

## **Measuring the Success of Mission Work**

**By Bob Young**

For the past two years, I have periodically included a “mission minute” in my Mission Newsletter. In these “mission minutes” I share news reports and surveys to help inform church leaders and Christians and to guide our mission prayers.

Many churches struggle to communicate continuing excitement about mission work. The struggle becomes intensifies when the impact and results of mission work are not measured.

Barna reports that 25% of church members are not sure if their church measures the success of mission work. The research reports that 11% of church members responded that their church does not measure mission results. Barna’s summary of the results—many churches are not clear on the best ways to measure success. *The Barna research comes from The Great Disconnect, through a partnership with Mission India.*

Ultimately, the success of God’s mission as he sends forth his people to share the gospel of Jesus must be measured by the reception of the message. Merely measuring the amount of money spent does not provide an effective measure of results.

Examples of easily measured mission results are the number of new Christians, the number of new churches as new Christians become part of new churches, growing church membership and attendance.

Spiritual growth and maturity may be measured by the number of leaders developed, the number of churches with elders, and church attendance and involvement.