

SENT - OR JUST WENT?

What is involved in going overseas in long term mission?

1. Intro – early stages of Shaping the Call

What can we do to foster a sense of call in both:

i) Getting the Call?

ii) Nurturing the Call?

Bible Models of Sending

God's clear direction (Acts 8v26; 13v2; 16v9)

Through persecution (Acts 8v1)

Out of personal desire (Acts 15v36; 18v1; 19v1;)

Out of circumstances (Acts 17v15; 18v19)

With local church support (Acts 13v3; 15v40)

& Seemingly without it (Acts 15v39)

2. Being Sent Out

What are the implications for sending someone?

How do we want to send or to be sent?

What are our expectations with regard to:

Working with Agencies?

Partnering with other churches?

Influencing the location for the overseas worker?

As a church of the overseas worker & vice versa?

3.& 4. Preparing to Go

What are the practicalities in sending?

e.g. Consulting the leaders

Communicating with the church

Raising Support

Cultural preparation

Mission training

Skills training

Practical Preparation

5. Final Plenary

a) Thinking of Going. - What can you do now as next stages of preparation?

b) Being a Sender – what issues are priorities for you to consider?

PREPARING TO GO:

Things to consider for someone preparing to work in mission overseas

- Personal Attitudes
 - Loving God and loving people
 - Prayer, fasting
 - Serving people at home
 - Humility
 - Question your motivation
 - Investing in relationships

- Speaking in churches
 - Consulting the leaders – Present a possibility rather than a finality
 - Most importantly in your home church
 - Visit Other churches too
 - Sharing vision for mission
 - Encouraging others in faith and obedience
 - Support raising – prayer, fellowship, finance

- Support raising
 - Pray
 - Start as soon as possible
 - Don't be ashamed/apologetic
 - Brochures, prayer cards

 - Gather a committed team of pray-ers
 - Have prayer events before leaving

 - Be realistic about your needs... BUDGET!!!
 - Distinguish between one-off and regular needs
 - Lots of small amounts are more stable

 - Identify key supporter(s) & church link

 - Throw a goodbye party!

- Other stuff
 - Visit the doctor
 - Spend time with your family
 - Specific skills training
 - Do some Missions training
 - Communicate with team
 - Learn about your destination
 - Language learning
 - Sort out visas & insurance

OTHER RESOURCES

OCC Procedures

Global Connections - Member Care

Courses: Perspectives; Kairos