

Guide for Praying for Missionaries

Ideas from Great Missions-Minded Churches

- We have Intercessory Groups for each of the six World Regions.
- At the beginning of each of our monthly Missions Board meetings, we pray for specific prayer needs that our missionaries send us via their newsletters during the previous month.
- When we take on a new missionary for support, someone carries the flag of that country into the sanctuary, a picture of the missionary family is projected on the jumbo screens, and we pray for the missionary right then.
- Monthly, we show the Mission World Newsbreak and then pray for that country and the missionaries that we support.
- Each week we designate a Missionary of the Week, place their picture and description of their ministry in our bulletin and PowerPoint ads and pray for them in the service.
- Weekly intercession groups pray systematically for the missionaries and their needs, using the weekly *Intercessor and World Report* fax from AGWM as our major source.
- The Missions Committee structures various strategies and weekly prayer is also offered for unreached people. We choose a people group for each month and give a description of the country and the people.
- A special prayer folder of all our missionaries and missions projects are given out and also made available each week at our Welcome Table.
- We publish a missionary prayer journal that includes all of the missionaries that our church supports and a brief description of their ministry. A copy of the journal is available for families/individuals in our congregation and they are encouraged to pray for our missionaries on a regular basis.
- We pray for the missionaries at the close of service when they are with us.
- Every Wednesday night we pray for missionary needs.
- In our 24-hour prayer room located on campus, we have a special section on all our missionaries that we sponsor. There are pictures of them, letters from them and locations of all our missionaries.
- Our Missions Board receives copies of letters from our missionaries and they take the time to pray for them at their meetings.
- We tie world events in the news together with the need of the church in that part of the world. A great example of this was when the church prayed for China during the SARS epidemic.
- We monitor the *PrayerNet* and pray daily for these needs, a summary of these needs are presented in a *PrayerNet* bulletin and given to our prayer groups weekly for their prayer times.

How to Pray

To Pray Effectively...

- 1) Be specific – Name the missionary, need, country or project.

- 2) Ask God to call more workers to go.
- 3) Ask God to call more senders.
- 4) Intercede for countries where few or no missionaries are present.

Items to Include When Praying for Missionaries Are...

- 1) Health and protection.
- 2) Children's education.
- 3) Care and provision when family members are separated.
- 4) The family's spiritual welfare.
- 5) Victory over demonic forces that oppress.
- 6) The success of their assigned ministry on the field.

Somebody Prayed

Somebody prayed and my burden was lighter,
Somebody prayed and my path became clear;
Clouds rolled away and the sunshine was brighter,
Jesus, my wonderful Savior, was near.

Faith flickered low in my pain-tortured body,
Jesus, the mighty Physician, was there
Healing me, bringing me joy in His presence,
Answering somebody's unfailing prayer.

Gems for the Master afar I may gather,
Trophies at last at His feet to be laid;
"Well done," He'll say, but I think I shall answer,
"Naught but Thy grace, Lord, somebody prayed."

Written by Missionary Louise Jeter Walker