

Global Missions Ministry

DO YOU THINK LIKE A MISSIONARY OR A TOURIST?

Take the test for yourself and mentally circle the ones that describe you.

Tourists think: What can I take on my trip to make me more comfortable Missionaries think: What can I do to make the people I'm with more comfortable around me?

Tourists think: I'd like to fix all the problems I see.

Missionaries think: I'd like to understand what the people perceive as problems.

Tourists think: I'd like to take you home with me.

Missionaries think: I could live among you.

Tourists think: If I give away candy, money or my shoes, I've made an immediate difference.

Missionaries think: What can I possibly do that will make a multiplying,

reproducing difference?

Tourists think: I could build a church building FOR the people here for nearly nothing.

Missionaries think: I could plant a church WITH the people here using nothing.

Tourists think: I am on a mission to export my faith and convert people. Missionaries think: I'm joining God Who is on a mission and already at work among the people.

Don't cancel your plane ticket if you found yourself in the "tourist" category. And don't mark your past mission efforts as a "fail." Being on mission with God is a journey. If God can raise the dead, He can redeem our stupidity!

But ... let's be learners of doing missions well. Being on mission with God is a journey — a journey on which we should be active learners! Learn how to make a multiplying impact rather than a one-time impact.

Spiritual Preparation Guide

This guide is prepared for you! It is designed to help you prepare spiritually for the mission trip ahead. Please pray through it carefully before the trip, but especially we suggest that you take it with you on the trip and pray through it again as you travel to the mission field. We suggest that you work through it at least three times.

Remember that He will never ask us to do something for Him that He will not supply the power to do it; with the demand comes the dynamic!

Why are we here? There is only one right answer. Because we love the Lord Jesus Christ, we want to serve Him. Service to the Lord is the overflow of a heart of love.

Service is love demonstrated..." Michael Gott

He is more than able to:

Forgive every sin—claim it!

Erase every doubt—rejoice and believe it!

Calm every fear—trust Him!

Meet every need—draw from Him!

Equip for ministry—thank Him for His enabling!

Someone said, "Where God guides, God provides." We are here by God's choice, therefore realize, "Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world." 1 John 4:4

No task before us is greater than the God within us!

We are drawing from the resource of Christ Himself alive within us! He is our resource and He has anointed us. Therefore, we agree with Willard Cantelon, "I can afford to lose everything except the touch of God in my life."

Think of these words, "Depend on it—God's work done God's way will never lack God's supplies." – J. Hudson Taylor

Therefore, **Do everything as if God did nothing; depend on God as if He did everything."** – J.A. Jarves

1. AS YOU GO, GO WORSHIPPING

"There is no place like the feet of Jesus for resolving the problems that perplex our hearts." – George Duncan

Read and reflect:

Psalm 96:9 Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

1 Chronicles 16:29 Give to the LORD the glory *due* His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!

John 4:24 God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Revelation 14:7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

I am the most like Christ when I am consumed with Christ while I am in the service to Christ, unaware that anyone is watching me." – Michael Gott

Praise the Lord! Fill your heart with adoring praise! Worship Him, thank Him for blessings you have received.

Read and reflect:

Psalm 67:3 Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

Hebrews 13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

1 Peter 2:9 (look for the four-fold reason for praise) But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

"God finds pleasure in us when we find pleasure in Him." - Augustine

2. AS YOU GO, GO CONFESSING

"Many blush to confess their faults who never blushed when they committed them." – William Seckler

Therefore, as it comes to your mind confess all known sin to the Lord.

Read and reflect:

II Chronicles 29:15-16 And they gathered their brethren, sanctified themselves, and went according to the commandment of the king, at the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD. **16** Then the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD to cleanse *it*, and brought out all the debris that they found in the temple of the LORD to the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took *it* out and carried *it* to the Brook Kidron.

Proverbs 28:13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy.

Jeremiah 3:13 "I will not cause My anger to fall on you. For I *am* merciful,' says the LORD; 'I will not remain angry forever. That you have transgressed against the LORD your God, And have scattered your charms to alien deities under every green tree, And you have not obeyed My voice,' says the LORD.

Psalm 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. 4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight—That You may be found just when You speak,[a]And blameless when You judge. 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. 6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward Parts. And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. 9 Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, *And* my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. **15** O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. 16 For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering.

In your moments alone with God, take time to examine your heart.

Read each question below. Be cruelly honest. Confess and claim cleansing. **Spiritual Preparation Guide 4** "God can do wonders with a broken heart if you give Him all the pieces." - Victor Alfsen "No one can hang a sign around their neck that says, 'No trouble here!" - a Chinese Christian Read and reflect: Lamentations 3:40 Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD **Questions to Ask** "The Christian life is not a playground, but a battle ground." – Warren Wiersbe Therefore, confront the truth about yourself and wage war with any darkness you sense within you. ☐ Do I have any secret sin which I have not confessed or forsaken? ☐ Is my mind and heart clean and pure before God? ☐ Have I forgiven everyone? ☐ Is there any resentment in my heart? ☐ Am I willing to ask forgiveness from anyone I have wronged? ☐ Do I have a tendency to be impatient? Irritable? Petty? ☐ Do I have a tendency to be critical of leadership? ☐ Do I have a tendency to be easily offended? ☐ Do I have a tendency to get angry and loose my temper? ☐ Am I willing to humble myself and do any task assigned to me? ☐ Do I have a tendency to be jealous of the successes of others? ☐ Do I have a tendency to be covetous?

| □ Do I have a tendency to gossip? To listen to gossip? |
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| ☐ Have I prayed for those involved in this mission? |
| □ Do I fret? Am I over anxious and worried? |
| □ Do I have a tendency to complain? Be negative? |
| □ Do I really believe in the power of God to do the impossible? |
| □ Am I interested in people recognizing my accomplishments on this mission trip? |
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| "What God forgives, He forgets! What we confess, He cleanses!" - Michael Gott |
| Therefore confess and claim God's promises and let God do business with you! |
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| Read and reflect: |

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

Hebrews 1:12 Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not fail.

10:17 then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

I John 1:7-9 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. **8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

3. AS YOU GO, GO PRAYING

"We can do more than pray, but until we pray we cannot do more." -John Bunyan

Realize prayer should be the most exhausting thing you do on this mission ministry

"Ministry that costs nothing accomplishes nothing." – J.H. Jowett

SPECIFIC ITEMS OF PRAYER

PRAY—For yourself, surrendering all to Him: will, ambitions, plans, hopes, talents
PRAY—Give all that you are leaving behind to God's care: family, job, home,
unresolved problems

PRAY— For your team, and your work with them: for the leaders, for love and unity, for health and stamina

PRAY— For the pastor and team leaders and for the people where you will serve: for common purpose, for defined understanding of responsibilities, for clear communication, for the unity of Christ, and for oneness in Him, and for a spirit of discernment

PRAY— For the evangelistic event: that the community and people from the city and surrounding areas will come to hear the gospel, that the Holy Spirit will have freedom to convict and draw people to Christ, that the church will be faithful and diligent in follow up Spiritual Preparation Guide 6

PRAY— For all the ministry teams that will go: that travel will be safe and on schedule, that God will speak through each evangelist responsible for preaching the Gospel, that the leaders will have clear direction from God, that each team member will have sensitivity, yet boldness, when it comes time to share their faith

4. AS YOU GO, GO PRAISING

Think! "What we win by prayer, we must wear with Praise." -- Matthew Henry Praise Him! Wear the garment of praise!

"Let praise be the oil that keeps your motor running smoothly. God never told anyone, "Don't praise me so much." -- Michael Gott

Look for the hand of God at work; whenever you see it, "Give unlimited credit to God." –Robert Murray McCheyne

Think of this insight: "If Christians praised God more, the world would doubt Him less." – Charles Jefferson Therefore, Praise Him!

| Fill your heart with gratitude: |
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| , |
| □ For the cleansing and forgiveness of Jesus |
| □ For the comfort and directing of the Holy Spirit |
| □ For the call of Christ on your life |
| ☐ For the possibility of you having this experience |
| □ For the way He is going to use you in these days |
| □ For the sense of family your team will experience |
| ☐ For the changed lives you will leave behind |
| $\hfill \Box$ For the tie you will feel with the brothers and sisters from around the world |
| □ For the victory won before the battle is fought because of Jesus Christ |
| I Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. |

5. AS YOU GO, GO BELIEVING

"To believe is to commit...I find that faith is as natural as breathing, and I am staggered that I was so stupid as not to trust Him before." —Oswald Chambers

It is essential that we have an attitude of positive faith!

"Learn to put your hand on all spiritual blessings in Christ and say, 'Mine!" – F. B. Myer

Read and reflect:

I John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. **5** Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Zechariah 4:6 So he answered and said to me: "This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.

Mark 9:23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes."

"God's promises are to be our pleas in prayer." – Matthew Henry

6. AS YOU GO, GO RESTING & ABIDING

Think in terms of a long distance runner that learns to pace himself in order to end the race with a burst of victorious energy.

Read and reflect:

Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.

John 15:4-5 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

Ephesians 3:17-19 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— **19** to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

"A victory inside of us is ten thousand times more glorious than any victory can be outside of us." -- Henry Ward Beecher