

📍 January 27, 2019 - Adam Cunningham
📍 Jim Elliott
📍 Psalm 96:1-12



“Our hopes are up but no sign of the ‘neighbors’ yet. Perhaps today is the day the Aucas will be reached...”

The journal entry above was made by a man who understood Jesus’ command to make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:18-20). It was made by a man whose only aspirations were to be obedient and lead people into a relationship with Jesus. This man would lose his life in his obedience to Christ. This man, Jim Elliot, would be martyred while attempting to reach the Aucas for Christ that day.

Jim could never have imagined that this one single act of obedience would lead to the repentance and conversion of not only the men that slaughtered his friends and him that day, but also many Aucas years later. Nor would Jim have ever conceived that this next step of obedience would create a modern missionary momentum still felt today that energizes and mobilizes believers all over the world.

It wasn’t the challenge of living in the jungle that drove Jim to the Aucas, nor was it the thrill of engaging such a hostile tribe of people. The motivation behind Jim and his four friends giving up their lives was to be obedient to the next steps that they knew God was leading them to do. Jim did in fact give up that which he could not keep in order to gain that which he could not lose.

Now the question is before us: Will I? Will you be willing to do the same? One might question, “How do I know what these next steps are?” For Jim, his conviction and motivation were to see God’s glory taken to the nations. Psalm 96 communicates that every believer should “sing,” “declare His glory,” and “ascribe to the Lord glory due His name.” I pray that this would be true of you, but maybe it’s something much simpler. Maybe it’s just saying “yes” to whatever God puts in front of you so that you can join His work in our city, the nation, and all over the world.

Prayer: Father in Heaven, lead me to have the courage to pursue whatever my next steps are. Give me the boldness to get out of my comfort zone and to trust you for all the details. Use my life however you see fit, for Your honor and glory. Amen.