

Strategy Map – An Overview

Step #1 - Who am I? What am I doing now?
Step #2 – Getting on board a mission team
Step #3 – RDM – (Resource Development Ministry)
Step #4 - My future cross-cultural ministry

Decision #1 – Should I be a missionary or not?
Decision #2 - Which missions should I consider?
Decision #3 – What additional training or experience do I need?

Your 1 Bottom-line Commitment

During RDM you will be . . .

ENLARGING the world VISION of others
ENLISTING PRAYER partners
ENGAGING a FINANCIAL SUPPORT team
EXPANDING your FAITH as you see God meet your needs

Four questions that may help you decide if God is leading you into overseas service.

1. What skills and gifts has God given to me?
2. Is there a place for me to use these skills and gifts overseas?
3. Do I have a recurring conviction that I should use these overseas?
4. Is God opening the doors for me to go overseas?

Four key questions to ask any mission agency:

1. Purpose - Why do they exist and what is their track record?
2. Persuasion - What do they stand for - theologically?
3. Policy - How do they operate?
4. People - Who makes up the mission team?

Seven Action Steps to get to know a mission

1. Read the mission's literature carefully and make notes of your questions.
2. Talk with missionaries from that mission. Ask them, "What do you like about the mission? Would you join this mission again? What have been areas of struggle for you within this mission?"
3. Talk to others about the mission. See what kind of reputation the mission has with churches, schools, other missions, and respected individuals.
4. Pray carefully about each of your concerns. Ask the Lord of the Harvest if He is directing you to serve with this mission team.
5. Check out other missions to compare answers. All mission agencies belong to the Lord, we just serve under different flags with the same Commander.
6. Don't be in a hurry. The Lord is interested in your obedience to His will and your growth into the image of Christ. He is not trying to "hustle" anyone out to His harvest.
7. Continue to seek the kind of preparation and experience that will equip you for His service, wherever that may be.

Questions you may want to ask missions

Policies

- Do I have any input in determining my ministry assignment?
- Does the mission provide cross-cultural training?
- How are decisions made on the field?
- Are ministry assignments ever changed after a missionary is on the field?
- How long before I come back for home assignment and how long will I be home?
- Do you have a retirement plan?
- Will I be able to work with people from other missions?

Home and Housing

- What is the role of mothers with children at home?
- What kind of housing is available?
- Are singles required to live with other singles?
- Can I choose my housing?
- Will I live in a compound with other missionaries or among the nationals?
- What type of utilities are available: water, phone, appliances, sewers?

Health

- How does the mission handle safety concerns?
- What health care options are available?
- What happens if I have a medical emergency?
- What type of medical care is available on the field?

Work/Ministry

- How does the mission help in my spiritual development?
- What will my ministry role be?
- What is the team like where I plan to serve?

Education

- What educational options are available for our children?
- Is continuing education encouraged?

Money

- How much does it take to live overseas?
- Will I be required to raise my own support?
- If so, does the mission provide any help in raising it?
- Where do my support dollars go?
- Can I keep personal financial gifts?
- What happens if our support drops while we're overseas?

Do you have questions or need more information?

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