

# **FAITH, FINANCES AND MISSION TRIPS**



**Biblical Principles for Developing a Prayer/Support Team**

It has been my privilege since 1979 (the beginning of my journey of faith), to have been influenced and mentored by a host of great Bible teachers, pastors and mission leaders of many organizations. The content of this book bears witness to the many years of experience that **they** have passed down to me. The information is a compilation of **their** journey to trust God in areas of prayer/support teams and to do so in a God-honoring way. I want to give credit to those men and women who have trusted a great God to provide for their daily needs. To God be the glory!

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Life Action Ministries  
New Tribes Mission  
The International Mission Board of the SBC  
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And many, many others. . .

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## Introduction

Since 1989, I have had the privilege of training and equipping many Christians, young and old, in the area of mission work--both short term and career missions. I have witnessed the sheer delight that they have expressed as they thought about their future mission experience. On the other hand, I have seen many people almost in hysteria and fear when it came to finances for their mission trip or ministry. Satan has convinced many Christians that raising money for mission trips or ministries is a shameful dishonoring work. As a result, many Christians become discouraged doubting that they will be able to raise enough funds to go on the mission trip or support a ministry work they are involved with. They lose heart and hope convinced that asking others to join them by supporting them financially is a slothful and lazy method of raising support. Unfortunately, many Christians have believed Satan's lies and schemes to discourage and deceive people from being obedient to God's mission call. The result, many Christians become fearful and ashamed to ask churches or believers to join them in financial support for mission trips or ministry projects. Instead, they have stayed at home and missed out on a life time of God's blessing in reaching the unreached peoples of our world.

Now, if you are a financially free believer with excess dollars in the bank, you could go most anywhere, anytime and fund any mission trip or ministry yourself. But I have not met very many Christians who could do that! Friends, do not let Satan nor his suggestive lies stand in the way of you fulfilling what God has called you to do. Be obedient to God's call! Do not let money be the issue that prevents you from being "**On Mission**" with God somewhere in our world. Many Christians have forfeited rich spiritual blessings by listening to Satan and his ploys of discouragement.

When people are invited to join you in mission and ministry projects by giving financial support to your ministry is that dishonoring and begging for money on your part? No! No! No! Should a believer feel ashamed or reluctant to ask others to help him/her in a mission or ministry project? No! No! No! Is there a God-honoring approach to mission and ministry support raising? Yes! Yes! Yes! Is there a proper way to let others know how they could be involved in your mission and ministry work? Yes! Yes! Yes!

That is the very purpose of this material. This material presents some practical God-honoring Biblical approaches and principles of putting

together an effective prayer/support team that any Christian involved in a faith based ministry can use and apply. This is not just a booklet **“telling you how”** to do it, it is a booklet telling you **“how it has been done”** for many years and has been very effective and God-honoring.

I believe that God is already at work in your life rising up people who will be on your prayer/support team. Will you move forward by trusting God to help you rise up a prayer/support team to do Kingdom Work? I trust that you will.

*And this is the victory that has overcome the world --- our faith (I John 5:4).*

Norm Howell

Missouri Baptist Convention  
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## FAITH IS THE FOUNDATION OF THE PRAYER/SUPPORT TEAM

*And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).*

Faith in God and His Word is the basis for a foundation to establish a prayer/support team. Faith is not based upon what you and I are capable of doing. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Most Christians today have learned how to function without God. We must learn to trust and depend upon God (Phil. 3:3) and upon His resources. Faith always begins where man's power and strength end. George Mueller, the great man of faith from the 19th Century, once said, "The province of faith begins where probabilities cease and where sight and sense fail."

**Remember:** God's work done in God's way will not lack God's supply.

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him (Hebrews 11:1, 2, 6).*

When you ask your church, family and friends to be part of your prayer/support team, you are neither begging nor imposing on their generosity. Instead, you are inviting them to be part of "**a ministry team.**" You are asking them to take part in an opportunity to be a blessing to others and to be blessed by the Lord. I find there are three Biblical approaches to raising support.

### **Three Biblical Methods for Raising Funds for a Mission Trip or Ministry Project**

The Bible records for us three different approaches to receiving financial assistance. Choosing to use one approach over the other approaches will not make you more spiritual or more Biblical. All three approaches were use by godly leaders in the Bible such as Moses, Elijah, the Apostle Paul, and the early church. The question you must ask is "Which approach does God want me to use?"

➤ The method of self-support – The tentmaker (Acts 18:3, 11)

*So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers (Acts 18:3).*

*And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the Word of God among them (Acts 18:11)*

The Apostle Paul gives us a great example of the self-support model for funding a mission project or ministry. Instead of asking churches to support him, he felt certain that God would have him use his own skills, abilities and labor to provide for his own needs and support for his mission trip.

I believe this is a very practical approach and warrants a very valuable example to those going on a mission trip. Is there some practical skill or means whereby you can provide some funds or even all of the funding for a mission trip or ministry project? Later Paul wrote to the Thessalonians,

*For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God (I Thessalonians 2:9).*

Paul, on a number of occasions, used his natural abilities and skills to provide for his needs while traveling throughout Asia Minor and Macedonia.

**Personal Example:** The first two or three mission trips that I went on I raised some of my support by doing woodworking projects. At one point I invited another Christian brother to help me so that he could go with me on a trip. I did not go door-to-door nor did I solicit church members to buy products from me. But I did make some customized wooden Christmas gifts, and from those items I sold, funds were used to support me on a mission trip. God showed to me a way that I could fund my own expenses on a mission trip. It was God who blessed those efforts in those early days of my mission work. I also used some of the money to help others go on mission trips. One principle that every missionary should remember is: **Do not ask others to do what you are not willing to do yourself.** Using your own abilities to support your own personal mission project is a very God-honoring and practical approach to raising mission support. You may need to do some praying and seeking wisdom from God on “how” or “what” you could do to earn or generate funds.

*Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened (Matthew 7:7).*

➤ The method of making needs known – (Acts 11:28, 29)

*Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea (Acts 11:28-29.)*

The Bible is rich with examples of God's people making their needs known to others. These examples come from both the Old and New Testaments.

By using the "Make Your Needs Known" approach you are simply:

- 1. Sharing the vision and ministry with friends**
- 2. Asking them to prayerfully consider joining your team**
- 3. Inviting them to support your work financially**

Some Biblical examples of making needs known are listed below.

In *Exodus 12:35-36*, God instructed Israel to ask the Egyptians for articles of silver, gold, and for clothing. In verse 36, we are told, "*The Lord made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people and gave them what they asked for...*"

In *Exodus 25*, God commanded Moses to build a tabernacle and instructed Moses to ask the people of Israel to contribute the necessary building materials. "*Tell the sons of Israel to raise My contribution*" (Exodus 25:2).

In Exodus 35, Moses had presented the need and the response overwhelming. It was more than enough! Scripture records,

*And everyone whose heart stirred him and everyone whose spirit moved him came and brought the Lord's contribution for the work of the tent of meeting and for all its service and for the holy garments (Exodus 35:21).*

Listen carefully to what was recorded here. It reads that it was **everyone whose heart was stirred** and **everyone whose spirit was moved** that made contributions to the cause. This is exactly how this approach is used in churches today. You make the need known and God moves peoples' hearts and spirits to contribute to the need.

In *I Kings 17*, the Lord instructed Elijah to make his needs known to the widow living at Zarepath. As a result, she provided food and lodging for Elijah for as long as he needed it.

In *Acts 11:28-29*, a prophet by the name of Agabus came making a need known in a manner that prompted the following response.

*Then the disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for their brothers living in Judea which they did (Acts 11:29).*

When Paul was writing to the Corinthian church it seems as though the Corinthians had at some previous point made a financial commitment to give toward a specific need (*II Corinthians 9:5*). The church had never sent the gift on to those in need.

In II Corinthian chapters 8 and 9, Paul was so bold as to write to encourage the church to follow through with their commitment.

*Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which you had previously promised, that it may be ready as a matter of generosity and not as a grudging obligation (II Corinthians 9:5).*

He also sent Titus to ensure that they would follow through. It seems that Paul was very aggressive in his approach of raising funds for mission projects.

As you can see in these passages it was not an uncommon thing for God's people to make their needs known to others and then let God lead people to give appropriately. Apparently Moses, Elijah, the 12 Apostles and the Apostle Paul had no problem bringing request to God's people. Because we have the Biblical examples in God's Word it should not cause us to feel ashamed nor timid to bring legitimate needs before the body of Christ so that they can be a partner in "Great Commission work."

**Personal Example:** I remember my first trip to Haiti back in the 1989. My wife and I needed over \$1000 to go on this trip. We prayed about who we may ask to help us on this trip. One church came to mind right away. It was a small church back in southern Illinois. We sent a letter explaining where we were going and what kind of mission work we would be doing. We waited about a week then we received a check from this small church in Illinois for the full amount. We had never done anything like that before. Wow! We were so blessed that they had responded in such a great way. What a great blessing we received by praying to God, asking God who we should contact, then sending a letter, waiting on God to move their hearts, then receiving the funds! We immediately sent a “Thank You.” After the trip we personally visited the church to share with them how that “together” we (them and us) were partners in seeing about 500 people make professions of faith in Christ Jesus. That was a great example of “teamwork” to accomplish Great Commission work.

You must always remember that it is not about “**you**” and your mission work nor is it about “**us**” and our mission work. It is always about doing “**HIS**” **kingdom work**. It is really about bringing “**them**” (the lost) to “**Him**.” He gets the credit and the glory for providing the provisions and for the harvest of souls!

*I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day;  
the night is coming when no one can work (John 9:4).*

➤ The method of looking to God alone – (Philippians 4:19)

This approach is very different from the other two approaches in that the missionary **makes his need known to no one other than God**. There are many missionaries throughout the years who have used this approach and been greatly blessed by it. The key passage is:

*And my God shall supply all your need according to His  
riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).*

Another great text on this approach is found in Matthew 6:6.

*But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have  
shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place;  
and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly  
(Matthew 6:6).*

This principle rests on God's promise of provision for His servants.

Over the years, Christian leaders like George Mueller, Hudson Taylor and others have used this principle for raising funds and providing for thousands of people and years of successful ministry. The Navigators practiced the principle of never making needs known for the first fifteen years of their ministry. New Tribes Mission used this principle for many years.

**Personal Example:** My wife and I served with New Tribes Mission from 1991 through 2002. During that time we needed finances for mission training here in the states and for living overseas as missionaries in Papua New Guinea. We used this approach and we experienced firsthand how faithful God is in providing for His children.

When I resigned from the pastorate in 1991, a senior adult woman came to my wife and I and shared with us that God had laid on her heart to join with us in our mission work by giving to us \$10 a month. At that time, that was all the financial support we had. But it encouraged us to “move forward” in faith knowing that God was starting to bring people **to us** to meet **our financial needs**. God is always at work way ahead of us in preparing people to join HIM and us in missions and ministry. My wife and I stepped out in faith and obedience to what God had asked us to do and He provided for our needs. His provisions were not just in the area of finances, but God provided for our spiritual, physical, and material needs also.

Our mission work was located in one of the most expensive areas of Papua New Guinea located in the mountains of East New Britain. The only way in and out of that area was by helicopter or by foot. My wife, two children and I experienced day by day, month after month, and year after year God's provision for us. We had no way of knowing how much financial help we would receive monthly, but God knew and He provided. We did not ask our friends nor churches to sign a “pledge card” so we would know how much they would be giving on a monthly basis. We did not go to New Guinea based on a percentage (%) amount. We went by faith based upon God call to us.

*Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them (Acts 16:10).*

The helicopter came to our location about every two months. So we had no way of receiving nor sending out letters to churches until the helicopter would come. Friends, as you trust God to provide for you, He will be more than faithful to honor His promises.

We went through mudslides, cyclones, earthquakes, malaria, dysentery and a host of other challenges. At the time we were in the jungle, email was just getting off the ground. When we had great financial needs, we could not send off an email to churches to even ask them to pray for us. When our children were sick with malaria or other sicknesses or injuries, we could not send an email to ask churches to pray. We had no phones in the jungle. We looked to God to provide and He did. We do not condemn nor judge those who use one of the other approaches to financial support. This was the approach God led us to use at that time, and He honored it and blessed it. We received financial gifts from many churches and individuals as God stirred their hearts and moved their spirits to give. To this very day, some of those who gave to our mission work we have never personally met or known.

During those years of mission work in New Guinea, my family and I learned more about living-by-faith and God's provisions than in the previous years of ministry. I pass this on to you as a personal testimony of what God did for us and what He can do for you.

All three of these approaches are clearly found in scripture and have been used for many years by many Christian workers. One approach is not better than the other approaches. One approach is not more spiritual than the others. We should not judge people by which approach they sense God is leading them to use when it comes to raising financial support for missions and ministry. The key is being obedient to the direction that God is leading you.

**Remember:** *The things which are impossible with men are possible with God (Luke 18:27).*

### **Bible Studies to be used for Support Raising**

Here are a few additional Bible studies on support raising found in scripture. Look over them, pray and ask God which area of fund raising should you use.

## Bible Study Outline: Philippians 4:10-19

- Different people will give as they have opportunity (vs. 10)
- Contentment is the key (vs. 11)
- Some will give over and over (vs. 16)
- Giving is an act of worship (vs.18)
- God meets needs when people give (vs.19)

## Bible Study Outline: Romans 15:22-25

- Paul asked the Romans for support (vs. 24)
- Paul had never met these believers before (vs. 22)

### **What is the Purpose of Support Raising?**

After being involved for years in mission work I have found that often times those going on mission trips are focusing more on “**getting the money**” to go on the trip than on the real purpose of the mission trip. The “Purpose of support raising” is not about getting money! I have listed the real purposes for raising funds and support for mission trips.

- Support raising is not about raising money; it is about **glorifying God**.

Scripture teaches us that “*whatever we do we are to do it in the name of Jesus* (Colossians 3:17) so that He would be honored by it. The motivation for giving needs to be on bringing glory to God! Giving must be based upon being obedient to God. As people give to help support mission endeavors the real purpose must be for God’s glory. If it is God who is stirring their hearts to give to us then they are giving in obedience to God’s Word and God is truly glorified!

- Support raising is not about raising money; it is about **legitimate mission and ministry needs being met**.

Jesus said, “*I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day . . .* (John 9”4).” Mission and ministry is a whole lot of **WORK!** Not only is it work but it takes money to do evangelism, mission, church planting and ministry. Giving to mission and ministry needs is a very Biblical thing. Even while our Lord Jesus was on the earth, Judas (the betrayer) was the

treasurer for Jesus' group of followers (John 12:4-6). They had a legitimate ministry team.

*Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him, and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities—Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons, and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others who provided for Him from their substance (John 12:4-6).*

As Jesus traveled throughout Judea and Galilee, there were those who gave money or supplies to this ministry team to meet needs and to help them as they did ministry (Luke 8:3). We would not question Jesus' motive for receiving funds. The reason is because it was all about mission and ministry needs being met. If we only focus on the money issue then we will quickly turn people away and forfeit the blessings of mission and ministry work.

- Support raising is not about money; it is about **ministering to others**.

I have always been amazed at how many people are encouraged and blessed by hearing about mission needs and then giving support to help meet those needs. I have seen lost people come to know Christ by sharing the needs of mission support raising and the great opportunities that God has provided for His children. I have seen Christians surrender to the mission call as a result of hearing a missionary share during their mission support raising time. Support raising can be a great time to minister to others, both the saved and the lost.

- Support raising is not about money: **it is about God changing and preparing you.**

God's purposely is working on changing you day-by-day to be more like Jesus. He desires to move you from where you are today to where He wants you to be tomorrow. Support raising will move you to trust God by faith to raise up a support team that will "pray" for you and also "stand with you" in areas of finances for mission causes.

God is going to stretch you and challenge you over and over to step out and stand up spiritually. God will use your financial need as a vehicle to help

you grow in your faith and trust in God. Often times, God will use finances as a faith builder in our lives. Malachi 3:10 is one of those passages that teaches the principle of tithing and seeing the great result of God supplying our needs. I know this passage is speaking about tithing. But it also gives to us the **principle** of being obedient to God, it gives to us the **promise** of God and it tells us that God will **provide** for our needs.

*Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” Says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it (Malachi 3:10).*

Are you tithing to your church? Have you supported anyone who has gone on a mission trip or is serving as a missionary? I have made it a practice to not ask people to do thing that I am not willing to do. You should not ask people to do what you are not willing to do yourself.

*Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” (Luke 6:38).*

**SPIRITUAL CHECK-UP:** Take a few moments right now and ask God to search your heart. Confess any sin that God brings to your mind. Ask God to help you to be faithful financially by supporting your church in tithes and helping to support mission and ministry teams in your church.

The most important element in your success in raising support will be your **own spiritual life**. It will lead you forward or stop you dead in the water. Spend time every day reading Scripture, praising God and claiming His promises. Start giving to mission work personally and watch as God blesses you in return.

**Remember:** God has promised to meet the needs of those that are called according to His purpose. He abundantly supplies, and He knows all of our needs (Phil. 4:18-19).

**God promises that ...**

- He will give you what it takes to develop your support team (I Thess. 5:24)

- He will guide and direct you (James 1:5)
- He will give you joy, (even in the time of raising support [John 15:10-11])
- He will protect you from the enemy's lies, such as:

"You're a beggar."

"These people don't want to give to me.

"I'm not good enough for Christian work" (Tim. 1:7)

- He will not allow anything to happen to His children that is not for the best (Romans 8:28)
- He will not fail or forsake you (Romans 8:35)
- He will prepare hearts (Psalm 139:3-5)

## **BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR MISSION FUNDRAISING**

*Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them (Acts 16:10).*

This is an excellent passage to look at when it comes to talking about strategy for mission work.

Every missionary needs to develop a strategy for what he will be doing on the mission field. He must understand the purpose of the mission work before going. If you are asked by people why they should give to your ministry or mission work what would you say? I have heard some say, "I am going to such and such a place on a mission trip." When asked what they would be doing they reply, "I am not sure, I will be doing mission work of some kind." When asked "What do you hope to accomplish?" They respond by saying, "We hope to see some folks saved or just do mission work."

Now, let me say that as a missionary it is very hard to know every detail of your mission trip. I often teach those going on mission trips that the key is "flexibility." You must be prepared for the un-expected. But it does not mean that you can assume that people will give money to you when you do not have a strategy in mind for what it is to be used for. Here are a few areas to consider when presenting your mission need to individuals or your church.

- **Know you are called; it gives you credibility.**

Knowing that God has called you to this particular work is very important. When the hard times come and difficulties arise (and they will come), looking back and knowing that God has called you will keep you keeping on. If you know that God has called you then you can serve Him faithfully instead of quitting and questioning whether or not it was a good idea to come.

Knowing God has called you also helps those supporting you know and feel confident about giving to that mission project. If you do not feel called then why should I give to you?

- **Understand the purpose of your mission trip; it helps you share the vision.**

Do thorough research about the area you will be ministering in. Give a clear picture of the mission work at hand. People will give as you help them to see a clear vision of what God has called you to do and them to join in on.

If you do not know what you will be doing on a mission trip then it will be hard to cast a vision to a church as to why they should support you. Actually I tell churches not to support those going on mission trips who do not understand the purpose nor focus of the trip.

- **Have your church's blessing and be commissioned by them; it makes you accountable.**

This is very important! If your church is standing with you, then most likely they will help in the area of finances. Also, this makes mission work more personal with your church. Ask your pastor if the church would "commission you" for the mission trip. This can really give you opportunity to share the vision and strategy of the mission work with your church members. A commissioning service would also help church members to get on board with financial and prayer support.

- **Thoroughly examine your attitudes and your needs; this builds faith in your life.**

Check your heart to see that it is clean before God and before others

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting (Psalm 139:23-24).*

Don't allow any known sin to hinder your mission experience. Sin can cut you short of being all that God wants you to be. As God reveals sin confess it immediately.

## **Why Have a Prayer/Support Team?**

- Every missionary/ministry needs a prayer/support team

I could never stress enough how important **prayer** is in raising a prayer/support team. Prayer is not just **a thing** to do; it is **the thing** to do! S. D. Gordon, the great man of prayer once said, "The real victory in all service is won in secret beforehand by prayer. Service is gathering up the results." Pray about "whom" to ask to be a part of the prayer/support team.

- Your prayer/support team helps you to be accountable (ask the church leadership for advice)

You should have each person on your prayer/support team covenant with you to pray for you on a daily basis (Check the appendix for an example Prayer Covenant Card). Accountability is a must when it comes to receiving financial gifts from others. Many missionaries have lost financial support because they had no accountability with their finances.

*So then each of us shall give account of himself to God (Romans 14:12).*

*Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful (I Cor. 4:2).*

- Your prayer/support team members will be daily praying for you

As a missionary you cannot afford to live without prayer protection. Your prayer/support team will be on their knees taking "your" petitions boldly before the throne in heaven. Someone once said, "**Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies beyond the will of God.**" Having a

prayer support team will help to make your mission experience a great success.

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God*  
(Philippians 4:6).

- Your prayer/support team gives you opportunities to be a witness to those you know and do not know

*. . . praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, . . . and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,*  
(Ephesians 6:18).

*For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard* (Acts 22:15).

Your prayer/support team will pass on to others the day-to-day victories and defeats that you experience. They will become a great vehicle to encourage others to pray for you. They will also become a great vehicle for witnessing to the lost and saved of God's great faithfulness to you.

- Prayer/support teams promote the team approach to ministry (Mark 2:3-5)

Inviting others to join with you in your mission endeavors promotes a teamwork spirit to others. Seeing your prayer/support team working together will bring honor and glory to the Lord. The prayer/support team will be a team in unity and purpose working together to accomplish Kingdom Focused mission work.

Leonard Ravenhill, the great evangelist once said, "**Prayer must have priority.** Prayer must be our bolt to lock up the night, our key to open the day. Prayer is power. Prayer is wealth. Prayer is health to the soul."

## **How to Build a Prayer/Support Team**

Building a prayer/support team is going to take some organization on your part. The presence of faith does not mean an absence of organization. To get started:

- Ask God who should be on your prayer/support team.

You will need to prayerfully consider who is to be on that list. Everyone you meet will not be a prayer warrior. They will not be people you need to be on your prayer/support team.

**Personal example:** My wife and I had two lists of people that we corresponded with while on the mission field. We had those who were our prayer/support team. It was made up of those who on a monthly basis were supporting us financially and daily were praying for us. The other list was a list of people who wanted to receive our bimonthly news letter but were not necessarily part of what we would have considered our prayer/support team.

Pray for whom the Lord wants you to speak, write, email, or call to be part of your prayer/support team.

**Remember:** “Where God leads HE provides.”

- Establish a list – as many as possible.

You will need to gather about 100 names or so, along with their addresses. You will want to include names from those inside the church that are strong prayer warriors. I highly recommend for you to have fifty percent of your prayer support team from outside your home church. You may have some on the list who are family or friends that want to help support you financially but are not Christians. Should you receive their support? Yes! This will be a great opportunity for you to share your faith and the purpose of your mission trip with the unsaved family member or friends.

- Edit your list – delete some if necessary. Pray about who should be deleted from the list.

**Remember** that everybody on your list may not be mature Christians (there could be some who may not be saved). There will be great opportunities to share your faith with those who are not believers. There will be great opportunities to share your mission work with those who are Christians.

You can do this by educating and making aware the purpose of your mission trip.

- Evaluate your list – How do you approach them

How do you evaluate your list? Meet with people in the most personal and practical ways. Letters are good, phones calls and emails are better, but the most effective way is to meet with them **PERSONALLY**.

## **Two Key Principles for Building a Prayer/Support Team**

There are two key principles to building a prayer/support team based on II Corinthians 8:1-5.

*Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia. That in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but **they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us** by the will of God (II Corinthians 8:1-5).*

**Relationships** are the key to building your prayer/support team. Your relationship with God and your relationship with others are very important. These must be kept in the right order.

- Giving yourself to the Lord! That requires a personal investment of your time, talent and treasure.
- Giving yourself to others! That requires a personal investment of your time, talent, and treasure.

**SPIRITUAL CHECK-UP:** You must ask yourself a few questions. Are you right with God? Are you right with others? You need to have a clear conscience and a pure heart as you endeavor to move forward in mission support raising. Spend a few moments asking God to search your heart in these two vital areas.

**Remember:** God will always be more interested in our relationship with Him and with others than He is about our service or mission work for Him or others.

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting (Psalms 139:23, 24).*

Never forget to ask your prayer/support team members if they have special prayer needs that you can join with them in praying about. If you want others to pray for you, you need to be praying for them.

**General Principle for Raising Funds:** People give to people; People give to people they know; People give to people they know and trust; and People give to people they know and trust and care for. There is much more than just fundraising involved; it is “Friend Raising” as you build relationships with others.

### **People to Consider Being on Your Team**

When it comes to raising funds for the mission project, ask God who should be approached and when to approach them. **Remember**, it is not about money, it is all about joining you in Kingdom Focused Work. Here are some places to start:

- Yourself – What is your personal commitment? What can you give now and later? What is your prayer life like? Would you want someone like yourself on your prayer support team?
- Family – How can your family help you?
- Home church – How can they help? Make an appointment with the senior pastor. Be well informed about the details, purpose, needs and cost of the trip. You might need to plan on two meetings with the pastor---one to give initial information and the other to give detailed information of your trip.
- Bible Study Groups – Are there some Sunday School or Bible Study groups that could join you?

- Association – Does your church belong to an association of churches? If so, would it help?
- Christian Businessmen – Do you know of any Christian businessmen in your community that might be interested in mission work? Can they help?
- Employers and follow employees -
- Teachers – School teachers and college teachers are good resources and may help with your mission projects.
- Organizations in your community -

### **What Motivates People To Give?**

- People give because God prompts them to give as He opens their hearts to understand His work.
- People give because they love you (relationship building is a must if you are to be successful in mission support raising).
- People give because they love Christ Jesus. Many Christians will give out of sheer obedience to the Lord.
- People give because they desire to be partners in ministry. They want to be on the cutting edge of what God is doing.
- People give because they want to help meet needs (yours or others’).
- People give because they know that it is more blessed to give than to receive.
- People give because they want to serve God in a Kingdom Focused way.

If you want churches and individuals to support you on a mission trip, you will want to make sure that you communicate your mission purpose clearly to them. Begin gathering materials and supplies necessary to communicate the vision to others. Leave some of this material with them. Let them know

that you want them to pray about this and that at a later date you will get back with them.

Your mission support raising must always be done in a straightforward and open manner. Mission support raising must never compromise Christian principles for the sake of securing funds.

Your support raising must always have a positive reflection upon your church and not cause the community around your church to regard your congregation in a negative fashion (no raffle tickets, or door-to-door solicitation).

### **What Do My Supporters Receive From Helping Me?**

- They will be blessed by God (Pro. 22:9; Luke 6:3).
- They experience the joy of worshipping God through giving (Acts 20:34-35).
- They participation in God's Kingdom Focused work
- They become part of a team in ministry/missions
- They have opportunity to grow in mission awareness
- Their faith is exercised by giving (II Corinthians 8:6-12).
- They catch the vision of reaching the un-reached
- They are investing in eternal things (Mark 10:21-22).

**Remember:** Your job is not to persuade people to give, but to simply share needs, trusting the Holy Spirit to direct individuals to give. We are to trust God more than trusting money or those giving us the finances for mission work.

*Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear him. The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing (Psalm 34:9, 10).*

You should always give a thank you letter out to every church or individual who gives to support your mission work. After your trip is over, you should send another letter to say once again "thank you" and to give a report of the results of your trip. Make the letters personal and make sure you express your appreciation and thankfulness for their prayer/support. Do not go into a long, detailed story of all that you did on the trip. Pick out one or two key experiences from the trip and report on them.

## **Ten Ways Your Church, Family or Friends Can Support You**

- Provide for some of your personal expenses
- Provide supplies for your trip
- Be part of your prayer support team
- Give financially to your ministry work on a monthly basis
- Hold a commissioning service
- Write notes of encouragement to you and your family before you leave
- Go with you to the airport
- Hold a short prayer meeting before you get on the plane
- Give you a small packet of goodies for the trip
- Have a “Welcoming Home” party at the church with banners and food
- Allow you to share in their churches
- Come and visit you while on the mission field

**Support Raising Key Passage:** Have faith in God (Mark 11:22)

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Sample Support Mission Information Letter**

2004 SUMMER MISSION TRIP

The FBC of Oak Grove, Missouri, will be taking a summer mission trip to ROMANIA.

This trip will include:

Place:	<u>Arad, Romania</u>
Dates:	<u>July 10-July 21, 2005</u>
Cost of Trip:	<u>\$1600</u>
Airfare:	<u>\$950</u>
Insurance:	<u>\$50</u>
Food:	<u>\$150</u>
Lodging:	<u>\$160</u>
Side Trip:	<u>\$140</u>
Misc:	<u>\$150</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$1600</u>



## **APPENDIX B**

### **EXAMPLE OF MISSION SUPPORT APPLICATION**

The Missions Committee of (Your Church) is glad to be able to encourage you regarding missions by supporting you on one of the Summer Mission Teams. We desire that many of our students go into

cross-cultural service for Christ, and we believe that these teams will challenge you to consider that calling.

We consider ourselves to be working with you as a team in raising the money needed for your project. As a result of this team approach, we have made two decisions:

FIRST, we want to encourage you to pursue as many other avenues of financial assistance as possible before you apply to us. This is not meant to hold you back from the team; instead, it is designed to prevent the attitude that the projects are “given” to us by the Missions Committee. We know from experience that the harder you work for the ability to go on this team, the more you will grow.

SECOND, we will offer students and other applicants a maximum of \_\_\_% aid. This is our policy with full-time missionaries, so we want to apply it to those of you going on a short term trip. We believe that God will show Himself faithful as you pray for the money to be provided. God bless you as you apply.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Details: Cost of Project: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = A

Amount you will earn \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = B

Amount you expect from Others: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = C

Amount you expect from Parents: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = D

Amount for which you are Applying (A less B,C,D)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

How much are you requesting in scholarship? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX C

### GUIDELINES FOR FUND-RAISING LETTER

The goal of your letter is to let your family and friends know of your plans and desire to serve on A SHORT TERM mission trip, and to give them the opportunity to participate with you in this project through prayer and

financial support. Ask yourself if you would be so moved after reading the letter.

The basic format should follow this outline:

- **First Paragraph:** Greetings, and an explanation of what the project is and plans to accomplish it.
- **Second Paragraph:** The reason behind your personal desire to be a part of the mission project. What you hope to accomplish there, both ministerial and personally.
- **Third Paragraph:** An explanation of your support needs and how you are raising that sum. Asking individuals if they would like to share in your ministry by prayerfully or financially supporting you. Give them some “how to’s” in the letter.
- **Fourth Paragraph:** Thanks to that person for considering being a part of your support family, indicating that you will continue to be in contact with him/her as your ministry for the trip develops.

Closing: Sincerely, (your name)

### **Notes:**

Several short paragraphs are visually more attractive than fewer long ones.

Your letter should be no more than one page (front only).

Make the reader feel they have an important role in your ministry. Help them to feel that they are part of the process of serving.

Be sure to edit your letter. Have another person critic and appraise your letter.

After writing your support letter and mailing it, try to contact each person either face to face, by email or on the phone to determine the degree of their interest in your ministry. In your appreciation to those who are interested, emphasize their involvement in this work. They have an important role in that they are “sending you out” to do the work of the Church.

Always write a thank you letter to everyone who pledges support, either in prayer or financially.

Let your supporters know that you will be writing them a follow-up letter when you return from the trip to share about your experience there. Do so within three weeks of returning.

Take a copy of the addresses of your supporters (prayer & financial) on your trip.

Send them a postcard stating what and how you're doing and thank them for sending you.

Checks must be made payable to your church. At the bottom of the check where it says memo, please write: Mission Trip. For a donation to be tax deductible, it must be donated to the church for the good of the trip. It also has to be irrevocable – which means it is a donation. If for some reason the trip was canceled, the money would be held for a future mission trip or returned if you so desire. If someone wants to put in a letter that the donation has been solicited by you, that's fine, but your name should not appear on the check.

It takes money before the trip starts to make all the arrangements for the flights, travel, lodging, food, etc. Tickets usually must be purchased one month or more prior to leaving.

## APPENDIX D

### **Sample Letter**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

God has spoken to my heart about being “On Mission” with Him in Kiev, Ukraine. This past year I was a junior at Salem Senior High School. I have been kept busy with the yearbook, track and Evangelism Explosion training.

Evangelism Explosion is a class that I attended in my church and it taught me how to effectively share my faith. I will be using this training on my trip in the Ukraine. The trip will be from July 21 to August 10. The team will consist of twelve members. While in Kiev we will have a Vacation Bible School in the mornings, street witnessing in the afternoon and then have a Youth Revival in the evenings.

Your prayer support will be greatly appreciated by the entire team. I have a few personal requests that I would like for you to pray for daily:

- Pray for safety while traveling, for our health and strength on the trip
- Pray for all the team members to be prepared for the trip
- Pray for the national leaders we will be working with in Kiev

The trip will cost approximately \$\_\_\_\_\_. I have raised a small portion of the funds and I need to continue to raise the rest. If you feel led to financially support me, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please make the checks payable to First Baptist Church \_\_\_\_\_. The church will send you a tax deductible receipt for your contribution. Thank you very much for taking time out of your busy schedule to read my letter. You can contact me by calling me at 217-2345 by June 7th.

In Christ,

---

PS If you have any questions or would like to know more about the missions trip, please feel free to call me anytime. Thanks again!

## APPENDIX E

### **Prayer/Support Team Worksheet**

Now is the time to brainstorm; you probably know more people than you think. You need to think of people that you have met or ministered to during the past year. Also, think of people you have gotten to know better or you feel might be interested in what you are doing. List as many prospects as you possibly can!

FORMER GIVERS

PEOPLE I HAVE MINISTERED TO IN THE PAST YEAR

FRIENDS FROM CHURCH

FRIENDS FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

POSSIBLE CHURCHES I COULD APPROACH

PEOPLE I HAVE MET IN THE LAST YEAR

FRIENDS FROM BACK HOME

SPOUSE'S FRIENDS

OTHERS

## APPENDIX F

### **Sample Email or Letter to Prospective Contributors**

The purpose of this letter/email is to help pave the way for you so that people are expecting a later call and are introduced to your ministry. (In some cases you may want to use letter/email writing as your primary contact. You might do this if the individuals you want to contact live a long distance away. If that is the case, you should enclose in the envelope a BRIEF description of your missions opportunity, and a return address-postage paid envelope to return the contribution).

Suggested content of a letter to someone you know personally:

- **Introduction:** Begin with some good opening statements (i. e., family news, ask how they are doing, how school has been going, etc.). Make the letter warm and personal.
- **Presenting Your Ministry:** You want to emphasize your call to this ministry and your excitement to be involved. Share about the specifics of the work in which you will be involved and the practical training you are receiving.
- **Present Your Need:** Explain your need for financial and prayer support in order to be involved in practical Christian ministry this summer and/or January. Explain the concept of a support team and accountability system.
- **Follow up Plans:** Tell the person you are writing about any plans you have to call them or visit them to discuss your letter in person. You may also want to include a commitment to write after the trip, sharing what the Lord did.
- **Closing:** Finish your letter with a personal touch and express appreciation for the friendship of the person you are writing.

After you mail the letters (mail around 25 at a time) you should call the prospective contributors in seven days. (Note the sample letter provided in the appendix D).

### **Special Hints for your letters:**

- You can hand write, email or type personal letters depending on how many you want to send.

- Write correctly. Incorrect use of the English language can be offensive.
- If you are sending more than about 25 letters, you may want to consider using a form letter. Work on it so that it does not lose its personal touch! PLEASE don't ask for mailing lists for an entire class or group). Mass mailings lose the personal touch and are ineffective.
- Write simply and clearly. Vague details and muddled paragraphs can prevent a letter from communicating effectively.
- Write positively. Negative attitudes or criticisms of other groups can defeat a person faster than any other problem. Strive to give your letter a pleasant, joyful tone (Phil. 4:4). You want your reader to be encouraged by the work the Lord is doing in your life.
- Write explicitly. Hidden messages are no good. Be bold! Communicate your message openly. Say what you mean and mean what you say. They will know you need money; share your need clearly and leave the rest in the Lord's hands.
- Write personally -- personal letters say that the individual receiving the letter is important. They say fundraising is important enough to you to give special time for your efforts.
- Mass produced letters when done very carefully and with special guidelines will work but the general rule is be personal. A form letter can give a negative impression. Be very careful! Hand sign each form letter and perhaps add a few personal handwritten lines.)
- Write concisely. A well-written letter should be one page (there are exceptions to the rule). Edit your letter until you are confident you have used the least amount of words to share the most important message.

- Have your letter read by the Pastor or Mission's leader if you need assistance. Ask for help; it is available.

## APPENDIX G

# SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS WITH SUPPORT TEAM PROSPECTS

## Some Practical Suggestions

Before calling on a prospect, it is important to make an appointment by phone. There are several reasons for this. First, it is usually more courteous to make an appointment than to drop by unannounced. It also gives the prospect an opportunity to schedule the visit at a time which is more convenient for him which means he is likely to be more attentive and responsive to your presentation.

- Work at setting up appointments several days in advance since people are often quite busy.

If a prospect is unable to schedule an appointment in the near future, ask if you can call for an appointment the following month.

- When working in a large metropolitan area it is helpful to make appointments in the same general vicinity.

This should enable you to see at least two prospects in one evening. Using a city map, locate the addresses of your prospects, then plan your appointments according to their geographic locations. Allow adequate time for travel during these hours.

- A good time to -phone is usually between 6 and 9 p.m..

Saturday is also an excellent time for making appointments, particularly between 9 a.m. and noon. People can usually be found at home during these hours.

- An important prerequisite for a telephone caller is sensitivity to discern the reactions and attitudes of the person with whom he is talking.

By being sensitive, you will know better how to respond -- whether or not to try to make an appointment.

- Smile as you talk. This gives a friendly tone to your voice. Do not talk too rapidly or loudly

## APPENDIX H

## **SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS: SAMPLE PHONE CALL**

- Your first concern is to determine if you are talking to the right person.

You could say:

*Hello, is this Mr/Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_?*

- The second step in your phone conversation is to clearly identify yourself and the purpose of your call.
- By this time your prospect will probably be ready to express himself, so pause and give him a chance to respond.
- Ask him when it would be convenient to visit. Give the prospect a couple of alternative times and then let him choose the time most convenient for him.
- If your suggested times are not convenient for him, ask him when it would be convenient.

You could say:

*"This is \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling on behalf of my home church and myself. This month I am calling on friends, and I would like to make an appointment to visit with you for 30-40 minutes to bring you up to date on what is happening in my life and in a ministry opportunity I will have this June for mission work."*

*"I would like to visit with you personally for a few minutes. Would it be convenient if I came around next Thursday evening at 7 or 8pm?" "When would a visit best suit your schedule?"*

- It is also good to check the address for accuracy. "Let me see if I have your correct address."
- As soon as an appointment is decided upon, you should conclude the call with an appropriate comment reminding them of the day, date and time.

You could say:

*"Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, I have enjoyed talking with you and look forward to seeing you on Thursday, February 18, at 7pm."*

- When a prospect indicates they are not interested in an appointment, simply end the conversation on a warm note.

*"Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, thank you for your time. I have enjoyed talking with you. Goodbye."*

Adapt these suggestions to your style and language. Immediately following the phone conversation, write down the day and appointment.

If a prospect indicates he is not interested in an appointment, make a note on your prospect list.

## APPENDIX I

## **SOME REMINDERS FOR MEETING WITH PROSPECTS**

- Arrive on time. Never arrive early; it is to arrive a few minutes late than early. Make certain you know where the prospect lives. If you do not know, locate the address on a city map and estimate the necessary travel time.
- Dress appropriately. Casual clothes are suitable for calling on team members or young singles, but for home or office calls, more formal attire is necessary.
- Use a breath freshener. Nothing is more distressing than talking with someone who has bad breath. "I can't remember his face, but I'll never forget that breath." And do not crowd people you are talking with. This makes them uncomfortable. Stay at a comfortable distance of at least three feet away.
- Never speak despairingly. Never criticize other Christian organizations or churches. Also be careful not to create the impression that you think you are the chosen one or that you alone have the key to world evangelism.
- Pray with your partner before each interview, but not while sitting in front of the prospects home! If observed, this makes the prospect nerve.
- Expect the unexpected. Then, whatever happens, it will not catch you off guard. Look upon the unexpected as a challenge.
- Keep in mind that influencing others to give is a spiritual activity and ministry; and it results in blessings to the giver.

**Remember:** Your job is not to persuade people to give, but to simply share needs, trusting the Holy Spirit to direct each individual in his decision.

## APPENDIX J

### Sample Prayer Partner Enlistment Card

#### **Please Pray For (Your Name)**

Date of my Mission Trip: July 1-10, 2005

Place I will be serving: Arad, Romania

Please pray for me in the following areas:

**Before the trip:** During the month of May & June

Pray for my finances to go on the trip (support/supplies)

Pray for me to be spiritually prepared for the trip (spiritual)

Pray for the other team members going with me (unity)

**During the trip:** During the time of the trip July 1-10

Pray for my travel, health, strength (safety, physical needs)

Pray for my preaching/teaching time (ministry)

Pray that I will have witnessing opportunities (evangelism)

**After I return from the trip:** July 11- August

Pray as I share in churches

Pray as I share with family members

Pray for witnessing opportunities to friends/neighbors

Yes, I will pray for you daily as you prepare for and serve in  
(Romania).

Sign your name here

## APPENDIX K

### Sample Letter 1

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Hi! How are you doing? I hope that God is doing as many exciting things in your lives as He is in mine! I did not think anything could top off this past year, but as usual God is blessing in tremendous ways.

Recently, I have been challenged in a new direction. From January 4-16 I will be in Haiti with a team of thirty-five people, working to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. We will be doing hut-to-hut visitation, holding worship services and Backyard Bible clubs, teaching hygiene workshops, and a medical team will also accompany us. Our time will be spent in two villages, one of which has never been reached by the gospel! What an awesome opportunity to let these people know that their Creator loves them and has provided a way for them to have a personal relationship with himself through Jesus Christ!

We will be living among the Haitians as they do-in huts. I am hoping this will give me a greater heart of compassion for people around God's world. But wait! That is not all! I have more exciting news for you because you can be part of my team. First and foremost, you can pray for us in the following ways: 1) That God will prepare each team member and also each Haitian spiritually for our visit. 2) That God will provide financially for our trip (each team member needs to raise \$\_\_\_\_\_, so that is quite a challenge). 3) That God will bless our journey, keep us safe, and move powerfully through our team as we minister His love, compassion, and grace to the Haitians. Secondly, you can be involved by seeking God's direction in helping us financially. I have included a postage-paid envelope for you to use if you are so led, and also a brochure explaining more about the Missions project

Please make checks payable to my home church."

Thank you so much for your support and the love you have shown me in the past making known to me the same Jesus I so earnestly desire to share with others.

# APPENDIX L

## Sample Letter 2

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Hi! I hope this letter finds you and your family well, I'm doing fine. In case I haven't told you, last May I surrendered to God's call to a career in missions. I still don't know exactly when or where He'll lead me, but I am trusting that He'll reveal that in His time.

This summer He has given me a wonderful opportunity to minister and experience the mission field for a short term, July 9 - August 4. I will be going with a team from my home Church to Canada where we are working at Hope Baptist Mission and Friendship Baptist Church. We will be doing door-to-door survey work, Backyard Bible Clubs, running a day care, a puppet ministry and Special Church Services. I am really excited about this opportunity.

So as not to put a burden on the churches we are working with, our team will be raising our own support to finance this trip. I am writing you to enlist your prayer and financial support. God has given me a special call to "go" and I am counting on Him to call those of you He has called to "send." I also know that He has a special team picked out for prayer support. As I made out a list of people to send this letter to God kept giving me names.

I had qualms about writing this letter and I have put it off for weeks because I felt as if I was asking for myself. God has shown me that I am asking on behalf of the people that do not know Jesus. Both of these churches are in areas where Southern Baptist Work is very small. Hope Baptist Mission is 150 miles from the nearest Southern Baptist Church. After growing up in the Bible Belt I cannot imagine a small core of excited young Christians with very little training. Their pastors are working at discipling them, and we hope to ease their load a little this summer.

I don't know what else to share with you in this letter. Please understand that I realize that everyone is not called to help every cause. I trust that you will hear God's voice and know if this is an area in which you can minister. Either way, I know everyone is called to pray, and I would very much appreciate your prayer support. My team leader's name is Bob Power. I

respect him and love him and would appreciate it if you would lift him up too. If for no other reason, he has to put up with me for a month!

I plan to write all of you again after I get back and let you know how the trip went so you can share in praising God for the results I know will come on this trip.

Thank you for being people that love me and love Jesus. I really do appreciate all of you.

# APPENDIX M

## Sample Letter 3

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

As many of you know, I went off to college for my first year this past August. I am attending [Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Missouri] about [three] hours away from home.

God has been very good to me this past year. He has taught me so many things and blessed me in so many ways. Last October my church had a missions week, where they had certain team members come and discuss previous mission trips in which they had attended. This really got me excited for the Lord and for missions.

After about one week of prayer I went and applied for a mission team. I went through an interview and was told two weeks later that I was accepted to go to [Bermuda for two weeks this July]. I know it sounds like a pretty rough time, right? Well, really it is going to be a strenuous schedule, but I pray with much blessing along with it. I will be working with the children from the military base.

We will be doing Backyard Bible Clubs with them as well as other Bible School activities with the kids. We will be staying with families on the base, so I am sure that God will be working with them as well.

I have need to raise \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the trip. This pays for my plane fare and supplies for the Bible Clubs. Please be praying for me that I will be used mightily of the Lord and that I will be a true witness for Him. I want the children of [Bermuda] to see Christ in me, and to see their need for Him.

I would really appreciate your prayers. If you want to help me out financially. Please pray first so that you are sure it is God's will for you to be a part. That is more important to me even than your gift. "But my God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

Thanks for taking time to hear my story. I am very excited about what God may do through all of this.