

Praying for your Church's Mission Workers

As we have visited with dozens of pastors across Canada and the United States, most indicate that they have very “full” ministry portfolios. Some are overwhelmed, and wrestle with basic survival, or even guilt for not “getting it all done”. We sense at times when we’ve ‘touched a nerve’ asking about how pastors are currently praying for mission workers sent out from their team.

We’ve also learned that most of these pastors believe in global missions. While there are many questions about how and where missions activities should be carried out, there is a general sense that it is still part of the church’s responsibility to help share the Good News with people who have not heard and understood.

So how can a busy pastor, with numerous ministry responsibilities, keep in tune with what the missionaries from their church are doing?

1. Get an up-to-date list of your workers.
2. Set a reasonable, regular time to pray for the workers.
3. Get a list of prayer requests. (note: this may or may not be specific)
4. Pray.
5. Set up a simple system to send a note.

Pray for our Missionary Worksheet

(Pastor's Version)

This is a fillable PDF! You can either print this worksheet or fill in the blanks and save a digital copy.

1. **Get an up-to-date list of mission workers, with best contact channels.** (Ex. e-mail, text, WhatsApp, etc.)
 - a. Who is the best person(s) to provide me with this list? _____
(Example, Susan, who serves on the Mission Committee.)
 - b. Contact this person (ex. Susan), asking for names (including spouses, children), location, and if possible the most recent newsletter or update.

Sample 'copy and paste' text:

Hi Susan.

I'd like to request an up-to-date list of mission workers connected to our church. Could you send me their names and contact information? Please let me know if there are any concerns about security of communication – I'd like to use the best channel available. If possible, please also include the most recent updates from our workers that you may have access to.

Thanks for your help with this! Pastor Paul

- c. To Do Item: Contact _____ (ex. Susan) by _____
(deadline).

2. Set a reasonable, regular time to pray for your mission workers.

- a. My time to pray (suggestion: 15 min. block) will be:

S M T W Th F S at _____ AM PM.

3. Get a list of prayer requests.

(Tip: consider getting a .pdf document for easy access. If you use a physical journal, consider printing this in hard copy.)

- a. Download Dick Brogdan's [12 Strategic Prayer Requests for Global Missions](#).
 - b. Download the [Pray for Your Missionary Bookmark](#). You can easily request a complimentary hard copy by clicking [here](#).
 - c. Use Colossians 1:9-12 as a "mini-prayer guide":

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and

understanding, [10](#) so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, [11](#) being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have full endurance and patience, and joyfully [12](#) giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

4. Pray.

5. Send a brief message to your mission worker. (Optional, but HIGHLY recommended)

- a. **Compose a brief, friendly greeting to your worker, indicating that you have prayed for them.** As appropriate, include what you prayed for (Colossians 1, above, for example)