

## LOVE THAT SEEKS

Luke 19:10

By Raymond White

Why do we send missionaries out into the world? Wouldn't it be simpler to just hang out a sign and wait for the world to come to us? Why do we go to them? Seems like a lot of trouble. Because that's the way God does it. If God waited for men to seek him, God would have a very long wait. The truth is, man does not seek God. But because of God's love and compassion and grace, God seeks man. From the very beginning, from the fall of Adam and Eve, man has been running from God, and God has been chasing trying to redeem man back to himself.

***Genesis 3:9** And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? :10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.*

And that's been the story of man's existence every since: Naked before God and afraid, man hides, and God seeks — a divine game of hide and seek.

***Romans 3:11** There is none that seeketh after God.*

We do not seek God, God seeks us. And he goes to great lengths to find us. He once raised up a new nation expecting that that nation would save the world.

***Genesis 12:3** ...in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed.  
**Isaiah 49:6** I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.*

Finally, the Lord came himself, personally, to the earth. Like the old saying, "If you want a job done right, do it yourself." Well, he did.

***Luke 19:10** The son of man is come to seek and to save.*

That was a long way for the Son of God to come, all the way from heaven to here, to find us and to save us. I hope when it's all over, he will think it was worth the trip. But that's love, isn't it? I mean real love. When you lose track of someone you love, you go after that person. Your wife is stuck across town with a broke down car. You go after her. Your daughter is stuck at a drunken party abandoned by her drunken "boyfriend." You go after her. We set aside what we are doing, take the time, take the trouble to go after those we love. That's what love does: it seeks and rescues. That is what Jesus does: he seeks and rescues.

But the seeking isn't done. God has asked us to be part of that seeking.

***John 17:18** As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*

That's the call and the great commission, to go into the world as Christ came into the world, to seek and to rescue those whom God loves.