



The Missions Toolbox

Helping Missionaries

Hosting Missionaries

Reading the book of Acts and the Epistles reveals that the New Testament missionaries traveled often and for long distances. Paul made three missionary journeys. Christians helped Paul and his companions along the way. Paul viewed being helped by local believers as an opportunity for ministry and for fellowship.

Modern missions also requires travel. Some may spend two or more years traveling from church to church gathering a team of supporters. After working on the foreign field for a few years, missionaries return home to report to their supporters about the ministry. Many people look forward to hosting missionaries in some capacity. Some are able to do more than others. The following suggestions may make the missionary's stay even more pleasant and profitable for all.

1. Provide the missionary with clear directions to your home.
2. Give the missionary a tour of your home and show them their quarters.
3. Communicate with the missionary about meal times and other household routines. Most missionaries are eager to fit into the flow of the home.
4. Make time for the missionaries to function as a family. Many may need time to home school the children, to study, or to rest.
5. Allow the missionary to use the phone, computer, Internet, laundry, and other household amenities as possible. Something as simple as providing the materials to wash and vacuum the car can be a great blessing.
6. Invite the pastor or other people from your church to a time of fellowship with the missionary.
7. Include the missionary in your times of family worship and devotions.
8. Spend ample time talking to the missionary about their work.
9. Pray with the missionary about their work and needs.

Listening to accounts of God's work among the lost and observing the life of the Lord's choicest servants can be life changing. Even the simplest kindness is greatly appreciated by the missionary and noticed by the Lord.

And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward. Matthew 10:42