

Missions Church Sample – Church #7

International Ministries Strategy Statement and Plan

The World Situation

1. The world's population exceeds six billion people and is rapidly growing. Moderate estimates project the population for the middle of the 21st century at 8.9 billion people.
2. This population growth is taking place largely within international cities located in developing countries where the gospel is unavailable. These regions need to be evangelized.
3. There are many areas of the world that are now considered post-Christian (e.g., Europe). These areas must be re-evangelized.

Meeting this Need

1. Global evangelism and re-evangelism will only be accomplished through the combined efforts of the global Christian community.
2. This requires that the global Christian community partner together to plant local churches that are indigenously led, self-sustaining, and reproducing.

The International Church

1. The international church is actively increasing its role in global church planting. In fact there are more people joining the missionary force from newer sending countries like Brazil, Singapore, and Korea than from older sending countries like Canada and the USA.
2. This international movement primarily needs resources – human and financial. Human - to assist with evangelism, biblical education, leadership, and special skills training so individual churches, church movements, and ministries can become indigenously led and reproducing. Financial - to help individual churches, church movements, and ministries become self-sustaining.
3. The American church has an abundance of human and financial resources. It must reform itself to function as a partner in this global movement by effectively mobilizing and stewarding these resources – as opposed to viewing itself as the source and hub of evangelism.

The American Church

1. America is no longer the leader in the church planting movement. Newer sending countries are effectively leading this charge. At first this seems disheartening until one realizes that the church of Jesus Christ is still advancing, just through different front-line agents.
2. This shift necessitates that the American church develop new global outreach strategies. These strategies must align with the current movement of God and effectively meet world needs. This requires significant changes in the role and posture of the American missionary.
3. Effective strategies now emphasize partnerships between the American church and missionary, and indigenously led churches, church planting movements, and ministries (e.g. *Alliance for Saturation Church Planting*).

OUR CHURH's Role in the Global Church Planting Movement

1. OUR CHURCH must become an active participant in global church planting. It must see itself as a servant-leader providing resources, both human and financial, to the international church. This is clearly reflected in our mission, vision, and strategy statements.
 - **Mission** – OUR CHURCH's International Ministries exists to strategically deploy people and resources around the world to introduce lost people to Jesus Christ and help them become fully devoted followers.
 - **Vision** –
 - ✓ For the church – to see every person at OUR Church become actively involved in International Ministries.
 - ✓ For the world – to see God raise up indigenously led, self-sustaining, reproducing churches in targeted regions of the world.
 - **Strategy** – to make a significant impact by targeting several key regions of the world.
2. To effectively accomplish our mission and vision, OUR CHURCH's International Ministries program will have three separate but overlapping initiatives:
 - **Personnel Initiatives** – missionary personnel must be viewed as a global extension of OUR CHURCH's ministry. Therefore the relationship between OUR CHURCH and its missionaries must be a true partnership. This is where the church, missionary, and agency work as a team to accomplish mutually agreed upon goals. This necessitates the development of deeper relationships between OUR CHURCH's missionary personnel and their agencies. It may require supporting fewer missionaries at higher percentages from selected agencies. *(do we need a statement on the level of expectation from OUR CHURCH and the missionary?)*
 - **Geographic Initiatives** – We will target specific geographic regions around the world where we can make a significant impact. These regions will be characterized by strategic needs in the areas of evangelism, national church assistance, socioeconomic problems, and by a positive response to the gospel. OUR CHURCH personnel may be sent to these target areas to assist with the work. The goal is to plant new churches and/or assist local churches to become indigenously led, self-sustaining, and reproducing.
 - **Project Initiatives** – OUR CHURCH will support projects sponsored by our current personnel or associated agencies, or projects in our target geographic areas, or new projects of strategic importance. Projects must have clearly defined goals, budgets, and outcomes. OUR CHURCH may send qualified personnel or teams to accomplish specific goals, such as leadership training, evangelizing, construction or disaster relief.
 - **Organizational Initiatives** – OUR CHURCH will consider ongoing support for organizations whose role is evangelism, discipleship, and training. Priority will be given to local organizations that OUR CHURCH has connections with—formally or informally—through our members and international organizations providing direct service to nationals.
3. **Support Specifics** – OUR CHURCH will fund personnel, geographic, and project initiatives closely aligned to our international mission, vision, and strategy. Funds will be given to accomplish specific goals for specific time periods. Regular reviews will be performed. All

parties must remain sensitive to the specific leading of the Holy Spirit. The following guidelines and priorities will assist OUR CHURCH in its deployment of human and financial resources.

- General Allocation of Funds - our goal is to divide our support of individuals, projects, geographical areas and organizations between six global regions:
 - 1) 20% - US and Canada
 - 2) 19% - Mexico, Central and South America
 - 3) 14% - Europe and Russia
 - 4) 19% - Asia
 - 5) 14% - Africa
 - 6) 9% - Middle East
 - 7) 5% - Administration

- Allocation of Personnel Support – within these global regions it will be our goal to strategically provide funding for three broad ministry as follows:
 - 1) 15% to people ministering in a home office – this would include organizational leaders, home based staff and projects.
 - 2) 40% to people ministering in a field office – this would include field leaders support staff and special projects
 - 3) 45% to people ministering on the front line – this would include church planters, church developers, evangelism, discipleship, teachers, mentors and special projects.