going to let TV evangelist steal the promises of faith from me just because they're going to distort them, right? Do you see? And so, when we have all these problems, we don't have solutions.

01:00:26:06 - 01:00:50:07

Paul Washer

Yeah, but pray, pray, pray, call upon the name of the Lord. He, like I love to say, you know, someone said this to me years and years ago. I don't know who invented it, but God delights in vindicating even the smallest confidence of his children. And so that that's what we need to do, because it is going to sometimes be extraordinarily strange.

01:00:50:09 - 01:01:12:11

Paul Washer

God is going to do just the opposite of what we think ought to happen almost in everything. And so, one time I wrote on a tweet or something, I put, you know, what a great portion of our problems or something like that would be solved if we would just spend more time in the Word of God in prayer.

01:01:12:16 - 01:01:19:13

Paul Washer

And someone really called me on it. Boy, was that a superficial, trite answer and all this stuff. So, I asked him, I said.

01:01:19:15 - 01:01:21:03

Alex Kocman

Okay, every problem. He said many.

01:01:21:03 - 01:01:38:10

Paul Washer

Yeah. I said, let me ask your question. He goes, yeah, I go, how much? How many hours a day do you spend in the word? How many hours a day do you spend in prayer? Those hours I go came in. It's not much. I go there. Maybe you ought to try what I'm saying before you knock it, and you know.

01:01:38:14 - 01:02:03:23

Paul Washer

Yeah. Trust and obey. Read the word What's bothering me is I. If you weren't in my library, you'd see Puritans and reformers and old books, and I love that. But nothing replaces the book. We're thinking at heart. Cry of starting an intern program where when someone comes for eight hours a day for nine months, all they do is read the Bible.

01:02:04:01 - 01:02:25:05

Paul Washer

Novel idea. Yeah. Because they're going to come out of seminary. They know Greek, Hebrew. But my question is how many times have they read through the Old and New Testaments so that they can begin to compare Scripture with Scripture, so that when you know, they're going to preach on, the Holy Spirit, they don't just go to John 16, they may pull some obscure text from the Minor Prophets.

01:02:25:07 - 01:02:43:05

Paul Washer

Show how when Paul's talking in Romans 15, it has to do with Isaiah 60. You see, just going. That's what we need. We need more men who can read through their English Bible over and over again and live a life of prayer. I'll take that over any academic.

01:02:43:06 - 01:02:46:11

Paul Davis

Who can think through the Bible too, right as they're speaking. Yes.

01:02:46:11 - 01:02:50:06

Paul Washer

Right. And just love it. Just love the.

01:02:50:06 - 01:02:56:04

Alex Kocman

Bible. Do you see things improving on that front or do you see them as bad? Is it as bad as ever?

01:02:56:08 - 01:03:18:16

Paul Washer

There are individuals, yes, of course there are shining lights. There are all kinds of things. But, so someone goes to Bible school, and they get straight A's, they go get their masters and they get straight A's, and they go to their PhD, and they do really, really well. And maybe their thesis is just ranks among the top and everything else.

01:03:18:18 - 01:03:42:19

Paul Washer

And then the next day, there has to be a professor. I'm not sure it works that way. Yeah. My question is, tell me about this man's prayer life. Tell me about his virtue. Tell me about how he has gone through trials. So, tell me this. Something that's not happening because young men, they go through all this, they get a podcast, they become famous and all these different things.

01:03:42:19 - 01:03:56:17

Paul Washer

Where are the years of anonymity, where you labored and literally you were such a failure that you thought, I need to call everybody and tell them I'm not worth the money they're supporting me with. You know, where is that?

01:03:56:19 - 01:04:06:17

Paul Davis

And I had a professor that talked in seminary that talked about also. Give me your checkbook. Let me see. You know, where are these young people spent? Where are they spending their money?

01:04:06:19 - 01:04:27:09

Paul Washer

How are they giving? How are they? How are they even the Lord says, test me in this. How are they testing the Lord with regard to giving? These were also we talked a lot about discipleship when I was a young believer about dying to self, about carrying the cross, about being a servant, you know, and now it's, you know, you read a Puritan lately.

01:04:27:11 - 01:04:29:15

Paul Washer

Now, I love the Puritans, right.

01:04:29:17 - 01:04:31:01

Alex Kocman

But watered down.

01:04:31:01 - 01:04:50:10

Paul Washer

I think we're identifying like, I was preaching a while back and I did a thing where I said, okay, you know, a lot of young guys are using this word. I'm reformed or I'm Puritan or I'm this and I go, okay, are you reformed in your marriage? Are you Puritan in your marriage? Are you a Puritan in your prayer life?

01:04:50:12 - 01:04:55:13

Paul Washer

And the reformers didn't call themselves reformers. They just wanted to be biblical. Yeah, yeah.

01:04:55:14 - 01:04:56:16

Alex Kocman

I think Richard and Richard.

01:04:56:16 - 01:05:01:19

Paul Davis

Baxter's the reformed pastors is not about a doctrinal reformation.

01:05:01:19 - 01:05:12:07

Paul Washer

There. I asked a pastor one time. I said, have you read that book? And he said, I read half of it. I said, well, half of it. He goes, and he was a good pastor. And he said, well, I got halfway through it and realized I wasn't a pastor.

01:05:12:09 - 01:05:14:09

Alex Kocman

That's a that's a device.

01:05:14:11 - 01:05:16:05

Paul Washer

That's a demanding book.

01:05:16:07 - 01:05:29:16

Alex Kocman

And we make bumper stickers out of the reformers, and we put their faces on mugs. And some of that's in good fun. But like, you know, are we are we building the tombs of the prophets and bearing witness that, you know, we're the children of the ones that that killed them?

01:05:29:19 - 01:05:33:13

Paul Washer

Would we let Whitfield preach in our church today or Spurgeon.

01:05:33:17 - 01:05:34:12

Paul Davis

Right.

01:05:34:14 - 01:05:38:23

Alex Kocman

And I would let Spurgeon there. Yeah, I would be pretty excited about it.

01:05:38:23 - 01:06:00:19

Paul Washer

But Spurgeon said, I would rather teach one man to pray than ten men to preach. Bethany Jones said this about Martin Lloyd-Jones. You'll never understand my husband as

evangelist if you don't first understand him as a man of prayer. And I think that that that's something that we, we really need to look at. Teach me to pray.

01:06:00:20 - 01:06:20:12

Paul Washer

They never said teach me to cast out demons, teach me to walk on water. Teach me to teach, teach me to pray. That tells me the most extraordinary thing about the life of our Lord was his communion with God. They watched him and they heard him pray. And they said to themselves, no one ever prayed like this man.

01:06:20:12 - 01:06:47:08

Paul Washer

Pray with such a reverence and yet a familiarity with God. I think it's necessary. I think, with these young men that are coming, I think there's so much good. I, I ran across a bunch of couple while street preachers a few weeks ago, and I was so pleased. But I'm not so much worried about them. I need to become a better teacher to them.

01:06:47:10 - 01:07:18:01

Paul Washer

Transparent, knowing. Letting them know there are no great men of God. Just weak, tiny, sinful men of a great and merciful God. I more than anything, I would want young men to feel their need of him. If they can reach that point, to feel their great need of him, and, to delight in him as a person and not as a theological construct, but as a person.

01:07:18:03 - 01:07:23:04

Paul Washer

Communion with God. And just enjoying him. Yeah.

01:07:23:06 - 01:07:25:07

Paul Davis

I'm grateful for these conversations. Yeah.

01:07:25:12 - 01:07:26:20

Paul Washer

We went all over the place.

01:07:26:22 - 01:07:45:18

Paul Davis

Yeah. Thank you for chatting with us. Lord, we did it. I'm even more grateful for, though, for your encouragement to our team. Thank you for coming here. And, breaking the bread of life to our, our, our team and encouraging them and really reminding them, the important part that they play the role and.

01:07:45:19 - 01:08:16:06

Paul Washer

Just, you know, how we're so twisted today. It seems to me in the Kingdom of heaven, it's like, oh, you know, you've arrived. If you have a megachurch or you preach in the large conferences or you're a well-known author. Yeah, none of that means anything. It's what you are in private before him. And then it's, you know, like I always say, when you come to that, why in the road take the road that that cost you most.

01:08:16:06 - 01:08:37:18

Paul Washer

Take the road that leads you to anonymity. Sometimes I think the only thing Saul ever did right was hide behind the baggage when they tried to make him king, you know? And these people out here went around from office to office. And I think your tour guide was a little bit frustrated with me because she wanted to show me all this stuff, and I kept going into people's offices and talking to him for five minutes.

01:08:37:20 - 01:08:48:17

Paul Washer

They're precious. They came here because they want to see the name of God be exalted among the nations, be worshiped.

01:08:48:19 - 01:09:02:02

Alex Kocman

Amen. And if I could just say one thing. And yet the Lord doesn't call everyone to be anonymous. Otherwise, we wouldn't know you and your ministry and the Lord's use to you. And thank you for your ministry.

01:09:02:04 - 01:09:03:02

Paul Washer

I can tell you this.

01:09:03:02 - 01:09:05:20

Alex Kocman

You'll get anonymous in a thousand years, though. Probably.

01:09:05:20 - 01:09:33:15

Paul Washer

Yeah, I can tell you this. If you're not anonymous, you will want to be anonymous. Yes, it's easier to face the terrorists than it is the internet. Yeah. So, yeah. One time, years and years ago, I was with Mike Moreau, doctor Mike Moreau, and he forgot more about God than I'll ever know. And he was with me, and I was preaching in Romania, and I was a young man.

01:09:33:15 - 01:09:57:18

Paul Washer

And God really moved. They had to extend the meetings and all kinds of wonderful things happened. And we were coming back, and we were in Amsterdam, and he sat there and he just he looked at me and he said, boy, you need to listen to me. He goes, you're dirt breathing. Holy breath. And if you ever believe the hype about you, you're on the road to destruction.

01:09:57:18 - 01:10:08:01

Paul Washer

Yeah, there are no great men of God. There's only a great God of little men. And that's of extraordinary importance. Yeah.

01:10:08:03 - 01:10:18:13

Alex Kocman

Thanks for coming here and sharing your dirt. We appreciate you. And if someone wanted to learn more about HeartCry Missionary Society, they would go to where? On the internet?

01:10:18:15 - 01:10:21:01

Paul Washer

Go to our website. Hard crime missionary.

01:10:21:03 - 01:10:28:17

Alex Kocman

Very good. Yeah. They might even find a few things you've written there and films that you all produce as well. It's far more than just Paul Washer.

01:10:28:17 - 01:10:37:00

Paul Washer

There's it's missionary, it's nice. And. Yeah, people have no idea what my life is really like. You know, they think I'm going all over the place preaching.

01:10:37:00 - 01:10:40:17

Alex Kocman

You describe what you do for a time like that. Sounds like what we do right?

01:10:40:18 - 01:11:08:07

Paul Washer

I'm basically in my office solving problems and dealing with the thing that we have about 400 missionary families, and there's everything from everything from banking to governments to legal to finance, and then the spiritual problems, and then more and more, we're having to deal with persecuted believers or having to extract believers, that are being persecuted and getting them into safe places, earning.

01:11:08:07 - 01:11:16:20

Paul Davis

Way too many banking laws. Yeah, I was very encouraged to hear, yeah, you're dealing with those very same things.

01:11:16:22 - 01:11:32:23

Paul Washer

I think when I get to heaven and for someone, I'm going to sit under a tree for about a thousand years and just stare, it'll wear you out. But if you think that. Okay, I'm doing this, but because I'm doing this, there are men and women on the field.

01:11:33:01 - 01:11:49:13

Alex Kocman

And even if it weren't directly supporting missionaries, you're doing it as unto the Lord. Yes. And he delights. Yes. And if somebody is listening and they're, you know, an actuary of some sort and they're not working for a missionary agency. That's right. Do it as unto the Lord. He delights in it as well. Thank you, brother.

01:11:49:15 - 01:12:13:03

Paul Washer

A friend of mine said this one time. She said, that at the resurrection, Christ tore the lid off the grave and filled the tomb with light. And in every occupation, whether we're a policeman or an accountant or a stay-at-home mom or a teacher, everything will be filled with light and meaning and purpose and reward if we do it as unto the Lord.

01:12:13:03 - 01:12:39:14

Alex Kocman

Yeah, well, thank you for listening to this special edition of the Missions podcast. To learn more about ABWE, we go to abwe.org and to get more content from this show visit missionspodcast.com. Or you can write to me, Alex@Missionspodcast.com to share any comments, questions or suggestions that you have for future episodes. And until our next episode, go make disciples of all the nations.

01:12:39:16 - 01:12:58:18

Alex Kocman

Hey listeners, we know you believe in missions, otherwise you probably wouldn't be listening to or watching this show, but have you ever wondered what your next step with the Great Commission should be? Maybe the Lord is leading you to serve somewhere yourself. Maybe the Lord is calling you to be a part of sending someone from out of your own church.

01:12:58:20 - 01:13:22:06

Alex Kocman

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01:13:22:06 - 01:13:51:15

Alex Kocman

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01:13:51:19 - 01:13:53:22

Alex Kocman

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