

Dennell Gainey

Prof. Nehlsen

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This semester in Nyack Heritage class was both enjoyable, informative, and thought provoking. I am not new to religion, I am not a new Christian, nor am I new to missionary work. I am however, new to A.B. Simpson and The Christian Missionary Alliance. I'd never heard of Alliance University until 2 years ago. I was looking for a school to transfer to. And a friend of mine, who teaches at Alliance, told me about this university. So, needless to say, I knew nothing of its heritage. I didn't even know it was a seminary when I applied. I just knew Alliance had a great music program. I can honestly say, since attending Alliance my eyes have been opened to so much. Being in Prof. Nehlsen's Nyack Heritage class is no different.

Learning about A.B. Simpson and his life was very inspirational! A.B. Simpson had a heart for God and people, which is a great combination. He did exactly what God wants us to do. He evangelized. He obeyed God, regardless of what people said or thought about, what can be seen as a, racial approach. A.B. just trusted God, seemingly with his life. After Simpson, was healed. His trust in God became greater.

His belief system changed and he dedicated himself fully to the will of God. It was an encounter he'd never experienced before. I believe this experience made him want to go out and teach all nations. So they would have an opportunity to experience the same feeling.

When Simpson set out on this journey, I'm sure he never expected this movement to be where it is today. Simpson's mission was clear. He wanted the gospel of the kingdom to be preached to all the world. This was not impossible, but it was not easy. When he decided to actually put feet to his plans. His wife was totally against it. The first meeting he had only 7 people show up, but Simpson remained consistent. From his consistency The Christian and Missionary Alliance was formed.

This Alliance produced many people who went on to carry out A.B. Simpson's mission. In 1881 Dr. Simpson, founded a school, The Missionary Training Institute. Many have attended this school and have gone on into many nations spreading the word of God. Dr. Simpson, sent people regardless of race or gender. Mabel Francis, evangelized in the US and Japan. Japan loved her so much they honored her with the highest civil honor. A black by the name of Ms. Merriweather, did missionary work in Africa. Until she fell and could no longer travel there. But she sent others in her place. A man by the name of Robert Jaffray, did mission in China, Asia, Vietnam, and

Indonesia with his wife and daughter. When Japan invaded the island, he along with many other missionaries were arrested by the Japanese, and sent to internment camps. Unfortunately, Jaffray lost his life there. Betty Olson, a missionary nurse, also went to Vietnam. She and 2 other workers were taken into captivity trying to save a co-worker. They were tortured for 3 months. Made to march 12 to 14 hours a day with little to no food or water. While hearing this I thought. Could I do that? Could I go to another country to tell others about Jesus knowing there was a possibility that it could mean death? My answer is I don't know. But many did, no questions asked. They sacrificed their lives so that others would be saved. Just like Jesus.

These stories can be deterring and make you fearful. They also can make you think. Are we actually ready to go into all nations? Are we really soldiers in the army of the Lord? Do we really mean, if I die let me die? Or is it just a song we sing? The truth is this is the reality of being Christians. People die because they believe in Jesus, everyday.

I have to be honest this class made me think about a lot. Am I really committed? Am I doing enough? How many moves of God have I missed because of fear? Did I quit to fast when I failed the first time? After being in this class, I feel like I'm not doing enough. In one of the lectures Dr. Nehlsen made a statement like this. Are we

going to keep evangelizing to the people who already know God or will we go to those who have never heard of him? Wow! I've never heard it put that way. There's a song called *Lift him up*. The chorus says, " lift him up lift him up till he speaks form eternity. He said if I, if I be lifted up from the earth. I'll draw all men unto me". I do want to draw all men to the Savior. I will let him lead me. I will pray and ask God, what can I do to get him to all nations?