

## A Missions Journey with the Local Church

How can my church help me get started in missions?

1. Speak to a church leader about your openness or interest in going overseas.
2. Find a prayer partner from within your church to pray monthly for you.
3. Read a good book on Missions. Suggestions:
  - A. *Radical* by David Platt, Multnomah Press – for openness
  - B. *To Timbuktu & Beyond* by Marsha Woodard, William Carey Library – for interest
4. Establish a goal from your reading that can be achieved within a 6-month period of time. Share your goal(s) with your church leader and your prayer partner.
5. Talk to a missionary and gain more perspective on either being a World Christian or becoming a missionary.
6. Within a year following your connection with #1 and #2, consider going on a short-term missions trip. Maybe invite your church leader or prayer partner to go with you.
7. With others in your church:
  - a. Identify an individual's strengths and weaknesses. Identify deficits like education or ministry experience and work on them together.
  - b. Develop personal spiritual disciplines, like intercessory prayer for the lost and how to share your faith. Model this for your church.
  - c. Discuss the development of a vision for ministry in some area of the world. Allow for the church, the individual and the agency to build ownership of this through prayer and discussion. Make sure everyone involved shares the same ministry vision and values.
8. Have the church, the agency and the individual make some type of commitment to realize the vision for ministry.

Helpful possibilities:

- Consider taking the Perspectives Course ([perspectives.org](http://perspectives.org)) to better understand and articulate the strategic issues of mission.
- Visit [team.org/explore](http://team.org/explore) and bring valuable lessons to your church on “Becoming a Global Christian” and “Discerning Your Calling.” Perfect for churches and individuals.