SOME THINGS TAKE TIME

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The example of Paul and his colleagues shows that mission isn't just about reaching as many new people as possible.
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I like this quote from Schnabel, which captures some of the threads that have to be held together if mission is to be done well. It isn't just a case of finding an "unreached people group" and preaching.

> *Paul engaged in missionary outreach in Corinth and Ephesus for several years, he repeatedly visited existing churches in southern Galatia, in Macedonia and in Achaia, and he sent co-workers and letters to churches, all of which demonstrates that the early Christian missionaries did not try to preach the gospel in as many towns and regions as possible. Rather, they recognized right form the beginning the necessity of consolidating the new churches, and they were willing and prepared to involved co-workers and utilize resources such as time, energy and literary activity for this task without abandoning their eschatological convictions.*