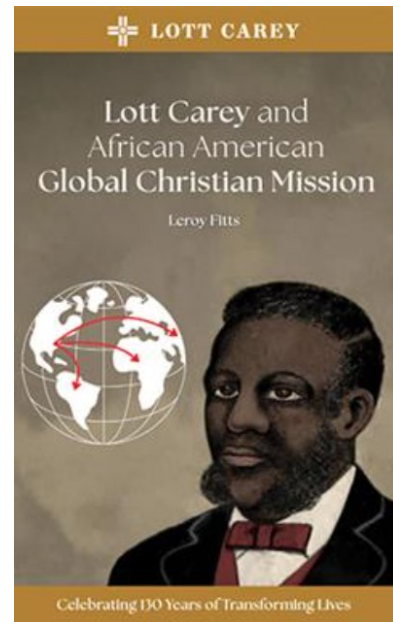


Faithful to God's Call, Committed to God's Mission, Inspired by Lott Carey's Legacy.

**A groundbreaking reexamination of global Christian mission through the
lens of African American leadership.**

Lott Carey and Global African American Christian Mission

by Dr. Leroy Fitts



Faithful to God's Call, Committed to God's Mission, Inspired by Lott Carey's Legacy.

This study guide is designed for church members, mission groups, Bible study classes, and individuals seeking to understand the life, legacy, and global missionary impact of Lott Carey, one of the first African American missionaries to Africa. The book traces Carey's journey from enslavement to Christian leadership and explores the worldwide missionary movement that grew from his example. **Pre-order your copy today using [this link](#) for the pre-order discount.**

African American Hymn

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Written by James Weldon Johnson (1900)

Because song lyrics are copyrighted, I cannot reproduce the full hymn text. However, this hymn is widely recognized as the **Black National Anthem** and is an excellent companion to this study because it celebrates faith, perseverance, hope, freedom, and God's guidance through history.

Suggested Use

- Read one verse before beginning the study.
- Conclude the final session by singing or listening to the hymn.
- Reflect on how its themes connect with Lott Carey's commitment to faith, freedom, and global Christian witness.

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Session 1: Called by God Beyond Circumstances

Key Theme

God calls ordinary people to extraordinary service.

Overview

Lott Carey was born into slavery in Virginia, gained his freedom, became a Baptist minister, and answered God's call to serve in Africa. His story demonstrates that God's purpose is greater than human limitations.

Scripture Readings

- Isaiah 6:8
- Jeremiah 1:5-8
- Ephesians 2:10
- Romans 8:28

Discussion Questions

1. How did God prepare Lott Carey through difficult circumstances?
2. What obstacles have you overcome through faith?
3. How can Christians discern God's calling today?

Biblical Reflection

4. Compare Carey's response to God's call with Isaiah's response in Isaiah 6:8.
5. How does Jeremiah 1:5-8 encourage people who feel unqualified for ministry?
6. What does Ephesians 2:10 teach about God's purpose for believers?

Personal Application

7. What personal circumstances have challenged your faith?
8. Have you ever sensed God calling you beyond your comfort zone?
9. What fears keep people from responding fully to God's call?

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Life Challenge: Identify one area where God may be calling you to greater obedience.

Session 2: The Power of Education and Spiritual Growth

Key Theme

Spiritual growth equips believers for service.

Overview

After his conversion, Carey learned to read, studied Scripture diligently, and developed into a respected Christian leader. Education became a tool for ministry and liberation.

Scripture Readings

- 2 Timothy 2:15
- Proverbs 4:7
- Hosea 4:6
- Psalm 119:105

Discussion Questions

1. Why is biblical literacy important for Christian leadership?
2. How can education help advance God's mission?
3. What practices help believers grow spiritually?

Biblical Reflection

4. What does 2 Timothy 2:15 teach about studying God's Word?
5. How can Psalm 119:105 guide daily decision-making?
6. Why does Proverbs describe wisdom as valuable above material possessions?

Personal Application

7. What habits help you grow spiritually?
8. How can churches better support Christian education?

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9. What steps can you take to deepen your understanding of Scripture?

Life Challenge: Choose a Bible study plan or devotional practice to follow during the week.

Session 3: Mission Beyond Borders

Key Theme

The Gospel is for all nations.

Overview

In 1821, Carey traveled to West Africa as one of the first African American missionaries and the first American Baptist missionary to the continent. His ministry included evangelism, education, leadership development, and community service.

Scripture Readings

- Matthew 28:19-20
- Acts 1:8
- Revelation 7:9
- Mark 16:15

Discussion Questions

1. What motivated Carey to leave his homeland?
2. What sacrifices are required for effective mission work?
3. How can local churches participate in global missions?

Biblical Reflection

4. What does Matthew 28:19-20 reveal about the mission of the church?
5. How does Acts 1:8 describe the expanding reach of Christian witness?
6. Why is Revelation 7:9 a powerful picture of God's kingdom?

Personal Application

7. How can believers participate in missions without traveling overseas?

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8. What communities around us need the hope of the Gospel? 9. How can your church become more globally minded?

Life Challenge: Pray for a missionary, mission organization, or unreached people group each day this week.

Session 4: African American Leadership in Global Mission

Key Theme

God uses diverse voices to accomplish His mission.

Overview

The book highlights the contributions of African American Christians who expanded missionary work throughout Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and other regions of the world.

Scripture Readings

- Galatians 3:28
- Acts 13:1-3
- 1 Peter 2:9
- Micah 6:8

Discussion Questions

1. Why is representation important in Christian missions?
2. How has the African American church contributed to global ministry?
3. What lessons can today's church learn from these pioneers?

Biblical Reflection

4. What does Galatians 3:28 teach about unity in Christ?
5. How does Acts 13:1-3 demonstrate diversity in church leadership?

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6. What responsibilities come with being God's chosen people according to 1 Peter 2:9?

Personal Application

7. How can churches support diverse leadership?
8. What gifts do African American congregations bring to global ministry?
9. How can believers encourage younger generations to answer God's call?

Life Challenge: Identify someone you can mentor, encourage, or support in ministry.

Session 5: Legacy and Faithfulness

Key Theme

A faithful life leaves a lasting legacy.

Overview

Carey's influence continued long after his death through churches, schools, missionary organizations, and the Lott Carey movement. His example continues to inspire global Christian service.

Scripture Readings

- Hebrews 12:1-2
- 2 Timothy 4:7-8
- Proverbs 13:22
- Philippians 3:13-14

Discussion Questions

1. What legacy did Lott Carey leave for future generations?
2. How do believers build a legacy of faith?
3. What does faithfulness look like in today's world?

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Biblical Reflection

4. How does Hebrews 12:1-2 encourage perseverance?
5. What lessons can be learned from Paul's words in 2 Timothy 4:7-8?
6. How does Philippians 3:13-14 challenge believers to remain focused on God's purpose?

Personal Application

7. What values are you passing to future generations?
8. How are you serving God's kingdom today?
9. What practical actions can help build a lasting legacy of faith?

Life Challenge: Write a one-page spiritual legacy statement describing how you want to impact others for Christ.

Memory Verse

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

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Associated Scriptures

- Psalm 150:1-6
- Psalm 126:1-3
- Isaiah 40:31
- Hebrews 11:1

Closing Prayer

God of Grace and Mission,

Thank You for the life and witness of Lott Carey and for the faithful African American Christians who carried the Gospel across the world. Help us to embrace Your calling with courage, humility, and faith. Give us hearts that seek justice, love mercy, and share the good news of Jesus Christ with all people.

Empower our churches to be mission-minded and compassionate. Strengthen missionaries serving around the world and raise up a new generation of Christian leaders. May we be faithful disciples who leave a legacy of service, faith, and love for future generations.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen.

APPENDIX: Facilitator's Group Activity Ideas for Each Session

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Session 1: Called by God Beyond Circumstances

Activity: Faith Journey Timeline

Materials: Paper, markers, pens

1. Ask participants to create a timeline of significant events in their lives.
2. Mark moments when they experienced God's guidance, provision, or calling.
3. Invite volunteers to share one event that strengthened their faith.

Discussion Debrief

- How can God use difficult circumstances for His purposes?
- What similarities do you see between your journey and Carey's journey?

Icebreaker

Complete this sentence:

"If God could use me to make a difference, I believe He would use my gift of _____."

Session 2: The Power of Education and Spiritual Growth

Activity: Scripture Discovery Groups

Divide participants into small groups.

Assign each group one scripture:

- Psalm 119:105
- Proverbs 4:7
- 2 Timothy 2:15
- Hosea 4:6

Each group answers:

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1. What does this passage teach?
2. Why is spiritual growth important?
3. How does this scripture apply to discipleship today?

Groups report back to the class.

Reflection Exercise

Provide journals or note cards.

Ask participants:

"What is one area where I need to grow spiritually to fulfill God's purpose for my life?"

Session 3: Mission Beyond Borders

Activity: Mission Map Challenge

Materials: World map or digital map

1. Place a map in the center of the room.
2. Identify countries where missionaries currently serve.
3. Research and share one challenge facing Christians in each region.
4. Pray for each nation together.

Discussion Debrief

- What surprised you about global missions?
- How can our church support international ministry?

Creative Activity

Create a list titled:

"10 Ways to Be a Missionary Without Leaving Home."

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Session 4: African American Leadership in Global Mission

Activity: Unsung Heroes Research Project

Assign individuals or teams to research an African American missionary or church leader.

Examples:

- Lott Carey
- Amanda Berry Smith
- Nannie Helen Burroughs
- George Liele
- William Sheppard

Each group presents:

- Background
- Contributions
- Challenges
- Spiritual impact

Discussion Debrief

- What leadership qualities stand out?
- How can churches preserve these stories?

Interactive Exercise

Ask participants to identify:

- One mentor who influenced them
- One person they could mentor

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Have them write a brief encouragement card to that person.

Session 5: Legacy and Faithfulness

Activity: Legacy Letter

Ask participants to write a letter to future generations that answers:

- What do I believe about God?
- What values do I want to pass on?
- What lessons has God taught me?

Participants may share portions of their letters if comfortable.

Group Exercise: Building a Legacy Wall

Use sticky notes or poster board.

Have participants write:

- A biblical value
- A ministry passion
- A way they want to serve

Create a "Legacy Wall" displaying everyone's commitments.

Discussion Debrief

- What kind of legacy are we building together as a church?
 - What would faithfulness look like over the next five years?
-

Final Celebration Activity

"Walking in the Footsteps of Lott Carey"

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Create stations around the room representing major themes:

Station 1: Calling

Read Isaiah 6:8 and write a response to God's call.

Station 2: Learning

Share a scripture that has shaped your life.

Station 3: Mission

Identify a local or global ministry you want to support.

Station 4: Leadership

Name a leader who has inspired your faith.

Station 5: Legacy

Write one action you will take to impact future generations.

Finish by gathering as a group to pray and sing "**Lift Every Voice and Sing**" or another African American spiritual such as "**Guide My Feet**" or "**We've Come This Far by Faith.**"

Closing Covenant

Invite participants to read together:

"Following the example of Lott Carey, we commit ourselves to prayer, spiritual growth, Christian service, global mission, and faithful witness. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will share the love of Christ in our communities and throughout the world. Amen."