

## APPENDIX 1

# Forming a Missions Committee

A missions committee is, for most churches, the most practical way to develop a missions culture, or strengthen that which exists. A church's involvement in the Great Commission should not be siloed in its committee. Rather, the committee exists to emphasize the Great Commission for the entire congregation, and to assist office bearers as they lead the church in obedience.

### MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Comprised of members and office bearers from the local church, this committee oversees and promotes both the work of missions and the church's missionaries. This committee is responsible for inspiring members toward going and sending, discipling missionary candidates, caring for missionaries on the field, keeping missionaries accountable to the task, and propelling missionaries forward to complete the task. This requires a committee well-educated in knowing what is needed for global missions and continuing to grow missiologically for the sake of supporting the workers well.

The missions committee exists under the leadership of the elders and serves the church and its missionaries with the following tasks.

1. The missions committee will provide spiritual accountability to sent missionaries.
2. The missions committee will keep the church informed of missionary developments.
3. The missions committee will oversee caring for missionaries on rest/home assignment.
4. The missions committee will take the lead on the training of missionaries.
5. The missions committee will strengthen the desire for missions in the local church.
6. The missions committee will assist the missionary in the candidating and support raising process.



7. The missions committee will be in close communication with their worker's training organizations and sending agency.
8. The missions committee will screen future missionary candidates.

To accomplish these tasks, a missions committee should meet monthly, or more frequently if needed.

## **RELATIONSHIP TO THE ELDERS**

The missions committee operates under the authority of the elders. The elders oversee and shepherd missionary candidates and sent workers with structures set in place for the sake of consistent intentional care. Discipline, field decisions, and shepherding remain the responsibility of the elders of the local church.

## **MISSIONARY LIAISON**

The missionary liaison is a member who is committed to serving a missionary sent from the church. The missionary liaison is chosen by the missionary candidate and approved by the missions committee. This member walks with the missionary candidate through training to service on the field. The missionary liaison reports to the missions committee on the health and well-being of the missionary. The liaison's role is not determined by the extent of the missionary's service on the field; sabbaticals or indefinite leave may be taken if necessary. All missionary liaison adjustments must be approved by the missions committee.

## **GO TEAM**

The Go Team is an optional level of care for one specific missionary. This is a group of individuals—not limited to members of the missionary's sending church in its composition—that meets regularly for prayer and seeks to intentionally support the missionary both on and off the field.

