

**North American Mission Study 2009:  
“Live with Urgency: Sowing Together for Harvest”**

**An Overview for All Ages**

*“Don’t you say ‘There are still four more months, then comes the harvest’? Listen [to what] I am telling you: Open your eyes and look at the fields, for they are ready for harvest. The reaper is already receiving pay and gathering fruit for eternal life, so the sower and reaper can rejoice together. For in this case the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps’” –John 4:35-37 (HCSB).*

“Live with Urgency: Sowing Together for Harvest” means that we recognize that the time to boldly share our faith is now—today. We must make the minutes and the moments count. With nearly three out of every four people in the United States, Canada, and their territories living without a personal relationship with Christ, it is easy to recognize the urgency of the task at hand. People need to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. North America is filled with fields ready for harvest and fields ready to be sown—or re-sown—with the eternal message of the gospel. Who is sowing the gospel seeds to reach them?

Our more than 5,600 North American missionaries, in partnership with state conventions, associations, and local churches are urgently living out the call God has placed on their lives to take His message of salvation to all. They are creatively and actively seeking common ground with unbelievers so they can share the gospel and reap a harvest for His glory.

Together, we can pray for our North American missionaries, give sacrificially to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, and work alongside our Southern Baptist missionaries and do our part to sow the gospel in our own communities.

During the Week of Prayer for North American Missions, consider how you can “Live with Urgency” and impact the Kingdom of God through your continued prayers, giving, and going in this urgent task God has called us to carry out. Pray for the missionaries who represent the dedicated work of thousands like them.

Through this North American Mission Study, you will be introduced to a few of our NAMB missionaries who are your partners in fulfilling the Great Commission. Through the study, you will become further aware of and sensitive to the many people groups and personalities represented in North America and the urgent need for all to come to know Christ. You will also be encouraged to live with urgency in sharing the gospel with families, friends, and neighbors.

**Steps for conducting the North American Mission Study**

- Work with other church mission leaders to coordinate the age-level studies.

- Pray that God will use the study to spark in participants the desire to share their faith with all people. Pray for insight in knowing how best to present the study material. Schedule the date, time, and location on your church's calendar. Determine how much time you will have to lead the study. Suggested schedules for one-hour sessions are included in this guide. For two-hour session schedules, visit [www.anniearmstrong.com/study](http://www.anniearmstrong.com/study) or e-mail [aaeo@namb.net](mailto:aaeo@namb.net).
- Begin publicity immediately. Use your church bulletin, Sunday School, worship, and mission group announcement times; newsletters; and individual contacts such as phone calls and letters. Use the North American Missions Emphasis poster as a basis for a bulletin board to promote the study. One half of the poster is designed to be cut apart and sections used as elements of a bulletin board design. Invite children's mission groups to make posters which can be displayed throughout the church.
- Consider inviting a speaker to take part in the study. Consult with your pastor to determine who would be an appropriate speaker. Consider someone who can speak to the theme of "Live with Urgency." To locate a North American missionary, visit [www.namb.net/missionaries](http://www.namb.net/missionaries).
- View the relevant video segments for each age group on the "Change Your World" DVD, and select which segments you will feature. Additional copies of the DVD are available by calling 1 866 407-6262. The video is free, but shipping and handling costs apply. Additional video segments can be used for study purposes, as well, or for the Week of Prayer and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering<sup>®</sup> emphasis. Listening Guides for the North American Mission Study video segments are available at [www.AnnieArmstrong.com/study](http://www.AnnieArmstrong.com/study). Video segments recommended for each age group are as follows.

#### **Adults**

- "Changing Memphis," featuring Willie and Ozzie Jacobs, church planting, Memphis, Tennessee
- "What's in a Name?," featuring Paul and Elizabeth Biswas, church planting, Boston, Massachusetts
- "Running the Race," featuring Brenda Crim, evangelism, Anchorage, Alaska

#### **Youth**

- "The Role of a Lifetime," featuring Daniel and Kimberly Goombi, church planting, Lawrence, Kansas
- "Northern Exposure," featuring Brenda Crim, evangelism, Anchorage, Alaska

#### **Children**

- "Race to the Finish," featuring Brenda Crim, evangelism, Anchorage, Alaska

Visit [www.AnnieArmstrong.com/study](http://www.AnnieArmstrong.com/study) to choose supplemental material you will include in your study. If you do not have Web access, call 1 800 749-7479, option 3, for printed copies of the material.