

Preparing for Missions

TWENTY QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR A FUTURE CAREER IN MISSIONS

BY DAVID MAYS

The best way to prepare for a future missions career is to get involved in missions now. God often uses our relationships and experiences as bridges to the future. The following questions may help you find a role in missions now as well as prepare you for discovering a future missions career.

ONE: Your affections

Do you enjoy children? The elderly? The ill or handicapped? Any other special group of people? What ministry opportunities are represented here?

TWO: Your business trips

Can you get in touch with national Christians or missionaries?

THREE: Your church

What is your church doing in missions and what role fits you?

FOUR: Your company

Should you consider applying for an overseas assignment?

FIVE: Your cross-cultural contacts

Who serves you at the donut shop, bank, or gas station? Can you become comfortable in conversation with people from other cultures?

SIX: Your global friends

Who do you know around the world? How might they be a channel to missions opportunities?

SEVEN: Your hobbies

How could they be used in ministry or

lead you into relationships with individuals from another culture?

EIGHT: Your mentors

Who advises and challenges you? What do they say about your skills, strengths, weaknesses and preparation? How do you need to grow?

NINE: Your missionaries

Whom do you know? What do they do? What do they need that you can provide? How can you help them? Can they give you input on future possibilities?

TEN: Your natural interests

What nationalities of people or geographical places intrigue you? What can you do to develop your understanding of such people and places?

ELEVEN: Your neighbors

How can you cultivate an interest in non-Christians, develop relationships, and be salt and light in their lives?

TWELVE: Your professional contacts

What relationships can lead to other contacts for ministry opportunities?

THIRTEEN: Your reading

What should you be reading to learn about missions, cultures and the world?

FOURTEEN: Your resources

What goods and services under your stewardship could you provide for missionaries and mission organizations?

FIFTEEN: Your spiritual gifts

In what ways has God equipped you to minister to others?

SIXTEEN: Your time

What periods of time do you have available? Evenings? Weekends? Summers? Sabbaticals? Can you participate in missions endeavors that fit your schedule?

SEVENTEEN: Your travels

Where have you been? Do any of these places have a role in your future?

EIGHTEEN: Your vacation

Can you go somewhere to observe or participate in missions work?

NINETEEN: Your vocation

Could it be profitably used in an underdeveloped country?

TWENTY: Your work associates

Do you know anyone who has grown up in a religion other than Christianity? What can you learn from that person? Can you develop a ministering relationship?

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