

PAWI MISSIONS MY OBLIGATION





Two Preliminary Considerations

- 1. *Missionary Activity* is a matter for all Christians, for all occasions, at all times.**
- 2. Mission is a personal but complex reality, and it develops in a variety of ways.**

Different Elements of Missional Obligation:

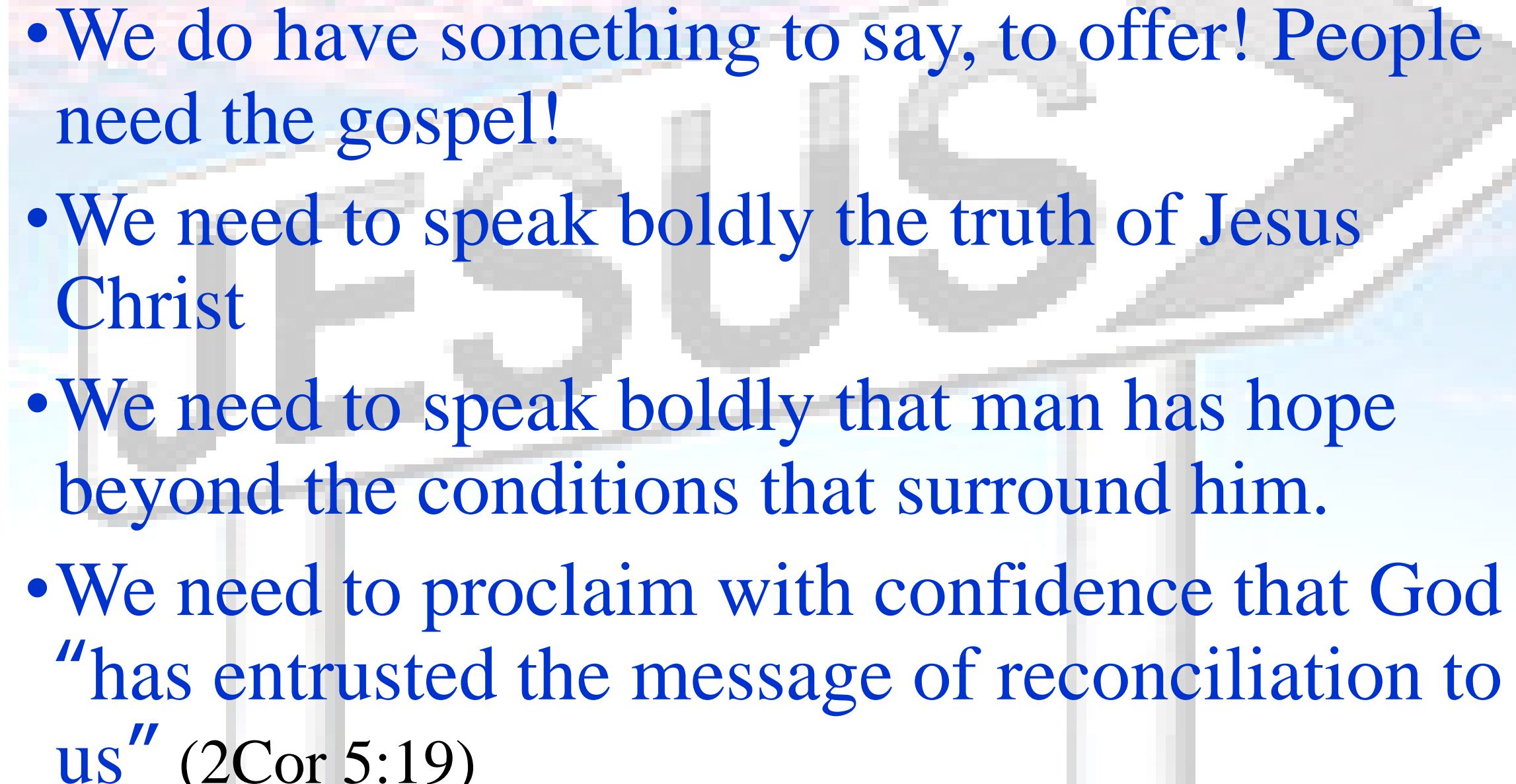
- 1. Proclamation**
- 2. Witness**
- 3. Dialogue**
- 4. Life Style Behaviour, Attitudes**
- 5. Prayer**
- 6. Support**

Mission as Proclamation

“Proclamation is the permanent priority of mission.”

TELL THEM!



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- We do have something to say, to offer! People need the gospel!
 - We need to speak boldly the truth of Jesus Christ
 - We need to speak boldly that man has hope beyond the conditions that surround him.
 - We need to proclaim with confidence that God “has entrusted the message of reconciliation to us” (2Cor 5:19)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

“You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain ... as you know **we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God** in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be **entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals But we were gentle among you**, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to **share with you not only the gospel of God but also our very own selves**, because you have become very dear to us.”

1 Corinthians 9:16, 19-23

“...woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ... For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the Law I became as one under the law . . . so that I might win those under the Law. ... To the weak I became weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share its blessings.”

Obligation to Witness

“The first means of evangelization is the witness of an authentically Christian life”



The church's greatest problem today is that its witness does not measure up to its teaching;

We do not always

"practice what it preaches."

Mission as Dialogue

“Proclamation presupposes and requires a **dialogue method** in order to respond to the requirements of those to be evangelized and to enable them to interiorize the message received. ”

(Marcello Zago)

What is Dialogue?



“It is the norm of every form of Christian mission whether one speaks of **simple presence** and **witness, service** or **direct proclamation**. Any sense of mission not permeated by such a dialogical spirit would go against the demands of true humanity and against the teachings of the Gospel”

We should do mission today through dialogue with

- **Respect**
- **Openness**
- **Willingness to learn**
- **Attentiveness**
- **Vulnerability**
- **Hospitality**
- **Humility**
- **Evangelical mentality**
- **“The Church proposes; she imposes nothing”**



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This translates into...

- Learning the language
- Bonding with the local people
- Respecting and studying the culture
- Learning about the local religions
- Connecting with other religious leaders
- Coming with our "cups half empty"

Obligation to Dialogue

- The church needs to give of itself in service to the world
- The church needs to learn from the world, its cultures, its religions—and so learn more about God's unfathomable riches
- **Just as God's missionary presence is never about imposition but about persuasion and freedom . . .**
 - The church must never impose, but emphasize witness, and proclamation as an answer to a question

- The church needs to do mission **not out of superiority, but in humility and vulnerability**
- **The most effective missionaries today do not come from rich, dominating countries**
 - Church of today is 3rd World driven

Mission is always done in
dialogue, but it must also
be motivated by
evangelization....

Prayer

The missionary must
be Prayerfully
relevant to act
Powerfully.

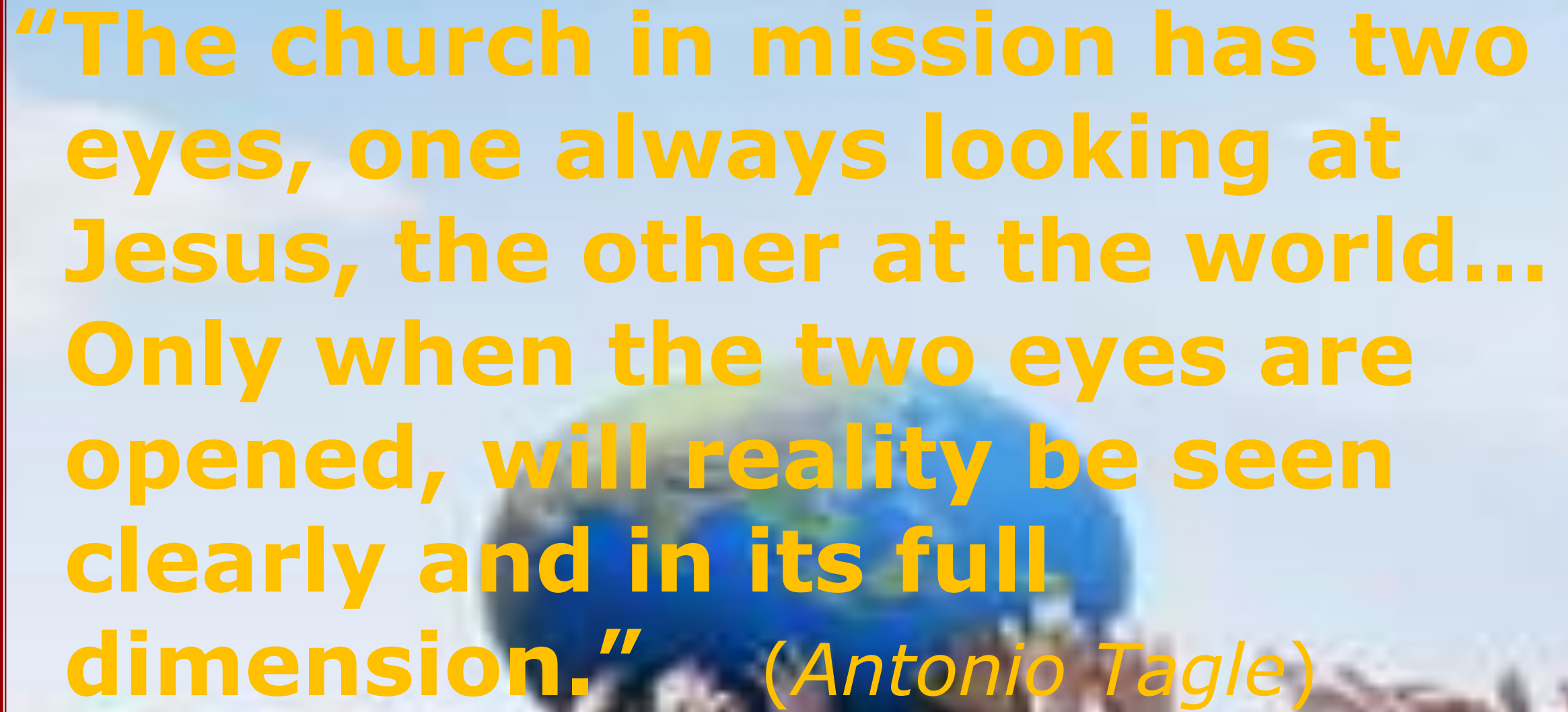


- Our Prayer lives must relate to the world on a deeper level than the norm.
- To see the world through God's eyes
- Prayer allows us to acknowledge our own weakness...and to learn to wait, watch, and listen.



“The church lives from
the center with its eyes
on the borders.”

(Robert Hawkins)



“The church in mission has two eyes, one always looking at Jesus, the other at the world... Only when the two eyes are opened, will reality be seen clearly and in its full dimension.” *(Antonio Tagle)*