

# DEPUTATION

## A TIME OF GIVING AND GATHERING

## Deputation – A time of Giving and Gathering

The Missionary beginning his journey into Missionary service must cross the mountain of deputation. This mountain climbing experience will provide the climber many views of Ministry, Christianity and themselves. On your trek you will meet others on the same journey. You may meet them retreating, resting or sidetracked. You may hear voice of those ahead of you challenging you to press on. Your commitment to the climb is will determine the length of the journey.

While traveling deputation's path, there are things you will need to give to every church you visit. You must also seek to gather three things from every church. The success of this climb is to be determined in part by your ability to give and gather.

- On this climb *there are thing you must give* in order to have a successful climb and descent.
  - You must give each laborer you visit the vision of worldwide missions.
  - You must give each laborer encouragement in their labors to make your work possible.
  - You must give each church your passion for your call.
- On this climb *there are things you must gather* in order to have a successful climb and descent.
  - You must gather financial laborers to aid your work.
  - You must gather spiritual laborers to aid your work.
  - You must Gather Future laborers to follow you in this work.

### I. The Definition of Deputation –

- A. A person appointed to represent others.
- B. Missionary Deputation is the process of seeking to become a church's representative in a given area for a specific task.

C.

## II. The Value of Deputation.

A. For the Missionary:

1. Deputation will produce self-reliance and a God-dependence.
  - a. Work as if your support raising depended only on you.
  - b. Pray as if everything depends on God.
  - c. Keep in mind what John Elliot, missionary to the Massachusetts Indians said; “Prayer and Pains through Faith in Jesus Christ will do anything.
  - d. Take it as your full time job and work your job 8 hours a day.
    - (1) Pray –
    - (2) Call –
    - (3) Write –
    - (4) Follow-up –
2. Deputation will open up new horizons.
  - a. You will make hundreds of new friends.
  - b. You will see varied ministries in various cultural settings. Learn from them all.
    - (1) Avoid the temptation to correct the issues from the pulpit or dining room table.
    - (2) Spending more time listening than looking to admonish to your way of thinking.
    - (3) If God wanted you to correct the problems at that church he would have called you to pastor it.
  - c. You will develop your social graces and abilities.
    - (1) You will be treated like a king and at times like a servant.
    - (2) Keep in mind you never really know what kind of servant you are until you are treated like one.
  - d. You will develop your ability to adapt to many situations. This adaptability will payoff in the future.

3. Deputation provides experience in public speaking.
    - a. You will learn more from your mistakes and the patience of God's people during this time of ministry.
    - b. You will be able to refine and cull out the messages to deliver them for effectiveness.
- B. For the Church:
1. A Deputation visit should broaden the vision of the church in missions.
  2. A Deputation visit should burden the church for missions.
  3. A Deputation visit should bless the church in their missions effort.
  4. Your visit should be to the church's mission program what water is to a thirsty man in the desert.
- C. Goals for your deputation visits.
1. A missionary's Deputation visit to a church should edify the church membership in their labors for missions.
  2. A missionary's Deputation visit to a church should encourage the co-laborers to continue.
  3. A missionary's Deputation visit to a church should educate the church to his work and field.
  4. A missionary's Deputation visit to a church should equip the church with enough information to help the Pastor and church make the decision necessary for the visiting missionary.

III. **Deputation and the Expectations of the Missionary and Church.** *(These expectations are offered as they have been heard. Though each from their perspective may be realistic but from the other it may just be the straw that breaks the camel's back.)*

- A. Expectations from the Missionary's point of view.
1. The Missionary expects to have people fall in love with him, his wife and children.
  2. The Missionary expects to have people notice all of his immediate needs and fulfill them.

3. The Missionary expects every church to take him on for support at the end of the service.
  4. The Missionary expects a church to understand his weariness.
  5. The Missionary expects a love offering that will meet his immediate needs.
  6. The Missionary expects his accommodations to be proper.
  7. The Missionary expects his meals to be provided.
  8. The Missionary expects to be told when and where he needs to be while at the church.
- B. Expectations from the Church's point of view.
1. The visiting missionary is expected to be an additional staff member.
  2. The visiting missionary family is expected not to look or act like they have been riding in a car for 6 hours.
  3. The visiting missionary is expected to arrive on time, leave when he said and carry himself professionally.
  4. The visiting missionary family is expected to be dressed appropriately.
    - a. Leisure/Casual should be business Leisure/Casual.
    - b. Dressed up means Sunday best.
  5. The visiting missionary is expected not to have you fix their church problems.
  6. The visiting missionary is expected to not be a beggar, freeloader or a Goldbrick.
  7. The visiting missionary is expected to be an asset to missions not a liability.
  8. The visiting missionary is expected to stay within his time limit assigned.
  9. The Missionary is expected to know when and where he is to be during his stay.

#### IV. Deputation and the Attitude of the Family

- A. If there were one thing that affects a missionary's ministry, it is the attitude of Him, His wife, and Children. Our attitude reveals more about what we are than we realize.
- B. Our attitude reveals our reactions, whether verbalized or internalized, to adverse or uncomfortable situations.
- C. Our Attitude is always under inspection by those around us. It is what people see even when we are not speaking. It is difficult to have a good attitude at all times, but it is possible.
- D. Paul, the New Testament Missionary, wrote:  
 Philippians 4:11-13 *"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. {12} I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. {13} I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."*
- E. Our Attitude to the Ministry in General.
1. "The Ministry" is the business of carrying on God's work. This work will produce varied circumstances in which you and your family will carry on God's work. 2 Corinthians 6:4-5
    - a. You will face Afflictions.
    - b. You will face Necessities.
    - c. You will face Distresses.
    - d. You will face Stripes.
    - e. You will face Imprisonments.
    - f. You will face Tumults.
    - g. You will face Labors.
    - h. You will face Watchings
    - i. You will face Fasting.
  2. "The Ministry" affects the Ministry Workers Family.
    - a. Your Children will be affected.
      - (1) They may say, "This is my Dad's occupation."
      - (2) They may say, "I Didn't Want This to Happen to me."

- (3) They may say, “I have purposed in my heart...”  
Daniel 1:8
- b. Your wife will be affected.
  - (1) She may say, “Just curse God and Die” Job 2:9
  - (2) She may say, “My Punishment is greater than I can bear” Genesis 4:13
  - (3) She may say, “Whither thou goest, I will Go”  
Ruth 1:16,17
- c. You will be affected.
  - (1) You may say, “I go a fishing” John 21:3
  - (2) You may say, “Where is the Lord God of Elijah”  
2 Kings 2:15
  - (3) You may say, “What wilt thou have me to do”  
Acts 9:6
- d. The key is never let the circumstances INFECT you and your family.
  - (1) “I have learned” -- To gain knowledge, comprehension, or mastery of through experience or study.<sup>1</sup>
  - (2) “Be Content” -- Desiring no more than what one has; satisfied<sup>2</sup>
- e. Learn that the greatest achievement you can make in the ministry, is found in 1 Timothy 6:6 “But godliness with contentment is great gain.”

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3. Paul helps the Missionary to UNDERSTAND the goal of every ministry worker.
    - a. Be content when in want.
    - b. Be content when abased.
    - c. Be content when abounding.
    - d. Be content when full.
    - e. Be content when hungry.
    - f. Be content when suffering need.
  4. Paul helps the Missionary to UNDERTAKE the goal of every ministry worker.
    - a. It takes an “I CAN” attitude.
    - b. It takes an “I CAN” attitude for all things.
      - (1) Wanting or want free
      - (2) Abased or abounding.
      - (3) Full or hungry.
      - (4) Suffering need.
- F. Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth about his own Attitude in the Ministry. 2 Corinthians 6:6-7. Remember you Attitude is your response to your situation.
1. Respond with Purity.
    - a. Purity in our **Testimony**. 2 Corinthians 7:2 *“Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.”*
    - b. Purity in our **Conduct**. 1 Thessalonians 2:10 *“Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe.”*
    - c. Purity in our interpersonal **relationships**. 1 Timothy 5:12 *“Rebuke not an elder, but entreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren; {2} The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.”*
    - d. Purity in our **Doctrine**. Titus 2:7 *“In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,”*

- e. Purity in our **Thinking**. Philippians 4:8 *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”*
  - f. Purity in our Cooperation. 1 Timothy 5:22 *“Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.”*
  - g. Purity in our Relationship with God. 1 John 3:23 *“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. {3} And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”*
    - (1) Our Sonship Demands purity.
    - (2) Our Salvation Demands purity.
    - (3) His Second Coming demands purity.
2. We respond with **Knowledge**.
- a. Knowledge of the Workings of God.
    - 2 Peter 3:18 *“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”*
  - b. Knowledge of the Will of God.
    - Colossians 1:9 *“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;”*
  - c. Knowledge of the Word of God.
    - 2 Timothy 2:15 *“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* 2 Timothy 3:16 *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”*

3. We Respond with **Longsuffering**.

Reams could be used to share this simple yet complex issue of what longsuffering will do for the missionary willing to handle the reality of missions.

- a. Longsuffering with those you are serving will be elongated when faced with His longsuffering with us. Romans 2:4 *“Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?”*
- b. Longsuffering is Part of a Worthy Walk. Ephesians 4:12 *“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, {2} With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;”*
- c. Longsuffering is commanded for harmony in the family. Colossians 3:12-13 *“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; {13} Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.”*
- d. Longsuffering is the method by which our preaching ministry is done. 2 Timothy 4:2 *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”*
- e. The Longsuffering response evidences the Love of Christ. 1 Corinthians 13:4 *“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,”*

4. We respond with **Kindness**. Kindness - usefulness, gentleness, goodness.

- a. Kindness must be our determination. Ephesians 2:7 *“That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.”*

- b. We must put on Kindness. Colossians 3:12 *“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;”*
  - c. We must let our Kindness appear toward men. Titus 3:4 *“But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,”*
5. We respond with the **Holy Ghost**.
- a. Our **Words** must be Holy Ghost empowered. 1 Corinthians 2:4 *“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:”*
  - b. Our **Work** MUST be done in the Holy Ghost. 1 Thessalonians 1:56 *“For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. {6} And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:”*
  - c. Our **Way** MUST be HIS way. Zechariah 4:6 *“Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.”*
6. We respond with **Love Unfeigned**. Meaning: Love unfeigned is agape love that exists without hypocrisy. Sincere. Whatever your Situation you must respond with Unfeigned Love.
- a. Love Unfeigned is Sincere. 2 Corinthians 2:4 *“For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.”*
  - b. Love Unfeigned is Sacrificial. 2 Corinthians 12:15 *“And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.”*

(1) Love Unfeigned is the Standard. The standard that is commanded. Romans 12:9 *“Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.”*

7. We respond with the **Word of Truth**. Meaning: The Word of Truth is the Living word that is all truth and is truth. If there is ever a response that is needed to the realities you will face in Missions it is the Word of Truth.
  - a. When we respond with the Word of truth we are responding with the **Gospel**. Ephesians 1:13 *“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,”*
  - b. In order to respond with the Word of truth we must **study**. 2 Timothy 2:15 *“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*
8. We respond with the **Power** of God.
  - a. To respond with the Power of God is to respond with Salvation. Romans 1:16 *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”*
  - b. To respond with the Power of God is to respond with Preaching 1 Corinthians 1:18 *“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”*
  - c. To respond with the Power of God is to respond with Christlikeness. 1 Corinthians 1:24 *“But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”*
  - d. To respond with the Power of God is to respond in His Resurrection Power. 2 Corinthians 13:4 *“For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For*

*we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.”*

- e. To respond with the Power of God is to be a Partaker in the Afflictions of the Gospel. 2 Timothy 1:8 *“Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;”*

9. We respond with the Armor of **Righteousness**. Note the idea that this is a visible means of response. Armor is something that people would see.

- a. Our **Defense** is His righteousness. *Isaiah 59:17 “For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak.”*
- b. Our **Declaration** is Righteousness. *Isaiah 11:5 “And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.”*
- c. Our **Determination** is His Righteousness. Romans 13:12-13 *“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. {13} Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.”*

## VII. Taking the aforementioned Principles let us seek to apply them to the ministry of Deputation.

- A. Deputation is the process by which you present your Call, Country, and Commitment to that Call to churches and ask them to deputize you in this work.
- B. Your attitude will set you apart from other missionaries.
  - 1. When faced with Poor Accommodations – Be Content.
  - 2. When faced with People who do not seem to Care – Be Content.

3. When faced with Meals not being provided for your family – Be Content.
  4. When faced with Long Travel Days – Be Content.
  5. When faced with Discouragement – Be Content.
  6. When faced with No Love Offerings – Be Content.
  7. The Idea is JUST BE CONTENT
  8. Your Contentment will set the Standard for the Family.
  9. Your contentment will be contagious.
- C. You Attitude will affect your Support.

**VIII. Taking the aforementioned Principles let us seek to apply them to the ministry on the Field.**

- A. Here is where you will do the Work you spoke of on Deputation.
  1. The Pressure is not off for you to have a good attitude, just because you are out of the eyes of your supporters.
  2. You do not let down your guard. You have to put it up higher.
  3. You have to maintain your Contentment; it just does not happen by accident.
  4. You must emulate the standard you want your children and wife to have.
  5. You must discipline your family to have it too.
- B. Your Attitude on Deputation affected your support, however here it can jeopardize your ministry's effectiveness.
  1. When Faced with Afflictions – Be Content.
  2. When Faced with Necessities – Be Content.
  3. When Faced with Distresses – Be Content.
  4. When Faced with Stripes – Be Content.
  5. When Faced with Imprisonments – Be Content.
  6. When Faced with Tumults – Be Content.
  7. When Faced with Labours – Be Content.
  8. When Faced with Watchings – Be Content.
  9. When Faced with Fastings – Be Content.

**IX. The Attitude of the Church toward Missionary should be Biblically Based.**

- A. Let your love be real not forced or fake. Romans 12:9
- B. Find the good in your missionaries. Romans 12:9b
- C. Shower your missionaries with affection. Rom 12:10
  - 1. They may have just left a church where they were run over by a steamroller.
  - 2. They may have just come through the biggest hurt of their lives.
- D. Give the Missionary the first preference. 12:10b
- E. Keep your commitments to them. 12:11a
- F. Keep in touch with them. 12:11b
- G. Your service to them is service to the Lord. 12:11c
- H. Empathize with their Ministry Roller Coaster. 12:12
  - 1. Rejoice in their hopes.
  - 2. Display Patience in their tribulations.
  - 3. Continue instant in prayer.
  - 4. Rejoice when they rejoice. 12:15
  - 5. Weep when they weep. 12:15
- I. When there is a need meet it. 12:13a
- J. Be hospitable. 12:13b
- K. Never retaliate, just be a blessing. Romans 12:14, 17
- L. Never play favorites with your missionaries. 12:16
  - 1. Seek a way to be compatible.
  - 2. Don't try to be above them.
  - 3. You may not know everything there is to know about their field.
- M. Be honest and up front, never string a missionary along. 12:17b

**X. What are the Approaches to Deputation?**

- A. How to Seek Financial Support.
  - 1. In this setting the church united itself in prayer to God for boldness for their missionaries. Acts 4:29 **Prayer Support.**
    - a. Prayed for boldness for the servants.
    - b. Prayed for power for ministry.
    - c. Prayed for fruits for their work.

2. In this setting we see a church taking care of the needs. 4:34 -  
**Sacrificial Support**
  - a. Needs were met by the selling of houses.
  - b. Needs were met by the selling of property.
3. In this setting the church at Jerusalem gets word about the work of Phillip in Samaria, so they send Peter and John to check on things and report back so as what they could do. Acts 8:14 -  
**Survey Trip Support**
4. How can a church blow it when a missionary comes to their church? 9:26
  - a. Discourage yourself about him by what you have heard.
  - b. Distance himself from him by what you might fear.
  - c. Doubt Him, His calling and His salvation.
    - (1) Avoid the blowing it.
      - (a) Get a Barnabas that will calm fears of both missionary and church. 9:27
      - (b) Get a Barnabas that will bring you missionaries of caliber. 9:27
5. In this setting we see a church needs to help get to where he needs to be. **Travel Support**
  - a. They lead him down to his place of departure. - Friendship
  - b. Then they provided him a means of getting there. - Finances
6. In this setting a church member supports a missionary (Peter) by opening his home and allowing them to stay there. 9:43  
**Hospitality Support**
7. In this setting we see a church interested in the spread of the gospel, sending ambassadors to see the extent of it and how they could help. 11:22 **Survey Support**
  - a. Giving him the mission to do.
  - b. Giving him the money to get there.
8. In this setting we see a church sending Relief for a physical need of brethren. 11:29 **Relief Ministry**
9. In this setting we see a church with the knowledge that one of

one of their missionaries of their church was in trouble, offered 24 hour a day prayer vigil for him.12:5 **Intercessory Prayer support**

10. In this setting after a time of prayer and fasting we see a church, in obedience to the Lord, releasing Barnabas and Saul to work for the Lord.13:3 **Prayer and Fasting support.**

a.This sending away was a freeing up to go.

b.Perhaps even a making it possible for them to go.

11. In this setting we have a church in Iconium providing a unique kind of support. They provided a place for the missionaries to come to and find the power of God.13:52 **Refreshing Support**

a.Note that they were filled with Joy.

b.Note that they were filled with the Holy Ghost

c.Imagine if a church could be a place that when the missionary comes they can find their needed refreshing after having been through an emotionally tough time.

12. In this setting we have a missionary that has been stoned and we see the church providing a different kind of support.14:20 **Encircling Support.**

a.A missionary has just been stoned they encircle him in his time of crisis.

b.They form a circle around him.

(1)A circle of Concern.

(2)A circle of Compassion

(3)A circle of Calling on God.

(4)A circle of Faith. - Conviction

(5)A circle of Strength - Courage

13. In this setting we see the church at Antioch providing lodging and meals on a long term basis to Paul and Barnabas.14:28

**Long term Housing Support.**

a.This support was given for a specific period of time.

b.This support was given for the servants who had traveled.

14. In this setting we see the church at Antioch involved in a special

support ministry.15:40 **Recommendation Support.**

a.This is a special support for the church to give a missionary.

(1)Let it not be thought that this is reserved only for the missionary's home sending church.

(2)This is a ministry for every church, for each church that involves itself in a missionary's ministry should involve it self in this support for it truly is a blessing to the missionary.

b.This support is the unified effort made by the church on the missionary's behalf to God.

(1)It is similar to the act of turning in someone to the police for incarceration.

(2)The missionary, by an act of prayer, is turned over to God's grace on their behalf and the missionary in turn is blessed and encouraged by it.

15. In this setting we see a church during a life-threatening situation in their missionaries life, their placing their own life in danger and making sure he is secure. 17:9 **Security Support**

a.Jason made his missionaries feel safe, at the risk of his own safety and security.

16. In this setting we see several churches involving themselves in the area of **Sending Support.** 17:

a.v.10 The church at Berea sent them on their way.

b.v.14-15 The church at Thessalonica sent away Paul. It even recorded that they conducted him.

c.It seems that the word when it is translated carries with it that the one being sent is being dispatched to carry out an assignment as spelled out by the church.

(1)When we send somebody to do something for us we give them tools they need to do it.

(2)When we send somebody to do something for us we give them funds they need to carry out the job we are sending them to do.

(3)When we send somebody to do something for us we give them the authority to get the job done.

(4)When we send somebody to do something for us we give them the mission they are to carry out for us.

17. In this setting we see the church at Corinth involved themselves in **Referral Support**. 18:27
  - a. Because Paul, their missionary had proven himself the church upon learning that Paul had the desire to go to Achaia wrote to the people they knew and put their reputation on the line for Paul, because Paul was God's man
18. The church at Ephesus was found offering **Security support** for Paul in their city. 19:30
  - a. Paul expressed a desire to do one thing yet the disciples at Ephesus expressed their concern.
19. The church at Ephesus is found offering **Friendly Support**. **20:38**
  - a. Paul was leaving. They were losing a friend. Yet they went with them to see them off.
20. The church at Caesarea had some people take off from their jobs and homes and went with the missionaries and also provided lodging. 21:16 **Travel and Housing Support**
21. The church at Caesarea, was known to be a caring church. **Care Support**. 24:23
  - a. For Felix said to allow Paul to be cared for.
22. The Church at Thessalonica was involved in two areas of support.
  - a. Their work of faith.
    - (1) This could be viewed as giving support.
    - (2) This could be viewed as something they committed to do and completed for him.
  - b. Their labour of Love.
    - (1) Deeds performed solely because of their love for the Lord.

(2) This could have been traveling companionship.

(3) This could have been sacrificial involvement in his ministry.

c.1 Thessalonians 1:3 "Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;"

## **XII.A LOOK AT THE WAY A MISSIONARY SHOULD SEEK SUPPORT.**

- A. There is a level of accountability to the church in that Peter and John having undergone a difficulty reported to the church (their own company). 4:23 **BE ACCOUNTABLE.**
- B. There is the level of responsibility to do what the church sends you to do. 8:25 **BE RESPONSIBLE**
  - 1. They were sent to survey.
  - 2. They were sent to Preach.
  - 3. They were sent to testify.
- C. Their reporting opened up new doors for their ministry 8:25 **BE VOCAL**
  - 1. Phillip help them to see the need to fulfill Acts 1:8.
  - 2. They returned and realized others were getting the gospel they needed to get the word out.
  - 3. Find a Barnabas that will make things easier for you with churches. 9:27
  - 4. When you reach that place of respectability with someone, become a Barnabas for someone else.
- D. There is a level of availability. Be available to hear the requests of the church. 9:38 **BE AVAILABLE.**
- E. It must be understood that a church has the authority to question what you are doing. There must be a detailing of what God is doing, to those who are in question of your ministry. 11:4 **BE PATIENT**
  - 1. Questions are opportunities in disguise to share the news of what God has impressed you to do.
  - 2. Just detail out what you have done, do not be defensive.
- F. When after you have experienced a hard time, go seek friendship and

fellowship with those who have been concerned for you. You need it and so do they. 12:12 **BE CONSIDERATE.**

- G. Be known as a Missionary that finishes what God's people call on you to do. 12:25 **BE COMPLETE**
1. We last knew that Barnabas and Saul went to Jerusalem to bring the relief. Now we see them having the testimony that they completed what they were sent to do.
- H. Go home and report when your job is finished. Be mindful of home and who sent you. 14:27 **BE A REPORTER**
1. Report to the church of God's ability in relation to what God has done with you.
  2. Report to the church in what God has done with your ministry.
  3. Get refreshed with the folks at home. You need it.
- I. Wherever God opens the door to share with folks about His ability, do it. 15:3-4 **BE A CONTINUOUS REPORTER.**
1. Note they traveled and saw the brethren in three cities.
  2. The message may be the same from city to city, remember these things:
    - a. It may be an old message to you, but it is new to them.
      - (1) Be fresh.
      - (2) Be refreshing.
      - (3) Let Christ be the central focus. "He must increase and I must decrease."
    - b. If you realize he has done what has been accomplished in your ministry and not you; it will not be hard to tell the story of His mercies to you and your family and your ministry. It will be exciting.
    - c. The ministry of reporting His mercies is exciting and should cause joy in your life and will cause joy in the lives and churches that you are in.
- J. In your work realize that a missionary must **be found Helpful.**  
**18:27-28**
- K. In your work as a missionary **Be thorough. 19:10**

- L. In your work we must see the need to constantly report to the home folk. **Be a Reporter** 19:21
  - M. In your work as a Missionary the local Church is the authority. 19:30 **Be Submissive.**
  - N. In your work as a missionary detail out what God has done. Let people know. 21:19 **Be a Detail Man.**
    - 1. It is intriguing to see that Paul particularly declared the things God had done.
    - 2. Tell it all.
    - 3. Tell it as it was.
    - 4. Tell it for God to get the glory.
- V. Missionary or Moochinary?**
- A. This is a Missionary who comes to a church expecting to have everything handed to them
  - B. The unneeded begging of missionaries also fuels it.
  - C. Sometimes Pastor's fall back on this description rather than treating a problem or calling that missionary's Pastor.
- VI. The Setting of Goals for Deputation.**
- A. If you fail to plan you are planning to fail.
  - B. Setting Geographic Goals.
    - 1. Secure a Map and draw three circles from your home base point.
      - a. Each circle should be at 50 miles 150 miles and 300 miles.
        - (1) The 50-mile radius should be your Wednesday night meetings.
        - (2) The 150-Mile radius can be your weekend meetings.
        - (3) The 300-mile radius can be your mission conference meetings.
    - 2. Now mark every church you know on this map.
      - a. These churches will be your primary contacts.
      - b. From these you will develop secondary contacts.

- (1) These are referrals from the Pastor of your primary contacts.
    - (2) These are yellow page look-ups.
  3. Now take your map highlight the churches that you now in other regions.
    - a. Consider Friends from school.
    - b. Your Pastor's Friends
    - c. Family Contacts.
    - d. These should be your last contacts.
  4. Attempt to raise the bulk of your support in the three circles.
- C. Setting Financial Goals.
1. Every country is different.
  2. Each family is unique.
  3. This goal requires communication.
    - a. You will need to communicate with Missionaries
    - b. You will need to communicate with Mission Agencies.
    - c. You will need to communicate with the field.
- D. Setting Family Goals.
1. Your family is your first ministry.
  2. Feed your family spiritually.
  3. Feed your family emotionally.
- E. Setting Education Goals.
1. Your children's education is foremost.
  2. You must help them accomplish their schoolwork.
  3. They are incapable of making education a priority. You must set the goals.

## **VI. Etiquette in Church.**

- A. Nothing can ruin your opportunity to raise support then to err in this area.
- B. Etiquette concerning the Property of the Church.
  1. The church is your host.
  2. You are an invited guest.
  3. Treat their property better than your own.

4. Leave their property better than when you arrived.
- C. Etiquette concerning the Church. Telephone.
  1. Use your own calling card.
  2. Use toll free numbers.
  3. Inform Pastor that all calls you make will be billed to you not them.
- D. Etiquette concerning the Discipline of your Children.
  1. Your children must be allowed to be children. However they must also be well behaved. Striking this balance is difficult.
  2. Your major concern should not be what will this church say about my children, but rather what will the Lord say.
  3. Your children should be quiet in the services.
  4. Your children should be dressed appropriately.
  5. You should discipline consistently.
    - a. Not out of embarrassment.
    - b. Not out of over-reaction to your lack of discipline before you got there.
    - c. Not to impress others on how militaristic you have made your home.

## **VII. Contacting Pastors.**

- A. When to call.
  1. Use common sense.
  2. Use business hours as a guideline.
- B. What to say.
  1. Make it clear at the outset on how you got his name and number.
  2. Make it clear who you are and where you are going in the first 15 seconds of the call.
  3. Make it clear whom you are serving with.
  4. Seek to make some connection with the pastor, the Great Commission is not enough with a Pastor.
  5. Avoid the competitive spirit of THEM and US.
- C. When not to call.

1. You may not be calling at the best time, ask if it sounds like there is tension on the other end.
  2. Call back when they say to, not only when it is convenient for you.
  3. When you are grouchy or crabby.
- D. When to pursue.
1. When the Pastor has given you that opening.
  2. When you have a pressure free environment.
- E. Personal Reflections:
1. Though fellowship meetings are great places to meet preachers avoid swarming them.
  2. Never irritate a Pastor, your hurting more than your own ministry. Treat your contact as you would with the lost, always leaving the door open for someone else to come after you.
  3. Prayerfully handle your calls.
  4. Work hard at your support raising.

**VIII. When should you go to the field?**

- A. If you have set your support level properly then go when you are at that level.
- B. If you have 80% of your support and you experience support attrition you will be hurting either your family and / or ministry.
- C. Continue to raise support from the field.

**FINAL COMMENTS:**