

Mission Partnership Strategy

Vision

To reach the unreached with the Gospel of Christ in word and in deed

The vision is inspired by the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”* and Isaiah 1:17 *“Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.”* St Mark’s Church partners with mission agencies and individuals who proclaim and demonstrate the gospel.

Gospel proclamation has social justice implications, especially among the poor, vulnerable, marginalised and oppressed – to bring transformative and lasting changes, not just in ways that meet immediate needs of one person or family, but in ways that contribute to wider and just changes in society. Gospel demonstration has evangelistic implications as witness is borne to the transforming grace of Jesus Christ, reconciliation and abundance in this life, and hope for the next.

Focus Areas

Who? St Mark’s is particularly concerned with a number of excluded groups that have emerged in our awareness and contacts. These include:

- those who have not heard the Good News in terms they understand
- those trapped or trafficked in slavery
- oppressed women in the Islamic world
- those separated from family, lost or orphaned children during war and conflict
- refugees¹ fleeing persecution
- the persecuted church

Where? St Mark’s currently supports mission partners working with these groups in the:

- UK (with a particular focus on South London)
- Middle East / Gulf
- Islamic World
- East Africa
- South Asia

How? St Mark’s will support mission partners with objectives to be:

- reconciling people to God, themselves and those around them
- equipping young people and young leaders in family, church and society
- enabling, and collaborating with, the local church to bring about transformation

In times of emergency through conflict, natural hazards and crime, St Mark’s seeks to enable church members to give to stand-alone emergency appeals, not from the Missions Budget.

¹ Not necessarily defined as such by international law