

Join with us



JOIN THE MOVEMENT

There have been moments in history where God has called a group of people to serve him in a particular place or particular way.

1. The Cambridge Seven

In the 1880s the American evangelist D.L. Moody visited Cambridge University during a tour of Britain. After one week of meetings, large numbers of students gave their lives to serving God. A group of seven 'ordinary' students – family friends, study partners, cricket team members and rowing buddies – applied to join the China Inland Mission that had been recently founded by the now-famous Hudson Taylor. Sensing a unity of purpose, the men spent a month sharing their vision with other university students throughout Scotland and England. The seven sailed to China to begin their ministry, and they were soon followed by hundreds of young people who also gave their lives to missionary work.

2. The Haystack movement

Every Wednesday and Saturday at the Williams College campus in Massachusetts a group of students gathered for prayer and discussion. One day in the summer of 1806 their meeting was interrupted by a thunderstorm and the students took shelter under a haystack until the sky cleared. The special focus for their prayer that day was for the awakening of foreign missionary interest among young adults. On that day, these first American student volunteers willed that God should have their lives for service wherever he needed them. This was the initial impulse for the missionary movement in the US, impacting thousands of lives throughout history.

3. The Five Barley Loaves

More than 125 years ago Australian Baptist Missionary ministry began, predominantly by the work of five single women in their 20s. These well-educated women were sent from Baptist Churches around Australia to work among women in East Bengal.

Churches raised the 150 pounds a year needed for their expenses. At their farewell service in 1885, Silas Mead preached from the story about the feeding of the five thousand. The women became affectionately known as the Five Barley Loaves and are an icon of pioneering Baptist mission.

4. Now in Western Australia

Right now, in Western Australia, we are witnessing a similar movement of the Spirit. Over the last year or so, twelve adults and their families have responded to the need for more team members to serve with Global Interaction in Africa. The team members are preparing to minister among the desperately poor and marginalised Yao people of Malawi and Mozambique, empowering them to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus.

While Global Interaction WA has had a steady stream of team members over the years, they have never experienced such an influx of interest at one time. God is certainly moving!

The team members in WA are celebrating the flurry of interest and enjoying sharing their stories in a number of churches. Yet, along with the excitement, they are aware of the mammoth task ahead of them. For all of these team members to get to Africa and begin their vital ministry, significant funds and many prayer partners are needed.

2011 will be a busy and very significant year for the Baptist churches and Global Interaction community in WA. We ask that you uphold them in prayer, as well as consider joining one (or more) of their partnership teams. It is a privilege for us not just to witness, but also to be a part of another movement of Spirit as God leads his people into mission.

Watch the new short video *Join the Movement* at www.globalinteraction.org.au/Church-Partnership/Join-the-Movement.aspx