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## THE IMPORTANCE OF FINISHING THE WORK

### Introduction:

- 1) The Bible is clear as to how the Lord feels about our work assignment being **FINISHED**.
- 2) Jesus is our perfect example in the matter of finishing an assignment. *“I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.”* John 17:4. The Father sent Him to do a **work** and to **finish it**. Jesus also said in John 19:30, *“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said **It is finished** and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.”* Luke said in Acts 14:26, *“And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.”* The word “fulfilled” here means to Finish.
- 3) The subject here is “The **importance** of finishing the work.” The reasons it is important are:

### I. The Relationship Of The Work With God.

#### A. We Are God’s Child.

*“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”* Galatians 3:26

- We are in the **family** of God. It **grieves** the heart of God when the assignment He gives His child goes **unfinished**. *“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”* Ephesians 4:30. We do not serve God in the **abstract** (withdrawn). We are never to consider our labor as working **alone**. God is ever related to us and to His work **assigned** to us. *“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”* Philippians 2:13.
- We should always keep this fact of being a **child of God** in the forefront of our thinking. You and I are going to face a challenge in God’s work. Let us look at the armor of God given to us in Ephesians Chapter 6. *“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”* Ephesians 6:11-18
  - a. **Loins** girt about with the TRUTH. The only **defense** against a lie is the **truth**. When a lie is told, we are still God’s **child**.
  - b. **Breastplate** of RIGHTEOUSNESS. *“All unrighteousness is sin:”* 1 John 5:17. We all sin and come short, but we are still God’s **child**.
  - c. **Feet** shod with the preparation of the GOSPEL OF PEACE. When troubles come and our credentials are in question, we are still God’s **child**. We know that the gospel is powerful and that our doctrine is *life changing*.
  - d. **Shield** of FAITH. Satan has no fiery darts that cannot be **quenched** by FAITH.
    - We have promises from God’s Word that the victory is ours. John 5:4b *“and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith”* No matter what Satan does, we are still God’s **child**.

- *“Faith is the victory we know, that overcomes the world. Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory that overcomes the world.”* (John H. Yates in New Songs of Inspirations John T. Benson Publishing Co.)
- e. **Helmet** of SALVATION. This part of the armor relates to the head or the mind. Satan will try to tell you that you are not even saved, that the work is not important, and God does not really care. But we are still God’s **Child**.
- f. **Sword** of the Spirit, which is the **WORD of GOD**. As Faith is our defense, the Word of God is our Offense. We should never try to fight in the flesh. We cannot finish the work by relying on the flesh.

## B. We Are God’s Couriers. (Messengers) 2 Corinthians 8:23, Philippians 2:25

- God has no other plan to evangelize the world. We must have confidence that God’s plan is perfect, yet, His **plan** involves **man**. This is another outstanding reason why it is so important to finish His work **assignment** which has been given to you and me. Remember that this work assignment is for men **and women**. However, His perfect plan will not work without **mankind**. This God has so **designed**, though mankind is **imperfect**. We have a number of examples in the Bible where God used **imperfect** mankind, and they **finished** the work that God gave them to do. For example, Noah **finished** the ark. *“Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.”* Genesis 6:22. Moses **finished** the Tabernacle. *“And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.”* Exodus 40:33. Nehemiah **finished** the wall. *“So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days.”* Nehemiah 6:15. He did it against **great odds**.
- Of course, there is no **greater example** than the Lord Himself. *“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said It is **finished** and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.”* John 19:30. Now, whether we are building an ark, a tabernacle, a wall, or being a **courier**, (God’s messenger,) it all **requires** work, think about the consequences if they had not finished the work that God gave them to do, especially, the Lord Jesus. Being a courier is the same as being a **postman**. Can you imagine a postman taking a letter **part of the way** and then **not finishing** his route, throwing the letter into the waste basket? Think of the one who is waiting desperately for the letter? We have the greatest message that a man or woman will ever need, and God has put it in our hands to deliver. To not deliver it would be **criminal**. The U.S. Postal Service’s motto is: *“..Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these **couriers** from the swift **completion** of their **appointed rounds**.”* Compton’s Pictured Encyclopedia, 11, page 385, 1952.

## II. Relevance To The Mission Of The Church.

- ### A. Partnership: The Missionary and the Church must be in **complete**:
- a. Concert — The importance of finishing the work is **substantiated** by the church and missionary working in **absolute** concert.
  - b. Collaboration — The Missionary and the Church will be in **agreement**.
- ### B. Program: The **home** church and all **supporting** churches will make a **substantial** investment in the **life** and **ministry** of the missionary family. They will do this because they have collaborated **together** and intend to work in **concert** with one another to carry out God’s **program**.
- ### C. Performance: The church has no **ability** to perform without the missionary **following through** to the finish. We **understand** that this commitment is on the **part** of **both** the church and the missionary. However, **failure** to finish the work of recent years has not been on the part of the

church but, rather, on the **part** of the missionary family. For the most part, it is not the lack of **financial** support or **material** needs that have kept the missionary family from finishing. This is why it is **IMPORTANT** to **finish** the work.

## A LIFELONG MINISTRY

An Addendum to “The Importance of Finishing the Work”

### Introduction: Philippians 3:10-14

- 1) A lifelong ministry will be a matter of a lifelong commitment. We all make commitments in life concerning various things, but most of them are temporary, because they are temporal. That is, they relate to material things such as carnal, worldly, secular, physical. Consequently, these kinds of commitments fail for the most part. However, many men and women have made a lifelong commitment in marriage and have succeeded. The same is true in the ministry. But, there is a reason that they succeeded both, in marriage and in the ministry. The main reason is one word: “**FOCUS.**” Again, Paul said, “*I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*” If Paul had not known what the “*mark*” was, he would not have gained the “prize.”
- 2) In verse 14, Paul uses the Greek work *skopov* (“*mark*”), and in verse 16 he uses the word *kanon* (“*rule*”), which means also means “*line*” i.e. **the marked line.** (Adam Clark Commentary.) We must, as Paul, keep our **Focus** right. May I suggest that we keep our focus on (1) The Sovereign, (2) The Saviour, (3) The Spirit, (4) The Scriptures, (5) The Saints, (6) and The Soul of Sinners.
- 3) Dr. Raymond Hancock always says, “The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.”
- 4) Let us look at three main areas of focus in order to have a “Lifelong Ministry.”

### I. Focus on The Father.

Isaiah 26:3, “*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*” We can and will have perfect peace about:

A. **His Will** — He is our Sovereign.

Philippians 1:6, “*Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.*”

B. **His Work** — Our Service to Him.

Philippians 2:13, “*For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*”

C. **His Word** — Is our Surety.

Hebrews 6:17-20, “*Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.*”

### II. Focus on the Field.

John 4:35b, “*Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.*”

A. **The Preparation.**

1. Submit Yourself.

2 Timothy 2:20-21, “But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.”

2. Study the Scriptures.

2 Timothy 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**B. The Place.**

1. The Declaration.

Matthew 13:36a, “The field is the world;”

2. The Directive.

Genesis 24:27, “And he said Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: **I being in the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren.**”

**C. The Plan.**

1. Get Acquainted with the people. (Love them.)
2. Get Acclimated to the culture. (Live with them.)
3. Get Activated in planting a church. (Lead them.)

**III. Focus on the Finish.**

Acts 20:24, “But none of these things move me neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.”

**A. The Course.**

1 Corinthians 9:23-27, “And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. Know ye not that they which run in a **race** run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run not as uncertainly; so fight I not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”

**B. The Consolation.**

Philippians 4:1, “Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, **my joy and crown**, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.”

**C. The Conclusion.**

2 Timothy 4:6-8, “For I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but **unto all them also that love his appearing.**”

The conclusion of all is the Words of the Lord Himself:

Matthew 25:21, “His lord said unto him, **Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.**”

## Additional Notes

**I. What are the problems:** Becoming Weary.

Galatians 6:9, “*And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*”

2 Thessalonians 3:13, “*But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.*”

**II. Where they come from:** Distraction from our work.

Psalms 88:15, “*I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer thy terrors I am **distracted.***” (Afflictions)

1 Corinthians 7:35, “*And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without **distracted.***” (Conflict)

**III. How to deal with them:** Learn to recognize the symptoms.

Affections are waning towards the work. Thoughts of home are more prevalent than your thoughts of the ministry God has given you.

**IV. How to avoid them:** Deal with them immediately.

As soon as you realize your love for the work and love for souls are weakening, seek the face of God through His Word and prayer and share it with your wife and family. Do not be ashamed to share it with your pastor and mission director. Paul the apostle shared his conflicts and troubles with others. (2 Corinthians 11:20-33)

**V. The Dangers of failing to deal with problems:** You will become **Shipwrecked.**

1 Timothy 1:19, “*Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:*” Not only the danger of losing your ministry, but losing your family. Jesus, while on the cross, made seven statements: Of the seven, the most important was *It is finished.* Paul, at the end of life said 2 Timothy 4:7, “*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*” Paul also said in Acts 20:24, “*But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, The Lord wants us to **finish** our course also with **joy.***”





## WHY MISSIONARIES QUIT

### Introduction:

- 1) Many years ago I heard some statistics about missionaries. The numbers of men and women that surrendered to be a missionary compared to the number that actually made it to their field was a staggering difference. These revealing numbers started to drop off during school. Men and women have been accepted with mission boards, went to orientation classes yet the deputation trail turned cold and they went home. The next category was the number that never finished language school. Some made it to the field but never finished one term. The last alarming number was about the ones that did finish four years but never returned, that was enough for them. Why are we seeing these casualties? Do I call them casualties? Yes! One who has fallen victim to our enemy, Satan. 1 Peter 5:8, “*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*”
- 2) He has devoured some of us and he would like to devour you!
- 3) If you have a desire to be a missionary, God put that desire there, not Satan. When people lose that desire or cast it aside for something else they are casualties in this spiritual warfare of which we are engaged. When you said “I do” to your spouse it was for life. When you said “I’ll go” to God, it was for life. For those who are in the military, there is a term for those who are going to make armed forces a career. They are “lifers.” We need to be LIFERS for Jesus.
- 4) **REAL MISSIONARIES DO NOT QUIT. QUITTERS QUIT.**  
There have been some good, intelligent, qualified, talented, gifted men who have quit on God. WHY? That is what this lesson is all about.
- 5) You may call it:
  - a) **Burn out** — over extending yourself to the point of exhaustion and spiritual emptiness. To pooped!  
RPM = Recklessly Pursuing Ministries
  - b) **Blow out** — one major incident or experience that causes you to leave the field. Ex. Robbery, death, assault, terrorist, etc.
  - c) **Stressed out** — drained emotionally through pressure points; competing with other missionaries. (We are too blessed to be stressed!)
  - d) **Flame out** — Out of ideas; out of gimmicks; out of lessons; out of messages.
  - e) **Shocked out** — letting differences affect you: culture shock; missionary shock, . .
  - f) **Scared out** — fear accompanied by little or no faith. Do not be afraid of fear, but there is a problem when you have fear with no faith.
  - g) **Faked out** — leaving, thinking it was the will of God. (How many are in the file that have quit on the job?)
  - h) **Thrown out** — leaving the country by being kicked out by the government.
  - i) **Pulled out** — Being brought out of the country at the request of your pastor or by the mission board.  
-Immorality, immodesty, etc.
- 6) CALL IT WHAT YOU WANT, BUT THE SAD WORD IS “**OUT.**” No longer in, but out. **Out** of God’s will, **out** of God’s peace, **out** of God’s blessings, **out** of God’s fellowship. It is bad to be in the belly of the whale. Nothing seems to go the way you want it to go. No more **joy, peace, or fruit** in your life. When you are in the belly of the whale you just start stinking.

How do we prevent these attacks? How do we counter these attacks when they come?

### I. STAY IN HIS WILL

It is easy to give up if you are not sure why you are going. Knowing, without any reservation, that you are doing what God wants you to do is a shield against most of these fiery darts.

Romans 12:1, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that **good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**”

You need to be sure about the:

- A. **WHAT OF HIS WILL** — What He wants you to do. Planter, printer, pilot, etc.
- B. **WHERE OF HIS WILL** — Where does He want you to go. God can use plowers, planters, and pickers everywhere.
- C. **WHY OF HIS WILL** — Why? I cannot tell you what or where, but I can tell you why. Precious souls! This is our motivation.  
Mark 8:37, “Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

Once you know the what, where, and why of His will doesn’t **change, alter, or compromise** for anything else short of **HIS PERFECT WILL**.

## II. STAY IN HIS WAY

- Stay close to God.
- Spiritual check list: daily I will.

### A. **Supplicate:**

Confess my sins and claim the promise of 1 John 1:9 cleansing me with His blood.

1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

### B. **Sacrifice:**

Die to self that I might live for God without the hindrance of the flesh.

Galatians 2:20, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

Galatians 5:24, “And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.”

Romans 6:6, “Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.”

### C. **Surrender:**

To God’s will and way to righteousness.

Romans 6:13, “Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your member as instruments of righteousness unto God.”

### D. **Seek:**

The filling of the Holy Spirit to be used by God in whatever way He desires.

Ephesians 5:18, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;”

Colossians 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

John 6:63, “It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak

*unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”*

### III. STAY IN HIS WORK

- Remember it is His work. You have been saved by God, justified by God, called by God. You are called to do a **spiritual work**. Do not get side-tracked.
- You are not there with a social gospel. Your burden is not to show them how to fix their cars, repair their houses, plant their gardens in a better way.

**A. Keep your Focus on God’s business — The Great Commission.**

**B. Keep your Faith in God’s ability — Ability with Availability.**

**C. Keep your Fellowship with God.**

1. Devotional life.
2. Prayer life.
3. Study life.

#### **WARNING:**

- It is easy to fall in love with the work more than the God of the work!
- If you will take care of God’s work...  
If you will take care of yourself...  
If you will take care of your family...  
God will take care of you, and **YOU WILL NOT QUIT!**



## HUSBAND/WIFE RELATIONSHIPS

### Introduction:

- 1) The very word, “Relationship” speaks volumes.
  - a) “Relationship” defined: a connection, association, or involvement; a connection between two people by blood or marriage.
  - b) Every relationship takes time and effort to maintain.
- 2) In Hebrews 2:3, the problem is not reject, but neglect!  
Hebrews 2:3, “How shall we escape, if we **neglect** so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;”

### I. The Biblical Role of the Husband.

#### A. Authority

1. As a result of Eve’s sin:
  - a. Genesis 3:16, “Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.”
  - b. Ephesians 5:23, “The husband is the head of the wife.”
  - c. 1 Timothy 3:4, “...one that ruleth well his own house.”
  - d. Genesis 18:19, “For I know him that he will command his children after him.”
  - e. Joshua 24:15, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”
2. This authority does not mean that the husband is the master and all those in the home are slaves, anymore than it would for government to be considered the master and the citizens to be slaves.
3. As the authority, the husband ought to be a strong leader and not a weakling. Job 2:9-10

#### B. Accountability

1. Many husbands enjoy self-proclaimed authority but forget that authority comes with a price – accountability.
2. If the home is not biblically all it is supposed to be, it is not the fault of the wife or children. Genesis 3:9-11, 1 Samuel 2:27-28, Numbers 30:13-15

#### C. Pattern – an example to follow, not “Do as I say, not as I do.”

### II. The Responsibility of the Husband.

#### A. To Love– Ephesians 5:25-33

Four aspects of this love:

1. Selfless love- V. 25  
 Love your wife with the same unselfish, self-sacrificing love Christ shows to the church.  
 “Gave Himself for her” -
2. Purifying love- Vs. 25-27
3. Caring love- Vs. 28-30  
V. 28, “As their own bodies”
  - a. To take care of
  - b. To provide for. V. 31, Genesis 2:24
4. Enduring love – unbreakable, unending, unconditional. “As Christ loves the church”

**B. To Honor— 1 Peter 3:7**

1. Three words describe the husband's love for his wife.
  - a. Consideration- *"dwell with them according to knowledge"*
  - b. Chivalry- *"the weaker vessel"*
  - c. Communion- *"as being heirs together of the grace of life."*  
Proverbs 5:18, *"rejoice with the wife of thy youth."*  
Ecclesiastes. 9:9, *"Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovesst all the days of the life of thy vanity."*
2. In Honoring his wife, the husband praises her in public.  
Proverbs 31:28, *"Her children arise and call her blessed, her husband also, and he praiseth her."*

**III. Reminders to the Husband.****A. Marriage and Ministry**

1. Marriage is a ministry.  
In many countries marriage is not based on Christian principles.
2. Be the leader in the home. Ephesians 5:23
  - a. Lead when there is a quarrel.
  - b. Lead when there is a choice to make.
  - c. Lead the ministry – church decisions.
  - d. Lead as a spiritual example.

**B. Marriage Strains and Opportunities**

1. Mission work isn't something you can "drag" others along with you.
  - There must be a joint feeling of a call.
  - Make sure you both have settled the call to go before you go.
2. Lack of privacy.
3. Confusion of roles.
  - a. You cannot be all things to all men all the time.
  - b. You must prioritize your time.
  - c. Be a help to your wife.
4. Traveling separately.
  - a. Plan or schedule ministry activities together.
  - b. Plan times to be apart.
5. Digital distractions.
  - a. They are extremely valuable tools.
  - b. They can distract from more important work in your marriage.

## CULTURE SHOCK

### Introduction: What Is Culture?

- 1) **Culture** refers to patterns of human activity—socially shared designs for living.
- 2) **Culture** refers to traditions that distinguish a specific society.
  - Referring to Italian, Samoan, or Japanese culture refers to the shared language, traditions, and beliefs that set each of these people/society groups apart from others.
- 3) **Culture** refers to cultural traits that come from common ancestral background and experience.
  - **Common Identity**
  - **Foods**
  - **Music**
  - **Arts**
  - **Religion – Spiritual Awareness - Worship**
  - **Language or Dialect** (Includes both verbal and non-verbal forms of communication)
  - **Moral system**
  - **Decision making process**
  - **Gender Roles**
  - **Use of time**
  - **Transportation Systems**
  - **Methods of making a living\ Earning income**
  - **Habits**
  - **Relationships – Initiation and cultivation**
- 4) **Culture** is acquired through parents, homes, and environment.
- 5) **Culture** is a way of life of a group of people—the behaviors, beliefs, values, and symbols that they *accept, generally without thinking about them*, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next.
- 6) **Culture** is the sum total of the learned behavior of a group of people that are generally considered to be the tradition of that people and are transmitted from generation to generation.
- 7) **Culture** is a collective programming of the mind that distinguishes the members of one group or category of people from another.
- 8) **Cultures** are products of historical development. You cannot understand them by looking at the physical or psychological characteristics of their people. You have to understand them by studying where they have been as well as where they are right now.
- 9) **Culture** “is what makes you a stranger when you are far from home.” —anthropologist Philip Bock
- 10) **Bottom Line** – Culture is engrained into the very essence and being of mankind.

### Layers of Culture

People even within the same culture carry several layers of mental programming within themselves. Different layers of culture exist at the following levels:

- **The National Level:** Associated with the nation as a whole.
- **The Regional Level:** Associated with ethnic, linguistic, or religious differences that exist within a nation.

- **The Gender Level:** Associated with gender differences (female vs. male).
- **The Generation Level:** Associated with the differences between grandparents and parents, parents and children.
- **The Social Class Level:** Associated with educational opportunities and differences in occupation.

### Manifestations of Culture

Cultural differences manifest themselves in different ways and differing levels of depth. Symbols represent the most superficial and values the deepest manifestations of culture, with heroes and rituals in between.

- **Symbols** are words, gestures, pictures, or objects that carry a particular meaning, which is only recognized by those who share a particular culture. New symbols easily develop while old ones disappear. Symbols from one particular group are regularly copied by others. This is why symbols represent the outermost layer of a culture.
- **Heroes** are persons, past or present, real or fictitious, who possess characteristics that are highly prized in a culture. They also serve as models for behavior.
- **Rituals** are collective activities, sometimes superfluous in reaching desired objectives, but are considered as socially essential. They are therefore often carried out for their own sake (ways of greetings, paying respect to others, religious and social ceremonies, etc.).
- The **core** of a culture is formed by values. They are broad tendencies for preferences of certain state of affairs to others (good-evil, right-wrong, natural-unnatural). Many values remain unconscious to those who hold them. Therefore they often cannot be discussed, nor directly observed by others. Values can only be inferred from the way people act under different circumstances.

Symbols, heroes, and rituals are the tangible or visual aspects of the practices of a culture. The true cultural meaning of the practices is intangible; this is revealed only when the practices are interpreted by the insiders.

### Cultural Awareness

**Identifying** the cultural differences that exist between one's home country and the country of intended travel will help prepare for the required adjustments ahead.

### Culture Shock—Everyone Gets It!

Everyone experiences some level of disorientation and bewilderment. Some people will have it more severe than others, but unless you are really unique, you will experience some level of significant adjustment.

### Culture Shock Is

- **Unavoidable** - part of any missionary service that involves visiting cultures that differ from our own
- **Profitable** - with a good understanding of the cultural differences that lay ahead.



- Opportunity to experience God’s grace and spiritual growth
- **Dangerous** - if we go blindly, with false expectations, or with unreasonable perception.
- Results in Discouragement, Despair, and Defeat

### What is Culture Shock?

**Culture shock** describes the anxiety and feelings (of surprise, disorientation, confusion, etc.) felt when people have to operate within an entirely different culture or social environment, such as a different country.

**Culture Shock** expresses the lack of direction, the feeling of not knowing what to do or how to do things in a new environment, and not knowing what is appropriate or inappropriate.

### Culture Shock – An Out Of The Womb Experience

There has been a great deal of research put into shock experienced by a newborn during the birth process. Hospitals and doctors in developed countries do everything possible to lessen the shock, preparing an environment outside the womb that will duplicate as much as possible the situation inside the womb. A caring, loving, support system of parents and medical personnel attend to the child’s every need. The baby has only to cry and its physical and emotional needs are met.

Going to the field is an **out-of-the-womb experience** for most first-term missionaries. They have left the support system of family, friends, and church for an unknown, often hostile, environment. Expectations of a loving caring support system are seldom realized.

- Local missionaries are often too busy with their responsibilities to provide adequate time and support for the newly arrived missionary family.
- Nationals in the church would like to provide the necessary support, but lack an understanding of the kind needed because they have a different value system.
- New missionaries will almost invariably seek to bond with someone from their own culture and socioeconomic status, whether inside or outside the mission family.

### Culture Shock Triggers

#### **Monoculturalism—Dangers from knowing only one culture**

1. **A naive ethnocentrism** (belief in the superiority of one's own ethnic group)
  - I judge everything using my own culture as the measuring rod without being consciously aware of what I'm doing.
2. **Absolutist thinking**
  - Insisting that things are not to be questioned: “It's my way or the highway.”  
An overly legalistic concern for maintaining form, precedents, and established customs.
3. **An embracing of naive realism**
  - “As we see things, that's the way they are.”
  - Naive realism says that we can know things in the world directly without taking into account our own filtering processes. Naive realism is the view that when we perceive something, we have perceived it exactly as it is. It is believing that our perceptions of reality are not colored or mediated by anything else.

**4. Lack of respect for other people's ways**

- “There's no one else here.”

**5. The evaluation of customs and perspectives on the basis of one's own culturally learned assumptions and values (worldview)**

- This grows out of the sense that one's views have been arrived at because they are superior to any other views.

**6. The use of negative terms to describe customs different from one's own**

- This may even be done innocently simply because one has not thought through the baggage, which those terms and phrases carry because of the way they have historically been used.
  - We often talk about British drivers driving “on the wrong side” of the road. Why not just say “opposite side” or even “left hand side?”
  - We talk about written Hebrew as reading “backward.” Why not just say “from right to left” or “in the opposite direction from English.”

Ethnocentrism leads us to make false assumptions about cultural differences. We are ethnocentric when we use our cultural norms to make generalizations about other peoples' cultures and customs. Such generalizations—often made without a conscious awareness that we have used our culture as a universal yardstick—can be way off base and cause us to misjudge other peoples. Ethnocentrism also distorts communication between human beings.

### **Culture Shock Timing**

Culture shock is as unique as each individual who experiences it. The timing, both the start of and length of the culture shock experience will vary too.

- Generally, the feeling of culture shock sets in after the first few weeks of coming to a new place.
- Generally, the feeling of culture shock last anywhere from three to six months with the most **intensive period for most people coming at about the four month point.**

Culture Shock can be experienced as late as **four to five years in.**

- Novelty has worn off – Vision has diminished – Reality sets in
- Returning to the field after first furlough is a dangerous time for culture shock
  - No longer new and uncharted territory
  - Overwhelmed – knowing hardships, needs, lack of help

### **Culture Shock Symptoms**

- **Excessive concern over cleanliness** and the feeling that what is new and strange is dirty.
  - This could be in relation to: drinking water, food, dishes, and bedding.
- **Fear of physical contact** with people in new culture.
  - Continual offering of excuses for staying indoors.
- **Feeling of helplessness.**
- **Heightened irritability.**
  - Irritation over delays and other minor frustrations out of proportion to their causes.
- **Delay and outright refusal** to learn the language of the host country.
- **Excessive fear** of being cheated, robbed, or injured.

- **Great concern** over minor pains and irruptions of the skin.
- **Preoccupation** with returning home.
  - Terrible longing.
    - to be back home.
    - to be in familiar surroundings.
    - to visit one's relatives.
    - to talk to people who really “make sense.”
- **Unwarranted criticism** of the culture and people.
- **Constant complaints** about the climate.
- **Utopian ideas** concerning one's previous culture.
- **Preoccupation** with returning home.

#### **Everyone Will Not Have the Same Symptoms.**

- Some will go to pieces or withdraw into their own world.
- Others will have guilt feelings.

### **Stages of Culture Shock**

- **Fascination or Tourist Stage** – In this stage one will experience new places, new sounds, new smells, and a very kind people who are willing to help the newcomer find their way around. During this stage the Ministry/Missions worker is very tolerant of the host culture and excited about being on the “mission field.” Sometimes called the Honeymoon Stage. *(Short-term workers will usually only experience this stage)*
- **Rejection Stage** – The newness of the host culture will eventually wear off and the worker begins to reject the host culture and even become critical of it. Frustration with the new culture is high during this stage.
- **Recovery Stage** – The new comer begins to learn some of the “rules” of the new culture, its language and ways, and starts to feel more at ease. Frustration declines and one begins to accept the host culture leaning to be a part of it.
- **Bi-cultural Stage** – Full recovery occurs during this stage. The newcomer becomes functional in two cultures and some of the things from the new culture will be tremendously missed when the worker returns home.

### **How to Fight Culture Shock**

- **Increase your quiet time and let God show you what He is doing.**
- **Develop** a hobby.
- **Do not forget** the good things you already have.
- **Be patient**, the act of immigrating is a process of adaptation - **It is going to take time.**
- **Include** a regular form of physical activity in your routine.
- **Relaxation and meditation** are proven positive for people passing through periods of stress

- **Maintain contact** with your ethnic group—Reduces your feelings of loneliness and alienation.
- **Maintain contact** with the new culture. Learn the language. Volunteer in community activities that allow you to practice the language that you are learning. This will help you feel less stress about language and useful at the same time.
- **Establish** simple goals and evaluate your progress.
- **Find ways to live with the things that do not satisfy you 100%.**
- **Focus** on similarities rather than differences.
- **Measure success** in little things. (Example: you got a smile from the taxi driver.)
- **Talk and pray** your feelings out with someone who is not in the valley.
- Use your **sense of humor** and laugh at yourself.
- **Write** in your journal including at least one positive experience daily.
- **Keep busy**; concentrate on what you have done; not on what you cannot or have not done.
- **Remember**, there are always resources that you can use. If you feel stressed, **look for help**. There is always someone or some service available to help you.

**1 Samuel 30:6, “...David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.”**

### **Help From the Bible**

- **Paul** - grew up in modern-day Turkey - was educated in Jerusalem - moved around the Mediterranean planting churches in different cultural contexts. To the Philippians he wrote: “**Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.**” (Philippians 4:11)
- **Joseph** - forced as a slave into another country and culture - kept his faith and lived in such a wise way that he rose to a position of power. (Genesis 37-50)
- **Daniel** - Lived in Babylon during the exile period - kept his faith while also being a person of influence in the Babylonian government.
- **Abraham** – experienced some failures in his cross-cultural encounters - because of fears for his own safety - introduced his wife as his sister during a visit to Egypt. (Genesis 12:10-20)

## ANALYZING YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1 Samuel 12:24, “Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: **for consider how great things he hath done for you.**”

### **Introduction:**

- 1) There are good reasons for analyzing our accomplishments and good methods for doing it. If we do this, we will most likely excel and do more, and if we ignore this, we will fail: not fail ourselves, but fail others!
- 2) True growth that yields real fruit never comes about by accident.

### **I. THE RULER** (*to measure by*)

- A. God tells us not to compare ourselves among ourselves, for this is not wise.  
2 Corinthians 10:12, “For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.”
- B. This does not mean the spiritual thing to do is to ignore the facts.  
He also says that iron sharpeneth iron and that there is safety in the multitude of counsel.  
Proverbs 27:17, “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.”
- C. We must understand that everything is not going to be equal in this life.
  1. This is not to see if we have been faithful in working. We have.
  2. This is to be sure we are working with God's wisdom and understanding.  
Psalms 111:10, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.”
- D. It is one thing to work hard, but it is another thing to work smart.  
Example: *A good southern, hardworking man moves north and is cleaning the snow off his sidewalk with the small, pointed shovel, he so fondly used to dig in his garden down south.*
- C. If there is a better way, learn it. If you know a better way, share it.

### **II. THE REASON**

We are already looking at a lot of the reasons to analyze your accomplishments, but let us look deeper.

#### **A. Personally**

1. The way God made us, we need a little encouragement from time to time.
2. Analyzing our accomplishments allows us to give God the glory for what He has done through our lives and ministry, and this makes us thankful and willing to keep going on.

### C. Purposefully

1. This is never done to gloat or think more highly of ourselves than we should.  
*Romans 12:3, "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."*
2. It is to find what is working and do more of that, and less of what is not producing.  
*Example: In today's high tech world there are computers with a GPS on combine machines. The computer and the GPS analyze the amount of grain harvested throughout the field and exactly what areas in the fields did not produce well. That computer and GPS are then put on the tractor that fertilizes the field the next year, and remembering where it did not produce well, adds the fertilizer accordingly and harvests a much greater crop the next year.*
3. In analyzing, we may find that the work in one city, one part of the city, or even country, is growing much more than another area. This does not mean that we abandon the less productive, but prayerfully find the best way to use what God is doing in the more productive areas to help in the less productive.
4. Caleb never stopped looking for a way to take "that mountain." Never stop praying and searching for the best way to reach lost souls.
5. God gives the increase, but He has called us to do the work.

### C. Publicly

1. Another reason to analyze is to share what great things God hath done.  
*Isaiah 41:7, "So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smootheth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the soldering: and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved."*
2. Always be ready to share and help other missionaries and national workers. If we know what is working, we can share it with others that are interested. Remember you can always learn from them too. (No exceptions.)
3. We owe it to the churches to let them know what has been accomplished. I hear missionaries complain of a lack of interest in many churches in the area of missions. Is it partly our fault?
4. If we will tell and show them what God has accomplished through their prayers and support, they will be encouraged to do more for God. (*Have some specifics about what has been accomplished.*)
5. Giving God the glory is always right.

## III. THE REJOICING

### A. Teach the Nationals to rejoice in the accomplishments.

1. The Workers

2. The Churches
3. The New Converts

**B. Rejoice with your family.**

1. They have suffered with you; let them rejoice with you.
2. This helps them to stay involved.

**C. Rejoice with your churches.**

1. Whether or not your accomplishments are as great as those of someone else, after analyzing them, you have something to report and rejoice about with your churches.
2. Also, have a plan of what you intend to do when you get back to the field.
3. Pastors are not looking for someone to just go to the field, but someone with a good understanding of what they are going to do when they get there.





## THE SPIRITUAL WARFARE

**Text:** Ephesians 6:10-18 (Cp. Acts 20:26-31)

### I. The Spiritual Warfare Calls for Evaluation. Ephesians 6:10-12

#### A. An Understanding of What Will not Work.

##### 1. Not by Human METHODS.

Note:

- 1) During his earthly ministry, the Lord used different methods to achieve the same results, i.e. Glorify the Father, Display His Messianic Proofs, Help those Hurting. By this, we see that it is not necessarily the method we use, but that it is God Who must do the work in us, for us, and through us.

Examples:

John 9:1-7, Jesus heals a blind man by putting mud on the eyes of the blind man and then having him wash in the Pool of Siloam.

Luke 18:35-43, Jesus simply speaks, and blind Bartimaeus is healed.

- 2) The Message of the Apostles was confirmed by signs and miracles.

Hebrews 2:1-4, *“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2 For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; 3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; 4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?”*

Mark 16:15-18, *“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”*

##### 2. Not by Human MIGHT.

V.10, *“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of **his might**.”*

1 Corinthians 2:1-5, *“And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”*

John 19:9-12, *“And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer. 10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? **Knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?** 11 Jesus answered, **Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above:** therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin. 12 And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar’s friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.”*

### 3. Not by Human MEANS.

Luke 10:4, “Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way.”

Luke 22:35, “And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing.”

## B. An Understanding of How We Can Win.

### 1. The WARFARE is SPIRITUAL.

V. 12, “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

### 2. The WEAKNESS is OURS.

V. 11, “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye **may be able** to stand against the wiles of the devil.”

### 3. The WISDOM is from GOD.

Note: Power for this spiritual warfare is not just the ability to witness or preach, but also the ability to discern between right and wrong which comes from the wisdom of God.

James 3:17, “But **the wisdom that is from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

## II. The Spiritual Warfare Calls for Determination- Ephesians 6:13

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore,...”

Note: The word “stand” has the thought of being (1) Settled and (2) Steadfast.

### A. We Must Be Settled.

#### 1. In WHAT we Believe.

2 Timothy 3:14-16, “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; 15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”

#### 2. In WHY we Believe.

Hebrews 1:1-2, “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;”

2 Timothy 3:17, “That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

2 Peter 1:15-21, “Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. 16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. 19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the

day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

### 3. In WHOM we Believe.

Acts 27:25, “Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.”

2 Timothy 1:12, “For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: **for I know whom I have believed**, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”

## B. We Must Be STEADFAST.

### 1. In Spite of SATAN’S ATTACKS.

Note: We may want to turn and run, but we must stand! Christian in *Pilgrims Progress* confronted two lions and was afraid to pass. But, mustering the courage, he found that they were chained.

1 Peter 5:8-9, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist **stedfast in the faith**, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

### 2. In Light of The LORD’S RETURN

(He is our victory over sin, death, hell, Satan.)

2 Corinthians 5:7-11, “(For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. 11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.”

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 Cp. Luke 19:11-15

1 Corinthians 15:58, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

## III. The Spiritual Warfare Calls for Preparation. Ephesians 6:11,13

Note:

- 1) V.11- “put on;” V.13- “take unto you;” “diligence” mean “haste,” “earnest care.”  
2 Peter 1:5, “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;”
- 2) The call to **Serve** and to **War** are calls to **Prepare**.

### A. Our Armor- Vs. 14-17a

#### 1. “Loins gird about” (belt)- Truth (Revealed Truth)

John 17:17, “Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth.**”

Proverbs 23:23, “**Buy the truth**, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.”

#### 2. “Breastplate”- Righteousness (Godly Character)

1 Peter 1:16, “Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

Ephesians 2:10, “For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.**”

3. **“Feet shod” (shoes)- Zeal of the Gospel** (Readiness)

Note: “Preparation” (Greek “hetoimazo” [het-oy-mad'-zo]) means to “make ready.”

Romans 1:14-15, “I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. 15 So, as much as in me is, **I am ready to preach** the gospel to you that are at Rome also.”

4. **“Shield”- Faith** (Protects from the fiery darts of doubt)

Hebrews 11:5-6, “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 **But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**”

5. **“Helmet”- Assurance of Salvation**

1 Thessalonians 5:8, “But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and **for an helmet, the hope of salvation.**”

**B. Our Arm - V. 17b-** (The Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God)

1. **It is a DIVIDER.**

Hebrews 4:12a, “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and **sharper than any twoedged sword**, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow,...”

Note:

- 1) “Piercing” has the thought of “penetrating.”
- 2) The Bible divides the parts of man in order to get past the emotions and lustful desires in order to get to the center of man’s will so that a man may choose to be saved.
- 3) The same is true for the Christian so that he will not make decisions based upon his emotions and his human desires and lusts.

2. **It is a DISCERNER.**

Hebrews 4:12b, “...and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Proverbs 2:1-6, “My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; 2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; 3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; 4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; 5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. 6 **For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.**”

**IV. The Spiritual Warfare Calls for Supplication. Ephesians 6:18-19**

**A. The Pattern and Power of Prayer - V. 18a**

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,...”

1. **The Pattern is from the SCRIPTURES.**

“all prayer and supplication”

Note:

- 1) “prayer” means “worship,” “a pouring out.”
- 2) “supplication” means “petition,” or “request.”

Luke 11:1, “And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, **Lord, teach us to pray**, as John also taught his disciples.”

**a. Heavenly Relationship.**

Luke 11:2-3, “And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, **Our Father** which art in heaven, **Hallowed** be thy name. **Thy kingdom** come. **Thy will** be done, as in heaven, so in earth. **3 Give us** day by day our daily bread.”

**b. Human Relationship.**

Luke 11:4a, “And **forgive us** our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us....”

**c. Heart Relationship.**

Luke 11:4b, “...And **lead us** not into temptation; but **deliver us** from evil.”

**2. The Power is from the SPIRIT.**

“...in the Spirit,...”

Romans 8:26-27, “**Likewise the Spirit also helpeth** our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, **because he maketh intercession for the saints** according to the will of God.”

**B. The Persistency and Purpose of Prayer.**

“...and watching thereunto with all **perseverance and supplication for all saints**; 19 **And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,**”

Note: “perseverance” means “persistency.” See Luke 11:1-10.

The purpose of prayer is not only to worship God but to make request to God for His help on our behalf. (Compare the meaning of the parable given in Luke 11:6.)

## The Spiritual Warfare and Pride

**Text: 2 Corinthians 10:1-7**

Introduction:

- 1) We have an adversary, Satan, who is out to destroy us—if not physical—at the very least our testimony. We are in a warfare.
- 2) We are either Fighting (wounded or not), Absent without Leave, or Captured.  
1 Peter 5:8, “*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*”
- 3) The enemies of the child of God are: The WORLD, The FLESH, and The DEVIL.

**I. Satan’s Great Weapon of War- Vs. 4-5**

Note:

- 1) “Pride is the stumbling block over which most men stumble.”- Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.
- 2) “Strong holds” (V. 4) and “High thing” (V. 5) means that which “*exalteth itself against the knowledge of God.*”
- 3) These are like Israel’s “*high places*” which became their stumbling blocks because they were not taken down.

- 4) The High Places of Israel:
- a) The Laws against the high places.  
Deuteronomy 12:11-14, “Then **there shall be a place** which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD: 12 And ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God, ye, and your sons, and your daughters, and your menservants, and your maidservants, and the Levite that is within your gates; forasmuch as he hath no part nor inheritance with you. 13 **Take heed to thyself that thou offer not thy burnt offerings in every place that thou seest:** 14 **But in the place** which the LORD shall choose in one of thy tribes, there thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, and there thou shalt do all that I command thee.”  
Leviticus 26:30, “And I will destroy your **high places**, and cut down your images, and cast your carcasses upon the carcasses of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you.”
  - b) The Institution of the high places in Israel.  
Judges 3:7, “And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgot the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.”  
Judges 6:25-26, “And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father’s young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it: 26 And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.”
  - c) Used for the Lord’s sacrifice until the building of the Temple of Solomon.  
1 Samuel 9:14, “And they went up into the city: and when they were come into the city, behold, Samuel came out against them, for to go up to the high place.”  
1 Kings 3:1-4, “And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh’s daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall of Jerusalem round about. 2 Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the LORD, until those days. 3 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places. 4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.”
  - d) Re-established by Solomon for idol worship.  
1 Kings 11:6-8, “And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. 7 Then did Solomon **build an high place** for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. 8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.”
  - e) Escalated under Rehoboam.  
1 Kings 14:22-24, “And Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they had committed, above all that their fathers had done. 23 For they also **built them high places**, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree. 24 And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.”
  - f) Revival under Asa, but the high places remained.  
1 Kings 15:9-14, “And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah. 10 And forty and one years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom. 11 And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father. 12 And he took away the sodomites out of the land,

and removed all the idols that his fathers had made. 13 And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron. 14 **But the high places were not removed:** nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days."

- g) Hezekiah removes the high places.

2 Kings 18:1-4, "Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. 2 Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Abi, the daughter of Zachariah. 3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did. 4 **He removed the high places**, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan."

- h) Manasseh the son of Hezekiah rebuilds the high places.

2 Kings 21:1-5, "Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah. 2 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel. 3 **For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed;** and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a grove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them. 4 And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD said, In Jerusalem will I put my name. 5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD."

- i) Josiah destroys the high places.

2 Kings 23:8-20, "And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, **and defiled the high places** where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba, and **brake down the high places of the gates** that were in the entering in of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city. 20 And he slew all the priests of **the high places** that were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem."

- j) Rebuild possibly under Jehoahaz, Jehoiachin and Zedekiah until the Babylonian captivity.

2 Kings 23:31-32, "Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. 32 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done."

2 Kings 24:8-9, "Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. 9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father had done."

2 Kings 24:18-19, "Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. 19 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done."

- 5) Satan's lie to Eve: Genesis 3:5, "...and ye shall be **as gods**..."

- 6) Pride breeds **SELF-WILL**. Self-will breeds **REBELLION**. This is Satan's main weapon against us.

- 7) There is a difference between Pride and Self-respect!

#### A. What the Bible Says About Pride.

Proverbs 6:16-17a, "These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: **A proud look**..."

Proverbs 11:2, "When **pride** cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom."

Proverbs 16:18, “**Pride** goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”

Proverbs 29:23, “A man’s **pride** shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.”

1 Timothy 3:6, “...lest being lifted up with **pride** he fall into the condemnation of the devil.”

1 John 2:16, “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the **pride** of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

## B. How Pride is Manifested.

### 1. Attitude- V. 5 Cp. V. 7 (Step 1)

#### a. How Pride Affects our Attitude.

Note:

- 1) Pride affects the way we think about ourselves and others:
  - a) No one can do it like me.
  - b) No one knows as much as me.
- 2) The rebellious attitude is: “I know more than my parents, my preacher, my teachers, the authorities, even God.”

#### b. Where Pride Begins

Note: Pride begins in the secret place of the mind.

Cp. V. 5, “*imagination*,” “*thoughts*”

Cp. Genesis 3:6, “...*a tree to be desired to make one wise...*”

#### c. How to detect a Prideful Attitude.

##### (1) The Countenance- Genesis 4:5-6

Proverbs 6:16-17, “*These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look,...*”

(a) The Eyes.

(b) The Expressions of the Face.

##### (2) The Tone of Voice.

Genesis 4:8-9, “*And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. 9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper?*”

### 2. Actions- V. 6a (Step 2)

Genesis 4:8, “*And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.*”

Note: If our attitude is not dealt with, **SILENT** Rebellion leads to **OPEN** Rebellion. Cp. V.6- “*all disobedience*”

## II. Carnal Weapons in a Spiritual War- Vs. 3-4a

### A. Obvious Carnal Weapons- Ephesians 4:30-32

Note:

- 1) Because we so often forget that our “true” enemy is not flesh and blood but spiritual, we want to use carnal weapons to fight the “visible” source of attack against us. Very often this is a brother or sister in Christ.
- 2) The words that come to mind in this kind of warfare are **Revenge** and **Retaliation**.
- 3) When this type of battle is waged, the Holy Spirit is grieved!



- 4) In Ephesians 4:2, Paul warns the believer against using carnal weapons and even lists some of them for us.
1. **Bitterness-** (Greek *pikria* [pik-ree'-ah] means acidity [especially poison] and is translated as “*bitterness.*” This word comes from the Greek word *pikros* [pik-ros'] which carries the idea of piercing, sharp, or pungent, i.e. acrid [literally or figuratively].)
  2. **Wrath-** (Greek *thumos* [thoo-mos'] means “heated passion” and is translated “*fierceness,*” “*indignation,*” “*wrath.*” This word comes from the Greek word *thuo* [thoo'o] which means “to rush” [breathe hard, blow, smoke], and carries the idea of “to sacrifice” or “to slaughter for any purpose.” Hence, “*wrath*” is the emotion or response that lies deep within the human heart and smolders with a vengeful passion to do harm.)  
Note: There is a time for anger, but anger without righteousness is wrong.  
Ephesians 4:26, “**Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:**”  
Mark 3:5, “*And when he had looked round about on them **with anger,** being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.*”
  3. **Anger-** (Greek *orge* [or-gay'] means “violent passion.” It comes from a root word meaning “an outcry.” “*Anger*” is a quick emotional outburst. It is also translated “*indignation,*” “*vengeance,*” “*wrath.*”)
  4. **Clamour-** (Greek *krauge* [krow-gay'] means “an outcry” with the thought of creating a tumult or grief, seeking to enlist or affect others. It is also translated “*cry*” and “*crying.*”)
  5. **Evil Speaking-** (Greek *blasphemia* [blas-fay-me'-ah] means “vilification” or “blasphemy” and is also translated as “*blasphemy,*” and “*railing.*”)
  6. **Malice-** (Greek *kakia* [kak-ee'-ah] means “badness,” “depravity,” “malignity,” or “trouble.” It is also translated “*evil,*” “*naughtiness,*” “*wickedness.*”

Note:

- 1) Many people think that “*carnal weapons*” are just things like yelling, screaming, fighting, getting mad, pouting, etc.
- 2) Notice the statements used by Paul:  
V.7a, “*Outward appearance*”  
V.12, “*Comparing ourselves*”
- 3) You can only “**compare**” (judge by observation) what is on the *outside* of a person.
- 4) Cain was very religious.  
Genesis 4:3, “*And in process of time it came to pass, that **Cain brought** of the fruit of the ground **an offering unto the LORD.**”*
- 5) Genesis 4:9-10- Cain tried to hide his sin.

**B. Inconspicuous Carnal Weapons**Note:

- 1) Notice some “*good things*” that we use to judge the spirituality of a person and that we try to use as Spiritual Weapons:
  - a) Going to Church.
  - b) Going to Youth Activities.
  - c) Going to a Christian School.
  - d) Being raised in or having a Christian Home.
  - e) Carrying a Bible.

- f) Looking, dressing, talking right.
- g) Being a Preacher, teacher, church worker.
- 2) Parents think that, when their children **DO** certain things or **LOOK** a certain way, they are OK. We look at ourselves in the same way!!
- 3) When we think that this is all we need to be concerned about or to do, we are in trouble!

### III. Combating Pride- Vs. 1,4

#### Note:

- 1) Verse 1 names the weapons exemplified by the Lord and made available to us to combat pride:
  - a) “*Meekness*” = inward quality of humility leading to submissiveness.
  - b) “*Gentleness*” = consideration of others; tenderheartedness.

Matthew 11:28-30, “*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*”
- 2) In Verse 4 Paul calls our weapons “**mighty through God.**” “Meekness” does not mean “weakness.” “Gentleness” does not mean “feminine.”  
2 Timothy 2:24-26, “*And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*”
- 3) Pride says, “**I AM; I CAN; I WILL.**” Humility says, “**GOD IS; GOD CAN; GOD WILLING.**” Pride looks to self. Humility looks to God!  
1 Peter 5:6, “*Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, and he will exalt you in due time.*”

The Way Humility Works: James 4:6-10

#### A. Submission (To God)- V. 7a

To be submitted to God means to be submitted to:

##### 1. Parents.

Proverbs 20:20, “*Whoso curseth his father or his mother his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.*”

Ephesians 6:1-2, “*Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)*”

##### 2. Authorities (Preacher, government, etc.).

Hebrews 13:17, “*Obey them which have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*”

Romans 13:1, “*Let every soul be subject unto the higher power. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.*”

#### B. Resistance (of Satan)- V. 7b

“...and he will flee from you.”

Matthew 4:10-11- Jesus said to Satan, “*Get thee hence...*” 11 Then the devil leaveth him...”

#### C. Dependence (on God)- V. 8

*“Draw nigh to God...”*

1. **By The WORD of GOD- (Love His Word and Spend time in it!)**
2. **By PRAYER- (Take time to pray!)**

**D. Cleansing (of Self)- V. 8b**

Note:

- 1) This is a command to us. It is laid upon us to come to God for cleansing.
- 2) *“Cleanse your hands”*= Our Actions.
- 3) *“Purify your hearts”*= Our Attitude (Bitterness, Thoughts, etc.).

**1. Confessing and Forsaking of Sin.**

1 John 1:9, *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

Proverbs 28:13, *“He that coverth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”*

**2. Forgiving Wrong done to us.**

2 Corinthians 2:10-11, *“To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; 11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”*



## RELATIONSHIPS WITH MISSIONARIES

Introduction:

- 1) The number one reason for missionaries failing and giving up is **Interpersonal Conflict**.
- 2) Interpersonal Conflicts are a primary source of disruption in **Christian Ministries and Churches**.
- 3) Why do problems between missionaries arise? **Because missionaries are people too!**
  - a) Missionaries, like everyone else, have character flaws, fears, and phobias. These problems are magnified on the field. There are already enough strains on the missionary; physically, mentally, emotionally without the added stress of a problem missionary.
  - b) There are some missionaries who are dependent people needing constant support and direction. Rather than contribute to the team, they sap its energy.
  - c) On the other extreme, there are independent missionaries, the lone rangers, who divert the team’s energy as they yank this way and that to pursue their own agendas.
- 4) **The work of God always draws the fury of Satan.**  
*1 Peter 5:8, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”*
- 5) **Missionaries need to be Interdependent People**, team players, who are willing to relinquish their own agenda and interests for the good of the team. They should be self-starters, self-reliant in the healthy sense, and able to reach out and be a support to others.  
*Galatians 6:2-5, “Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. 3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. 4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. 5 For every man shall bear his own burden.”*
- 6) At the same time, missionaries need to be **Filled with the Spirit**.  
*Ephesians 5:18-21, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.”*

### The Cause of Interpersonal Problems—Sin

New Missionary	Veteran Missionary
• Fear	• Mistrust
• Fear of Loosing Power	• Fear of Being Swallowed Up
• Territorial Disputes	• Who’s the Boss?
• Conflicting Authorities	• Physical or Emotional Problems
• Selfishness	• Pride/Arrogance
• Indifference	• Personal Hang-ups
• Unforgiving Spirit	• Unwillingness to Cooperate, Work Together
• Jealousy	• Superior Attitude, or Just having “An Attitude
• Unclear About What is Expected of you Resulting in doing too Much or Not Enough	

**1. What can we say about all the above reasons for relationship problems?**

Galatians 5:19-21, “Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”

**2. The work of God always draws the fury of Satan.**

1 Peter 5:8, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:”

## Who Can be Involved in Problematic Relationships?

**1. Husband- Self—Flesh—Old Nature**

Amy Carmichael wrote, “One day I felt the ‘I’ in me rising hotly, and the Word came: ‘See in it a chance to die.’”

- a. Our Spirit – Our Tongue – Our Actions
- b. Our Failure to Set the Right Example

**2. Wife - Self—Tongue—Mother Bear**

- a. A wife in submission to her husband has him to blame, complain to, and shoulder to cry on.
- b. A wife in rebellion can cause trouble fast!
- c. Gossip—The Unruly Tongue (men also)
- d. Seldom has the roar of a mother bear been quelled when her cubs are in danger, treated unfairly, made fun of.

**3. Children—Disobedience, Teaser, Provokes**

- a. Children in different families are held to different requirements.
- b. Children tease other children.
- c. Children provoke other children.

**4. Singles - Lack Understanding**

- a. Does not understand the family.
- b. Family time.
- c. Husband-wife time.
- d. Quiet time.
- e. Father-son time.
- f. Mother-daughter time.

## What Is Affected By Problems

**1. It Affects the Missionaries**

- a. Our spiritual relationship.
- b. Our family is torn and divided.
- c. Our testimony with other missionaries and those outside of the mission family.
- d. Those to whom we are trying to minister.
- e. The unsaved – who are watching our lives.
- f. Cause division, distress, and dullness.

**2. It Affects the Mission Work**

- a. Spirit of God will not be present where unity is lacking.
- b. Power of God gone.
- c. Nationals to whom you minister will sense something amiss.
- d. Operating in the flesh.
- e. Extra work / expense for mission office – field director – board members.

#### **4. It Affects your Church Members**

- a. They will never live a victorious Christian life.
- b. The missionaries can't even live/work together.
- c. They will lose faith in what you say.
- d. They will lose faith in what you preach.
- e. They will lose faith in what you teach.

#### **5. It Affects the Mindset of the Unsaved**

- a. Unsaved watch lives- more than listen our words.
- b. Unsaved weary – we are foreigner – speak with forked tongue.
- c. Tired of worldly, fleshly, carnal, Christians.

### **Suggestions for Resolving Conflicts**

#### **1. Begin conflict resolution with a mind, heart, and soul that is yielded to God having his way in our life.**

- a. Begin conflict communication with "I" statements that reflect how you feel.
- b. Identify what is needed by another person.
- c. Ask for clarification when an issue becomes a conflict.
- d. Having an outside opinion can do wonders.
- e. Determine whether the disagreement is over facts or the respective feelings about the facts. "To me..." "in my opinion..."
- f. Do not make it personal. Say, "I do not agree with that idea." NOT, "Your idea is stupid."
- g. Is it really an "either" "or" issue? Often conflicts caused by boxed thinking.
- h. Do a trial solution - Let's try this for 3 weeks and then evaluate it.
- i. If people get visibly mad, stop the discussion. If you cannot discuss the issue without anger you need mediation. Take a "time-out."
- j. Rather than try to find the right answer, throw out the bad answers, i.e. the things you agree that will not work.

#### **2. Getting along with national co-workers.**

- a. Communicate with them.
- b. Respect them.
- c. Lead by example, not by word or command.
- d. Understand that what they mean is not always what they say. Understand how they think. You may not be butting heads, but it may be a matter of cross-cultural communication.
- e. Teach them the Word. Live by the Word yourself. Use the Word to solve differences or problems.

#### **3. How to get along with those you cannot get along with.**

- a. **Ask God's forgiveness if you have treated that person in an unchristian way.**  
*Matthew 6:14, "For if ye forgive men their trespasses your heavenly Father will also forgive you."*
- b. **Realize it is not worth losing everything good God has for you just for the cheap pleasure of disliking someone.**

2 John 1:8, “Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.”

Matthew 18:33-35, “Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? 34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. 35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.”

- c. **Realize everything you are doing for God without love is counted as nothing.**  
1 Corinthians 13:1, “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.”
- d. **Realize if you only love those who love you, you have no reward.**  
Matthew 5:46, “For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?”
- e. **Realize that love is a commandment of God** - It is not a choice or option.  
John 15:17, “These things I command you, that ye love one another.”
- f. **Love is part of a package deal called the fruit of the Spirit.**  
Galatians 5:22a, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love...”
- g. **Dislike the characteristic of the person, not the person.**
- h. **Pray for that person fervently.**  
James 5:16b, “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”
- i. **Believe God can change character flaws** - Put it in God's hand, not ours.  
Ephesians 3:20-21, “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”
- j. **Learn to say good things about that person to others.** Rather than saying bad things, pray for them.
- k. **Humble yourself of all envy, pride, and jealousy.**  
Matthew 23:12, “And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.”
- l. **Have a servant's heart.**  
Matthew 23:11, “But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.”
- m. **Do your part to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.**  
Ephesians 4:3, “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”
- n. **Realize God is the author of peace.** If peace is absent we have failed in some way to let God work.  
1 Corinthians 14:33, “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”
- o. **Realize a person might be under much pressure**, maybe even greater than you.
- p. **Do not respond to the person the same way they respond to you.**  
Matthew 5:39, “But I say unto you, that ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.”
- q. **Determine that God will give victory in this relationship.** In John 17 the Lord prayed that we all be one. Have faith that this is what he wants.
- r. **Realize many Christians have failed, quit, or became castaways because they have failed at interpersonal relationships.** Why not stop right now and pray for that person? Why not do something special for them today? May the strongest person go first!







## PARENT/CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

**Introduction:** As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, our goal in life is to please and glorify our God. He is worthy of our praise, worship, and consecrated service—and He **expects** it. There is to be no area of our lives that is not wholly consecrated unto Him. We must present ourselves to Him, to be used for His glory. Personal sanctification requires three key elements: **God's enabling; our commitment to learn His will; our obedience to His Word.** God has already done much for us, and He is willing to do more! He has given us the Holy Spirit to teach us His Word, to convict us of sin, to direct our lives and to empower us for service. He will direct our paths if we seek to please Him.

Rom 12:1-2, “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*”

### I. Our Relationship to God — Our **FRUIT** Unto Holiness.

Romans 6:22, “*But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.*”

#### A. **Our relationship to God is the most important thing about us.**

1. When the scribe asked Jesus Christ what the greatest of all the commandments was, the Lord never hesitated. He responded by quoting from Deuteronomy 6:4,5. **WE ARE TO LOVE GOD!**  
Mark 12:29-30, “*And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: 30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.*”
2. God loves us, and we are to love Him in return. The best example of God’s love for us was when He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to come to the cross and shed His blood, dying in our place so we could be saved.  
John 15:13, “*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*  
1 John 4:19, “*We love Him, because he first loved us.*”
3. By virtue of His sacrifice and resurrection, Jesus Christ is the head of the church and He is to have preeminence in ALL things. He is our **Lord**, and that means that He must be the one who is in control of our lives.  
Colossians 1:18, “*And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.*”
4. There is something that is essential for Jesus Christ to **really** be our Lord and for Him to occupy His rightful place (preeminence) in our lives: **we must yield ourselves to His perfect will.** This surrender is an act of our human will.

**B. Our commitment to God:** To bear FRUIT UNTO HOLINESS, we must make a conscious decision: **“I will honor God with a separated life that is pure, holy, and consecrated unto Him.”**

1. We can only fulfill this commitment with the Lord’s help. In our flesh we fail!
2. For a Christian to be pure, holy, and consecrated to God is a life-long goal, not an instantaneous achievement.

## II. OUR RELATIONSHIP TO OUR FAMILY — The FRUIT of the Womb.

### A. Our relationship to our family is vital.

1. This relationship is second only to our relationship to God. We first love, God, but then we are to love others. God ordained the family as the first human institution, and it was intended to meet man’s needs and to bring glory to God.
2. As sincere Christians, our family relationship is much more than a physical or human relationship. There are many spiritual aspects involved, and our family relationships are an excellent platform to bring glory to God and to portray His love to the lost world.
3. We love our family with a pure heart, obey and honor our parents, nurture our marriage, train our children, and serve together in a good church.

**B. Our commitment to our family:** Each Christian must make a conscious decision: **I will love my family and train my children to serve the Lord, raising up a Godly generation!** We can only fulfill this commitment with the Lord’s help. In our flesh we fail!

1. To raise up a Godly generation requires diligence and steadfastness. It is something we must cultivate for a lifetime, and it is a heritage that we leave to our posterity.
2. Saying all that, let us take a closer look at the parent / child relationship. *Psalms 127:4-5, “As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. 5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”*
3. Children are a blessing and gift from God to us, and He expects us to raise them up with the principles that He leaves us in His Word. As the previous verses mention, our children are “arrows.” Have you ever stopped to consider the relationship between the archer (parents) and the arrow (children)? The archer is to be strong, decisive, patient, and caring. He is the one who guides the arrows. The arrow is fragile, helpless, and needs guidance.
4. Maybe you are thinking how can I guide my children? We can only find these answers in the word of God. In the book of Proverbs we find three words that help us and that will help our children understand and know God. Understanding and knowing God is the basis for knowing what God’s desire is for our lives.

a. **“Wisdom”**

The word **“Wisdom”** is found 54 times. **Wisdom** is *“How do I deal with it?”*

b. **“Understanding”**

**“Understanding”** is found 53 times. **Understanding** is *“Why God wants me to do it?”*

c. **“Knowledge”**

“**Knowledge**” is found 41 times. **Knowledge** is “*What God wants me to do?*”

These are principles that we have to teach our children so they can deal with any and all situations that we and they face now and in the future. They need to know how to deal with situations; they need to know why God wants them to do it; and they need to understand what God wants them to do. Today many children have no clue of who God is in a personal way because we as parents have not cultivated in them a relationship with God. That is not done by taking them to church and giving them a Bible. It is done by cultivating in them truths and principles from God’s Word that they see real in your own life. How you deal with everyday situations? They must see that you as a parent are genuine about your love to God and your family. If they do not see that you are genuine in your love to God and to the family, they will not see their relationship with God as being relevant.

5. Another way is through family time. Now what is meant mean by family time is not a set time every day that you can say I give my family so many minutes a day every day when we read the Bible, pray, and sing. Family time should be a time (which I believe is not a set time but an all day hands on time) of cultivating a spirit of gratefulness and creativity with all that life has to offer. So often we as parents think that because our children can quote scripture and can sing that we are doing our job. Well, it goes a lot deeper than that. It is a time of showing them that I am interested in their everyday life, and I help them to be interested in my everyday life. This way they can see firsthand how I as a parent deal with everyday situations. In doing this, I am teaching my children to be totally creative in the society that they are in. This is very important when dealing with culture shock. If we as parents have nothing good to say about the weather, culture, food, and environment of the place that we say **God has called us to**, guess what, our children are going to be the same. Remember that discontented parents produce discontented children. Now, this has everything to do with:

- a. Making time for and spending time with your children.
- b. Helping your children deal with deputation.
- c. Helping your children deal with culture shock, separation from family and friends, learn the language.
- d. Using your children in the ministry.

- Think about this, if you are not spending time with your children and then you are complaining about the churches you are visiting while on deputation, what do you think your children are going to think of churches in general? Then you get to the field. You complain about the culture, you complain about the food, the weather, you complain because you miss your family, and then go on to complain about the language. Your children will certainly not like what they are seeing. They will think that Christian service is a thing of misery in which they will want nothing to do with.
- What does the Bible say about this? And how are these subjects relevant? Or why should it matter to a parent who is on deputation or the field? We need to take a close look at Deuteronomy 5-6 and Ephesians 6. Here is what Deuteronomy 6:4-9 says, “*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8*

*And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.”*

- I believe that God sees the missionaries’ children as the first wave of their mission to make disciples. Making time for them is done like this. We make disciples of them the same way that Jesus made disciples... by spending time with them.

Mark 3:14, *“And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach.”*

- He chose 12 to be with Him. By that method, they saw first-hand what it was to be devoted to God. That is why this method of making disciples of our children is first and foremost to spend time with them. We need to have them with us in the routine of everyday life. Your children have the greatest opportunity by simply being with you as you live out your devotion to Christ. The routine that you have of driving, planning meetings, relating to imperfect people, watching you handle disappointments, preaching, sacrificing, and serving, they need to see Christ in you through these situations. By the way, they need to see this in our lives so they know how to respond to God when they face those same challenges,
- Our children need to see a good example of a husband/wife relationship. Our children do not come before the husband and wife relationship, but as they see the relationship that we have as husband and wife, they will glean from this, by seeing this relationship we have one to another before God. They will learn by example if we are truly a good model of this relationship. They will enjoy the benefits of our covenant which means they have the privilege of gleaning those things they need in the developmental years of their lives like instruction, kindness, comfort, correction, and admonition. As they see this relationship, they will be better equipped to cultivate godly relationships in their own lives not only with their own siblings, but with others as well.

2 Timothy 3:14-15, *“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; [15] And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”*

- Let’s be practical. Missionary parents could not do all they do in terms of ministry without their children, and they should be reminded often of that fact. Our children are not one more responsibility in the way of our calling. **They are our calling!** We are a ministry team. They need us, and we need them.

Luke 6:40, *“The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.”*

- Jesus was not with His disciples 24/7, but He did give them specific instructions for accomplishing tasks, then later evaluated their character for the purpose of helping them grow.

Luke 10:1,17-20, *“[1] After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. 17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. 18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.”*

- This is what we need to do. Useful time with our children includes giving them meaningful tasks that produce something. Then, we carefully watch their attitudes to see how they are responding to life. This is a good thing to do on deputation. You give your child small jobs they can handle, then you watch how they do. If you see sinful responses, you look for appropriate times to privately and calmly address what you observed. Your children will never forget it. Your children will learn to serve Christ just like you do. They learn that doing the work is important, but their relationship with God is important also.
- God is sovereign over the affairs of man. Why would God allow a child to have to move and be transplanted to another part of the world? I cannot help but think of 2 Corinthians. These men of God faced all sorts of difficult situations, yet they handled each of them in a way that honored God. I think we need to be trained to help our children to learn how to respond to the difficulties of life in a way that pleases God no matter what it is. The first thing every parent needs to train their child in is that God is sovereign. He is in control. He holds the heart of the King in His hand. He raises up and puts down nations. He controls nature. But He is also good. That is big person theology but little people can handle that, too. God is so good that He promises that no matter what happens in what He allows, He has in mind some good for them.

Psalm 86, Romans 8:28, Genesis 50:20, 2 Corinthians 4

- God is always thinking about our good though sometimes good is concealed in a garbage can. All of us need to learn the habit of the heart of looking for the GOOD God has in mind for us even when people disappoint us, when parents sin against us, when relationships become strained, when people expect too much of us, when dreams seem to have died. We could go on and on. God knows and cares, but more than that, He has a good in mind, but it will require effort on our part to see it.
- Look at Joseph. Finding the good requires faith, faith that God is sovereign. He is good but, also, wise. God knows what is best. It is like the dad who had to take his child to the doctor to have a very large splinter removed from the child's hind end. The doctor had to have the father hold the child while he went through the painful procedure of extracting the wedge of wood. The poor child was too young to understand what on earth the father was doing as an accomplice in inflicting all this pain. It was hard on the father, too. He knew his son was in pain. He knew his son could not understand, but the father knew more. The father knew the relief the son would feel in a very short while when the pain was just a memory. Isn't that the way it is with God? We say, "God, what on earth are you up to? I am in pain. It hurts. Why are you putting me through this?" But He knows what the future is going to be like when the pain is only a memory. The wonderful thing about this truth is that it gives so much hope to know God always has our good in mind.
- Every missionary and child of a missionary needs HOPE that the short term difficulties will be worth it for the long term benefit, but God expects us to be looking for the benefits. Philippians
- If we cultivate in our children the principles of God's Word and help them establish the type of relationship that God wants with them, it will take spending time with them. It will make deputation/furlough fun and a bonding time. They will know how to handle being away from family and friends, learning a new language, and adjusting to the differences that are faced. They will understand that this is not a dad's ministry, and we are just along for the ride. They will understand that they are a part of a team and this is our ministry.

- Remember, if God has called you to a specific place, He will take care of you. He did not say that He would keep you from difficult situations or that you would not struggle some. But He did promise to be with you.
- Now when faced with difficult situations, we need to respond in a way that glorifies God. Why? Because it glorifies God and there are children watching us.



## STRATEGY FOR REACHING YOUR COUNTRY

### Introduction:

- 1) You must have a desire.
  - a) This is a desire to serve God. A desire that God gives.
  - b) I am not a missionary because I love the Nationals.
- b) I am a missionary because I love God, and He has called me.
- 2) From your desire you will develop your vision  
Our vision is biblical. Mark 16:15
- 3) From your vision you will develop a plan.  
As they say, “Shoot at nothing and hit it every time.”
- 4) From your plan you will work.
  - a) There are those with no plan and won’t work.
  - b) There are those with a plan but don’t work.
  - c) There are those with no plan but they work.
  - d) There are those with a plan and they work.

How to develop a plan to reach your country

### **I. Spy out the land.**

#### **A. Study your country.**

1. Learn about the physical conditions:
  - Population, language, habits, customs, climate, government. Etc.
2. Learn about the spiritual conditions:
  - a. How many Christians?
  - b. What churches preach the Gospel?
  - c. Where are they?
  - d. What works?

#### **B. Warnings:**

1. Don’t go where it is most convenient for you or where there are the most missionaries for “American” fellowship. Go where God tells you! Have an open will and heart. Don’t make your own little America.
2. You can get distracted by problems with other missionaries because of jealousy, “sheep” stealing, pressures to conform, etc.

### **II. Chose a key city.**

- A. You will not reach your country through the village**
- B. Doesn’t have to be the capital but a main city.**
- C. The smaller the population, the more clannish they are.**
- D. Paul developed his ministry around principal cities**
- E. People are moving into large cities and visiting them**

- F. Yes the smaller cities need to be reached but can be reached by training and sending nationals out.**
- G. It is far more intelligent to go to a central city and train men to go out. I can't be everywhere, all the time.**

**III. You must change the way you think.**

- A. Think like a general in a war. How would he go about taking the city?**
- B. Think like a business man (the Coca Cola Company, McDonalds). How will you reach all corners of the world, expanding your business and money?**
- C. Don't go as a pastor or evangelist. Go as a Church planting missionary!**
- D. Do not do things that the nationals will not be able to reproduce!**
- E. Decide now to train nationals!**
- F. Do not do all the work yourself!**
- G. Do not have a defeatist attitude! "That will not work here." It has to work because it is the Bible way. Ephesians 4:11**
- H. Do not be a one church, one term missionary!**

**IV. You must form a team.**

- A. Teamwork makes the dream work.**
  - 1. You will accomplish more in the end.
  - 2. Don't have the attitude that I can do it better.
- B. From day one you must pray for a band of mighty men.**
- C. You cannot do the work alone.**
  - One person can't reach an entire country.
- D. You must train others to do the work.**
- E. I will work myself out of a job.**
- F. Cast your vision.**
  - 1. Follow the example of Jesus, he went about his ministry but looked for men to be with him and learn from him, to catch his vision, He tested those men.
  - 2. They won't be hungry for souls if you are not hungry for souls.
  - 3. They won't give unless they see you give.
- G. The ultimate goal is not to make you a success but for you to make others a success.**

**V. Never lose focus.**

**A. Why am I here? To be a pastor or a missionary.**

**B. I will be the pastor at the church I am at. I must model what a pastor is, but I can't lose focus.**

**C. I am the coach.**

1. A missionary can't play all the positions. He can't be a ball hog, but he must lead.
2. A coach is only successful when he makes others a success.
3. A coach can't win ball games. He must lead others to win.
4. A coach always takes the blame and rarely gets the credit.
5. Game time is a reflection of what the coach has taught and instructed behind closed doors.
6. A coach must create unity. (I have been on teams that should have won lots but didn't because of a lack of unity.)
7. A coach must continually develop his players.
8. A coach will not always be a best friend to his players, but he will always be there when they need him.
9. A coach will have to discipline and be hard at times.
10. A coach can't expect perfection, but they must not accept less than 100% effort.
11. A coach should never focus on one or a few players. When the star gets hurt, what will you do?
12. A coach needs to remember that it is supposed to be fun.
13. A coach must really know the game. (I had a few coaches when I was younger that I thought were good. I realized while playing in college that they knew very little about the real game of basketball.)
14. A coach must continue to learn.
15. A coach must know how to communicate with his players. (I had a coach in college that knew the game very well but he wasn't a successful communicator. Because of this, we struggled.)
16. A coach must lead by example.
17. A coach will spend a lot of time with his players. He must make an investment. (Most coaches at the high school level get paid only a little for coaching for the time they spend. They do it because they love it. They go the extra mile. My high school coach figured out that he made 32 cents an hour. Big pay.)



## ACHIEVING THE INDIGENOUS PRINCIPLE

### I. ATTITUDE

#### A. Yours –

1. Start – by planting God’s seed.
  - This means “I will do my part and trust God to do His part.”
2. Keep it right – Plow God’s soil.
  - Often after planting and not seeing the increase we feel there should be, it’s easy to be discouraged.
  - If we do see a great increase, it is easy to feel like “we” are getting it done.
  - *If we will learn to give God the Glory in the good times, it is easier to keep trusting Him in the hard times.*
3. Finish with it – Presenting God’s saints. Here is the time we can rejoice through the tears of the time of moving on, watching the young but mature Christians we have trained, continue the work of the Lord.

#### B. Theirs – The biggest thing that will influence their attitude, is our attitude.

1. Keep a good balance with them about whose church it is.
  - It is not the missionary’s; it’s not theirs; it’s God’s Church; And, if there is a reference, it should be “our” church.
2. We do not start from day one insisting that they hurry up and run things because we are leaving as soon as we can. But, we let them know what we have come to do.
  - We do not constantly tell our child, *“Hurry up and grow up so you can get out of here!”*

### II. APTITUDE

#### A. Let God keep your thoughts right.

- Some missionaries want to leave before they get started.
- Some want to run everything, then one day walk away.
- Some fail to see the potential in anybody but themselves.

#### B. Begin quickly to search out and train leaders.

- It takes time and time invested in training others is never in vain.

#### C. Be patient.

- If we cannot show faithfulness in teaching and training, how can they learn faithfulness to lead and in turn train others?

### III. ACTION

- A special relationship develops between the missionary and the people as we “show” them how to live and do what we are teaching them.
- As they learn and make mistakes, our actions toward them will speak volumes.

- Let God work in your heart, so He can use you to work in their hearts.

#### **IV. ACCOMPLISHMENT**

##### **A. Make goals and rejoice in the advances made.**

- It is never, “Look at what I’ve done or even what you’ve done,”
- It is, “Look at what God did!” Help them to see how God is working through their lives.

##### **B. When we reach that goal of turning the church over to a national pastor, they need to understand that it is a goal we have met and we are moving on to the next one.**

##### **C. If things are done right we should be able to come back anytime and enjoy the fellowship of the Christians and yes even, our children in Christ.**

- When this is done God’s way, they will always look to you for counsel.
- They will also grow and prosper and produce in God’s work.
- They are an Indigenous Church.

## CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Proverbs 25:28, “He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.”

Introduction: Missionary Character and Ethics

- 1) “Ethics” means “a set of principles of right conduct.”
- 2) The higher the elevation, the greater the sphere of influence. The greater the sphere of influence, the greater the target one becomes. “Those at the top get shot at the most.”

### Peter’s Instructions to the “Shepherds of the Flock”

In 1 Peter 5, Peter seeks to instruct “shepherds of the flock” by dealing with three important issues:

#### I. The Will of God for the Man of God- Vs.2-3

*“Feed the flock of God...willingly...with a ready mind...being ensamples to the flock.”*

**A. The will of God is for the Man of God to feed the flock of God willingly with a ready mind (with your whole heart) as examples to the flock.**

**B. To Feed the Flock of God implies: Nourishing to Maturity**

#### II. The Weakness of the Flesh of the Man of God- Vs.2-3

Genesis 3:6, “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”

**A. V.2b- Lust of the Flesh- “...not by constraint...”**

**B. V.2c- Lust of the Eyes- “...not for filthy lucre...”**

**C. Vs.3a,6-7- Pride of Life- “Neither as being lords over God heritage...”**

#### III. The Wiles of Satan against the Man of God- Vs.8-9

Note: Satan’s goal is to destroy the work of God and to condemn souls to hell. To accomplish this, he wants to:

**A. To Destroy our Testimony.**

**B. To Destroy our Influence.**

### Problem Areas for the Missionary

Problems which cause those in the ministry (including missionaries) to be defeated (and even at times

be disqualified from the ministry) can be divided into Five Groups:

## I. Moral

- A. **Adultery** (with nationals or other missionaries)
- B. **Homosexuality**
- C. **Pornography**
- D. **Desertion** (family or field)
- E. **Deception** (laziness, exaggeration, dishonesty)

## II. Mental (Depression and Breakdowns)

Depression very often comes from:

- A. **Language**
- B. **Culture**
- C. **Climate**
- D. **Opposition** (Governmental and Religious)
- E. **Isolation** (from Civilization and/or other Americans)
- F. **Separation** (from Family and Friends)
- G. **Fear** (Disease, Natural Disasters, Welfare of the family, the Nationals)

## III. Physical

Note: The physical problems can range from minor intestinal viruses (which in many cases missionaries use as an excuse to leave the field) to terminal illnesses.

## IV. Financial

### A. **The LACK of money.**

Note: Some missionaries are so pressed to get to the field that they neglect to raise sufficient support and consequentially suffer financially on the field.

### B. **The LOVE of money.**

Note: Some missionaries are so obsessed with money that he uses his position as a missionary to financially “bleed” and “fleece” churches.

## V. Doctrinal

1 Timothy 1:18-20, “*This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; 19 Holding faith, and a*



good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.”

2 Timothy 2:16-18, “But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.”

## Situational Ethics

### Introduction:

- 1) “It is not great talent God blesses so much as great likeness to Jesus.” - Robert Murray McCheyne.
- 2) What is “Ethics?”  
“Ethics” = a set of principles of right conduct; the rules or standards governing the conduct of a person.
- 3) Situational Ethics = A set of principles governed by particular situations or circumstances.
- 4) Situational Ethics can be phrased as “The end justifies the means.”  
Example: Many parents justified the Harry Potter books because it caused their children to read.
- 5) “Some will argue that as long as we are catching fish, what difference does it make what kind of hook or bait we use?” - Warren Wiersbe
- 6) “Numbers are important to God, but **how** we get them and **who** gets the credit for them is most important.” - Warren Wiersbe
- 7) Verses used to justify Situational Ethics:  
1 Corinthians 9:19-22, “For though I be free from all men, **yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.** 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.”  
1 Corinthians 10:32-33, “**Give none offence,** neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: 33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.”  
Example: Rahab the Harlot  
Joshua 2:3-5, “And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. 4 **And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus,** There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: 5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.”  
Hebrews 11:31, “By faith the **harlot Rahab perished not** with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.”
- 8) God’s Immutability: Though men change, God does not!  
Malachi 3:5-6, “And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts. 6 **For I am the LORD, I change not;** therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”  
Hebrews 6:13-20, “For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, 14 Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men

verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. 17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise **the immutability of his counsel**, confirmed it by an oath: 18 That **by two immutable things**, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.”

Hebrews 13:8, “Jesus Christ the same **yesterday, and today, and forever.**”

## Ethics and Your Name

### Introduction:

- 1) God’s Name is great because his Word is true.  
Psalm 138:2, “I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for **thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.**”
- 2) Our name can only be good as our word!  
Proverbs 22:1, “A **good name** is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.”  
Ecclesiastes 7:1, “A **good name** is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth.”  
Proverbs 20:11, “**Even a child is known by his doings**, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.”

## I. Our HONESTY

### A. Honesty in our SPEECH.

Note: What affects our honesty of speech? Fear—Fear of God or Fear of Men.

#### 1. Be Careful WHAT You Say.

Colossians 3:9, “**Lie not one to another**, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;”

Psalm 15:1-4, “LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and **speaketh the truth in his heart**. 3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. **He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.**”

Proverbs 8:7-8, “For **my mouth shall speak truth**; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. 8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.”

Ephesians 4:25, “Wherefore **putting away lying, speak every man truth** with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.”

James 5:12, “But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: **but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.**”

#### a. Honesty in our PRESENTATIONS

Acts 14:27, “And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, **they rehearsed all that God had done with them**, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.”

Our Counsel:

- (1) When Presenting your Burden give Honest STATISTICS.
- (2) When Writing Prayer Letters give Honest REPORTS.
- (3) When Raising Funds, give Honest REASONS.

**b. Honesty in our DECISIONS**

Note: Do Not use the Lord's Name to Persuade Men to do your **own** will.

2 Corinthians 4:1-2, *"Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; 2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."*

**2. Be Careful HOW You Speak.**

Colossians 4:6, *"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."*

**a. "Grace" speaks of the MOTIVATION for our Speech.**

Note: The motivation of my speech should be to help someone.

**b. "Salt" speaks of the MANNER of our Speech.**

Note: The manner of my speech should never be antagonistic or degrading, but easy to the ears and the heart.

Ephesians 4:15, *"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."*

Note:

1) "Love" keep's our flesh in check in dealing with people.

2) "Truth" keeps "love" in check.

**(1) When Preaching the Word of God .**

**(2) When Discipling new Converts.**

**(3) When Dealing with Problems.**

Galatians 6:1, *"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."*

**B. Honesty in our COMMITMENTS.**

**1. To Our Home Church.**

**2. To Our Supporters.**

**3. To the Mission Board.**

Note: We sign a requirements page, and should do our best to live up to it.

**4. To Our Creditors and our Financial Obligations.**

**C. Honesty in our FINANCES.**

**1. The Temptation of MONEY.**

Note: Satan and the world says that we all have our price. The question is, "Do we?"

**a. Their can be a Craving to Merchandise your ministry for:**

**(1) PRAISE**

**(2) POSITION**

**(3) POSSESSIONS**

**b. The Hireling's Similarities to a Shepherd:**

John 10:11-14, *"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."*

**(1) LOOKS like a Shepherd**

**(2) LIVES like a Shepherd**

Note: The Hireling's Difference from a Shepherd: **The Heart!**

Jude 11,16, *"Woe unto them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of*

Core.” 16 “These are murmurers, complainers, **walking after their own lusts**; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men’s persons in admiration because of advantage.”

1 Timothy 6:8-10, “And **having food and raiment let us be therewith content**. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For **the love of money is the root of all evil**: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

Ephesians 4:17-20, “This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness **with greediness**. 20 But ye have not so learned Christ;”

**Example: Gehazi the Servant of Elisha. 2 Kings 5**

- 1) What he did: Merchandized the Gift of God- Vs.20-27
- 2) What he could have been: A great Man of God

## 2. The Danger of **COVETOUSNESS**.

Exodus 20:17, “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour’s.”

Note:

- 1) Covetousness
  - a) Dictionary Definition: “Excessively and culpably (evilly) desirous of the possessions of another.”
  - b) Dean Hamby’s Definition: “Desiring to have what God did not give you—Good or Bad.”

2 Peter 2:3,14-15, “And through **covetousness** shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. 14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with **covetous practices**; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, **who loved the wages of unrighteousness**.”
- 2) “The greatest judgment God can send on His people is letting them have their own way.” - Warren Wiersbe  
Psalms 106:15, “And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.”
- 3) **Warning: You cannot keep what God did not give you.**

## 3. Our **COUNSEL**.

- a. Always pay Debts on Time.
- b. Always be faithful to tithe and give to God’s work.
- c. Never get yourself into a financial situation in which you are not free to serve the Lord.
- d. Once you have people trained, you should be very careful about handling the money or writing checks.
- e. Always have Financial Statements available for the church.
- f. Never spend large amounts of money without church approval.
- g. Never look at churches and supporters as your personal “bank.”
- h. Do not expect churches to pay for everything you need.

**g. Always use money for what it is designated.**

**II. Our MORALS.**

Note: God's people must always exercise moral self-control!

1 Thessalonians 4:1-7, "Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us **how ye ought to walk** and **to please God**, so ye would abound more and more. 2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should **abstain from fornication**: 4 That every one of you should **know how to possess his vessel** in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: 6 That no man go beyond and **defraud his brother** in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. 7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness."

Key Words:

**A. "Abstain"**

1 Thessalonians 4:3, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should **abstain from fornication**:"

1 Thessalonians 5:22, "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

1 Peter 2:11, "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;"

**B. "Flee"**

1 Corinthians 6:18, "**Flee fornication**. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body."

1 Corinthians 10:14, "Wherefore, my dearly beloved, **flee from idolatry**."

2 Timothy 2:22, "**Flee also youthful lusts**: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

**C. "Put Off"**

Ephesians 4:17-22, "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But ye have not so learned Christ; 21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;"

Colossians 3:8-9, "But now ye also **put off** all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. 9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have **put off** the old man with his deeds;"

**D. "Put On"**

Ephesians 4:22-24, "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye **put on** the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

Colossians 3:9-12, "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; 10 And have **put on** the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: 11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all. 12 **Put on** therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things

**put on** charity, which is the bond of perfectness.”

## Some Advice

The first qualification of a “*Bishop*” is very often the most overlooked... “*A bishop then must be blameless,..*” (1 Timothy 3:2) The word “*blameless*” means “unrebukeable.” We cannot stop accusations from coming our way, but we must live so that an accusation would never have merit. Let us mention two areas only two areas:

### 1. Stay above reproach in your **Finances**.

- Things can happen beyond your control, i.e. sickness, repairs, etc., BUT do not spend foolishly above your means. Pay you debts on time!

### 2. Stay above reproach with your **Computer/Internet**.

#### • **Your Computer**

- The Computer makes temptation and sin easily *Accessible*.
- More than 1 in 8 Web searches are for erotic content.
- 67% of children admit to clearing their Internet history to hide their online activity.
- 79% of accidental exposures to Internet porn among kids take place in the home.
- 56% of divorce cases involve one party having an obsessive interest in online porn.
- 29% of working adults accessed explicit websites on work computers.  
(Note: Stats obtained from [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com).)

#### • **FaceBook**

- Be extremely careful with the comments and pictures you post on FaceBook. You should also monitor what your children post on FaceBook. We have received phone calls from pastors because of what some missionaries have posted. It is difficult for us to defend you if you do something which lacks intelligence, i.e. stupid.

#### • **Covenant Eyes**

- Covenant Eyes is an excellent internet filter and accountability service. It is an inexpensive way to give you accountability and credibility. It helps you avoid temptation and vicious accusations. You can visit their website for details and pricing at [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com).







## COMMON CHURCH PROBLEMS

### Basic Underlying Causes

Introduction: As we look at church problems, we need to look at the root causes of the problems. Most of the time when problems arise, we tend to try to deal with them on the surface. It is like looking at an Iceberg. We only see the tip of it. The main part of it is beneath the surface. When we try to solve the problem without knowing the real reason behind the problem, we will probably cause more problems. So where do we find the answer to dealing with the problem? We must look at the word of God. There are five Bible sins from which all problems emanate. Dr. Lee Roberson calls them “Five ancient sins that dogs the steps of modern men.”

#### I. Jealousy.

Genesis 37:4; 1 Samuel 18:7-8; Proverbs 6:34

**A. Sin that Blinds the Eyes — Joseph and his Brothers**

**B. Sin that Blights Relationships — David and King Saul**

Proverbs 6:34, “*For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.*”

#### II. Gossip.

Nehemiah 6:6 (Sanballat, Geshem and Tobiah)

**A. Sin that Blasts others.** Nehemiah 6:5-8

**B. Sin that Backbites**

#### III. Selfishness.

Jeremiah 45:5, “*And seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not:*”  
1 Corinthians 6:9-11

**A. Sin that Bleeds Others.** Luke 12:16-21

**B. Sin that Brings Destruction.** Joshua 7:1-26 (The Sin of Achan)

#### IV. Malice.

1 Corinthians 14:20, “*Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.*”  
Ephesians 4:31-32; Colossians 3:8; Titus 3:3; 1 Peter 2

**A. Sin that Burns in Ones’ Heart.** (Like Acid)

**B. Sin that Bears Ill to Fellow Man.**

Genesis 25:27-34 - Esau and Jacob

**V. Unfaithfulness.**Revelation 2:10**A. Sin that Burdens — Wreaks more businesses than any other.****B. Sin that Breaks — Hearts of more husbands, more wives, more children.**

1. It hinders growth.

2. It hurts the cause of Christ.

Souls are damned for ever, keeps missionaries from the field, etc. Unfaithfulness burdens others:

a. Abraham with Lot going to Sodom

b. Moses with Aaron and golden calf

c. Samuel with King Saul and his rebellion

## Conquering Common Church Problems

Introduction:

1) What were some of the common problems in the Early Churches?

a) Ananias and Saphira with giving— Acts 5b) Euodias and Synthyche fighting— Philippians 4:2c) Murmuring about the widows— Acts 6d) Sexual sin— Corinthianse) Falling away from truth— Galatians

2) What is our responsibility as leaders?

3) What is our vision as a leader?

4) Ephesians 4:11-12—God gave pastor/teachers:a) For the Perfecting of the saintsb) For the work of the ministryc) For the edifying of the body of Christ.

5) If people would become inwardly the right person then the problems that we face outwardly would be done away with.

**I. Characteristics of the “BE” Level.****A. Be A born again Christian.****B. Be A person of character or integrity.****C. Be Where the heart is surrendered and causes a person to love God and desire to serve Him no matter what is happening.****D. A person who speaks and does the truth in their heart.****E. A person of discipline.**

1. In their Bible reading

2. In their prayer time

**II. How do we get someone to achieve the “BE” Level.**

- A. By getting the Word of God into them—help them learn to be in the Scriptures every day.**
  1. James 1:21—engrafting the Word of God
  2. Romans 12:2—transforming our mind
  3. Ephesians 5:26—washing of the water of the Word
- B. Help them develop a disciplined reading and study program of the Word of God.**
- C. Help them memorize Scripture.**
- D. Getting them into all the services that you can and teaching them how to listen to the messages.**
- E. Getting them involved in personal discipleship.**

### III. Lessons that we need to teach on the “BE” level.

- A. Who you are in Christ. A new Creature. 2 Corinthians 5:17**
- B. Living up to who you are in Christ. Romans 6, “Know,” “Reckon,” “Yield”**
- C. Basic Disciplines—Bible reading, memorization, and meditation. James 1:21**
  1. Are you putting all your dirty wicked sins and thoughts away?
  2. Are you replacing your old thought structures with the Word of God?
- D. Learning Christ—Spiritual Replacement. Ephesians 4:20-32**
  1. Have you put off the former way of living? V.22
  2. Are you renewing your mind? V.23
  3. Have you put away lying? V.25
  4. Do you have your anger under control? V.26
  5. Do you take things that do not belong to you? V.28
  6. Are you using your words correctly? V.29
  7. Are you sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s moving in your life? V.30
  8. Have you put away your bitterness, wrath, anger, loud complaining and griping, and evil speaking? V.31
  9. Have you become kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving? V.32
- E. Affection training. Colossians 3:1-17**
  1. Have you set your affection on things that are above? Vs.1-2
  2. Have you put to death fornication, impurity (uncleanness), wrong desires, etc.? V.5
  3. Have you put off anger, wrath, wickedness (malice), making light of spiritual things, and filthy communication? V.8
  4. Have you quit lying? V.9
  5. Have you become a person that loves, feels mercy, kindness, longsuffering? V.12
  6. Have you learned to deal with your brethren and the odd things about them and to forgive them? V.13
  7. Does the peace of God rule in your heart? V.15
  8. Does the Word of God dwell in you richly? V.16
- F. Accepting how God made you. Psalms 139**
  1. Are you dealing with your insecurities so that they do not hinder you from being used of God?
  2. Do you really believe that God loves you and made you in a special way to be used of Him?

**G. Becoming a person of Integrity. Psalms 15**

1. Are you walking uprightly and working righteousness with your life?
2. Do you speak the truth in your heart?
3. Do you backbite or talk about people behind their backs in such a way as to do them harm?
4. Do you treat your neighbor correctly?
5. Do you get involved in scandalous reports about your neighbor either hearing or spreading them?
6. Have you chosen to look at wrong as something to condemn no matter who it is?
7. Do you honor them that fear the Lord?
8. Do you keep your word?
9. Do you try and take advantage of innocent people?

**H. Confessing and forsaking sin. 1 John 1:9**

**I. Forgiving others – no root of bitterness. Hebrews 12:15**

**J. Believing God to use you to help others.**

## WORKING WITH NATIONALS

### Introduction:

#### 1) Nationals are just People.

- Regardless of the nationality of a person, they should not be treated in an inferior way to any other person. Men are created equal even though their circumstances, etc, are not. Some may be rich or poor; well educated or uneducated, but they are still human beings with eternal souls. You may be surprised how some tourists and even missionaries treat third-world citizens.
- When a person perceives that you feel you are better than they are, you have just lost a lot of your effectiveness with them. We have no control over the color of our skin, the country in which we were born, or the parents we have, but, that does not change our worth as a person, nor should it influence how we look at them as a person. It will not take long for a person to sense how you really feel about them. As an American or foreigner, you will always be different. You do not have to become a national to reach or teach them, but neither should you deliberately emphasize the differences between you and them.
- Fred Kindhart says it well in his syllabus on nationals given in orientation class, 1992:  
“I think one of the greatest needs that a missionary has is to develop a good relationship with the national people. In some areas there are some very huge walls of resentment to overcome. This isn’t the case in most instances, though. Many times we build our own walls by a lack of understanding. I hope that somehow, through this brief study, I can help you to remember to stop what you’re doing from time to time and look at things through the eyes of the national people.”
- New missionaries seldom get to hear the bitter cry of hurt nationals. But somewhere, somehow, sometime we will hear from some disgruntled missionary telling of how he and his family were the most mistreated of all missionaries. Let me go on to say, lest you misunderstand, I know there are times when missionaries are mistreated by the nationals.”
- Three reasons why missionaries are often mistreated:
  1. Sin and its many religions have taught the people lies and rebellion toward missionaries who carry the true gospel message.
  2. Because of a bad testimony and/or relationship the national people have had with other missionaries, tourists, or American people. It may be they do not even know any Americans personally, but they have heard that they should distrust Americans.
  3. We ourselves act in such a way that we lose the respect of the people. This is by far the hardest obstacle to overcome.
- In Latin American countries there are strong negative feelings about American politics, the Cold War, drug wars, etc. It is best to not talk politics.

#### 2) Missionaries are just Representatives.

- We represent the Lord and our sending churches. We represent the Lord to those who know nothing about him. It is so important that we be Christ-like in the way in which we treat those with whom we work. Treat co-laborers on the field with the same respect and honor you would expect in a stateside church.
- If we are self-centered, lazy, or unfair in what we expect from them, we are poor ambassadors of the Lord. As much as we are co-laborers with the Lord, so are they, once saved. We should treat them with the same respect given us as a preacher of the gospel. Not only should you respect them, but they should respect you. That respect cannot be demanded, but earned by your actions. You know you have gained their respect when they not only see you love them, but you see that they love you.

**3) You are just Human.**

- You may be surprised at the feelings that spring up that you never thought you would have. You may think there is not a prejudiced bone in your body. When someone belittles your country, laughs at your culture, points out your faults, misinterprets the intentions of Americans, your natural tendency is to defend her. Biting the tongue to keep quiet really works!
- Possessions can be a real problem. A wise, old missionary to Taiwan once said, “People do not care what you have as long as you are willing to share it.” You will need different things than they need. You should not necessarily deprive yourself of things you need that they do not have just because they do not have them too. But, use wisdom in how you use things and talk about them.

**4) Attitude is a Key.**

There are three areas to watch in your attitude:

**I. The Right Attitude Toward Them.****A. Respect them.**

- They are not perfect, but guess what...neither are we! We must learn to love and respect them. We will never be able to have a close working relationship if we do not. Those in your church should be your friends, a part of your family. There are missionaries who are like a begrudging tither. They have obeyed the will of God for their lives, but they do not really enjoy what they are doing, nor do they love the people to whom they minister. The sad thing is that their ministry results show it too. A “Jonah attitude” toward the people to whom you preach will not produce much fruit.

**B. Rely on them.**

- At first we can do almost every part of the ministry better than they can. But, if we are truly doing what Matthew 28:19-20 says, there will come a day that they can do a better job ministering to their own people than we can as foreigners. God entrusts us with the gospel. We are surely inferior to the Lord, yet God chose to “rely” on us to carry on the work of the ministry. *“But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth the hearts.”* (1 Thessalonians 2:4) God committed this awesome task to us. *“According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.”* (1 Timothy 1:11) Not only did Paul recognize that God had put this work of the ministry into his hands, he also recognized that God gave the same responsibility and trust to one of his preacher boys.
- *“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, ...”* (1 Timothy 6:20) We must believe that God can use them just as He uses us. If you do not believe in them or rely upon them, they will never grow. Do not limit their usefulness in your ministry and God’s work by your lack of faith in what they can do.

**C. Respect the Place of Service.**

1. The Preachers (national and missionaries – do not belittle them)
2. The People (do not shy away from them)
3. The Products (do not criticize in front of them)
4. The Place (do not compare to States)
5. The Pessimism (do not lose faith before them)
6. The Problems (do not complain to them)

7. The Potential (do not make a foe, make a friend)
8. The Pastime (do not offend in pleasure)
9. The Penitent (confess your mistakes and both will learn from them. Do not think you cannot make a mistake)
10. The Pictures (they are not zoo animals, be careful in photographing)
11. The Precaution (do not carry U.S. customs too far – display of affection (etc.) Biting your tongue in response to wrong accusations of the U.S. is better than battling with your tongue and losing an opportunity to witness)
12. The Praise (do share with them)

## II. The Right Attitude Toward Their Country.

- There is no place like home. There will always be a special place in your heart for America. But, love my adopted country. Like a parent with many children, you have a special love for each child because each one is different and special in his own way. You must learn to live in the country you are living in. That means eat and enjoy their food – most of it anyway. You must be able to speak their language and feel at ease being around the people.
- Refrain from worthless debates about which country, custom, food, climate, etc. is better.

## III. The Right Attitude Toward Their Culture.

- Learning their culture will help you not only to get along better with the people with whom you are working, but also help you understand why they do the things they do, think the way they think, react the way they react. It is not necessary to change their culture if it is not opposed to the Word of God. Our goal is not to make them Americans, but Christians.
- The Bible tells us that Jesus adapted to his surroundings when he became flesh and dwelt on this earth. He ate, slept, got tired, rested just like we do. *“Wherefore in all things it behooved Him to be made like unto His brethren that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.”* (Hebrews 2:17)
- Jesus became like us in order to minister to us.
- *“And being found in fashion as a man...”* (Philippians 2:8) Jesus spoke the language, paid taxes, knew their laws and observed their customs.
- Paul also became all things to reach all the people he could. *“For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.”* (1 Corinthians 9:19-23) This attitude would not be politically correct in most circles. We must surrender many of our rights.
- 2 Corinthians 12:15, *“And I will most gladly spend and be spent for you, though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.”*
- Sometimes we just cannot adjust to a particular custom. Paul answers this one too.
- 2 Timothy 2:10, *“Therefore I endure all things for the elect’s sake...”*
- In those cases, my advice is to ‘grin and bear it’. By the way, the better you learn their culture, the problems of their society, their fears, their educational point of view, the more effective your message can be in their lives. Sometimes we hear a well-meaning pastor from the States preaching to a group of new believers about topics and trends that are totally irrelevant to those listening. You can avoid this by understanding their culture, customs, and society.

## IV. The Right Attitude Spiritually.

- A. We must be able to forget. Philippians 3:13-14

**B. We must be able to esteem others. Philippians 2:3-4**

**C. We must be able to prefer others. Romans 12:10**

**D. We must be able to forbear others. Ephesians 4:2-3**



## PREPARING TO LEAVE AND THE FIRST 30 DAYS

### I. RAISE SUFFICIENT SUPPORT

- A. The advantages of being fully supported-
- B. Potential consequences of being under supported-

### II. FINDING A SUITABLE HOUSE IN A SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD

- A. Established missionaries are a valuable source of information.
- B. Considerations for choosing the right house for your family.
- C. Adjusting to a smaller home. Accepting a larger home.
- D. Security considerations. The security of your home heavily influences the atmosphere of your home.

### III. SETTING UP YOUR HOME

- A. Family needs should be considered before ministry needs. A family that can feel at home is much more likely to stay on the field.
- B. Part of your ministry is helping your wife setup housekeeping (picture hanging, curtains, light fixtures, etc.)
- C. Where should we buy our furniture?
- D. Make your home as comfortable as possible.
- E. You do not have to lose your identity to be a faithful missionary! You should not flaunt it but you do not have to be ashamed either.
- F. Involve the children as much as possible during the setup process. **You have one chance!**
- G. Strive to make your home a place where you can relax not place of misery and discontentedness.
- H. When inquiring about the types of homes available and what is available to buy, communicate with as many different missionaries as possible.

### IV. FINDING WHERE TO SHOP

- A. Good grocery stores, meat markets, gas stations (quality of gas), clothing stores, and restaurants may have to be chosen by trial and error. (Consult with other Americans, expats or missionaries on a frequent basis.)

- B. Larger cities offer more conveniences and a larger variety of imported items.
- C. Write detailed list of what your furniture and food needs are and consult with people living in the area about those needs.

## **V. SETTING UP BANK ACCOUNTS**

- A. Confirm that the bank can work with American banks
- B. Find out the requirements for opening an account
- C. Prepare other verification documents
- D. Choose a currency for your overseas bank
- E. Inquire about transaction fees, (ATM withdrawals, wire transfers)
- F. Consider having 2 banking accounts at different banks for emergencies
- G. Be very cautious if you choose to exchange money (USD) on the black market
- H. You are a foreigner in a strange land of which many do not want you there. Be careful.
- I. Visit <http://exchanges.state.gov/non-us/money-and-banks>

## **VI. GETTING AROUND TOWN SAFELY. USING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

- A. Taxis, Buses and bicycles are commonly used in many places. Trains are more commonly used outside of the U.S. Cars are luxuries in some countries.
- B. Public transportation is usually very inexpensive.
- C. Safety precautions for children.
- D. Inquire about which areas of the city are considered dangerous.

## **VII. FINDING A VEHICLE / TAKING A VEHICLE WITH YOU / LICENSING**

- A. Consider raising funds for a vehicle before you leave.
- B. Some countries do not have vehicles for you to buy, and you may be able to ship a vehicle into the country.
- C. Some countries do not allow you to ship unless it is new. You could be subject to international charges (some up to 300% of what they think it cost)
- D. Insurance is not available or affordable in many countries. Research insurance as much as possible.

- E. Some countries take your state-side license and translate it to give you a national license. They keep your state-side on file. You may have to have two copies of your state-side one before you leave.
- F. Some countries make you do everything from the beginning, as if you did not have a license.

### **VIII. DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS**

- A. VERY IMPORTANT! Your health is your ministry.
- B. Medical facilities may be a determining factor for where you decide to live. (This is especially true for children with special needs.)
- C. Be willing to ask questions while at the hospital, and be willing to leave if you feel uncomfortable.
- D. Another missionary can help you to know which doctors are good for you and your children.
- E. Inquire about payment methods beforehand. For example, you may have to pay everything up front and then send the claim to the insurance company. It can be stressful.

### **IX. CONTAINERS / BAGGAGE / CUSTOMS**

- A. Research will be vital in determining the answers to these needs.
- B. It is getting harder and more expensive to ship.
- C. Most airlines have changed the weight to 50 lbs. per bag and are charging for extra bags. Visit the airline website for detailed information about baggage costs.
- D. In many countries it is beneficial to work with a Custom's Broker to handle your container. The broker charges you, and you pay all the charges of the government plus storage, while you are waiting. Try to find out before you send anything. Get all the Broker's fees in writing and consider signing a contract to avoid being charged for services for which you did not ask.

### **X. U.S. EMBASSY / CONSULATE**

- A. You will need to make an appointment for most American citizen services and needs.
- B. Register each family member at the nearest consulate or main embassy as soon as you arrive on the field.
- C. Order (Vital records) additional copies of birth certificates, marriage certificates, immunizations records Social Security Cards. Make copies of any relevant medical records.
- D. Visit [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov) for country specific information.



## **REVERSE CULTURE SHOCK**

### **Top Ten Re-Entry Frustrations**

1. Boredom
2. "No one wants to hear about this"
3. It's hard to explain
4. Reverse homesickness
5. Previous relationships have changed
6. People see the "wrong" changes
7. People misunderstand if I adopt elements of my host culture; they misinterpret my behavior
8. Feelings of alienation; seeing home with critical eyes
9. Inability to apply new knowledge and skills
10. Fear of losing the experience, like storing it away in a souvenir box that we look at only occasionally.

### **Stages of Reverse Culture Shock**

#### **STAGE 1: DISENGAGEMENT / DEPARTURE**

- While you are still overseas, you begin to start thinking about moving back home and moving away from your experience and friends abroad.

#### **STAGE 2: EUPHORIA / THE HONEYMOON**

- You may be very excited to be back home and others may be equally delighted to have you back. You have the opportunity to do, eat, see, smell and visit with all of those things that you missed while you were away from home. After people express their pleasure at seeing you again, and listen politely to your stories for a few minutes, you may suddenly and/or painfully realize that they are not particularly interested in what happened to you and would much rather prefer to talk about their own affairs.

#### **STAGE 3: ALIENATION**

- In this stage, you experience dampened euphoria with feelings of alienation, frustration and anger. You may even feel like an outsider - a foreigner in your own country. Suddenly you feel irritated with others and impatient with your own inability to do things as well or as quickly as you hoped. Resentment, loneliness, disorientation and even a sense of helplessness may pervade.

#### **STAGE 4: GRADUAL READJUSTMENT**

- The fourth stage of reentry includes a gradual readjustment to life at home. It is important to remember that the shock of returning home will eventually dissipate.

## Reverse Culture Shock

This basically consists of feeling out of place in your own country, or experiencing a sense of disorientation. While everything is familiar, *you* feel different. Even walking through the airport and hearing American English spoken can be a very surreal experience.

## Re-Establishing Relationships

People you were close with when you left, even those you kept in good contact with, will be separated from you by the unique experiences you have had in each other's absence. However, this separation is certainly not permanent, and new experiences can make for some very interesting conversation. Just keep in mind that since both of you have changed, you will not necessarily interact in the same way.

## Sharing Your Experience

Since you only have had your experience, there is no possible way that anyone can fully understand what you have gone through. While people will be interested in what you did abroad, nobody will be quite as interested as you — despite your amazing storytelling skills.

## Readjusting

Fitting your new life into your old one can be frustrating. Since every country has a unique approach to life, it can be difficult if you are accustomed to operating within cultural mode, or have made that approach to life a part of you, to return to the U.S. where the rules are different. It's easy to become frustrated with aspects of U.S. culture that no longer make sense to you. Try to keep things in perspective.

## Leaving the Field Well

One of the things that may increase your re-entry stress is not leaving your mission field correctly. The last part of Acts 20 gives us a good example of missionaries leaving well. Paul had spent three years in Ephesus and was headed back to Jerusalem.

- **Reconciliation.** When leaving, you may try to deal with tensions in relationships by ignoring them, hoping they will just disappear. However, they do not. We carry them inside, and they interfere with new relationships. If we ever spend time with the other party again, the tensions will still be there and even harder to settle. Paul reminded the Ephesian elders how he had lived among them the whole time he was there and that he never even took support from them but was always giving.
- **Affirmation.** Let others know how you respect and appreciate them by telling them how important their friendship has been and how you enjoyed working with them. As you acknowledge how people have blessed you, you will become aware of what you have gained. Paul commits the Ephesians to God's grace and warns them of potential difficulties.
- **Farewells.** Say good-bye to people, pets, places, and possessions. Take pictures and small reminders of the good things that have happened to you. After Paul was done speaking, they all prayed, wept, embraced, kissed, went to the ship, and tore themselves away.
- **Think destination.** While saying your good-byes, begin thinking realistically about where you are going. Think of it as a visit to the place you used to call home and imagine realistically what it will be like there. Paul wanted to be in Jerusalem by the day of Pentecost, but he also realized that there

were hardships facing him there.

One thing that is particularly difficult is being **forced to leave the field before you really want to**. This can be because of health problems, difficulty with a teenager, and a host of other things. In such cases you may have feelings of failure, depression, discouragement, resentment, and guilt. In such cases it helps to acknowledge your grief, face present realities, draw a healthy line on the past, and commit yourself to the present task. **David encouraged himself in the Lord – Sometimes you have to pick yourself up by your boot strings and just face what is ahead.**

### **Traveling**

- Airplanes are wonderful for getting home in a hurry, but they provide little time to "leave" your host country in your thinking. There is little time to grieve your losses and anticipate your arrival as you fly home, and sometimes you are still "traveling" in your thinking even when your body has arrived back home. In one sense many people are still transitioning for several days or weeks after they arrive home. They unpack their suitcases long before they unpack their minds.
- Although Paul was in a hurry to leave to get home in time, he had time to think as he traveled. Remember that he was covering more than 600 miles by ship at the mercy of the winds, and he had to make a "connection" after the first 200 miles.

### **Re-Entering Well**

- Give yourself some time to transition. Find out if your expectations are realistic or not. Your expectations form the basis for evaluating everything back home, and everyone has expectations even if they deny them.
- Expectations may be based on what was true one, two or four years ago. During that time everything has changed - you, your friends and family, your church, and your culture.
  - You have changed. Before you left, you drove your car to the corner store, threw away food, and discarded plastic bags without thinking. Now you walk half a mile, take food home from the restaurant, and hoard bags. Paul had changed, and he told the people about persecuting followers of the Way, being struck blind on the road, and then being sent to the Gentiles. (Acts 22)
  - Your friends and family have changed. You once belonged to the group, knew where you fit with everyone, and friends confided in you and listened to you. While you were gone, new people came into the group, and your friends are involved in different activities. You now feel like a marginal person, do not understand the jokes at which others laugh, and misinterpret some of the things they say and do.
  - Your church has changed. When you left, it may have seemed to be such a mission-minded church, but now no one seems very interested in missions. When you try to talk about your mission experience, people may listen politely for a few minutes, then launch into an excited conversation about how the local football team is doing. When Paul came home from his first term (Acts 15) of missionary service, people from the church maintained that his converts were not saved. At the end of Paul's third term (Acts 22) people in his own denomination were excited. However, when he went to the big church in town, the people basically listened politely until he mentioned his missionary call; then they called for his death.

- Your culture has changed. Cultures now change so fast that even the people living in them can barely keep up with the changes. People gone for several years often return to a culture quite different from the one they left. Something as simple as walking into a store to buy something can be overwhelming.

### **Pitfalls to Avoid**

You will face many difficult situations. Here are some of the most common.

- **Frustration** - Things will be different, and some of those differences will be very frustrating. For example, while overseas, your family may have been closer because there was no TV and you home-schooled your children. Back home TV, school activities, many church activities, sporting events, club activities, etc. will separate family members.
- **Disillusionment** - You return home all excited about what you have been doing, but everyone at home seems so apathetic. "They are comatose and don't even know it."
- **Judgmental** - It is very easy to become critical, condemning others in the face of their apparent apathy.
- **Bitterness and Hostility** - If you let these things progress far enough, you may become bitter inside and let that express itself in hostility toward the very people who supported you financially and with prayer.

### **Suggestions for Avoiding Pitfalls**

Pitfalls can be avoided, or at least made less disruptive to your life and witness. Here are some suggestions.

- **Grieve your losses** - If you have not taken time to grieve during leaving or traveling, take time to do so after you arrive. Although time will be at a premium, set aside a few minutes each day (perhaps during your devotional time) to fully grieve what you have left behind.
- **Be honest** - Do not let your spirituality pride keep you from sharing your struggle with someone. Find someone (another missionary, a close friend **WHO WILL KEEP A CONFIDENCE**, a counselor who understands missionaries, etc.) who will mentor you in adjusting to life back home.
- **Adjust to changes in ministry** - You will have a different type of ministry than you had while on the field. What you do may seem quite mundane in comparison. All avenues of service are pleasing to God, and you can find a way to be a servant in any local church.
- **Thank your supporters** - Even if you are not given the chance to speak to all the people in your church during a service, find some way to thank those who have helped you. Perhaps you can invite them over for a meal that you learned to prepare while in another culture and share what God did in and through you.
- **Reach out to people** - Whatever you do, continue to reach out to people as you did on the field. As you reach out, people will see how you have changed and perhaps want to experience the same changes in their lives.







## BIBLICAL STANDARDS AND YOUR WALK WITH GOD

### I. Maintaining Biblical Standards

- A. Precepts:** (God’s Word) David said in Psalm 119:128, “*Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right.*”
1. **Convictions?**
    - a. Personal Standards and Separation
    - b. Ecclesiastical Separation
  2. **Convenience?**
    - a. Impressing others
    - b. Insincere in heart
- B. Principles:** (Ethics: a moral code) It will take unyielding tenacity to maintain Biblical Standards. We can get help from the Holy Spirit.

### II. Maintaining Your Walk With God

#### A. Practice

Titus 3:8,14, “*This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou **affirm constantly** that they which have believed in God might be **careful to maintain** good works. These things are good and profitable unto men. 14 And let ours also learn to **maintain** good works for necessary uses, that they be not **unfruitful**.*”

There is a criteria given to maintain this walk, and it is found only in the Bible. I call it Bible Arithmetic.

#### 1. There is Subtraction

Ephesians 4:22-24, “*That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation the **old man**, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 3 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*”

We cannot maintain our walk with God and carry around the baggage of our Old life (“old man”).

Hebrews 12:1, “*Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside** every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*”

#### 2. There is Addition

2 Peter 1:5-10, “*And beside this, giving all diligence, **add** to your **faith virtue**; and to virtue **knowledge**; And to knowledge **temperance**; and to temperance **patience**; and to patience **godliness**; And to godliness **brotherly kindness**; and to brotherly kindness **charity**. For if these things be in you, and abound they make you that ye shall neither be **barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give **diligence** to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, **ye shall never fall**. We notice that He said to add to your Faith. We must have a foundation to build on.*”

### 3. There is Division

1 Timothy 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly **dividing** the word of truth.”

- a. We are often admonished in the Bible to walk even as He walked: “He that saith he abideth in **him** ought himself also so to **walk even as he walked.**” 1 John 2:6
- b. When we think of rightly dividing the Word of Truth, we think of the Dispensations, and the Covenants and the Doctrines of the Bible. Of course, this is truth, and we should because the life of Christ is one of those doctrines called “**Christology.**” Therefore, when we study the life of Christ, we discover how He walked. He walked in **obedience** to the Father. ( John 8:29) He walked in **humility.** (Mark10:25) He walked in the will of The Father. “Then said I Lo I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.” Hebrews 10:7

### 4. There is Multiplication

1 Peter 1:2b, “Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.”

Acts 6:7, “And the word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.”

In the following references, we see the need we have in multiplication:

- a. Mercy, Jude 1:2
- b. Grace, 2 Peter 1:2
- c. Peace, 2 Peter 1:2
- d. Power, Acts 12:24
- c. People, Acts 6:7

## B. Pursue

### 1. Try

“The two greatest words in the English language are **Try and Trust.**” John Williams, missionary to the Erromanga Island, South Pacific.

When looking at the definition of the word TRY, we can readily see why it is one of the greatest words in the English Language. It means to:

- a. Aim (Focus)— Acts 3:4
- b. Attempt (“labour,”) (Fight) – Colossians 1:29
- c. Endeavor— Acts 16:10
- d. Dare (“hazarded”)— Acts 15:26
- e. Contend (“fight”)— 1 Timothy 6:12, Jude 1:3; Jude 1:3

### 2. Trust

“Attempt great things for God; Expect great things from God.” William Carey, Missionary to India.

- When we look at the definition of the word “Trust,” we see it is one of the greatest words in the English language.
- The definition of the word Trust is “Have faith in.” In our case, it is “have faith in God.” (Mark 11:22) We should never trust in ourselves. “... that we should not trust in ourselves but in God which raiseth the dead:” 2 Corinthians 1:9
- Our walk is only as effective as our faith in Him. Someone asked Adoniram Judson this question: “How bright is the prospect of missions?” He answered, “As bright as the promises of God.” I am sure that we will agree that our walk with God must be a **steady walk.**

Philippians 4:6-7, “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

To be able to start right, stand right, stay right, and stay steady, we need these four things:

- a. **Obtain fresh strength for each new length.**
- b. **Attain new heights for lofty flights.**
- c. **Maintain the pace throughout the race.**
- d. **Sustain the load along the road.**

Now let us look at these points:

**First**, how do we **obtain** this strength?

- Of course, we first go to God’s word. Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”
- This is true, however, Paul is in prison for his faith and God’s Glory.
- Samson needed strength: Judges 15:18,19
- Jonathan needed strength. 1 Samuel 14:1-30

**Secondly**, we **attain** new **heights** by having a goal to reach **higher**.

- Paul says, “I press toward the mark for the prize of the **high** calling of God in Christ Jesus.” He also said “If There first be a willing mind...” 2 Corinthians 8:12

**Thirdly**, we **maintain** the **pace** throughout the race.

- How do we do this? Paul says, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, “Know ye not that they which run in a **race** run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 25 I therefore so run not as uncertainly; so fight I not as one that beateth the air: 26 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”
- We are admonished to run the **race** set before us. Hebrews 12:1, “... let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the **race** that is set before us,”
- There are 9 things we must do to maintain the **race**.
  1. Continue in His **Word**. John 8:31
  2. Continue in His **Love**. John 15:9
  3. Continue in His **Grace** Acts 13:43
  4. Continue in the **Faith** Acts 14:22
  5. Continue by the **Help** of God Acts 26:22
  6. Continue in His **Goodness** Romans 11:22
  7. Continue in **Prayer** Colossians 4:2
  8. Continue in His **Doctrine** 1 Timothy 4:16
  9. Continue in The **Son** and The **Father** 1 John 2:24

**Fourthly**, we are to **Sustain** the **Load** along the road.

- Again we are admonished to carry a load.

Galatians 6:2, “Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.” But, he also says in Proverbs 18:14, “The spirit of a man will **sustain his infirmity**;”

- The Lord does not want us to bear the load alone.  
Psalms 55:22, “**Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.**”
- When we are **Trying**, we **Practice** and when we **Trust**, we **Pursue**.
- This will work every time, “...if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son **cleanseth** us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7

### “The man God Uses”

“I want, dear Lord, a heart that’s true and clean,  
A sunlit heart, without a cloud between:  
A heart like thine, a heart divine, a heart as white as snow—  
On me, dear Lord, a heart like this bestow.”  
—By Oswald J. Smith

## Additional Notes

### Introduction:

- 1) Bible Standards Is Our Criteria by which we operate **Victoriously**.
- 2) Bible Separation Is Our Credentials by which we obtain **Viability**.

### **Saints — Personal — Relationship — Christian Ethics** (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

- The Scriptural study of right and wrong based on Biblical principles (Matthew 5-7) are opposed to the societal science of today which teaches that right and wrong are based on “relativism.” Satan could be laying a TRAP for us.
- As Saints of God, we must be careful here not only as Saints, but as:

### **Servants — Preachers — Responsible — Commitment Ecclesiastically.**

- As Saints, Servants and Preachers, we commit ourselves to God’s Ekklesia (the Church). We uphold It is Biblical purpose for existence: It’s Origin, It’s Divine Nature, It’s Mission, It’s Government, It’s Offices, It’s Ordinances, It’s Destiny. Jesus said “*and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*” Matthew 16:18.
- The ability to fulfill our responsibility and commitment to Biblical standards and Biblical separation depends entirely on our “walk with God.”
- Genesis 5:22, “*And Enoch walked with God.*” Enoch was 65 years old when Methuselah was born. He walked with God three hundred years after Methuselah was born, and Enoch acknowledged the Lord in all his ways, and studied in all his life to **approve** himself to God, having his affections (mind) and conversation above. Colossians 3:2, “*Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*” 2 Timothy 2:15, “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*”

- Then in Genesis 5:24, “*And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.*” Enoch was a prophet and a preacher. ( Jude 1:14,15)
- Genesis 6:9, “*Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah **walked** with God.*” (To keep apace with God.) This means that he lives in a **perpetual** sense of the **Divine Presence**, regards himself as acting in the whole course of his existence. (British Family Bible)

Proverbs 29:18, “*Where there is no vision, the people perish.*”

John 12:35, “*Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. **Walk** while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you.*”

Romans 6:4, “*Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk** in **newness of life.**”*

Romans 8:1, “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who **walk** not after the flesh, but **after the Spirit.**”*

Romans 13:13, “*Let us **walk honestly**, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness,*”

1 Corinthians 7:17, “*But as God hath distributed to every man, as the **Lord hath called every one**, so let him **walk.** (**Prove oneself**) and so ordain I in all churches.*”

Galatians 5:16, “*This I say then, **walk** in the **Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*”

Colossians 1:10, “*That ye might **walk worthy** of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;*”

Colossians 2:6, “*As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so **walk ye in him:**”*

Colossians 4:5, “***Walk** in **wisdom** toward them that are without, redeeming the time.*”

1 Thessalonians 2:12, “*That ye would **walk worthy** of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.*”

1 Thessalonians 4:12, “*That ye may **walk** honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.*”

1 John 1:7, “*But if we **walk in the light**, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*”

3 John 1:4, “*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children **walk in truth.**”*





## THE ACCOUNTABILITY FACTOR

**Introduction:** “Accountability” - responsibility to someone or for some activity; the state of being accountable, liable, or answerable.

### I. Accountability TO GOD-

Romans 14:12, “So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”

- A. Whether we like it or not, we are **accountable**. We show we have it, or that we have a lack of it.
- B. Accountability and character go hand in hand. Some lack in these areas, but you **should** have both.
- C. We know we are accountable to God, but because of His mercies, patience, and longsuffering we often become lax.
- D. Accountability is not about how much we have or do, nor if we are faithful in doing it. It is about a **willingness** to give an account for what and how we do it.

1 Corinthians 6:19, “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”

- E. When God saved us, He “bought” us. When He sent us, we did not become our own!

### II. Accountability to YOUR CHURCH/YOUR MISSION BOARD

Hebrews 13:17, “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”

- A. We know this verse is dealing with our relationship with the church and we must maintain that.
- B. Give an account to your **Pastor and Church**, above that which other churches know about you.
- C. When you came with Macedonia, your Pastor and church **delegated** to us the watch care and well being of you, your family, and your work.
- D. This is totally **impossible** if you are not accountable to Macedonia.
- E. We certainly do not have all the answers, but please, ask us the questions!
- F. Macedonia will never try to lord over you and your work, but we want to be **involved** and we want to **help** you.
- G. If some of our missionaries did not call for money, they would seldom call or write at all.
- H. How faithful are we in:

1. Prayer letters
2. Quarterly Activity Reports
3. Quarterly Expense Reports
4. Sharing with us your prayer requests and your victories
5. Letting Macedonia know when you are leaving your field and for how long
6. Responding to emails with questions from the Home Office
7. Updating the Home Office of address and phone changes
8. Reading the good morning. (Some might say that is asking too much.)
9. What about when you are the missionary of the day?  
(We may not have time to read every one, but what is our attitude about it?)

### III. Accountability to YOUR SUPPORTING CHURCHES/OTHERS

1 Corinthians 4:1, “Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.”

- A. Our accountability is directly related to our **testimony**.  
It’s what they see, hear, and know about us.
- B. The greater our accountability, the **greater** our testimony will be.
  1. To our supporting churches
  2. To the church(es) we are **starting**.  
If we are not accountable to them, how will they **learn** accountability?
- C. This should be very noticeable from the moment we apply with Macedonia, and should continue and even **grow stronger** as we work together for the Lord.
- D. If you ask *me* if *I* am being accountable, I would probably tell you yes. But what if you ask others about me?
- E. Accountability will strengthen our love for each other, our work will prosper more, and **God** will get the glory.

## CHURCH PLANTING AND RESCUE

### **Introduction:**

Church planting is not merely a matter of marketing, methodology and strategy. It is, first and foremost, a spiritual matter. This means that it is characterized by the power of God through the unique and historical sacrifice of Christ and undertaken through the enabling of the Holy Spirit, Who guides the church to pray, believe and work. (John 14:15-18)

Sadly, we are seeing that missionaries today are often motivated and led by the current fads and band wagons of various church leaders. Much emphasis is placed on the “cool name;” the fancy website; the awesome sign out front; and the tech-savvy pastoral staff with the modern “relevant” messages forming the social/cultural modern evangelism of our day. We need to realize how tempting, intriguing, seductive and dangerous these trends can be. Please know that I am not against certain tools and means to get the Gospel to the lost. I am not against effective tools. I am against worldly “relevant” trends and bandwagons! They fade and change. The name of Christ and the testimony of the church for the cause of Christ are then hindered because the trend fades and dies, and people are still left empty!

Bible methodology on Church planting is not a trend! We find in God’s Holy Word the means and methods given by the Master of the harvest to plant HIS church in a dark, lost and dying world. Christ reminded Peter that He, “the Rock,” was the foundation of the building of the church. We see the story in that beautiful passage in Matthew 16:14-18.

There may be a time in your ministry that the Lord leads you to a place where you will not have access to modern technology to further the Gospel message. What then will you do? You will find that all you have to rely on is the precious Word of God and the empowering of the Holy Spirit to get the job done. The question you need to find the answer for right now is this — Will those two things (God’s presence and God’s Word) be enough? The answer is an undeniable YES!

Someone made this wonderful statement. “God does not just call the qualified. He qualifies the called!” That is so à propos to our lesson today. This is the Lord’s work, and we are His tools for His church.

First, you should sit down with your field director and other veteran missionaries and “pick their brains.” You will find many opinions and ideas, all of which can be beneficial to you if you will be willing to learn and apply them with wisdom to your specific needs and field of labor. (Remember, EACH country is unique and has it’s own set of opportunities and challenges.) There is one thing that will remain the same—God’s Word. Follow His Word, and you can’t go wrong. Below are just a few questions which will help you in your search for the Lord’s direction for planting a church or for rescuing a church!

1. How do I locate an area for a new church plant in my country of service?
2. Are there certain laws that I need to follow to plant our church?
3. Is it necessary to incorporate/charter a church in every country? How does this apply to my country?
4. How long do I need to wait to implement our people into the every week/day aspects of our new church?
5. What kind of materials should I prepare to take with me to the field?

**Important:** Get the answers to these questions **before** you begin your new church plant!

Now, let us move forward and look at the five aspects of church planting that are needful for you to consider!

*“And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build **my** church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:16-18)*

### **It is the Lord’s Church—He is the Builder, not us!**

1. **The difficulty to distinguish church from church building, so losing the value of discipleship and creating more investment in the structure rather than the people.**
  - We need to be careful not to put all the emphasis on the infrastructure to the point that we lose sight of what is truly Important - Example - The house churches in closed countries! We as American Christians have the North American freedom of religion mentality that the building is everything. As a missionary Church planter, we can become so engrossed in the meeting house, that we neglect our primary duty of bringing souls to Christ, discipling those precious souls and teaching them to multiply themselves as well.
2. **The danger of delay in introducing your people into the daily life of the Church, so diluting the value of communion and integration as well as creating immature believers, without tasks, challenges and involvement, in other words, creating generations of spoon fed Christians.**
  - DISCERNMENT and WISDOM - Two words very much needed in all areas of our ministry, especially when dealing with your people. There is a fine line between throwing someone into service in the church just to have some help with song leading, Sunday Schooling teaching, etc, and truly seeing the potential in your people and gently and lovingly pushing them to be used of the Lord.
  - It is really important that your people realize that it is their church as well. Many young Christians often fall into the rut of allowing the missionary to do everything.
  - The other danger is the missionary who never allows the people to labor beside him because, “They don’t know how.” or “They will make mistakes.” or “I just don’t trust them yet.” Aren’t you glad that your pastor trusted you (or at least made you think he trusted you)? Aren’t you glad you had the opportunity to labor in your home church and were allowed to make mistakes thereby growing and developing in your walk with God and service for Him?
3. **The lack of consideration for the discipleship of new converts!**
  - This is a vital aspect of church planting.
  - It is a direct command of God for us to do so. This is the key to strong believers in your church planting ministry. (Matthew 28:18-20)
4. **Excessive speed in church planting, creating superficial communities in the Word and opening real opportunities for the infiltration of false doctrine and wolves that come to destroy. DANGER!!!**
  - The average church plant ministry in a third world country is about 3 to 4 years (one full term) from opening services to ordination and calling of the first national pastor.

- We need to slow down and take our time with the teaching of the Word for our people. Once the missionary has come home and “turned” the work over to the national, so often the false teachers (those wolves) come in to rend and tear and destroy the work that the missionary has invested his life in. Don’t be in such a hurry. Allow the Lord to work both in your life and the lives of your people.
- In this point, we see the danger of being so “goal” oriented that we are not “Christ” oriented in our service. It is His “building!” It is His “harvest!” They are His “souls!” It is His “ministry!” We are just His servants.
- Be patient and allow the Lord to give you the **wisdom and discernment** necessary for the work ahead of you! James 1.5-6, “*If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. “*
- We need to be single minded and steadfast in our efforts to be obedient to the Lord, thereby concentrating on the task at hand — Seeing precious souls saved, saints fed and growing in grace, and multiplying ourselves for the cause of Christ!

##### 5. Lay the right foundation! This is essential to the success of the Church Planting Missionary.

- The Apostle Paul was one of the greatest church planters to have ever lived. Let us read what the Holy Spirit taught him in the book of 1 Corinthians.

*“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. 9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”* (1 Corinthians 3:6-15)

## Practical Notes for Planting a Church

Acts 16:18, “*And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*

Acts 16:5, “*And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.”*

### Introduction:

- 1) What we will be addressing on church planting will be from my personal experience as a church planter and from observations from my father, who was a church planter and other church planting missionaries with whom I have had personal contact.
- 2) God has a plan which was being carried forward to completion, and Paul and all the faithful in Christ Jesus were part of that plan. What drove these people to give their lives to reach the world? I believe that it was because they believed that they were part of an eternal plan, and this imparted unquenchable enthusiasm in them. They burned with holy zeal for Christ and felt that they were part of an army which the Lord was leading to ultimate conquest over all the powers of darkness. That was enough to fill them with perpetual enthusiasm. We have to have that kind of holy zeal in our endeavor today. Oh what God could accomplish.
- 3) The three biggest failures of church planting (in my opinion) are: **1) Lack of preparation, 2) Lack of hard work, 3) And a failure to connect with people.** You have to know where you are going and what you are doing. If the people do not see you as a leader, they will not follow.
- 4) Let's take a look at some of the areas that need to be addressed when dealing with church planting.
- 5) This brings me to the "Philosophy of Ministry." We need to have a Philosophy of Ministry that describes your overall philosophical view of ministry as defined by your purpose, priorities, perspectives, and emphasis.
  - a. It should ask the following questions:
    - Why do we exist?
    - Who are we trying to reach?
    - What are we going to do?
    - Why are we doing what we do?
    - Where are we going?
    - How are we going to get there?
    - When will we get there?
  - b. It should answer with these responses:
    - **Purpose** – explains why your church exists.
    - **Target** – identifies the particular people group you intend to reach.
    - **Mission** – explains what you are supposed to be doing.
    - **Core Values** – the underlying beliefs your church embraces which explain why you do what you do.
    - **Vision** – explains where the church is going. It is a picture of the future as you envision it.
    - **Strategy** – explains how you plan to make your vision a reality.
    - **Timeline** – establishes the numeric parameters within which things are to be done.
- 6) As with any ministry you should have S-M-A-R-T goals. They should be **Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Tangible.** Goals should be divided into smaller increments and placed on a timeline.

## I. What is a Local Church

### A. The local church is the body of born again believers and not the building.

It is a Christ bought living organism. Therefore, in my opinion, the emphasis should be on people (living organisms) and not buildings. You can have a church without a building just like you can have a building without a church.

### B. "Indigenous:" *Produced, growing or living naturally in a country or climate; not introduced; native; hence figuratively, inherent.*

- C. Applied to Missionary work, the word indigenous means that, as a result of missionary effort, a native church has been produced which shares the life of the country in which it is planted and finds within itself the ability to:**
  - 1. **Govern** itself.
  - 2. **Support** itself
  - 3. **Reproduce** itself.

## **II. Methods of Evangelism**

Evangelism needs to be a well planned out and prayed out work. If we do not have a schedule to go by, more than likely we will not be very effective. And, if we do not take the time to pray for this part of the work, we fail. Prayer is the most effective tool that we have. Use it!

- A. Door to Door.**
- B. Tracts, Door hangers, Flyers and Brochures.**
- C. Work around the church. Don't try to bring people from across town to start the church. Work locally.**
- D. Have a systematic plan of attack. Start at the door of the church and work your way out. Document your work.**

## **III. The necessity of learning the Language and Culture**

- A. You must do everything possible to identify with the people and the culture. You have got to connect.**
- B. Do not be afraid to try and fail. Missionaries are humans.**
- C. Do not isolate yourself from the nationals or isolate the nationals from the work.**

## **IV. Where to meet (Meeting in your home, Renting a building, etc.)**

- A. Starting out you can be in your home. Using your living room, or porch is certainly an option.**
- B. The set back of this is no personal privacy.**  
Depending on the culture they might move in for the day.
- C. It needs to look nice.**  
It doesn't have to be new or first class but it does need to be clean and organized.
- D. When or if you rent a building make sure you check out the location and neighborhood for the nearest bar, dance hall, other churches, and loud neighbors.**  
These people need the Lord but you do not want to be in competition every service.
- E. Some things to consider.**  
Seating capacity, Bathrooms, Additional rooms for Sunday School, Visibility, Accessibility, Adequacy and Adaptability. Be Creative!

## **V. Buying\Building Church Furniture**

### **A. Simple and practical.**

Depending on if you are in a building where you can leave things set up or if you have to pack everything up after every service, will determine what type of church furniture to use. Today you can buy plastic chairs in a lot of places. Personally I prefer benches. I can seat more people on benches than chairs.

### **B. Other things to consider.**

Pulpit, Table, Offering plates, Flower arrangements, fans, water fountain, Church sign, song books, Bibles, chalk board, Bulletin board, etc. Everything needs to look nice, clean and professional.

## **VI. When and How to purchase Land and Build**

### **A. Location is very important.**

You need to be where the people are. Not everyone has cars or means for transportation.

### **B. I always check out the area to see what it is like in the rainy season and also in the dry season. (Lights, water and sewer are important.)**

### **C. I always consider the safety of our people. Sometimes a busy road can be a big headache down the road.**

### **D. Check with local officials. Sometimes you can get land for free.**

### **E. When do I buy property?**

There are two methods that I use. One is after I have started the church. This gives me more time to familiarize myself with the area and when I do buy the church is involved in the decisions. The second is I keep my eyes and ears open for good deals on property or when the government gives an ok on the development of a new neighborhood. I check out the plans with the local authorities and then look in on buying property. Usually the property is much cheaper before the people start building. This property would be for future use.

## **VII. Insuring a legal transaction, having a legal title to the property**

- As Christians, we have the responsibility before God and the people to conduct our business according to the laws of the land in which we serve. The people around us are watching us to see if we will be sly about our transactions. Remember we represent God, and if He has called you to do His work, let's do it right.
- Always check out with the authorities the legal methods for purchase. It is good to know and understand the way things are done legally and what all is involved.
- If the church is not organized yet, you will need to see what you need to do about purchasing and titling property.
- Always make sure that property and buildings are safe from being taken away by another group through the constitution and by-laws of the church.



**VIII. Dealing with local governments, building codes, etc.**

- Again, as Christians, we have the obligation to find out what the proper procedures are with the local government before we buy or build.
- Use an architect. He or she should know the building codes for that area.
- Even though you may be familiar with the way things are done in the States, remember that you need to respect their way of doing things, and, when possible, teach them a better or more appropriate way of doing things.

**Additional Thoughts****1. Faith Promise Giving on the Mission Field**

I know that teaching the people to participate in tithes and offerings is very important and that it is taught in the churches while they are being established. But I find that there seems to be a lack of the teaching of Faith Promise Mission's Giving when starting churches. I believe that faith promise giving was not designed for the American people. It is a biblical principal. Every church started should be started with faith promise giving. And as we have seen God bless churches in this country, guess what, He does bless in other countries as well.

**2. Failure to produce indigenous churches may be due to:****a. Failure to grasp the transitory aspect of the missionary's ministry.**

- This is like the carpenter and scaffolding remaining after the building is completed.
- Successful missionary is one who has done his work so well that he is no longer needed in that area.
- The true measure of the success of a missionaries ministry is not what he accomplished while on the field, but the work that still stands after he has gone.

**b. Disproportionate number of missionaries.**

- The missionary should never hold a position that a national is able to fill.
- Teamwork between missionary and the nationals is vital.

**c. Failure to adapt himself to native psychology and methods.**

- Church construction.
- Music / Services / Culture.

**d. Too much foreign money.**

- Funds from outside to help fund planting or building of churches.
- Funding national pastors or workers? Dependence? Lost initiative?

**e. Failure to exercise a vigorous faith in God for the development of the spiritual capabilities of His converts.**

- Appointed pastors from within the congregation. **Acts 14:23, "And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."** It is important to develop leadership within the church, even though at first they may not do it as well as we could!
- Tithing / Offering / Faith Promise / Evangelism.

**f. Failure to develop a missions-minded church that reproduces itself!**

- Stressing missions from the very beginning.
- Pattern being set by the missionary.
- Sending out national missionaries by the indigenous church to begin other indigenous churches. REPRODUCTION!!

**3. Team Missionaries**

- There are biblical principles in the involvement of team church planting. Here are some thoughts.
- a. **The Biblical Precedent.**
  - There was often a team of people who planted churches in the book of Acts such as Paul and Barnabas, and Aquila and Priscilla. (Acts 18:1-3; Romans 16:3-4)
  - T-ogether
  - E-veryone
  - A-chieves
  - M-ore for the Glory of God!
- b. **Practical Advantages.**
  - Co-laborers in the work of the Lord.
  - Assist in various church ministries such as Sunday School teaches; Nursery; Special music; Ushering, until the nationals are trained.
  - Soul-winning partner / General visitation partner.
  - Acting treasurer – pastor is not the only one counting, depositing, etc.
  - Sounding board for thoughts and ideas.
  - Personal fellowship.
  - Individuals of like faith and practice. This is a must.
  - Special fellowship among the wives.
- c. **Pitfalls to Avoid.**
  - Spending too much time together. There has to be a **BALANCE**.
  - Avoid living in the same apartment complex.
  - Avoid doing everything together. Maintain your own family business and activities.
  - “Us vs. Them” spirit.

## Church Rescue

You may one day find yourself in the unique situation of being called of God to rescue a church that is floundering and ready to die. The Lord sends you in with your tools to clean, repair and administer spiritual first aid to a group of hurting people. So often this ministry is much more difficult than starting your own church.

Here are a few things that you need to remember as you tackle this great and needful task.

**Be Careful! In many foreign countries the church you want to help rescue may not be an Independent Baptist Church. Your goal will be to turn it into an Independent Baptist Church for the glory of God.**

### I. Some things to be aware of for any church in question:

- What are you, as a man of God, prepared to encounter and is your family up to this task?
- What is their background? (Have they had a church split? Is it a deacon run church? Is it a committee run church? Is it a woman run church? )
- What are the issues that brought them to this point? (Possibilities are endless!)
- Does the church have a bad testimony in that town and/or community?
- Are they an independent church or are they a member of an association?
- What is your timeline? Is your focus mainly church planting?

**II. Some things you need to consider:**

- SEEK GOD’S WILL in HIS WORD and PRAY!
- Meet the people of the church.
- Seek counsel from your pastor and other godly men whom you trust and respect.
- Don’t encourage gossip, but openly find out the issues.
- Show them your concern and love for them, families, and their community.
- Immediately establish your doctrinal position, your polity for church government, and your ecclesiastical position in your meetings with the remaining members of that church. Read their Statement of Faith and Church Constitution, and if it is appropriate, keep it for the church. Use love, discernment and wisdom always! Bring your Statement of Faith and a copy of a good church constitution and share it with them, giving them the time to study it and ask questions. (It is very possible that they were not taught much doctrine.) Be upfront and lovingly honest.
- Share the vision which the Lord has given you for that church and expect some reactions. (People are people anywhere you go.)
- In the process church rescue, you will have to be voted in as the interim pastor and proceed with the goal of working yourself out of a job.
- It may be wise, before a final decision has been made for you to take the church, to give the members a Church Covenant and explain the responsibilities and commitments involved in church membership. They can adopt it, having each one sign it and displaying it in the church building as a visible reminder to the members.
- Don’t be a bull in a china shop. You most likely will not be in the southeast United States where many people are used to “hard” preachers who “shear” the sheep every message. You will have one opportunity to rescue this church. The church did not get to this place overnight, so it will not turn around overnight, either.

**III. Some things to always remember:**

*“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.” (1 Peter 5:2-4)*

- We are never to lord it over the flock. They are Christ’s sheep. We are just the under-shepherds.
- Be humble in your spirit and confident in the Lord. Even in a church rescue, it is STILL His work!
- Love those people. If they see that you truly love and care for them, then they will submit to your God-given authority.

- Respect is never demanded! It is always earned!
- In the passage above there is a blessed outline and plan that the Lord gives us :
  1. **Take the sheep to pasture.** “...*feed the flock of God...*”  
The Word will grow them into what God wants them to be. Don’t starve the flock.
  2. **Take your responsibility seriously.** “...*taking the oversight thereof...*”  
You will answer to God for your leadership (or lack thereof). True leadership is serving others!
  3. **Be obedient and sensitive to the will of God.** “...*not by constraint (forced into it) but willingly...*”  
Proceed only if the Lord has given you peace and the door is open to do so. Don’t “go” by force, duty, or obligation. Go because God is sending you there for that task. Then and only then will your heart be in it!
  4. **Take care to study and feed yourself.** “...*Be of a ready mind...*”  
Grow in your own spiritual life. Study the Word diligently. Be ready to preach, teach and lead. Don’t rely on Revival meetings and Bible Conferences alone to get your next feeding. You probably won’t have the access to those once on the field.
  5. **Be godly, loving, stable, and ethical in all you do.** “...*not for filthy lucre, ...Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.*”  
So goes the pastor, so goes the church. Let God use you for His glory. Be the kind of man that will please God. Be right in your attitudes and actions.
  6. **Be prepared for Christ’s coming.** “...*And when the Chief shepherd shall appear...*”  
What will He find in you? He is coming for His own, and we should desire to be found faithful to the task that He has given us!





## TRAINING NATIONAL LEADERS (The Key to a Successful Ministry)

### Introduction:

#### 1) Recommended Reading:

- a) *The Master Plan of Evangelism* by Robert Coleman
- b) *The Disciple-Making Pastor* by Bill Hull

#### 2) Why are we here?

- a) We have been saved by the grace of God.
- b) God has called us to be church planting missionaries.
  - If you have been called into missions, be a missionary.
  - Where you start your church you will be their pastor but from day one you must begin to work yourself out of a job.
- c) You are the channel or vessel that God has called to reach your country or area.
  - God could have called somebody else, but He called you.
  - You are the man.

*Ephesians 4:11-16, “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”*

### I. How to choose leaders?

- As a missionary, my job is to train men like the Master did. But how do I select men to follow me and learn from me? Some pastors say, “Don’t follow me, but follow Christ.” Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:1, “*Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*” No doubt we are to be an example or model to other believers.
- The question came up, “How do I select/choose leaders?” I heard that I should pray for a band of men, the moment I come to the field, and I believe that I should. I heard that if I had a few leaders trained before I went to furlough that I would be a success, and I believe that is true. But how in the world do I do that? Do I personally select them? I would try to find men with talents and those who seemed to love Jesus, and I would select them, but I made many mistakes.
- The other question that has arisen “Do I select leaders and pastors or are they supposed to be called or chosen by the Lord?”
- My success isn’t based on if I have won 1000 to Christ last week, but do I have some leaders that can take over the work, when I leave? I was teaching in our Bible College one day, and we were talking about the *Master Plan of Evangelism*. We spent many hours discussing the book. We thought about “selection” and came up with the diagram below.



### Step 1 : Evangelization

- Day 1 that I am in the country that God has called me to, I need to evangelize. I must be a witness. I can't possibly have leaders, without winning the lost to Christ. Leaders aren't bought at Wal-Mart. They aren't ready when you arrive to the field. They aren't ready made. Many Americans love to go to the freezer section in Wal-mart and buy ready made meals. Heat them up for 4-5 minutes and eat. It is easy but that doesn't taste the best. The best is from scratch. To cook from scratch you must start from nothing. You can probably find men that are already trained and work with them. I am not saying that you can't do this, but from personal experience this usually isn't best. I will most likely begin from zero. That means that we must win the lost.
- Leaders are not chosen from this level. There will be those who have potential, but we must be careful. We will give them opportunities to prove their sincerity, love and desire. These opportunities will help them to grow (make them or break them). If I select from this level, I will end up with a lot of problems. Maybe in America, this wouldn't be as great a problem, but in a third world country, a good job can be get close to the missionary. The thought is, "he has money and he can give me a job." You will be burned again and again. Believe me on this, I can tell you many personal stories. I have had them come and tell me that they are called of God to be in the ministry. My first thought, "Great, we need workers, we need men, we need to evangelize this country." They think, "I will use this white man and eat well."
- Many missionaries have come to the field wanting to train men. They had good hearts and a wonderful desire, but unfortunately they have been burned and given up. I believe they tried to select too soon. They didn't have a natural weeding out process. I have heard that there are no good men in Burkina Faso. One that is a good leader, honest, and loves God. I can tell you that isn't true. I know many that love God and are very honest. I would trust them above many Americans. You won't find them overnight. They aren't produced in a factory (I wish they were). Some will be born again, and God will do a work in their life.

### Step 2: Conversion

- Some of those whom have been evangelized will come to Christ. The number of people who



receives Christ, will not equal the number who have been evangelized. The number will be greatly less.

- Our goal isn't to be able to say we have a great number of conversions, but to have those who have genuinely received Jesus. We don't simply want a number, but we want true repentance. We don't need just a conversion but regeneration.
- I have met men that write in their letters that hundreds have come to Christ. I go to their church and wonder where the hundreds are. I am not trying to be critical but having people sign a role but never get regenerated won't get the job done.

### Step 3: Baptism/Membership

- My goal for those who receive Christ as their Saviour, is to be baptized and become a member of the church. As stated many times, "The first step of obedience for the new Christian is baptism." Again, of those who receive Christ, less will make it to the Baptismal pool.
- We do a 3-4 week baptismal course. I want them to understand what they are doing. Many believe that baptism saves or at least is a part of salvation.

### Step 4: Discipleship

- After they have been baptized and become a member of the church, the next goal is a good discipleship program. Everyone that is saved and Baptized must be discipled or at least given the opportunity.
- I made a vital error for a long time in the ministry. I chose those who would be discipled. I looked at those whom I thought had potential, those who had talents, those who had a good appearance. I seem to remember a story of a prophet that was greatly mistaken. The prophet, in spite of being a great man of God, would have chosen another.

1 Samuel 16:6-7, "And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, **Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him.** {Eliab: called Elihu} But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart." ["outward..." : Hebrew, "Eyes"]

- Samuel looked upon the outward appearance.

1 Samuel 16:10-12, "Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, **The LORD hath not chosen these.** And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. {down: Heb. round} And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. **And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.**" ["of a..." : Hebrew, "fair of eyes"]

- Seven sons of Jesse passed before Samuel. If the process would have been left to the earthly father or the prophet, he would have chosen many other in front of David.
- Judas was chosen to handle the money. I don't know exactly how he was chosen for this job, but none of the other disciples seemed to have a problem with this. I have chosen a few Judas.
- One man can't do the discipleship alone. At the beginning, it is the Pastor/Missionary. But I must train others that can disciple.

1 Timothy 2:2, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

**Step 5: Leaders**

- Leaders will only come from those who have been disciplined. This is where I get my Sunday School leaders, ushers, children church workers, song leaders, etc.
- It doesn't really matter at what level somebody is when they come to our church. They must all pass by these steps. Some will be saved and baptized but all must be disciplined, unless coming from another Fundamental Baptist Church.
- We can't choose a leader just because he has talents. We needed a good song leader. We needed a choir director but we need a godly one not just a talented one.

**Step 6: Pastors/Missionaries**

- I have tried to produce/choose/develop a pastor too many times instead of letting the cream rise to the top. In any business or organization in life, people must prove themselves. They have to prove their work ethic, faithfulness, honesty, etc. Should the church be any different? When the church is the most important entity on the earth, then why should we have fewer qualifications or accept those who haven't proved their work ethic, their faithfulness to God and the church, their honesty in all things, their love for others, etc.
- I must stay focused as the leader or the church won't be focused.
- Our church must continually win others.
- Our church must disciple others.
- I must model how to be a good pastor but my main goal needs to be to train leaders.

**II. How to train those who have been called (risen to the top)?****A. Pray**

1. From day one I must pray that God raises up some men.
2. I must pray throughout the process.

**B. Model / Mother church**

1. Do the people have a model church?
 

*1 Thessalonians 1:7-8, "So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing."*

  - It is easier to see what a church is supposed to be instead of just talking about it.
  - If you can't create a solid church when you have seen and been active in a solid church, then why would we expect a national to create a solid church when he has never seen one?
  - You will be forming the model of what will be created for years to come.
2. A solid church will produce solid Christians.
3. Solid Christians will produce solid leaders.
4. What is a model church?
  - Missions
  - Sunday School
  - Children's Church program
  - Evangelism/Outreach
  - Ladies/Men's/Youth meetings
  - Choir
  - Ushers / Deacons / Greeters
  - Discipleship program
  - Etc.

**C. It is life on life.**

1. It is more caught than taught.
  - Go soul-winning with them. Teach them how to lead others to Christ and then let them do it with you there to help.
  - Teach them how to preach and teach. Let them preach it to you first.
2. The missionary will have to spend time with them.
3. Like an apprenticeship.
4. A bible college is good but can't fully train them. They must have practical training.
5. Praise them when they do well.
6. Correct them when they do wrong.

**D. Bible College**

1. A Bible college is 20 hours week.
2. A Bible college is great for training in doctrine.
3. The nationals need to learn how to study.
4. They must be pushed.
5. This is for training pastors/missionaries.

**E. Bible Institute**

1. These are night classes.
2. Eight hours a week.
3. These are for training church workers.

**F. Your relationship to them**

1. They aren't less intelligent.
2. There are good nationals – you must train them.
  - They will be a reflection of you.
  - Everything rises and falls on leadership.
3. You must become a learner.
  - Eat what they eat.
  - Like what they like.
  - Learn their culture.
  - Speak their language well.
4. Learn to trust and respect them.
  - I have been done wrong a million times, but I must continue to trust them.
  - I might have to train them like they are my kid, but I must not treat them like they are a kid.
  - Welcome them to your home. Many missionaries don't let them ride in their car or stay in their house.
5. I want them to come to my level.
  - Have you ever heard, don't follow me but Christ.
  - That wasn't Paul's approach.
  - 1 Corinthians 4:16, "Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me."
  - 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."
  - Philippians 3:17, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample."
  - 1 Thessalonians 1:6, "And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:"
6. Treat them as brothers in Christ.
  - Will they make mistakes? Yes, many and just as I teach my children, I will help them realize their mistake and go on.

- Just because you are rich and they are poor doesn't give you the right to manipulate or criticize.
7. Different levels of leadership in a church—
- We must determine What is a leader?
  - To what level can a leader rise.
  - We find this in 2 Timothy 2:2, *“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”*
  - We see here a leader of leaders.

#### **The First Level – Those who do nothing**

- Churches are full of these types of people. They are good people. They have been saved. They just haven't engaged themselves in the work. Or maybe I should say they haven't been lead to follow. They haven't been challenged. Pastors and missionaries get frustrated because our churches are full of people who do basically nothing. I know and understand the frustration all too well. But I have realized that the problem isn't really them, it is a reflection of leadership. Yes, it is a reflection of my leadership. I will say that 60% or higher of church members are in this category.

#### **The second level – Followers**

- These people will make up about 25-30% of the church. Every church needs followers. They are workers. They do exactly what they are instructed to do. They don't mind working. They just can't see the need. They need to be told exactly what to do.

#### **The third level – A solitary visionary**

- Most of the time churches have very few visionaries. These are people who can see a need and get the job done. These people are a great blessing to a pastor or missionary. They take a load off of the leader. Their struggle is that they normally work alone. They aren't able to lead others to action.

#### **The fourth level – A leader–A visionary that leads followers**

- Most of the time, unfortunately the pastor/missionary is the only one in this category. A pastor can be a success if he is a success at this level. His goal should be to train and go to the next level but many stay here. If a missionary wants to be a success he has to be a good leader but he must move on. He will not leave an indigenous church if he is only a leader with followers.

#### **The fifth level – A leader of leaders–A visionary that leads other leaders**

- For a missionary to be a success, he must one day arrive at this level. There are a few pastors that have arrived at this level but most truly haven't. Most missionaries, unfortunately, haven't arrived here either. I am not saying that I have arrived here. Actually, I am striving to train true leaders and I am not sure if we have gotten there yet. I have some good followers and I have a few third level people but not many.





## **ORGANIZING A CHURCH**

### **“LEGAL ENTITY”**

#### Introduction:

- 1) This study is all based on experience and not any particular curriculum.
  - a) There may be other methods.
  - b) Things are constantly changing.
  - c) All of this can and may change.
- 3) It appears that governments worldwide are becoming more strict when it comes to Church organization and legalization.

#### **I. When to Organize.**

##### **A. Traditional Opinion – after you have a strong congregation.**

1. The new mission continues to be connected the “mother” church until it’s financially strong enough to stand on its own.
2. Sometimes, this is not practical.
3. Now if the church starts a congregation, this is a different story.

##### **B. Recent Opinion – as soon as possible**

1. The pastor and the church will be more at ease when things are accurate before the government.
2. Legally, you have no right to receive offerings.
3. Start the process right away will most likely help you to avoid problems later on.

##### **C. How many people are needed – 4 to 6**

1. President (always the pastor)
2. Vice president
3. 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Secretary (optional by the By-laws) (These can be inverted)
5. 1<sup>st</sup> Treasurer
6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer (optional by the By-laws)

#### **II. The Statutes (By-Laws) Should be the First Step.**

##### **A. You should have several copies.**

1. Discuss it with your congregation before the meeting so as not to take up too much time in the meeting.
2. All can ask questions so a conclusion can be reached.

##### **B. Types of Statutes.**

1. Very involved, more detailed.
  - a. Doctrinal Declaration
  - b. Certain clauses against the trends of the day. (Convention, renovation, etc.)
2. Simple.
  - a. Generally, the people can change the statutes.
  - b. To me, it’s not the statutes that govern the church.
  - c. The statutes are mainly for the government.
3. Our Statutes.

- a. Church, Nature, and Ends
- b. Patrimony and Administration
  - i. How the free will offerings operate
  - ii. Election of the directors
  - iii. How members are received/accepted
  - iv. The duties of the Pastor and Deacons

### **III. The Meeting**

- A. A visiting pastor is invited to oversee the meeting.**
  - 1. Minutes are taken.
  - 2. Prayer
- B. A motion is made to organize and a vote is taken.**
- C. Statutes are read, a motion made with a second, and a vote is taken.**
- D. A President is elected (Pastor), and then he takes charge.**
- E. A Directory is elected.**
- F. Letters are received.**
- G. A motion is made with a second to complete the meeting.**
- H. The act is written in the Book of Acts with the date and time, and is signed by the President and the Secretary.**
- I. In Brazil it is mandatory by law that a meeting be held annually.**

### **IV. After the Meeting (BRAZIL)**

A portion of the statutes has to be published in the newspaper “Diário Oficial do Estado.”

- A. Get a copy.**
- B. Take a copy, the book of acts and a copy of the Statutes to the government office of registration.**
- C. The statutes and portion are registered and they will stamp them as I will show you.**
- D. This makes the church a Legal Entity.**

### **V. There is Still Work to Be Done.**

- A. Always put the property in the church’s name.**
- B. You need to apply for a Tax Exemption (Requirement).**
- C. You need to apply for a C.G.C. (State Registration).**



- D. You need to apply for Municipal Tax Exemption**
- E. You need to register with the I.N.P.S. (If you don't have a paid staff, you will have to request Tax Exemption).**
- F. You will receive the C.G.C. card (you cannot declare income tax without the card).**

## **VI. Annual Duties**

- A. Take one copy of the first and second directly to the bank.**
- B. The new directory does not need to be published in the newspaper, but it has to be registered.**
- C. Requirement for the exemption of Real Estate Taxes at City Hall (I have a copy of the requirement).**
- D. Re-validate annually the C.G.C. – the date is listed on the card.**
- E. Take out exemption do I.N.P.S.**
- F. Declare taxes by June.**
  - 1. C.G.C. Card
  - 2. Forms from the year before
  - 3. Current forms

## **VII. Church Ordinances**

- A. Only two ordinances: Baptism and Lord's supper**
- B. Baptism**
  - 1. Only believers
  - 2. We baptize only after the new converts have had the "New Convert Studies", especially the part of baptism.
  - 3. One submersion. (Sprinkling – never)
  - 4. We only accepted baptisms of like faith and beliefs. All others had to be baptized the correct way along with only one who makes a new profession.
- C. Lord's Supper**
  - 1. Only baptized believers are allowed to participate.
  - 2. Baptism is the first step in obedience.
  - 3. Only use grape JUICE, not fermented; not wine, and bread or wafers. Some have used saltines. I do not think that is best. You may carry some boxes with you or someone can bake some bread without leaven/yeast.
  - 4. Some have the Lord's Supper once a month; some every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday night; or once a quarter. Be careful that you don't have it too much, that it become a habit and not a privilege.
  - 5. We always have open communion. Some practice closed communion only for members.
- D. Safe guards for handling money!**

1. We try to get a national treasurer as soon as we have a qualified person to accept the position.
2. We use double signatures on checks as a check point, generally the pastor and the treasurer.
3. In most cases, or places, the pastor has to protect himself from accusations in stealing the money.
4. It is either money or women, and not necessarily in that order.

### **VIII. Church Leadership**

#### **A. Always follow the qualifications set in the Word of God.**

Acts 6:1-7

1 Timothy 3:1-16

2 Timothy 2:1-26

2 Timothy 4:1-22

#### **B. Sunday School teachers, piano player, song leaders, etc.**

### **IX. Business Meeting**

- A. Business meetings are useful and should be handled also by the Bible and always in order.**
- B. It is not a place to fight and argue!**
- C. You should meet with the men of the church and/or deacons, have everything discussed and ready to vote on when you bring it before the whole church.**
- D. All business in the church should be done openly and above all, honestly.**
- E. Get advice from your pastor, mission directors, and fellow missionaries if possible.**
- F. Put God first and do ALL for HIS GLORY! AMEN!**

## DISCIPLING NEW CONVERTS

### Introduction:

- When you got saved, did anyone take you through a discipleship program? How many churches do you know that have an organized, systematic discipleship program? How many missionaries do you know that have one? Is the answer to these questions pleasing to God or fulfilling the Great Commission?
- All of us, no doubt, can stop and think of a number of people we have known or maybe even led to the Lord ourselves, who are no longer living for God. We would also have to admit that they were probably never properly disciplined by a church, or us personally. What could they be doing today for God if someone would have helped them through the beginning stages of their Christian life? Why are most cult members former Baptists? What could have made the difference in the outcome of their life?
- I think the answer to these questions is discipleship. I know you won't have a 100% success rate, but surely we can do a lot better than we have been doing. Do you agree?
- BE A DISCIPLER OF MEN!

### I. The Biblical Mandate for Discipleship.

#### A. The Bible teaches it.

1. Matthew 9:37, *"the harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."*
  - There is a need for laborers.
2. Colossians 2:6, *"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him."*
  - "received Christ Jesus" = Salvation
  - "so walk ye in Him" = Growth
3. Paul is a great model of a disciple. Discipleship could also be seen as spiritual parenting.
  - a. Paul describes his heart attitude toward those he was discipling. 1 Thessalonians 2:3-13
    - (1) They were single-minded in purpose. Vs. 3-6
    - (2) They cared for the Believers as a mother cares for her children. Vs. 7-8
    - (3) They became "role models" for the new converts. Vs. 9-10
    - (4) They gave individual attention and instruction as a father. Vs. 11-12
    - (5) The Word of God was the main component of discipleship. V. 13
  - b. Paul's concern for the Believers went beyond just being a "teacher." He was committed to their spiritual welfare and growth.
    - (1) 2 Corinthians 11:28-29, 2 Corinthians 12:15, 2 Timothy 2:10
    - (2) A Christian can't be spiritually mature without biblical understanding; but a Christian may have much biblical knowledge and yet not be spiritually mature. 1 Corinthians 8:1-2, Ephesians 4:11-16, Colossians 1:28-29
  - c. Paul was not only willing to teach, but also to live what he taught.
    - 1 Corinthians 4:15-16, *"Be ye followers of me"*
    - 1 Corinthians 11:1, *"Be ye followers of me"*
    - Philippians 3:17, *"Be followers together of me"*
    - Philippians 4:9, *"Those things which ye have both learned and received and heard and seen in me, do"*
    - 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7, (Goal of discipleship) *"And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord. 7 Ye were ensamples to all that believe"*

2 Thessalonians 3:7-9, (V.9) “..to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow me”  
1 Timothy 4:12, “be thou an example of the Believers.”  
2 Timothy 3:10-11, “thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life...”  
Titus 2:7-8, “showing thyself a pattern of good works.”

## II. The Ministry of Discipleship

### A. Areas which need to be dealt with in discipleship:

1. Doctrinal
2. Devotional
3. Ministry
4. Character

### B. Identifiable Marks of Maturity Are:

1. Holiness - Hebrews 5:14
2. Love - 1 Timothy 1:5
3. Endurance - 1 Corinthians 3:9-17
4. Unity with Other Christians - 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

## III. Motivation for Discipling – If you don’t disciple them, Who will?

### Tips for Disciple Makers

1. Major on being an encourager. As you listen, ask yourself what you could encourage him about. Hebrews 10:24-25
2. Realize that you are entering into a life-long relationship. Your relationship together will be foundational to all you hope to do. Proverbs 17:17
3. Set the pace. You can’t lead someone farther than you have gone yourself. You can’t build solidly into someone else what is weak or unfamiliar to your own life. Philippians 4:9
4. Modeling is the key to reproducing your life. More things are caught than taught. Be transparent with those you are helping.
5. Repeat all things. Repeat all things. The basics are basic; keep hitting the basics. Philippians 3:1
6. Take him with you as much as possible. Mark 3:14
7. Use illustrations. Try to create a picture for the concepts you want to impart. One picture is worth a thousand words. (Mark 4:26, 30-31)
8. Fit your follow-up plans to the person, not the person to the program. Be flexible. (1 Corinthians 3:9-10)
9. Always focus on Christ and relate all you do together to knowing Him or making Him known. Point to Jesus. (Hebrews 12:2)

10. Keep sharing the vision of disciple-making.

### Six Steps to Spiritual Growth

**G** Go to a Bible-believing Baptist Church – Hebrews 10:25

**R** Read your Bible daily – 1 Peter 2:2, Acts 17:11

**O** Obey Christ and be baptized – Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:41

**W** Witness to others of Christ – Acts 1:8, John 4:28-29

**T** Thank God daily in prayer – Philippians 4:6, Matthew 7:7

**H** Honor the Lord with the tithe – Malachi 3:10, 1 Corinthians 16:2

Quote – *“We are worshiping the Great Commission, but not obeying it.”*  
*“World evangelism is impossible without disciple making.”*

We need to make a commitment to Christ’s command to make disciples. I am not talking about a new converts class before baptism. MAKING DISCIPLES IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN MAKING CHURCHES! Churches are born through disciples. When a missionary says he is a church planter, he should also be saying, “I am a Disciple Maker.” When fruit ripens, it has within it the seed capable of reproducing itself. When Christians are discipled the right way, they should be ready to disciple others and make disciples.

The biggest step, the most important decision, the greatest thrill we will ever have is our salvation. Number two is leading someone else to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Number three is seeing someone you have led to the Lord and discipled lead someone else to the Lord, and they disciple that believer to do the same thing. This is fruitful discipleship and the beginning stages of Multiplication.

A church will be started and a **church with disciple making disciples will continue after you are gone**. Many times the missionary wins them, baptizes them, teaches them doctrine, but does not disciple them. In this situation there is no multiplication. Do not be satisfied with just addition. **The normal and average missionary spends their time and God’s money doing a ministry rather than REPRODUCING IT.**

When a pupil is fully taught, he will be like his teacher.

Quote- Tom Landry (Dallas Cowboys) said, *“Coaching is making men do what they don’t want to do so they can become what they want to be.”*

Coaches do not play the game in pro sports. He has played, but now teaches others to play. The pastor is a player/coach. He never stops playing himself. He also coaches Christians to do what they do not want to do so they can become what God wants them to be.

Jesus had a six step method of training His men.

1. Tell them what.
2. Tell them why.
3. Show them how.

4. Do it with them.
5. Let them do it.
6. Deploy them.

If a man is hungry and you give him a fish, he is fed for a day. If you teach him how to fish, he is fed for a life time. Teach a man how to teach others to fish, and you have started a fishing movement.

This six step teaching method might take three to four years.

2 Timothy 2:2, “*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same **commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.***”

**IV. Sample of Materials Available. If you don't give them literature, Someone else will.**

**A. No need to reinvent the wheel; we may need to balance the tire.**

- ABC
- CD – Internet
- Firm Foundations
- Source of Light

**B. Many good lessons already translated into many languages. (Saves a lot of time)**

## PREPARING FOR THE UNEXPECTED

2 Kings 20:1, “In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, **Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.**”

### I. Talking about the Unexpected.

Note: There are some important, tough questions that need to be discussed.

**A. Do you have a Will?**

**B. Do you have Advance Directives or Living Wills?**

**C. Where do you want to be buried—you, your spouse, your children?**

**D. Do you have enough Life Insurance?**

**E. What will you do when your spouse is gone—stay on the field or go back home?**

### II. Preparing for the Unexpected.

#### A. Have a Will.

Reasons for a will:

1. A will allows you to specify your wishes concerning your estate.
2. A will allows you to name an Executor for your estate.
3. A will allows you to name a Trustee for your children’s estate.
4. A will allows you to name a Guardian for your children.

Note:

- 1) Talk to each person (i.e. executor, guardian, etc.) before you make out your will.

Example: If you own property and your spouse is not named as a joint owner, the wife will not be able to take immediate possession of the property.

- 2) Life insurance is paid to the person named as “beneficiary” on the insurance policy and not the person(s) named in the will.

#### B. Know about Advance Directives and End of Life Orders.

Important:

- 1) These terms and definitions are typical but may vary from state to state.
- 2) This is not legal advice. [You should do your own research and/or seek the advice of an expert for any of the topics listed below.]

##### 1. Advance Directives

- a. “Advance Directives” are legal documents which allow a person to plan and make his or her own end-of-life wishes known in the event that he or she is unable to communicate.
- b. Advance Directives consist of:

- (1) **Living Will**
- (2) **Medical (healthcare) Power of Attorney**

## 2. **Living Will**

- a. A Living Will allows you to give directives to physicians, hospitals, and family members concerning:
  - (1) Your wishes for medical care and artificial life support (including nutrition, hydration, and respiration) in the event that you are unable to communicate, are in a persistent vegetative state, or your condition is terminal.
  - (2) Your wishes for being resuscitated in the event that you succumb to a life threatening injury or terminal illness.
  - (3) The mother's wishes concerning her unborn child—to keep her alive until her child is born, otherwise, the unborn child will die when the mother dies.
- b. A Living Will saves your family from the hardship of making these types of decisions during the most difficult time of their lives and can protect your spouse from possible confrontations with your family.
- c. According to each state's living will law, this document is considered legal as soon as it is signed by the person putting into force along with the signature of a witness, if it is required.
- d. A living will goes into effect when a person is no longer able to make his or her own decisions.
- e. One can have a living will without a Medical Power of Attorney.

Note: See Sample of a Living Will on Pages 124-125

## 3. **Medical Power of Attorney (Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare)**

- a. A medical power of attorney is the advance directive that allows you to select a person you trust to make decisions about your medical care if you are temporarily or permanently unable to communicate and make decisions for yourself.
- b. This includes not only decisions at the end of your life, but also in other medical situations.
- c. This document goes into effect when your physician declares that you are unable to make your own medical decisions.

## 4. **DNR (Do Not Resuscitate)**

- a. The DNR order is a written physician's order that prevents the healthcare team from initiating CPR when a person experiences acute cardiopulmonary arrest.
- b. The physician writes and signs a DNR at the patient's request or at the request of the patient's family or appointed healthcare agent.
- c. The DNR can be cancelled at any time by informing the physician who signed the DNR know that the decision has been reversed.

## 5. **DNI (Do Not Intubate)**

- a. DNI is an order meaning that no breathing tube will be placed in the mouth or nose to enter the windpipe to help a person who cannot breathe adequately.
- b. The DNI order does not prevent chest compressions and cardiac drugs from being used.

## 6. **CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)**

- CPR is an emergency lifesaving procedure, combining rescue breathing and chest compressions, that is done when someone's breathing or heartbeat has stopped.



## Reference Materials Used:

- \* [www.caringInfo.org](http://www.caringInfo.org) [National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization]
- \* [www.Mayoclinic.org](http://www.Mayoclinic.org) [Mayo Clinic]
- \* [www.christianliferesouce.com](http://www.christianliferesouce.com) (Christian Life Resources)
- \* [www.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.nlm.nih.gov) [National Library of Medicine]

**C. Have Ample Life Insurance.**

1. Things that affect how much life insurance is needed for each parent and each child:
  - a. Number of Children in the family
  - b. Age of Children
  - c. Debts (Mortgage, credit cards, car, etc.)
  - d. Burial location of each family member
2. Many life insurance companies will not honor a life insurance policy if one resides overseas. Check with your insurance company's underwriter (not agent) to see about the status of your life insurance.
3. Macedonia has a group life insurance plan with Reliance Standard Life which will insure our missionaries and family members no matter where they live. Because it is a group plan, you can receive a minimum of \$20,000.00 worth of coverage regardless of your physical condition.

Note:

- Reliance Standard life is 5 year term. If you leave Macedonia and you keep the insurance, it reverts to "whole life," which is very expensive.
  - Jim Butler at BIMI has an insurance company which covers missionaries living overseas as well as the States and is 20 term.
4. Macedonia's group health insurance provides some life insurance for overseas missionaries.

**D. Have a Retirement Plan.**

Note: Use an honest, reliable person or company to help you with a retirement plan. Unfortunately, people who advertise themselves as "Christian" are not always honest or reliable.

**E. Decide where to be buried—you, your spouse, your children.**

1. You should take your parents' feeling into consideration, but in the end, this is your decision!
2. Write down your wishes and inform your family in order to save your spouse the burden and grief of having to deal with your family members.
3. Your grown children living in the U.S. need to have a valid passport. If you or your spouse are buried overseas, your children may not be able to attend the funeral if they do not have a valid passport.

Note: In the United States, you can make and prepay your own funeral arrangements with the funeral home. These arrangements include the preacher(s), songs, pallbearers, etc. You can also purchase your burial plot and tombstone. This helps the family when planning your funeral. The price paid of the funeral cannot be changed once payment has been made no matter how long in advance the payment was made. Be sure to keep all of these documents in a safe place and in a location where your family can quickly get to them. (Make copies and give to your grown children.) Should the funeral home you have made these arrangement with be sold, you need to be sure that the new funeral home owners understand and honor this payment!

**F. Know some of the issues involved in staying on the field should your spouse die.**

1. It may be easier for the husband to stay on the field rather than the wife, but this is very difficult for either especially if there are small children involved. If the wife is determined to stay on the field, the husband should do everything possible to make sure that the wife is able to stay on the field.
2. In most foreign countries, the husband pays the bills, does most of the shopping, etc. If the wife is to stay on the field, she will need to know what bills need to be paid and where to pay them.
  - a. If she does not drive much, let her get used to driving, especially in a foreign country.
  - b. Let her go with you when you do the errands. (Example: Paying rent, water, phone, car insurance, going to the bank, etc.)
  - c. The wife needs to know who you use for a mechanic, plumber, electrician, etc. and how to contact them.

**G. Keep Good Records and Have a Good Filing System.****1. Tax Returns**

- a. Make sure your spouse knows where tax records are kept.
- b. Make sure your spouse knows your tax preparer's name and contact numbers.

**2. Life Insurance Policies**

Have a list of your life insurance policies with the company name, policy number, and amount.

**3. Other Important Documents**

Keep all important documents, i.e. will, life insurance policies, etc. in a safe place (safe deposit box, fireproof box, etc.).

**4. Paying Bills**

Write down each bill owed and how they are paid, i.e. Online Bill Pay, Bank draft, Check, Monthly Credit Card (Vonage bill, etc.).

**H. Keep a list:**

1. Passwords for e-mails, on-line accounts
2. Account Numbers, bank names
3. CD's with amounts, maturity dates, name of bank

**I. Have a Credit Card in each name.****J. Have a Power of Attorney (POA).**

1. Have someone you trust.
2. Have someone who is willing to do it.

**K. Keep Records and Documents in a safe, accessible place.**

Note: Use a safe deposit box in a bank, fireproof box at home, etc.

**L. Know how to keep up with Ministry expenses and how to use an accounting program such as Quicken.****III. The Problem of Identity Theft.****A. Ways to Help Prevent Identity Theft.**

1. Sign the back of your credit cards, but include "CID" (this stands for "see ID").

2. When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the “For” line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels will not have access to it.
3. Never use your Social Security as your drivers license number. Never have your Social Security number printed on your checks. You can add it if it is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.
4. Photocopy the contents of your wallet. Do both sides of your license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. It is also a good idea to carry a photocopy of your passport when you travel either here or abroad.

**B. Critical information** to limit the damage in case your identity is stolen.

1. Cancel credit cards immediately. The key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep them where you can find them.
2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step in the event of an investigation (if there ever is one).
3. **Extremely Important:** Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and also call the Social Security fraud line number. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.
4. Numbers you always need to contact if your credit cards, wallet, etc., has been stolen:
  - a. Equifax: 800-525-6285
  - b. Experian (formerly TRW): 888-397-3742
  - c. Trans Union: 800-6807289
  - d. Social Security Administration (fraud line):800-269-0271

**(SAMPLE) LIVING WILL**

Living Will (declaration) made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being of sound mind, willfully and voluntarily make known my desires that my dying shall not be artificially prolonged under the circumstances set forth below, do hereby declare:

If at any time I should have a terminal condition, become in a coma with no reasonable expectation of regaining consciousness, or become in a persistent vegetative state with no reasonable expectation of regaining significant cognitive function, as defined in and established in accordance with the procedures set forth in paragraphs (2), (9), and (13) of Code Section 31-32-2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, I direct that life prolonging procedures to my body (check the desired option)

- \_\_\_\_\_ including nourishment and hydration,
- \_\_\_\_\_ including nourishment but not hydration, or
- \_\_\_\_\_ excluding nourishment and hydration,

be withheld or withdrawn when the application of such procedures would serve only to prolong artificially the process of dying, and that I be permitted to die naturally with only the administration of medication or the performance of any medical procedure deemed necessary to provide me with comfort care or to alleviate pain.

In the absence of my ability to give directions regarding the use of such life-sustaining procedures, it is my intention that this declaration shall be honored by my family and physician(s) as the final expression of my legal right to refuse medical or surgical treatment and accept the consequences from such refusal.

I understand that I may revoke this living will at any time.

If I am a female and I have been diagnosed as pregnant, this living will shall have no force and effect unless my unborn child is not viable and I indicate by initialing after this sentence that I want this living will to be carried out. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

I understand the full import of this declaration and I am emotionally and mentally competent to make this declaration.

Signed on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, in the City of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

I hereby witness this living will and attest that: \_\_\_\_\_ is personally known to me and voluntarily signed this writing in my presence. I believe the declarant to be at least 18 years of age. I am at least 18 years of age. I did not sign the declarant's signature above for or at the direction of the declarant. I am not related to the declarant by blood or marriage, and to the best of my

knowledge am not entitled to any portion of the estate of the declarant according to the laws of intestate succession or under any will of declarant or codicil thereto, or directly financially responsible for declarant's medical care, and I have no present or inchoate claim against any portion of the estate of declarant. I am not the attending physician, and I am not an employee of a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or other health care facility in which the declarant is a patient.

First Witness: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_, residing at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Second Witness: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_, residing at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)



# EXPENSE REPORTING AND ONLINE FORMS

## Expense Reporting

### 1. Mileage Rates and Per Diem

#### a. Mileage Rates

- **Passenger Car:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per mile
- **15 Passenger Van:** \$0.60 per mile
- **RV / Motor Home:** \$1.00 per mile

Note: The passenger car mileage allowance is set by the government and changes periodically. The mission office tries to stay on top of this change and notifies the missionaries. You can check the rate yourself by going to [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov). Click on “POV Mileage Reimbursement Rates.”

#### b. Domestic Per Diem Rates

- **Standard Rates (CONUS):**
  - **Meals:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per Day
  - **Lodging:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per Day
  - **Wife’s Per Diem Rate:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per Day (The wife cannot count lodging.)
- **Specific City and County Rates:**
  - Website for Domestic Per Diem Rates: <http://gsa.gov>
  - If you would like the rate for a particular city, click on “Per Diem Rates” on the left-hand side of the page.
  - Click on the state in which you were traveling.
  - If the name of the city in which you were staying is not listed, use the per diem rates for “Other.”

#### c. Foreign Per Diem Rates:

- **Website for Foreign Per Diem Rates:** <http://aoprals.state.gov>
  - You must use this website to obtain the foreign per diem rate.
  - Click on “Foreign Per Diem Rates” on the left-hand side of the page.
  - Click on “Foreign Per Diem Rates by Location.”
  - Click on the arrow in the “Country” box. The list of countries will appear. Each country has different per diem rates as well as each city in each country.)
  - Scroll down to the country to which you traveled.
  - Select your country and click “Go.”
- **Wife’s Per Diem Rate for Foreign Travel:**
  - Use the same as the husband excluding lodging.

### 2. Online Forms and Reports

#### a. Online Forms Available that can be submitted:

- Annual Conference Attendance Form
- Orientation Attendance Form
- 1099 Information Form

- Field Departure Approval Form
- Quarterly Expense Report
- Monthly Activity Report (Deputation Missionaries)
- Quarterly Activity Field Report (Missionaries on the Field)
- Quarterly Activity Furlough Report (Missionaries on Furlough)
- Separation Form

**b. Accessing Online Expense Report Forms:**

- Step 1: Go to [www.mwbm.org](http://www.mwbm.org).
- Step 2: Click on “Missionary Corner.”
- Step 3: Click on “Private Area for Macedonia Missionaries.”
- Step 4: Type in Login: macedonia
- Step 5: Type in Password: 1626
- Step 6: Click “Enter.”
- Step 7: Click on “New Forms to Fill Out and Submit online.”

**3. Expense Report Due Dates**

- **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:** April 30
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:** July 31
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:** October 31
- **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:** January 10

## Online Forms

**1. Accessing the Online Forms**

- Go to [www.mwbm.org](http://www.mwbm.org)
- Click on the “Missionary Corner” tab at the top right-hand corner of the page.
- Click on the line “Private area for Macedonia Missionaries...” in the middle of the page.
- Enter the User Name: **macedonia** (All small case. Accents over the letters appear automatically)
- Enter the Password: **1626**
- Click on “Login.”
- Click “Enter.”
- Click on the line “New Forms to Fill out and submit Online.”

**2. List of Online Forms:**

- **Annual Conference Attendance Form**
- **Orientation Attendance Form**



- **Housing Requisition Form**
- **1099 Information Form**
- **Field Departure Approval Form**
- **Quarterly Expense Report**
- **Monthly Activity Field Report (Missionaries on Deputation)**
- **Quarterly Activity Field Report (Missionaries on the Field)**
- **Quarterly Activity Furlough Report (Missionaries on Furlough)**
- **Separation Form**

## **Using Quicken 2010®**

### **I. How to Set Up Quicken Files and Accounts—First Time Users**

#### **Note:**

- 1) What is the difference between a File and an Account?
  - a) A file contains the account applications.
  - b) An account is the application into which the financial data is entered.
- 2) The Default Quicken File is called “Qdata.”
- 3) You can set up different files with different names. This must be done if you use Quicken for both your Minister Expense Reporting and your personal check book.
- 4) You should not run your personal checking account in the same file as your Ministry accounts.

**Step 1:** When you click on the Quicken 2010 you may be asked to install any updates which are available. You must click “yes” or “no” before it allows you access Quicken for the first time. Once Quicken comes up, the “Welcome to Quicken” screen will appear. You will have three options:

- 1) **“Open a data file located on this computer”** (Choose this option if you replaced an older version of Quicken with 2010 and the Quicken files were on this computer.)
- 2) **“Restore a data file I’ve backup up to a CD, to a disk, or online.”** (Choose this option if you replaced an older version of Quicken with 2010 and the Quicken files were backed up on a CD or a thumb drive.
- 3) **“Start over and create a new file.”** (Choose this option if you have never used Quicken or you want to create a new file.)

\*If you choose this option, a new screen will appear asking you to provide a name for the new Quicken file. Use a unique name such as your name. Example: “John Doe Ministry Expenses.” Click **Save**.

**Step 2:** The Product Registration screen is next. You can choose to **“Register Later”** or

**“Register Now.”** (If you chose to register now, follow the on-screen instructions.)

**Step 3:** At the top, left-hand side of the screen click on the **“Accounts”** tab.

**Step 4:** At the bottom, left-hand side of the screen click on the **“Add Accounts”** button.

**Step 5:** On the setup screen select **“Cash”** and click **“Next.”**

**Step 6:** Enter the Account Name:

**Note:** There will be 3 different accounts with 3 Identifying Names:

- 1) Work Fund
- 2) Housing Allowance
- 3) Love Offerings

(You do not need to enter a description.)

**Step 7:** Click **“Next.”**

**Step 8:** Enter the Date to Start Tracking. (It is best to enter **01/01/(Year)**.)

**Step 9:** For “The amount of cash you have” enter is **0.00**.

**Step 10:** Click **“Next.”**

**Step 11:** Click **“Done.”** (This will take you back to the screen from which you can add accounts.”

**Step 12:** Repeat Steps 4 to 11 in order to set accounts for “Housing Allowance” and “Love Offerings.”

**Step 13:** To begin using Quicken 2010, click on one of your 3 accounts listed on the left-hand side of the screen. This will open the **“Banking”** screen in which you post your transactions.

## II. Deleting and Setting up a new Category List

**Note:** Quicken comes with pre-defined categories listed in alphabetical order. This list often causes problems when entering expenses. The Category Field must be used for expense entry, but new categories need to be created. To delete the Category list, follow these steps:

### A. Deleting the Quicken Category List

**Step 1:** Click on **“Tools”** on the Menu Bar at the top of the screen and select **“Category List.”** This gives the list of pre-defined categories.

**Step 2:** Highlight the entire list down to category list down to the three accounts which are list at the bottom. (To highlight the list, click on the first line of the list. Hold down the “Shift” key. Scroll down and click on the last category line.)

**Step 3:** Click the **“Delete”** button to the left on the last line on the Category List. A warning screen was ask you if you want to permanently delete categories. Click **“yes.”**

### B. Setting up a new Category List

**Note:** There will be 14 new “categories” you will need to enter. These correspond to the categories on the Quarterly Expense Report form.

- Insurance
- Medical
- Office
- Printing
- Church Planting
- Educational
- Evangelism
- Ministry

- Equipment
- Vehicle
- Travel
- Miscellaneous
- Housing
- Utilities

**Step 1:** Click the “New” button near the top right-hand side of the Category List screen.

**Step 2:** Type in the first category name, “Insurance.”

**Step 3:** Click the “Ok” button. (Ignore the other fields.)

**Step 4:** Continue entering the other Category names.

**Step 4:** Click the “Done” button when all 14 categories have been entered.

### III. Entering Expenses

#### A. Entering Ministry and Housing Allowance Expenses

##### **IMPORTANT!!!**

- Be sure to enter expenses in the proper account.
- Remember to include any deductions that appear on your monthly statement from Macedonia such as postage, home office support, support you give to other missionaries, etc.
- **NEVER** include personal expenses such as food, wife’s or children’s clothing, etc. as a Ministry Expense!

**Step 1:** Begin by opening the account to which you wish to post transactions. (To do this, simply click on the name of the account on the left-hand side of the screen.)

**Step 2:** Enter the **Date** from the receipt.  
(Because transactions are listed by date order, you can post transactions in any order at any time. It will be automatically sorted in the proper sequence.) (Skip the “Ref” (Reference) Column.)

**Note:** Each time you enter transactions, Quicken creates a “Memorized Payee List.” When you enter a payee name for the second time the list will pop up showing the list.

**Note:** Use your Tab or Enter key to move through the fields.

**Step 3:** Enter the **Payee**. (The Payee is the name of the company, store, person etc. where or with whom the expense occurred. You can have on one receipt expenses that go to the Work Fund Account and to Housing Allowance and some that cannot be deducted. Highlight the items on the receipt that are deductible and enter each in the proper account.)

**Step 4:** The next field is the **Category Field**. The Category Field must correspond to our Quarterly Expense Report form which you would send to the office if you did not use Quicken. In order for your Quicken report to be correct, these categories must be used. Simply type in the name of the category under which the expense is to fall.

**Step 5:** Enter the **amount** of the expense under the “Spend” column. (Ignore the “Clr” [Clear] Column.)

**Note:** When you tab from the “Category” field to the Memo field, a screen will

pop up asking if you want to create this Category. Click **Yes**. Another screen will then pop up called “Set Up Category.” Just click **OK** without filling in any information.

**Step 6:** Enter a descriptive note.

**Note:** Previous versions of Quicken had a place in the transaction for a memo. Quicken 10 allows you post a note. Notes are very necessary (in the event you were audited) as a reminder such as know the mileage rate used for that particular enter or to explain a particular expense. Simply click on the “paper clip” icon at the end of the entry line. A memo window will pop up for you to type the memo. You can check the “Flag” notice so that you will know if that transaction has a note.

**Step 7:** Click the **Enter** button and the transaction is now posted.

**Note:** You can edit any transaction at any time by simply clicking on the transaction line you wish to edit and then click the “Edit” button. You can also delete a posted transaction at any time by “right-clicking your mouse and then clicking on “Delete.” Should you make any changes to a transaction after your reports have been sent to the office, you will need to notify the office and resubmit the report.

**IMPORTANT!!!** Your Work Expense Account and Housing Allowance Accounts will always show a negative (red) balance. **NEVER** post deposits to these two accounts.

## B. Entering Love Offerings

### **IMPORTANT!!!**

- The IRS requires that missionaries keep a record of all love offerings given to them by churches.
- **DO NOT** include in this report any love offerings which you have reported directly to the office.
- **DO NOT** include your monthly support that comes from Macedonia.
- **INCLUDE** in this report all love offerings you receive from churches and any monthly support that comes to you from churches that do not wish to send the support through Macedonia.
- You do not have to report gifts from individuals unless the individual wants a receipt. In that case, you must report that love offering directly to the Macedonia office so that a receipt can be issued. Do not include that love offering in this since it will appear on your statement.
- Do not include love offerings from church which will be issuing you a 1099 for that love offering at end of the year. (Churches do not have to issue a 1099 for love offerings and gifts which are less than \$599.00 in a calendar year.)

**Step 1:** Begin by clicking on the “**Love Offering**” account at the left-hand side of the screen.

**Step 1:** Enter the **Date** which you received the love offering. (Skip the “Ref” column.)

**Step 3:** Under Payee, enter the name of the Church, City and State.

**Step 3:** Enter the Amount of the love offering under the “Receive” column.

**Step 4:** You do not need to fill in the Category. If you do, it should be “Love Offering.”

**Step 5:** Under Memo, enter the city and state of the church.

**Step 6:** Tab to Enter and press Return. The love offering is posted.

**IMPORTANT!!!** Your Love Offering Account will always show a plus balance. **NEVER**

post expenses to this account.

#### D. Memorized Payee List

Quicken memorizes each transaction including the Payee, Amount, and Category as they are entered. They are sorted alphabetically by **Payee** name.

##### 1. Using the Memorized Payee List

**Step 1:** After entering the date and tabbing to the Payee field, a pop up screen will appear containing a list of all the payees which you have previously entered.

**Step 2:** You can either scroll down the list or begin typing the payee name. As you begin to type the name of the payee, the list will go to names beginning with the letters which you have typed. If the payee has been previously entered, it will appear. When this happens, you simply tab to the next field without needing to type further.

**Step 3:** If this is a reoccurring expense or love offering that never needs editing, simply tab through all of the fields until you come to the “Enter” button click with your mouse. The transaction is then posted.

##### 2. Editing a Memorized Payee

**Note:** Sometimes it is necessary to change a Memorized Payee when a reoccurring expense amount changes or a monthly supporter changes the amount which is sent.

**Step 1:** Click on “**Tools**” on the Menu Bar at the top of the screen.

**Step 2:** Click on “**Memorized Payee List.**” The Memorized Payee List will appear.

**Step 3:** Click on the Memorized Transaction which you wish to edit, and then click on the “**EDIT**” button at the bottom of the screen. The “**Edit Memorized Payee**” screen will appear.

**Step 4:** Make the necessary corrections on the edit screen.

## IV. How to Set Up and Print Reports

### A. Setting up and Customizing Reports

**Step 1:** Click on the **Home** tab at the top of the screen.

**Step 2:** Click on the **All Reports & Graphs** button.

**Step 3:** Click on “**Reports and Graphs Center.**”

**Step 4:** On the next **Reports & Graphs** screen, click on “**Spending**” then “**Itemized Categories.**”

**Step 5:** Click on the **Customize** button.

**Step 6:** Begin by clicking the arrow on the “**Date Range**” at the top of this screen. Enter the beginning and ending dates for the quarter in which you are working. (Example for 1st Quarter enter: 1/1/10 to 3/31/10.)

**Step 7:** Next, tab go to **Title** field and enter the title for the report. The Title should be your name, the quarter, name of account on report and year. (Example title: John Doe 1st Qtr Work Fund 2010)

**Step 8:** On the **Sort By** field, be sure that it is set to “**Category.**”

**Step 9:** Under the **Column** field, click on “**Don’t Subtotal.**”

**Step 10:** Under the **Organization** field, click on “**Income & Expense.**”

**Step 11:** Under the **Column** field on the right side of the screen, un-check the “Account,” “Num,” “Memo,” and “Clr” columns.

**Step 11:** Click on the **Accounts** Tab at the top of the Customize Itemized Categories

screen. All of the accounts in this file will appear with a check. (This check means that the account will be included in the account.) Click on each account to remove the check so that only the appropriate account is selected.

**Step 12:** Click the **OK** button at the bottom of the screen. The Customized Report will appear on the screen.

**Step 13:** If there are no details showing on the report, click the “**Expand All**” button.

**B. Printing Reports**

**Step 1:** Click on “**Print**” icon on the upper portion of the Report screen.

**Step 2:** Click on the **Print** button.

**IMPORTANT!!!** Following these steps, print a report for each account: Work Fund, Housing Allowance, and Love Offerings. To get out of this screen, click on the X in the upper right-hand corner of the report screen.

## DYNAMICS OF DEPUTATION

Introduction: What is deputation? “ The act of appointing a person or persons to represent or act for another or others”<sup>1</sup> is the definition you will be given in a dictionary. An individual church chooses you to act on their behalf to achieve the great commission . Over the past 50 years, This has become the conventional method of mission related ministry for many Baptist churches. Countless Christians have trod the path of deputation to ultimately have the financial standing to be able to live and minister to people both near and far. How does an individual or family learn to enjoy deputation? Why do some people raise their support faster than others? How does one maintain spiritual focus during the process? These are several of the questions we will discuss during the class. To help us establish our focus, and learn to view deputation appropriately we need to realize:

### FOCUS #1 — WHILE FINANCIAL NEEDS ARE IMPORTANT—DEPUTATION HAS A BROADER SIGNIFICANCE — LEARNING BALANCE

- Please remember it is not just about Money but Ministry. Paul warns us in 1Timothy 6:10, “***For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.***”
- The financial needs will be supplied as we devote ourselves to faithfully serving Christ
- Please keep a soft heart and look for ways to minister while you are in different churches. You can:
  - **Help in various capacities.** Have a servant’s heart and attitude
  - **Be friendly** as you meet and greet people in a new church. Do not wait for them to come to you, go to them.
  - **Be a blessing to the pastor.** It may be that God wants to use you to give an offering to the Pastor or Church that you are in. By no means are we trying to bribe for support but as you allow the Holy Spirit to guide your life and stop thinking about yourself, you may be surprised what He would have you do.
  - **Be available and willing** to do what you can. Do not be annoying but put yourself in a position that the pastor knows you would be glad to help.
  - **Love the people.** Ask God to give you a genuine love for all the people with whom you come in contact. Learn to respond positively to every church and every individual in the church in the same way.

### FOCUS #2 — MAKING EXCUSES OR COMPARING MYSELF WITH OTHERS IS DETRIMENTAL — OPERATING WITH INTEGRITY

Proverbs 26:16, “***The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.***” While we are saying that it can not be done....someone else is doing it.

- Your circumstances will differ from that of others. We all have various strengths and weaknesses. Deputation can help us gain strength in areas, and help us learn to serve with humility.

- Age, ministry experience, personality and education are all factors that can influence the deputation experience.
- Commit in your heart not to make excuses but look for solutions.

### FOCUS #3 — LIVING BY FAITH IS NOT OPTIONAL — ISSUES OF THE HEART

- I will realize that I have a choice in how I view my service to the Lord. God does not make us serve Him, but rather, we are given the honor to serve. It still amazes me that I have the privilege of serving God. May we love God like Mark 12:30 tell us. *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”*
  - Our faith brings opportunities to:
    - Serve as missionaries
    - Continually learn through Bible study, teaching and preaching
    - Pray to a God who cares about us deeply about us
    - Impact the lives of people.
- That which motivates our life is not guilt or force, but love. God loved us and out of our love for Him we want to do His good pleasure. Some say that this life is a sacrifice; I say that it is a privilege.
- Focus on the joy of calling pastors, going to church, meeting other Christians, getting to the field...and getting paid for it! What an honor we have to represent the God of heaven and local churches in the areas to which God has called us. May our hearts overflow with gratitude.

### FOCUS #4 – THE LEGACY FACTOR - ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES

- I will ask God to raise up more laborers through my time on deputation. Mat 9:38 *Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.*
- One of the great blessings of being on deputation is seeing other individuals surrender to God’s will for their life. Remember that you and your family are instruments that God can use to impact those who whom God is calling.
- How exciting it would be for world evangelism if every missionary on deputation would be used of God to raise up one other missionary for the field each year, how many other countries could be reached.
- The possibilities of how God could use you on deputation are endless! Please pray that God would use you to see others called up for His glory.
- Notice how these different men were effected by other men:

David Livingston – He influenced Robert Moffat. Moffat took one furlough in 53 years. While preaching in England he said, *“Sometimes seen, in the morning sun, the smoke of a thousand villages where no missionary had ever been.”*



William Carey – He was influenced by Jonathan Edwards who wrote the book, *The Life and Diary of David Brainerd*. It is very evident he was greatly influenced by the missionary David Brainerd.

<sup>1</sup>www.dictionary.com, 2013.

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## PRESENTING YOUR FIELD WITH A PASSION

1 Thessalonians 5:23, “*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

### Introduction:

- We must understand that a person is Made up of Body, Soul and Spirit. If we do not connect with the congregation, we have failed in our objective. Notice that the Bible gives three parts to man that must be remembered when presenting your ministry in a church.
- “*You are the man of the hour, if you were not, God would have had someone else preach. Act like the man for the hour or sit down.*” — Grant Rice

### I. Body -

- A. We must make sure that our dress is not distracting. Do not dress in such a way that you will take away from the message. That means your shoes also.
- B. Make sure your appearance is not distracting. Comb your hair, brush your teeth, and clean your nose. Sounds silly but the devil will use whatever he can to distract people from what you are to say.
- C. The appearance of your family is also very important. How they present themselves will affect the connection the people have with you. One pastor told me that he pretty well knows whether he is going to take the missionary on for support by just seeing the family get out of their vehicle and walk into the church! Whether we like it or not, these things are very important to others.
- D. Be careful of how animated you are in the pulpit based on the type of church you are in. A “camp meeting” church gives much liberty but a “high brow” church will not afford you that luxury.

### II. Soul - the soul is made up of three basic parts: *mind, will and emotions*.

- A. **The Mind** – we are to reason with people from the scriptures and involve the mental process. You want them to “see” and “understand” what is being said.
  1. Are your thoughts logical?
  2. Do they make sense?
  3. Can they be grasped by the people? We are not trying to impress them with our mental prowess or think we are “brainy”.
  4. It is imperative that we connect with their mind. Do they understand what you want to do when you reach the field? Do you understand what you want to do when you get to the field?
  5. When you finish the message, do the people understand what step of action you want them to take?
  6. Do you know what step of action you want them to take?
  7. Help them to understand as you understand the importance of getting the Gospel to these people.

- B. *The Will*** - There are many factors fighting against people surrendering and being obedient to God in their life.
1. Help them to connect with the process you went through in surrendering and doing what God wanted.
  2. Help them to see you also are human and have gone through what they are going through.
  3. Be sensitive to their struggles. This is not the time for the, *“I have surrendered and am wonderful but you are a low down, good for nothing, selfish pig for not even giving to faith promise.”* They are dealing with:
    - a. Fear
    - b. Anxiety
    - c. Flesh
    - d. Mates
    - e. Children
    - f. Procrastination
    - g. Insecurity
    - h. And a thousand other things.
  4. If you can connect with the things that battle against their will, you will be able to connect in a powerful way no matter how long the preacher gives you.

- C. *The Emotions*** – This is the seat of sadness, joy, etc. You need to connect on this level as well. We tend to shy away from this fearing the Pentecostal movement and the arm of the flesh. It is true we do not want this to be a flesh work but we must also understand humanity.
1. Let them see your country.
  2. Let them smell your country.
  3. Let them hear your country.
  4. Walk them down the streets.
  5. Take them into the churches.
  6. Visit a nationals home with them.
  7. Present it where they hurt for the lost people of your field.
  8. Would it be so bad for them to weep over the condition of a lost world? It is o.k. if Lassie gets shot but not acceptable for a world going to hell?
  9. If you have no emotional ties to your field, can you really expect the congregation you are with to have them?

**III. The Spirit** – That part of us that communes with God. John 4:23 *“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.”* Ours is not a work of the flesh but of the spirit. There must be a spiritual connection developed.

- A. Do you do your devotions?
- B. Do you have an active prayer life?
- C. There is no replacing the power of God on a man’s life.
- D. Have you confessed sin? (you know the fight you had with your wife when you were driving down the road or the angry spirit toward your children because they got ketchup on their white shirt at lunch!)
- E. Are you prideful?

F. Are you bitter?

G. Will the Holy Spirit have freedom and liberty to work through you and in them?

### Romans 6

“*Know*” — I know I am nothing but God you are everything and want to work in my life and through my life. God loves me and has called me. You have opened the door for me to be here. I am your man for this hour.

“*Reckon*” — I make the truth a reality in my life. I am the man for this hour. Regardless of how I feel or what emotional state I am I reckon the truth to be so.

“*Yield*” — Let God take your study, gifts He has given you, and your life during that time to accomplish His will.

## Principles for presenting your burden

1. You must be in the message and the message must be in you.  
*Haggai 1:13, Then spoke Haggai the LORD's messenger in the LORD's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD.*
2. Remember that your first thirty seconds will set the precedent for your whole presentation. This becomes more and more important, the shorter amount of time you have.
3. If the pastor has stopped talking when you are coming forward, begin to speak when you are walking toward the pulpit.
4. Be organized. Know where you are going and how you are going to get there. (In your presentation)
5. Smile. Show a joyful excited spirit for being in that church. It does not matter how much time you have been given, what your accommodations are like or what kind of love offering you think they might give. If you are tired, fighting with your wife or discouraged....smile by faith!
6. Be Energetic. I know you will be tired at times. I know you may have just drive four hours to be at a church. I know you may have been away from home for two months. It is not the fault of the people you stand before. Give them your best and all. Be tired driving home but do not be tired at the church.
7. Be Confident. I did not say prideful. Exude a confidence in the God that has called you, the Bible that you preach and that you are His man for the particular field you represent. This point will be taken wrong and abused. I am not telling you to be arrogant.
8. Be Loving. Love God with all your heart and love these dear people. I read in one of Brother Hyles books years ago how he would sit on the podium and look at the people and love them before he preached. Make it a conscience effort to do the same in every church you are in. People can tell if you are there just for a love offering. Be there first for the Lord and then for them. Love the people.

9. Connect with the people. Help them to identify with your life, field and family. Help them to see the need and feel the pain. Don't preach at them but to them. Take them to the field with you in your presentation and help them say, "*We have got to reach these people.*"
10. Be Spiritual. If God does not do the work it will not get done. This does not relieve us of our responsibilities that we must do but helps us understand when the altar is full that God is at work. Walk with God and ask Him to work in you so that He may work through you.
11. Be Positive. Negative missionary - "Things are not moving as fast as we had expected. We have not seen very many new churches lately. Pastor, I sure hope we'll get to the field sometime next year"
  - Positive Missionary - "God is blessing us in an incredible way. The support is really coming in lately. We ARE making all the plans to leave for the field, God willing, in (month), (year)."
  - Presentations, prayer letters, and conversations should all show positive, confidence in the Lord and His calling.
  - The point: Everyone wants to get on board with a winner, not with a loser!

### **Sample outline for your presentation**

1. **State your name, family, church, Mission Board and Field. (if the pastor has not stated it already)**  
*Hello my name is Tony Howeth with Macedonia World Baptist Mission. This is my wife Stacey (your family is already standing at does so without you saying anything to them.) Seth 14, Lauryn 11, Ethan 10 and Camryn 6. Our Pastor is Wayne Cofield with the Whitfield Baptist Church in Dalton, Ga. Thank you so much for allowing us to share our burden for Ecuador.*
2. **Ask a question to draw them into the presentation.**  
*Do you think Christians want people to die and go to hell? (pause for just a second and await the response) You right! That would be ridiculous. If a Christian wanted someone to die and go to hell I would really have to question whether they are a Christians. Amen! But let me ask this, If we do not want to see people die and go to hell why is it so difficult to hand a tract to the drive thru lady at Wendys?*
3. **Bring it to yourself and your testimony.**  
*I know in my life I have fought (fear, shyness, etc...) I really wanted to serve God and see people saved just like you but I fought with \_\_\_\_\_. I remember...(give a humorous or serious illustration that applies and keep drawing them in closer and closer and closer.)*
4. **Share the Scripture.**  
*Make sure the scripture addresses what you are talking about. The minute you read it you want them to see it's help.*
5. **Tie the Scripture into your field and how you going is not an option. You must get there and tell them about Jesus.**  
*I am glad God gives us grace that is sufficient. I am thankful for fine people like you and the great church you get to attend, but have you ever thought of what it would be like not to have this. Not to have a good pastor. Not to have a good church. Not to have Hope. At each of these steps we are connecting with them.*

**6. Bring it back to them. Help the pastor in a loving way help his people serving God there. Love them.**

*Tonight I know you deal with fear. I know you want to serve God and do great things for him. Tonight would you be like Peter? Will you step over your fear and out into the opportunity of a lifetime? Would you help in Sunday School? Childrens Church? Visitation? You have to admit it would be pretty awesome to walk on water! Will you be willing to get out of the boat?*

**7. Leave them “hanging.”**

Make them want more. Connect in such a way that they do not care about time or the game after church. Bring them with you. Connect with them in a powerful way. Have it where they wished you were given more time.

**8. Close with....please pray for the Howeth family as we go to Ecuador.**

When you finish, you want them thinking, “Pray nothing! We need to support this guy!”

**9. Ask the Pastor about the invitation. It is better to turn the invitation over to the Pastor. Let him know what is coming so that he never looks bad.**

**When You Leave The Pulpit:**

1. Keep your mouth closed. A fool is counted wise when he keeps his mouth shut!
2. Don't ask questions that will make him feel bad or threatened.
  - a. Yes — How did you meet your wife?
  - b. Yes — What kind of hobbies
  - c. No — what kind of discipleship program do you have?
  - d. No — How is your church doing? Most of them are not doing well.
  - e. He may not want to talk. Do not force him.
3. Make sure your wife responds to the Pastor's wife. She is not to be the dominate one. You are the man of the house. She needs to have connection with the pastor's wife.
4. When you go out to eat be careful how you handle yourself.
  - a. Open the door for the pastor and walk behind him so that you can pay for the bill.
  - b. If he pushes you up front.

