

Missions Conference Ideas & Resources



Get out of the saltshaker and into the world!

Local, Regional, Global ... touching one life at a time.

Ver 8/22/07

Biblical Basis for Mission



Our Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying,
All authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

**Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Spirit,**

**Teaching them to observe all things
whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with
you always, even unto the end of the age.**

Our Great Opportunity

Luke 12:48

**... For unto whomsoever much is given, of
him shall be much required; and to whom men have
committed much, of him they will ask the more.**

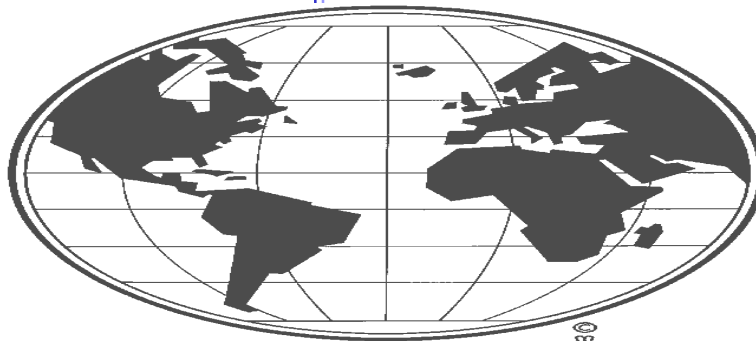
Our Great Challenge

Matthew 9:36-38

But when he saw the multitudes, he was
moved with compassion on them, because they were
faint, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no
shepherd.

Then saith he unto his disciples, **The harvest
truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few.**

**Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that
he will send forth laborers into his harvest.**



Planning the First/Next Missions Conference

PURPOSE: Think about and document why you want to hold a conference. Review this purpose and update as needed so that your conference always has a clear connection with your vision and mission.

PRIORITY: Missions is part of the core purpose of the church not a program or a project for a few. The conference is a good time to reinforce this priority.

EVALUATE: Use the conference planning time to review what was done last year (or this year immediately following the conference) and make improvements. “Did it work?” “Do these activities support our purpose?” “Did we do what we said we would do?”

INCLUSIVE: Involve everyone! Every department, every program should have missions as part of their purpose.

YEAR ROUND: Plan/initiate activities that will be done throughout the year. Ask each department for activities. Set measurable goals. (e.g. track number of outreach contacts by individual members each week, pray for missions every 4th Sunday, contact a missionary once per month, hold a witnessing event once per month).

CROSS CULTURAL: Provide exposure to cross cultural ministries and workers. Include missionaries in a variety of activities. Allow interactive times. Reduce expenses and increase contact by having members host missionary guests in their home (meals and/or overnight).

BE CREATIVE: Visit other conferences and get ideas from others! But feel free to be different from them or even different from what’s always been done.

ACTION: Challenge members to commit to some action as a result of the conference, whether big or small. Getting information is good, but doing is what makes the difference.



Missions Committee

You may decide sooner or later that it will be helpful to have a world missions committee to help plan and direct activities.

People you may want to include:

- Those who have a heart for outreach and missions
- People doing outreach
- Visionary/motivator
- Implementer – someone who gets things done
- Someone with cross-cultural experience or who is willing to go soon
- Representatives for other key groups such as Sunday School, Missionary

Activities they might be responsible for:

- Plan the annual conference
- Look for cross-cultural projects and opportunities
- Develop guidelines for selecting ministries and missionaries to support
- Recruit and increase involvement in outreach
- Educate the church on missions
- Manage the missions budget

Possible Conference Topics

- Bible Translation – Is it still needed?
- Church Planting
- Challenges on the Mission Field
- Communicating with Missionaries
- Giving to Missions
- History of African-Americans in Missions
- History of Missions
- How is Mission Work Supported?
- Importance of Language
- Mission Agencies – How do they work? Are they biblical?
- Missions for All Ages – how to involve youth
- Perspectives Class – What is it? Is it for me?
- Praying for missionaries & missions
- Serving Locally
- Surrendering to the Call
- Spirit Led for Missions
- Strategies on the Mission Field
- “Tentmaking” – what, why, how?
- Where are the greatest needs for the gospel (most unreached)
- ?? Ask your congregation to submit questions – this is a great way to select topics



Short-Term Ministry Forum

A short-term missions trip is a great way to help, learn, confirm God's calling. Some ideas for a special session to increase involvement:

- Special presenters: one or two sponsors of short-term trips
- Invite local people who have participated in short-term trips
- Info on how short-term ministries work (how long, what they do ...)
- Invite those considering short-term service to attend
- Special prayer for God's direction
- Accountability/encouragement partners for commitments



The Missions Conference Program or Bulletin – Ideas for content:

- Biblical basis for mission
- Your church's mission statement and or vision for missions
- A message from the pastor
- Schedule of events
- Biographical sketch and/or contact info for visiting/supported missionaries
- Prayer needs for missionaries (possibly in a separate handout)
- Highlights of outreach work the church is doing w/ name of coordinator in case someone wants to be a part
- Names and contact info for coordinators for the missions conference event
- Pullout commitment card to document pledge to pray, give, participate etc.
- Place for notes
- PRE-Conference bulletin: list needs and ask for volunteers – involve everyone!

Missions in Action – Sign up!

Local/Regional:

- Food bank, Meals on wheels
- Big Brother, Big Sister
- Child Evangelism Fellowship – 5-Day Club sign up to host or for training to lead
- Faith Crusade volunteers
- Habitat for Humanity
- SAFY – Foster parent sign up
- Sponsor several children to go to a Christian camp for next summer

Global:

- Operation Christmas Child - Shoe Box Project
- Adopt a World Vision child
- Select a missionary to pray for or support
- Samaritan's Feet project
- Sign up for info on short term trips

- Get a sister church or adopt a region

Ongoing Activities for Your Church

At least once per month ...

- Pray for Mission.
- Establish a time of prayer for mission and outreach in you church's worship service.
- Get up and GO! Sponsor an activity or visits to reach the community.

Adopt-a-Missionary

- Pray weekly
- Send a note, email, or letter monthly
- Mail a small care package quarterly

Missionaries for Mission Day

- Have at least one person involved in cross cultural missions as a key participant or speaker in the Mission Day program
- Invite a local outreach ministry to share about their work.
- Have a special time of prayer for your mission guests and their work. Get members to pray for them throughout the year..

Other Suggestions and Ideas

- Include a space for mission giving on regular envelopes or provide special mission envelopes
- Include missions information in the bulletin each month and include needs in prayer time
- Have an international day where everyone dresses us in the traditional dress of a country
- Decorate your sanctuary with flags from around the world for your Mission Day or International Day activity. Let the youth march in with the flags.
- Host a Perspectives class at your church
- Have key persons visit at least one missions conference at another church during the year.
- Sponsor someone from the church to take a short-term trip

Mission Speakers/Teachers

Bill and Joy Boerop

World Thrust International
3545 Cruse Road, Suite 309-B
Lawrenceville, GA 30044-3162

Phone 770-923-5215 Fax 770-923-3933

info@worldthrust.com www.worldthrust.com

Helping the church fulfill the Great Commission. Glorifying God through serving as a catalyst, helping pastors and church leaders worldwide to lead their local churches to embrace a more effective involvement in the evangelization of the world.

Minister Richard Coleman

Director of Mobilization and Candidacy

The Mission Society
6234 Crooked Creek Road
Norcross, Georgia, 30092

Phone 678.542.9040 Fax 770.446.3044

Richard@themissionsociety.org www.themissionsoicety.org

Formerly missions pastor at New Birth, Atlanta; doing research on African-Americans in missions

Rev. Glenn Mason

Director of Carver International Mission
CARVER INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS
Morris Brown Station

PO Box 92543

Atlanta GA 30314

Phone: 770-484-0610 Fax: 770-484-0615

carverfm@aol.com

Former missionary to Liberia; conference speaker; mobilizer

Dr. Marcia R. Miles

Director of Missions Training

Calvary International

P.O. Box 10305

Jacksonville, FL 32247

904-398-6559, ext. 1118

training@gotonations.com

www.gotonations.com

Native of Alabama; mobilizer

Rev. Phillip Nelson

Ministries Network Consultant, Church Mobilization
SIM USA

P.O. Box 7900

Charlotte, NC 28241-7900

704-587-1437 or 800-521-6449

phillip.nelson@sim.org www.sim.org

Many years of pastoral experience; missions conference speaker; can help with conference planning; mobilizer

Rev. & Mrs. Ken & Mervina Sharpe

Founders of Mission Revival Christian Ministries

P.O. Box 37034

769 Southdale RDE

London, ONT NGE 3130

519-686-0040

Former Missionaries to Nigeria

Min. Jim Sutherland

Director of Reconciliation Ministries Network

5608 Bradford Ave

Chattanooga, TN 37409-2211

jim@rmni.org www.rmni.org

423-822-1091; Cell 423-331-1199

Conducts short ministry trips; helps with mission conference planning

Finding Foreign Missionaries (furlough and deputation)

Wycliffe Bible Translators

Especially Kevin and Gertrude Nicholas

gertrude_nicholas@wycliffe.org

kevin_nicholas@wycliffe.org

Myra Smith

KM 170 Casa El Canja #1

Chiquimula, Chiquimula,

Guatemala, C.A.

Email Address: angeldaniel@wmotw.com

Website: <http://www.wmotw.com>

Missionary to Guatemala – contact for schedule

World Gospel Mission

Especially Dr. Michael and Kay Johnson

michael.johnson@wgm.org

See also mission agencies noted below under *Coordinators of Short-term Mission Trips*. They can assist in locating missionaries who can support your conference through speaking, teaching, displays and other activities.

Coordinators of Short-Term Mission Trips

Want to serve in a needy area of the world but don't know how to get started? Never fear ... help is here! These organizations have led many short-term teams in the past and will be glad to assist you!

ACMC (Advancing Churches in Missions Commitment—a ministry of Pioneers)

10123 William Carey Drive

Orlando, FL 32832

800-755-7284

info@acmc.org <http://www.acmc.org/>

Carver International Mission

Vision Tour

PO Box 92543

Atlanta GA 30314

770-484-0610

Fax: 770-484-0615

carverfm@aol.com

Global Focus

POB 1058

Acworth, GA 30101

770-529-8610

contact.info@globalfocus.info

<http://www.globalfocus.info/gfsite/main.php>

NBC Foreign Mission Board

“Missions Understanding” Program

P.O. Box 15783

Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-735-7868

Fax 215-735-1721

Toll Free 866-494-7140

New Tribes Mission

1000 E. First St.

Sanford, FL 32771

407-323-3430

www.ntm.org short-term mission trips:

<http://ntm.org/missiontrips/index.php?page=Take%20A%20Mission%20Trip>

OMS International

Butch McPherson, Southeast Regional Director

PO Box 240544
Montgomery, AL 36124
Emmaus43@charter.net
334-277-7101

Simon's Branch Inc.

Shirley H. Fitz-Ritson, Ph. D, Executive Director
P.O. Box 548, Stone Mountain, GA 30086
770-413-0063

shfitz2@bellsouth.net

www.SimonsBranch.org

SIM USA

P.O. Box 7900; Charlotte, NC 28241-7900
800-421-6449

www.sim.org

Other activities & ideas:

International foods or luncheon

Invite international students to share about their country

Decorate with flags, artifacts, bright colors

Have missionaries lodge with members to allow more time for fellowship

Have a dinner with intentional one-on-one time with missionaries

- Seat one missionary at each table, let them answer questions from the MC

Have small group meetings where missionaries share their needs and people pray

Prayer breakfast – could be a special session to encourage the missionaries

Find things you can give to help the missionary or ministry

Don't forget the kids! Have special age appropriate sessions for the youth

Provide display area for ministries (include refreshments to encourage mingling)

Provide bags for people to collect info from the displays (maybe have small gifts in them)

Invite an international choir or music group as a highlight

Missions related games/ice breakers/puzzles/trivia

Have a “missions bowl” as a fun way to recap/review what was learned

For Additional Info Contact:

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Name Jim Sutherland
Address POB 2537 Chattanooga TN 37409-0537
Phone 423-822-1091
Email: Jim@RMNI.org
Website: www.RMNI.org

May God bless you as you seek to follow His heart and His will.

Revelation 7:9-10 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

10 And cried with a loud voice, saying Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

This excellent resource was prepared by an African American missionary whose name cannot be revealed due to the sensitivity of her ministry. We'll call her “Johnson Alabama”.