

BBT Missions Policy

I. Our process for selecting our missionaries

- A. From January-December we will collect missionary questionnaires from candidates wishing to present their work in the coming year.
- B. In January, each of the candidates will be ranked by the pastor and a missions committee. These rankings will prayerfully be made based upon the following criteria:
 - 1. Does this missionary agree with us in doctrine, philosophy, and methodology?
 - 2. Does this missionary communicate the need for their ministry along with an effective strategy in meeting that need?
 - 3. Does this missionary meet a need in our missions program to further the goal of global evangelism?
- C. Should the budget allow for bringing on new missionaries, the top candidates will be contacted to present their ministries to our church in the coming year.

II. Our classifications and goals for our missionaries

- A. National Church Planters (United States and Foreign Countries): The goal for the church planter is to start and pastor a self-supporting New Testament church. Our support for this type of ministry is temporary and is intended only to help get the church plant started. At the conclusion of our support it is expected that the pastor is living within the means of his church's budget, or is willing to take a job to support his family as he continues to pastor. The only exceptions for which we will continue support are:
 - 1. The church planter is relocating to begin a new work
 - 2. There is an extenuating circumstance that was communicated and approved in advance.
- B. Foreign Missionaries: The goal for the foreign missionary is to evangelize the lost, start churches, and train nationals to go out and replace the missionary. Each field represents a different stage in this process based upon how far the gospel has gone in that particular country. Our support for this type of ministry is on a more permanent basis.
- C. Mission Projects (Camps, Bible and Tract Printing, Training Programs, etc): The goal for these ministries is to provide support in the form of a one-time gift for a specific need or purpose. Permanent support will be considered if the task or project warrants this type of support. Approval, whether one-time or permanent, will be based on a case by case review.

III. Our commitments to our missionaries

- A. Prayer: On a weekly basis we will challenge our church body to pray for each of our missionaries.
- B. Communication: We hope to remain in contact with our missionaries through encouraging and informative communications.
- C. Steadfastness: Although the faces and goals of our ministry may change, we will remain faithful to the truth of God's word and commitment to the Great Commission.
- D. Monetary: We will strive to keep our support consistent, increasing, and punctual.

IV. Our expectations of our missionaries

- A. Steadfastness: Though time, experience, and culture may change our missionaries, we expect them to stay philosophically and doctrinally on course with the things they have presented to us. Missionary questionnaires are kept on file for accountability in this area.
- B. Communication: On at least a quarterly basis we expect to hear from our missionaries.
- C. Visits: When our missionaries are in the area on furlough we would ask them to contact us and stop in. A regular worship service would be preferable but if a busy schedule does not permit this, an alternate service or fellowship could be arranged.
- D. Awareness: We expect our missionaries to be aware and proactive toward the needs of their respective countries.

1. Is this country a pioneer location? If the gospel is foreign to all, the primary objective should be evangelism.
 2. Does this country have a good base of believers? If a small nucleus of believers is present, the primary objective should be planting a church and growing it through evangelism with the ultimate goal of self-sustainment.
 3. Does this country already have several good, Bible-believing churches? If churches are there and growing, the primary objective should be working to educate the nationals in these churches.
 4. Does this country already have a few good, Bible believing institutes or colleges? If nationals are already trained to go out, the primary objective should be to get as many of them into their own pioneering and church planting locations!
- E. Planning: Though we believe the return of our Savior to be imminent, should He tarry, we expect our missionaries to have planned for their future. This would include carrying health and life insurance along with some kind of retirement plan. We do not believe our mission dollars should be used for permanent assistance in these areas.

V. The financing of our missions budget

- A. Each year our church participates in Faith Promise Missions and uses the amount of money promised to set the coming year's missions budget.
- B. The budget is divided out by the following percentages:
 1. 90% Current support and potential new support (This percentage can be raised, but only for an emergency situation in which the funds promised and/or received do not cover our current commitments. If this situation occurs, there will be no new candidates presented that year).
 2. 5% Savings and special projects (A savings account will be fully funded with 6 months of complete support, and any excess will be distributed to special missions projects in conjunction with our Christmas offering at the end of the year).
 3. 5% Pastoral missions trip (A portion of the missions money will be set aside with the goal of sending the pastor to observe and plan for church planting efforts and global missions).
- C. When the Faith Promise numbers exceed our current financial commitments, a Missions Committee chaired by the Pastor shall determine if we should raise support for our current missionaries, bring in new candidates, or both.

VI. The monetary support of our missionaries

- A. Amounts: Currently, our support levels are as follows:
- B. National Church Planters. These missionaries will be supported according to the financing of their choice. 2 years at the specified support or 4 years of support decreasing by 25% of the original amount on an annual basis (i.e. yr.1/\$100; yr.2/\$75; yr.3/\$50; yr.4/\$25).
- C. Foreign Missionaries: These missionaries will be supported at a flat monthly rate of \$80. Our goal is to eventually get this amount up to \$100.
- D. Mission Projects: These amounts are set on a case by case basis. On rare occasions, one of these ministries will receive monthly support. However, the preferred support would be a one- time gift going towards a task or project.
- E. Death: If one of our missionaries should die on the field, support will continue to their spouse for a period of 6 months.
- F. Retirement: Should one of our foreign missionaries decide to retire, support will continue for a period of 6 months.
- G. Termination: We reserve the right to terminate support immediately should one of our missionaries quit, be asked to step down by their sending church or agency, drop out of communication with us, or change in their doctrinal stances or methodology.
- H. Should a situation arise in which we would have to lower or terminate support due to a lack of financing on our end, a 6 month notice will be given and the savings account utilized in an attempt to honor our commitments until the change went into effect.