

Role of the Church Mission Committee

- 1) **Provide** intentional, passionate, "beating on the door of heaven" prayer for the missionaries and ministries of the church each week. The committee should ask for and also post weekly prayer requests in the bulletin or church email for the missionaries you support. Regularly ask your missionaries for answers they have seen to the requests sent.
- 2) **Communicate with the missionaries** you serve. Ask them how you could help them in their ministry. Hold them accountable to answering that question.
- 3) **Be the ministry training arm** of the church. Mission committees should find a wide variety of "training grounds" locally and then call, tempt, encourage, push, and lead your people outside the church walls onto those training grounds. Plug each of your small groups into a ministry once a month. This is important even for your elementary and jr. high kids so that they don't grow up thinking life and church are all about them. You as a Mission Committee possibly understand "ministry as a way of life" better than most and can be key in discipling your church towards its true purpose. This will give you opportunity to train all levels of your church in sharing their testimony, sharing the Gospel, and using their faith for the Kingdom.
- 4) **Find short term missions trips** to send your adults into as a way of pro-actively growing future leaders. This should be a combined effort between the elder board, pastors, and missions committee. Put together a list of people who are and will be leading the church ministries in the next 10 years and set a goal to send 4-6 of them each year. The elders or pastor should go to those people and challenge them to go and offer \$_____ and assistance in fund raising to help them go if they will consider it. Choose the short term ministry carefully so they get good training and debriefing, and so they are actually doing front-line ministry (evangelism and discipleship) as a main function of their trip. Construction teams should be invested in the locals during the evenings and on prayer walks in the mornings. The mission committee should then work with these folks to help the family while they are away and help them re-acclimate to the church when they return so they don't waste what they've learned.
- 5) **Challenge the congregation to give** sacrificially to mission crises when they occur and host "all nighter" prayer events in those situations.
- 6) **Lead the charge** to 1) encourage parents to pray their kids into missions and 2) to keep missions in front of the congregation weekly. (Video clips during the offering, missionary stories, skyping with missionaries during small groups or Sun. services, etc.)
- 7) **Look for** couples with solid marriages to challenge, pray for, and send from the church. Every church has these kinds of people who are not using their faith and walk with Christ as they could. Kick them out of the nest into a short-term trip or two to see if you can change their world view onto things that are more eternal.
- 8) **Be pro-actively involved** in staff care with the sending mission organization for career missionaries going from the church. (Regular encouragement for their children, sending a team to work with them yearly, continuation of relationships/friendships pro-actively, care packages, live call to congregation regularly on Sunday AM, marriage encouragement, male accountability, etc.)
- 9) **Contact the campus ministry staff** of universities that will be the next "home" for your church's senior High School students. Give those ministries contact information for your youth so that they can pursue them when they get to campus as freshmen. The first two-three months of college are vital in finding direction and identity for young people, so be proactive about getting them into an outreach-minded campus group. This will help your young people to approach college as a mission instead of merely as a training ground for their own development.