



The Missions Toolbox

Helping Missionaries

Choosing Missionaries

Modern missionaries often need multiple churches and individuals to form a team of supporters for their ministry. Missionaries travel from church to church presenting their potential ministry to the members until they raise enough prayer and financial support to sustain the work.

Churches use various methods to determine which missionaries to support. Regardless of the method, a couple of facts must be considered by all. First, churches only have a limited amount of time and money for missions. Second, many good missionaries need support. These facts force churches to make difficult decisions about who to support.

The Bible does not directly address the issue of how to choose missionaries. But, it does provide some general guidance and basic principles to guide churches in this very important decision.

1. Trust God for His will in the choice.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5, 6

2. Implement a church missionary policy that covers the following questions. The answers will provide direction for the choices. Some missionaries will be compatible with the church. Others will not.
 - a. What is a missionary? What qualifications are required?
 - b. What types of missionary ministry will we support?
 - c. What types of support will we give?
 - d. What do we expect of missionaries?
3. Determine which missionaries provide the church with the greatest opportunity for involvement in their work through prayer, projects, mission teams, and other means. See Dynamic Relationships.

But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again Philipians 4:10