

are
you
wired for
the world?

**global outreach
long-term
mobilization guide**



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Background

When Perimeter Church began, it started with the vision of equipping believers for ministry – both in our community and beyond. In those early days/years, a strong emphasis was placed on missions and many were raised up and sent out long term. Our model for “sending” was primarily money and prayer – leaving assessment and training to the mission agency.

In the mid-1990s, our focus began to change. Rather than supporting a lot of people (that we didn’t really know) with a little bit of money, the Global Outreach team began focusing more on partnering with national church planters in a few key areas. These reciprocal partnerships have been at the core of our vision and strategy over the past few years and will continue to be.

In our desire to focus on national partnerships, the pendulum swung to the side of minimizing the role of North Americans in the process. We do feel that there are key, strategic roles that North Americans can play in missions and we are trying to come back to a more balanced model.

So... with the desire to see more Perimeter people raised up and sent out, we’ve realized we need a process for that to happen effectively. We’ve talked with other churches that have excellent missions mentoring programs that help their members discover their calling and actually get to the field. While we see the importance of partnering with a mission sending agency, we also want to be responsible for our role as a sending church.

In the Spring of 2004, a Mobilization Task Force formed to develop a process for Perimeter members to explore longer term cross-cultural ministry opportunities, be mentored and equipped in key areas for effective ministry, and be commissioned for that specific ministry. We realize we cannot do everything. However, it is our prayer that, in partnership with quality mission agencies, as a local church we will better prepare and equip laborers for long term ministry.

Acknowledgements

The process that follows has truly been a team effort. Perimeter missionaries on the field, former missionaries and members preparing for missions have given input to this process. These individuals have been honest and challenged us through their triumphs and struggles. We are grateful for their involvement!

We would also like to thank Mosaic (Pasadena, CA), North Point Community Church (Alpharetta, GA) and Bethlehem Baptist Church (Minneapolis, MN) for sharing their experience, resources, successes, and struggles with us.

Are You Wired for the World?

“That’s right,” you say. Perhaps you’ve been on a GO Journey and God is placing a deeper burden in your heart for those you’ve left behind...Or maybe you were challenged by the latest Spotlight speaker...Or you’ve been moved to tears at the images you’ve seen on CNN of struggling people in distant lands...Or you’ve been ministering to internationals in your backyard and are thinking you could do this full-time.

There are many experiences and ways that God leads people to longer term involvement overseas. However, once that interest is there, we’ve found that there are some similar steps that help people effectively get from “here” to “there.”

It is the desire of the Global Outreach Team to send our members “in a manner worthy of God.” This guide is designed to walk you through a process and provide you with the tools to maximize your effectiveness on the field.

Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers, even though they are strangers to you. They have told the church about your love. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. It was for the sake of the Name that they went out, receiving no help from the pagans. We ought therefore to show hospitality to such men so that we may work together for the truth.

-3 John 5-8-

The Process

The process includes the following steps:

GO 101: DISCOVER

Getting to know you better, you getting to know us better and together affirming God's call and direction on your life.

GO 201: EXPOSE

Learning more about the country and culture of destination, understanding the Biblical mandate for missions, along with the historical, cultural and strategic perspectives of the expansion of God's Kingdom.

GO 301: ALIGN

Dive into the specifics of your mission through in-depth training in language, cultural adaptation, and other long term issues related to health, family, support, etc.

GO 401: LAUNCH

The course work for "graduation" includes developing your Missionary Care Team and final preparations culminating with a Perimeter commissioning.

While the average college degree typically takes 4 years, this process is not nearly as cumbersome. GO missionary candidates could move through the process at a brisk pace or give themselves more time to work through the various stages – the key is to take enough time to confirm, both personally and corporately, God's guiding to long-term ministry.

Long term missionary service does require a certain level of self initiative; however, God is not looking for lone rangers. Being a part of the larger body of Christ is critical for our health and growth as believers. Therefore, we do not expect you to go through this process on your own. The GO Staff and a GO Mentor will walk with you in an effort to affirm, equip and pray with you through this process.

Pre-Requisites

GO 101-401 is designed to walk potential Perimeter missionaries through a process of discerning and confirming God's call for long-term cross cultural ministry. This is designed for all vocational missionaries that desire for Perimeter to be their "sending church" – both in prayer and financial support.

We are not expecting:

- Spiritual giants that can recite the entire Bible by memory.
- Cultural Experts that are fluent in multiple languages.
- That you have the rest of your life mapped out.

We are expecting:

- That you be a member in good standing of Perimeter Church for a minimum of one year prior to requesting to be sent.
- That you be open to others in the church (GO Staff, GO Mentors, etc.) speaking truth into your life and affirming God's calling.
- That you be eager to grow in your walk with the Lord and understanding of the world.

GO 101: Discover

Description:

The purpose of the Discover phase is for us to get to know one another. We want to affirm you in the skills, gifts and calling that God has given you. Likewise, as one being sent by Perimeter Church, we want you to have a solid foundation and framework for your ministry.

Checklist:

- Complete the “Getting to Know You” form and submit to GO Office (Appendix 3).
- Meet one-on-one with GO staff and potential “GO Mentor” (Appendix 1).
- Go through the Intentional Living small group study (8 weeks at Perimeter) or the TEAM Explore Weekend (3 full days out of town) and review the experience with your GO Mentor (Appendix 4).
- Review the Perimeter Mission, Vision and Values through re-attending Inquirers if not attended in the last 3 years (Appendix 5 and 6).
- Complete Theological Foundation for Leaders.
- Learn more about Global Outreach partners and strategies to better understand potential opportunities for you and your family (Appendix 7).

Additional Resources:

Missions by Paul Borthwick

You Can So Get There From Here by MARC Publications

Send Me: Your Journey to the Nations by Steve Hoke and Bill Taylor

Don't Waste Your Life by John Piper

Wisdom at Work by Ken Boa and Gail Burnett

Unveiled at Last by Bob Sjogren

Leading Talents, Leading Teams by Lee Ellis

GO 201: Expose

Description:

The Exposure phase will help you go deeper in your understanding of missions and develop your practical ministry skills.

Checklist:

- Enroll in the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement Course offered every Fall (Appendix 8).
- Participate in a GO Journey or extended Journey to your destination of interest to give you the face-to-face time with the culture and potential opportunities to utilize your skills and gifts.
- Develop your research skills by completing a local cultural mapping assignment (Appendix 9).
- Engage in local ministry that aligns with your culture or ministry destination such as:

Teach English through the Emory Chinese Academy on Saturday mornings at Perimeter.

Offer business training to Polish businessmen through the Polish Chamber of Commerce in Atlanta.

Meet the medical needs of immigrants through the Good Samaritan Clinic of Gwinnett.

For additional local ministry opportunities, see Appendix 10.

Additional Resources:

Let The Nations Be Glad by John Piper

Bring Forth Justice by Waldron Scott

GO 301: Align

Description:

Begin to align your life to your longer term calling. Investigate different mission agencies, begin working on language, finances, and lifestyle changes in addition to receiving specific training related to your ministry.

Checklist:

- Explore and determine the best sending agency for your ministry, destination and family needs (Appendix 11)
- Begin the language acquisition process, either through formal teaching or a tutor, using the ACTFL guidelines and the self-assessment checklist (Appendix 12).
- Complete specific training through the Center for Intercultural Training (www.cit-online.org)
- Continue researching and preparing for other long term issues related to health, family, support, etc.
- Begin to make the necessary lifestyle changes regarding housing, budgeting, scheduling, and physical preparation needed for your country and culture of destination.
- Begin the support development process.

Additional Resources:

People Raising by Bill Dillon
Crown Ministries

GO 401: Launch

Description:

Complete the final preparations before being sent into the harvest fields!

Checklist:

- Develop and equip your Missionary Care Team.
- Finalize your Ministry Plan.
- Develop your Exit Strategy for the field.
- Perimeter commissioning.

Additional Resources:

Built to Last by Jim Collins

Good to Great by Jim Collins

Missionary Care Team – coordinated by Mary Jane Waddell

Appendix 1

Role of the GO Mentor

The GO Mentor's aim is to provide personalized accountability for the missionary candidate's personal and spiritual preparation prior to departure to the mission field, especially focusing on the candidate's progress in the Mobilization Process. We view accountability as a critical component as people are preparing to be sent out "for the sake of the Name" (3 John 8). It is biblical that the church confirm that an individual candidate is indeed called and equipped for a specific mission before we lay hands on the individual and send him or her with Perimeter's blessing and support.

The Global Outreach Team views mentoring as part of the ministry of "sending." A "sender" is anyone who helps a missionary on his or her way "so that they are lacking in nothing" (Titus 3:18; 3 John 1-8). The aim of "senders" is to be of substantial help to the missionary during his or her time of preparation, ministry on the field and home ministry assignment. Practically, the mentor system is the beginning stage of a career long missionary relationship with Perimeter.

Each potential GO Mentor must be willing to:

Complete an orientation with their missionary candidate.

Pray regularly for their missionary candidate.

Meet monthly with the missionary candidate to encourage him/her regarding:

- a. Spiritual disciplines such as personal and corporate worship, prayer life, and scripture memorization
 - b. Complete the Mobilization Process requirements
 - c. Set Mobilization Process goals
 - d. Requests for prayer and/or problems that need discussion.
4. Provide monthly feedback to the GO Staff.
 5. Provide a reference to the Global Outreach Ministry Team on the candidate's overall preparation progress at the time the candidate applies for financial support.
 6. Be contacted occasionally just to see how the process is functioning and to provide support, encouragement and any practical assistance that may be needed.

As in any accountability relationship, this system *will be most effective if the candidate views it as beneficial to his/her future ministry and participates positively in it; not viewing it only as a legislated requirement.*

Appendix 2

Sample of Candidate/Mentor Monthly Communications

Name: _____ Date: _____
GO Mentor: _____

Comment on your personal Bible study, prayer life and scripture memorization pattern during the previous month:

Progress in the Mobilization Process during the previous month:

Mobilization Process goals for the upcoming month:

Ministry involvement in the previous month:

Prayer requests for this next month (mark “share” with those that you would like shared with the GO Ministry Team):

Answers to previous prayer requests:

Any additional Comments:

Appendix 3

Getting to Know You

Thank you for being open to explore God's calling on your life for potential cross-cultural ministry. Your responses to the following questions will help us provide you with appropriate information, counsel and guidance about the next steps. Return this completed for to the Global Outreach Office. Please note: This form does NOT obligate you to become a long-term missionary.

Personal Data

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____
Home Phone: () _____ - _____ Work Phone: () _____ - _____
Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Place: _____ Citizenship: _____
Marital Status: _____ Spouse's Name or Fiancé and date of wedding: _____
Names and ages of children: _____
Present employment: _____
How long have you been in this position? _____

Health

Do you have any health problems, physical or mental disabilities that might impact you in the course of overseas missionary service? *If yes, please explain:*

Education

What is the highest level of education you have completed and where?

Identify extracurricular activities and forms of recreation?

Indicate languages you know and your proficiency level (read, write, speak):

Spiritual

In the space below, please share (1) how you became a Christian, (2) an overview of your growth in Christ and (3) your devotional life:

Are you a member of Perimeter Church? _____ If so, for how long? _____
Briefly describe your involvement at Perimeter Church (growth and service):

Cross-Cultural

Have you been involved in cross-cultural ministry either locally or overseas? If so, describe.

Appendix 4

Intentional Living & Explore Workshop

INTENTIONAL LIVING™

A process designed, piloted, videotaped, validated and facilitated by members of Perimeter Church.

- Do you sense God nudging you to do something of greater significance in your life but you are not sure what it is?
- Is your life out of balance due to spending inordinate amounts of time in work at the sacrifice of other important areas?
- Do you feel like you are not living your passion and that there is more to life than you are experiencing?
- Have you undergone a recent change in your life such as a job change, change in marital status, retirement and are apprehensive of God's plans?

If you answered yes to any one of these questions above or you just want to know more, join us in understanding how God has used the Intentional Living process to help others live more intentionally. Hear how God has helped individuals ...

Reveal their **calling** to use their gifts in Corporate America
Confirm their **purpose** to evangelize their fellow African refugees
Validate their **passion** to relocate their family to China

Intentional Living™ is a Christ-centered process designed to help you discover your calling, focus your life and live with intention. It is...

An eternally-focused process, not an earthly-minded event
An experience in receiving, not broadcasting
A progressive realization of His agenda, not yours

For small group schedules, please contact Sabina Parks at 678 405-2131 or SabinaP@perimeter.org

Explore Workshop

Does God want you in missions? Maybe you are absolutely sure God is leading you into cross-cultural ministry. Or perhaps you are struggling with doubts and questions about your fit in missions. Wouldn't it be exciting to spend three days getting clear answers and defining specific next steps? TEAM's three-day Explore Workshop gives you that opportunity. At Explore you can find out how you might fit in God's worldwide plan of missions and identify concrete steps here to there. The Explore Workshop includes:

- Extended time with missionaries who share their lives and personal experience.
- Diagnostic evaluations of physical and emotional health
- Interactive seminars
- Time for personal reflection and prayer
- Objective assessment leading to the development of a clear plan of action

For more information on the Explore Workshop, including a schedule of locations, contact the Global Outreach Office.

Appendix 5

A Synopsis of the Beliefs of the Presbyterian Church in America

1. The Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. There is one God, eternal and self-existing in three persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) who are to be equally loved, honored, and adored.
3. All mankind participated in Adam's fall from his original sinless state and is thus lost in sin and totally helpless.
4. The Sovereign God, for no other reason than His own unfathomable love and mercy, has chosen lost sinners from every nation to be redeemed by the quickening power of the Holy Spirit and through the atoning death and resurrection of His son, Jesus Christ.
5. Those sinners whom the Spirit quickens, come to believe in Christ as Savior by the Word of God, are born again, become sons of God, and will persevere to the end.
6. Justification is by faith and through it the undeserving sinner is clothed with the righteousness of Christ.
7. The goal of God's salvation in the life of the Christian is holiness, good works, and service for the glory of God.
8. At death the Christian's soul passes immediately into the presence of God and the unbeliever's soul is eternally separated from God unto condemnation.
9. Baptism is a sign of God's covenant and is properly administered to children of believers in their infancy as well as to those who come as adults to trust in Christ.
10. Jesus Christ will return to earth, visibly and bodily, at a time when He is not expected, to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.
11. The Gospel of God's salvation in Jesus Christ must be published to all the world as a witness before Jesus Christ returns.

I agree with the above statement:

Name

Date

Appendix 6

Perimeter Church Ministry Plan

1. Why Do We Exist? (Our Purpose)

To glorify God and to enjoy Him

2. What Are We Trying To Accomplish? (Our Vision)

To bring the people of greater Atlanta and all places where we serve into a life transforming encounter with the Kingdom of God.¹

3. How Do We Plan To Accomplish Our Vision? (Our Mission)

By creating healthy missional communities which accomplish the following:

- 1) Making mature and equipped followers of Christ²⁻³
- 2) Becoming a church of compassion comprised of praying believers willing to give themselves away for the cause of the least and the lost
- 3) Building strategic bridges between our church and the communities in which we live, work and play
- 4) Planting new churches and partnering with existing churches across Atlanta and around the world to strategically do the above

4. What Is Most Important To Us? (Our Core Values)

1) "Who We Are" Values

- Practicing indiscriminate love⁴ regardless of social, economic or racial status
- Demonstrating personal, family, organizational, financial & leadership integrity⁵
- Living by faith⁶ in Christ and attempting faith oriented goals in an environment of innovation and change⁷
- Speaking and proclaiming the truth⁸ regardless of the consequences

2) "What We Do" Values

- *Worship*
 - Weekend Services⁹
 - Sunday Celebration¹⁰
- *Prayer*¹¹
- *Community*
 - Seasons of Life Communities¹²
 - Area Communities¹³
 - Home Fellowship Communities¹⁴
- *Equipping*
 - Seminars, Classes, Groups¹⁵
 - Discipleship **Teams**¹⁶
 - Leadership Training¹⁷⁻¹⁹

- *Service & Mercy (Minister - “LINK”²⁰)*
 - Weekend Serving²¹
 - Church Ministry **Teams**²²
 - Community Ministry **Teams**²³
 - Global Ministry **Teams**²⁴
- *Outreach (Messenger – “X-PRESS Your Faith”²⁵)*
 - Outreach Weekends²⁶
 - Other Outreach Events²⁷
 - Guest Sponsorship²⁸
 - Community and Global Journeys²⁹
- *Stewardship (Manager – “Faith & Finances”³⁰)*
 - Tithing (Weekly Giving)³¹
 - Campus Development Project (3 year giving)³²
 - Estate Giving (long term giving)³³

Footnotes

1 A community demonstrates a **life transforming encounter with the Kingdom of God** when:

- its people, in ever increasing numbers across ethnic and socioeconomic boundaries, are becoming members of Christ’s body the Church, becoming passionately committed to Him engaging in Word and Deed ministry,
- its believers’ lifestyles are becoming increasingly marked by high moral standards, practicing indiscriminate love, demonstrating spiritual integrity in all their relationships, living by faith in Christ, attempting faith oriented goals, and speaking the truth regardless of the consequences,
- its churches increasingly work together in the unity of the Spirit, as the Body of Christ, ministering to the needs of the community, working for justice for the powerless, and reconciliation, and
- its educational, judicial, political, business and social structures increasingly begin to reflect being in conformity with the Word of God.

2 A **mature and equipped follower of Christ** is one who:

- lives consistently under the control of the Holy Spirit, the direction of the Word of God, and the motivation of the compelling love of Christ
- has discovered, developed and is using his/her spiritual gifts,
- has learned to effectively share his/her faith while demonstrating radical love that amazes the world which it touches,
- gives strong evidence of being
 - a faithful member of God’s church,
 - an effective manager of life, relationships and resources,
 - a willing minister to God’s people, and
 - an available messenger to non-Kingdom people, and

- demonstrates a life characterized as:
 - gospel driven,
 - worship focused,
 - morally pure,
 - evangelistically bold,
 - discipleship grounded,
 - family faithful, and
 - socially responsible

3 Our plan to **make mature and equipped followers of Christ** will be accomplished:

1) By Strategically Providing Our People With The Five Essential Ingredients for Life Change:

TTruth

Equipping

Accountability

Mission

Supplication

2) By Moving From Being A Program-Based Church To Being A TEAMS-Based Church.

A Church Is Program-Based When Its Primary Method Of Making Mature & Equipped Followers Of Christ Centers Around The Delivery Of Truth Through The Vehicle Of Church Programs (i.e. Seminars, Preaching, Classes, etc.).

A Church Is TEAMS-Based when:

- Its Primary Method Of Making Mature & Equipped Followers Of Christ Centers Around The Use Of Truth, Equipping, Accountability, Mission & Supplication;
- Its Primary Outreach, Nurture, Education, Care, Discipline And Equipping Takes Place In Discipleship Teams Where The Leader Is Considered The Shepherd And A Target Group (Residential, Professional Or Social) Is Considered The Mission Field; and

3) By equipping leaders committed to leading discipleship teams, devoting themselves to life-on-life laboring in the lives of a few.

4 Regarding **Love**, we believe that loving and serving Christ is the highest priority and the most satisfying experience of life, and that giving and serving are much richer life experiences than receiving and being served.

- 5 Regarding **Integrity**, we believe that the believer's responsibility is to integrate truth into every aspect of life so as to live as a bond-servant of Christ whether in the marketplace, home, social arena or church.
- 6 Regarding **Faith**, we believe that salvation is only by faith and since faith is the certainty of things unseen, it pleases God to attempt things so great for Him that they are doomed to failure unless God is in them.
- 7 Regarding **Innovation and Change**, We Believe that ministry is most effective when done in the context of cultural relevance and in an environment of innovative change, while remaining faithful to the Word of God.
- 8 Regarding **Truth**, We Believe that God alone is absolute, that all truth comes from God and that the only special revelation of truth to man is God's Word, the Bible, being inspired, infallible, unchangeable and powerful.
- 9 Perimeter's **Worship Services** are designed for believers to worship God. We are not a "seeker service" in that we do not place our highest priority for gathering on winning seekers, but rather on equipping believers and enabling them to worship as a corporate community. However, the seeker is very important to us and thus every attempt is made to use our worship as an opportunity for the seeker to meet God. We believe biblical worship is an excellent way to expose the seeker to God's Word and God's people.
- 10 **Sunday Celebration** is a Sunday evening service of worship and communion that occurs several times throughout the year. We like to refer to Sunday Celebration as a great family time of worship celebrating our relationship with Christ as a community of believers, and reflection on the depths of the grace of God found in partaking of the Lord's Table together.
- 11 **Prayer** is different experiences for people to come together and pray about specific issues or needs. There are opportunities for a weekly prayer time, as our prayer ministry invites people to join them in prayer for the church. We also have monthly times, in which believers gather on the first Friday night of the month for a special time of praise and prayer. The elders of the church come together once a month to pray for specific people who are dealing with certain challenges, including those who need physical healing. Occasionally, we'll have church wide prayer events, as large groups will gather to pray. At Perimeter, prayer is a high value and it's certainly not limited to these structured times, as prayer is happening throughout the week in multiple venues.

- 12 **Seasons of Life Communities** are groups which meet at least twice a month for the purpose of assimilating new people into the church family, establishing social relationships with other believers and experiencing biblical fellowship (“one-anothering”). The groups vary in composition and program and in a “lite” way, engage in service and growth. Seasons of Life Communities are grouped by age and stage of life. In addition to evening gatherings at homes, we have a Season of Life Community for all ages & stages of life offered on Sunday mornings at the church facilities.
- 13 **Area Communities** are groups which meet at least twice a month for the purpose of assimilating new people into the church family, establishing social relationships with other believers and experiencing biblical fellowship (“one-anothering”). The groups vary in composition and program and in a “lite” way, engage in service and growth. Neighborhood Congregations are grouped by geographic identity.
- 14 **Home Fellowship Communities** are groups of usually 6 to 12 who meet for the purpose of Bible study, fellowship and care. These groups, like other fellowship groups, keep service, growth and outreach as high values.
- 15 **Seminars, Classes, and Groups** are various venues used to better equip believers in both their walk with Christ as well as their ministry to others. These multiple offerings generally fall into three categories: Family, Bible and Theology, and Christian Living and ministry. Three “must take” courses for all members are “LINK”, “X-PRESS Your Faith” and “Faith and Finances”/
- 16 **Discipleship Teams** *are small* groups, usually 5-7 men or women, meeting weekly with a well-qualified and trained leader for the purpose of becoming mature and equipped followers of Christ by the use of Truth, Equipping, Accountability, Mission, & Supplication. These groups provide excellent opportunities for fellowship and in a “lite” manner, provide opportunity for service.
- 17 **Leadership Training** describes our initial instruction given to prepare present and future leaders, both male and female, for effective ministry. Both knowledge and specific skills are necessary to go along with commitment and maturity in order to expect outstanding leadership. The first of two courses, “Theological Foundations”, focuses on knowledge while “Leadership Dynamics” focuses on specific training.
- 18 **Theological Foundations** is a course of study open to all members (male and female) who are believed to exemplify the qualifications of elder or deacon found in 2 Timothy and Titus. The course runs for approximately ten weeks and takes the participant deep in exposure to the weightier issues of theology and Christian service. Evaluation and testing is given to help determine one’s preparation for future pastoral and discipleship leadership.

- 19 **Leadership Dynamics** is a course of study designed to prepare its participants to identify their leadership style, learn skills related to personal and small group leadership, evaluate one's leadership strengths and then direct the participant to the most effective use of his or her skills.
- 20 "**LINK**" is our messenger course designed to inform its participants how to discover their spiritual gifts, passions and personality style in such a way to help them link to a specific ministry which "fits."
- 21 **Weekend Serving** is a term used to describe those ministries that must take place so that our Saturday night and Sunday morning services can occur (i.e. Welcome Team, Usher Team, Kids Town, etc). These are crucial ministries that support our "worship services" and are staffed by volunteers.
- 22 **Church Ministry Teams** are small groups of believers who devote themselves to working together to serve other participants within the church. Some ministry teams serve by means of giving leadership and direction to ministries while others are comprised of those who are involved in "hands on" ministry. All team members are cared for by a shepherd.
- 23 **Community Ministry Teams** unite outreach and mercy ministries with the single purpose of spreading the kingdom of God. These Teams are designed to extend the love of Christ through service to the community. Members of a group prayerfully commit to working together in an area of focused service for a year. Areas of service are selected according to the interests of group members.
- 24 **Global Ministry Teams** carry out Perimeter's vision for discipleship based church planting to the ends of the world by developing partnerships with indigenous church planting organizations to envision, train and equip indigenous pastors. The team further supports our partners by helping them to evangelize and disciple businessmen and next generation leaders on high school and college campuses. In addition, the teams mobilize Perimeter to help our indigenous church partners to minister to the needs of the least and lost in their communities and countries.
- 25 "**X-Press Your Faith**" is a course designed to inform its participants in how to become effective at expressing his or her faith in such a way as to lead people to Christ. As a part of this instruction, the participant develops a plan for meeting and befriending those who have not met Christ and introducing the gospel to them in a relational and non-threatening manner. It is at this time that the participant will be introduced to the well-known "3-D Evangelism" training.
- 26 "**Outreach Weekends**" Three times a year the Lord's Day worship is moved to Sunday p.m. and both Saturday p.m. and Sunday a.m. are used as engaging kick-off outreach events. These church-wide outreaches are followed by a four-week "investigative forum", which meets simultaneously with Sunday a.m. worship services.

- 27 **Other Outreach Events** describe any events sponsored by the church with the intent of inviting non-believers to be exposed to God's Word and God's people.
- 28 **Guest Sponsorship** is the commitment of believers to "adopt" unchurched guests inviting them to various helpful church activities including worship services and eventually hosting them at an Inquirer's Seminar. Common Cause Leaders (see #11) sponsor their group members through all seven connecting points.
- 29 **Community and Global Journeys** are short term mission trips, either local or overseas, designed to give the participant a cross cultural experience enabling them to see the world from the perspective of the least and the lost and to contribute in a small but significant way to the needs of such. Prior training is required for a journey and all journeys are comprised of approximately 5-10 participants, led by a trained leader. Most participants raise their support from interested friends. It is goal that every Perimeter member participates in a Journey once every three years.
- 30 **"Faith & Finances"** is our manager course which is designed to provide clear teaching from the scriptures for believers on how to be good managers of their time, their abilities and their financial resources. In this video series, Randy Pope and Howard Dayton of Crown Financial Ministries leads the learner through four teaching segments, God's Ownership, Debt and Borrowing, Giving and Work. At the end of the teaching time the participant has the opportunity to discuss ways to engage their faith into action.
- 31 **Tithing** means "tenth" and refers to the minimum standard (10% or "first fruits") require by God's people to give to His Kingdom work. Such giving is to be done from a joyous heart and designed to be a reminder that God owns everything.
- 32 **Campus Development Project** is our plan to raise the financial support needed to achieve the campus and ministries goals for Y25+ and beyond. In order to maintain a kingdom growing church, it is essential that we have appropriate facilities and the funding to accommodate our ministry. The Campus Development Project is the means by which during our strongest and most resourced years we can provide the needed resources.
- 33 **Estate Giving** is a means of giving for the Christian steward who recognizes the role of a faithful steward of God's possessions. By utilizing Estate Giving designs and legal vehicles a person can transfer worldly wealth to the kingdom of God during their lifetime that will result in eternal rewards. The church can assist persons who desire to make these types of gifts.

Global Outreach Ministry Plan

INTRODUCTION

The population of the world is now over 6.3 billion people! Aside from the complexities of the sheer size of the world population, there are two major challenges facing the Church world wide for expanding God's Kingdom.

1. Un-reached People

There are an estimated 4.2 billion people who have yet to hear and/or respond to the presentation of the Gospel message. To understand how many people that is, if they were in a single file line toe to heel, the line of people would circle the globe 25 times! 1.8 billion of these people live in "reached" countries where the church exists but not to the extent that these people have access to the Gospel. The remaining 2.4 billion people live in "un-reached" countries where the message of the Gospel is not available; the church has yet to come to them.

2. Equipping Leaders

Within the burgeoning population of the world, the Kingdom of God is being established around the world at a speed that makes our minds spin. According to the best research available, Christianity is expanding at the rate of 6.9% per year. There are an estimated 178,000 new followers of Christ every day! This awesome growth of the church has produced a difficult shortage of pastors and church leaders. It is estimated that the growth of the church around the world is creating a demand for 7,000 new pastors/leaders each day to care for the needs of the new believers! If every Christian training institute in the world were operating at 120% of capacity it would not touch 10% of the need for leadership development. Further, the majority of the new leaders cannot be released from their ministry roles for the length of time necessary to receive traditional seminary training. As the Global Outreach Ministry of Perimeter Church prepares for and enters the 21st century, these are two challenges we are facing:

Evangelization of the 4.2 billion people of the world.

Training pastors, elders and church leaders.

Of these two, what is Perimeter most qualified, competent and equipped to do? And is there a way Perimeter can enable the other task to be accomplished more effectively than "doing" it ourselves?

1,739 "un-reached people groups" have been identified as not having a Gospel witness, nor a church or agency targeting them. However, there are Christians and churches from other cultures and nations that can do the work of evangelization more effectively than a western church such as Perimeter, because of closer cultural, linguistic and ethnic affinities.

This does not exempt the western Church from being involved in evangelizing the un-reached, but the completion of the task cannot depend solely on manpower from the western world, as has been the case in the past 200 years of the modern missionary movement. The 2/3rds world must be mobilized. We propose that this become the primary mandate for Perimeter's involvement in evangelization of "un-reached people groups".

At the same time, one of Perimeter's strengths is its commitment to equip leaders. This covers the spectrum from the elders and deacons, Neighborhood Congregation Pastors, and Discipleship Team Leaders to the people "in the pew" who are exposed to solid Biblical teaching, equipping seminars, events, and discipleship who have not exercised formal leadership in the church. What Perimeter people have "absorbed" through this training is greater than the training received by more than 1.7 million leaders/pastors of churches in many countries. Therefore, our people are a valuable resource from Perimeter to the Kingdom. Perimeter can effectively equip, enable and facilitate the expansion of the Kingdom by strengthening existing church leaders in other countries, and mobilize them so that evangelistic gifts of national brothers and sisters are used for planting new churches in un-reached areas of the world.

3. Caring for and Ministering to the "Least"

The presence of the Church should significantly impact the culture in such a way as to cause the culture to reflect the values and principles of a Biblical World View while still maintaining the cultural distinctive which are not in conflict with these Biblical World Views. That is to say the culture should give visible evidence of the Church being "salt and light" in the culture. Specifically, we would expect the Church to have an active role in caring for and ministering to the "least" (the forgotten, disenfranchised, poor, oppressed, persecuted, widows, orphans and the likes). Yet, around the world the Church has been noticeably absent in caring for and ministering to the "least". The Church has stepped back from their Biblical responsibility creating a vacuum for other organizations to fill.

I. GO MISSION STATEMENT

"Mobilizing Perimeter for Global Community Transformation"

Expanded Mission Statement:

To aggressively seek opportunities and relationships to expand the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the un-reached worlds to the end that there is a church for every people and the Gospel for every person, and

To facilitate movements of discipleship-based, saturation church planting in the United States and abroad by providing strategic, human and financial resources and equipping to our national church planting partners who share our vision for planting partners who share our vision for planting churches that will give themselves away for the least and the lost.

II. GO CORE VALUES

1. The Local Church

We believe that the local church is God's primary vehicle for the expansion of His Kingdom through word and deed. Therefore we will invest the largest portion of GO resources in church planting strategies in various cultural contexts both in the US and abroad.

2. Prayer

We believe that it is God who changes the hearts of people; therefore prayer should be the most consistent, mobilized activity of the GO Ministry. We want to help create structures within Perimeter and other churches for the understanding and execution of strategic intercession for the world.

3. Indigenous Ministry

We believe trained men and women within their native cultural contexts most effectively do that ministry. We also believe that for long-term reproducibility, ministries should receive their primary financial support from sources within their culture.

4. Transformation

We believe that the presence of the Church universal within a culture should be a transforming agent for the culture. We believe that through the uniting of the churches within a culture in prayer and work, the Holy Spirit will use the unity of the Body of Christ to transform the culture for the Kingdom.

5. Mobilization of People for Mission

We believe that God calls each believer to be engaged in mission in their Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the uttermost ends of the world. We want to help create structures within Perimeter and other churches for the understanding and execution of strategic involvement in mission in Atlanta and around the world.

III. GO MINISTRY STRATEGIES

Discipleship-based Saturation Church Planting Movements:

For Reached People Groups, our strategy will be facilitating indigenous church multiplication movements in accomplishing the vision of sustained and measurable community transformation. The primary strategies for facilitating nationals will be through facilitating:

- Prayer movements at Perimeter, other networks, and within the nation for the church planting partner;
- The establishment of and resourcing of national church planter training and evangelism center(s);
- The development of national church planting movement leadership;
- The development of national saturation church planting strategy including development of “presbytery model” of government where applicable;
- The development of the financial resource to support the movement and development of plans for self sufficiency in the long term.

With Un-reached People Groups, our strategy is to seek opportunities and relationships that expand the Kingdom into the un-reached areas of the world, through prayer, research, participation in networks, and events that will enable us to assess:

- 1) which un-reached people groups we should target;
- 2) which segment(s) of the Body of Christ is/are most qualified to “reach” a selected un-reached people group; and
- 3) mobilizing Perimeter and our selected partners(s) in “going” to the targeted un-reached people group.

Business Partners International (BPI)

Ministry Plan Summary:

GO’s BPI Ministry Team focuses on building up local churches with the resources needed to grow and multiply themselves. To do this, BPI gives attention to the following four areas:

1. Biblical View of Business – in a global marketplace in which corruption has become almost a norm, it becomes critical for the church to understand that work is a gift from God, that the “9-5 Window” is a huge mission field readily accessible to every church member, and that business is a training ground for future church leaders.
2. Outreach – partnering with the local church to make the Gospel known throughout the business community. Send short-term business teams that through training seminars share the Gospel and build bridges that provide the church with both access and credibility with local business people.

3. Discipleship – to make mature followers of Christ who will be “salt and light” in the marketplace. Assist the local church in life-on-life discipling of business people who will see their work as “God-ordained” and will build redemptive relationships in the workplace.
4. Enterprise Development (Indigenous Resourcing) – assisting local followers of Christ to startup and/or grow businesses that through faithful stewardship will provide the local church with the leadership skills, time and finances needed to reproduce itself by planting other churches.
5. Ministry Resourcing – providing expertise, training, and materials in marketplace ministry.

A. Background

In October 2000 the GOMT approved a new initiative, the Business Partners International, to mobilize the businesspeople at Perimeter Church to be a key part of the Global Outreach ministry strategy. The focus of BPI is the mobilization of (Perimeter) business people to be directly involved with Perimeter’s church planting partners in the areas of evangelism, discipleship, and indigenous enterprise development.

BPI is based on the belief that Christian businesspeople are integral and strategic to the expansion of the Church around the world. The Gospel will not only transform individuals but will also transform the motivation and means by which we perform work. Underlying this concept is a theology that recognizes work not just as a means of provision or even as a desirable activity, but also as an essential expression of the image of God. (Genesis 1, 2)

B. Vision/Mission

Vision: “Bringing the Gospel to the Marketplace through evangelism, discipleship and Christian enterprise development.”

Mission: “To assist church multiplication movements in the evangelization of the business segments of their culture and in the development of indigenous Christian business leaders.”

C. Strategies

BPI focuses on building up local churches with the resources needed to grow and multiply themselves. To do this, BPI gives attention to the following five areas:

Perspective – helping the local church develop and teach a biblical view of business, and develop the ability to see the marketplace as a source of leaders, as a mission field, and as part of God’s provision for resourcing ministry.

Evangelism – partnering with the local church to make the Gospel known throughout the business community. Send short-term business teams that, through training seminars, will share the Gospel and build bridges that provide the church with both access and credibility with local business people.

Discipleship — to make mature followers of Christ who will be “salt and light” in the marketplace. Assist the local church in life-on-life discipling of businesspeople who will see their work as “God-ordained” and will build redemptive relationships in the workplace.

Enterprise Development (Indigenous Resourcing) — assisting local followers of Christ to startup and/or grow businesses that through faithful stewardship will provide the local church with the leadership skills, time and finances needed to reproduce itself by planting other churches.

Ministry Resourcing — providing expertise, training and materials in marketplace ministry.

Mercy & Justice Ministries

Ministry Plan Summary:

We will support the national indigenous church as it seeks to serve its congregation and community in ministry of both word and deed. We will contribute to the development of a reproducing church that is both spiritually and physically healthy. We will focus our efforts on the Biblical mandate to care for orphans and widows, those infected and affected by AIDS, and those who are oppressed through injustice. It is our intent to be “rich in good deeds” that strengthens the church and brings Glory to God.

Next Generation Ministries

Ministry Plan Summary:

We will support the national church planting movement by establishing a Next Generation network of organizations that will facilitate the mobilization of Perimeter children, youth and campus ministries to assist the national church in reaching the next generations for the Kingdom. We will develop foundational strategies and tactical plans for each target country.

Mobilization

Mobilizing Perimeter people to see God’s passion for His glory among the nations and engage in the fulfillment of that passion through:

Empowering: Prayer is essential to accomplishing our vision! Regardless of the excitement level of our programs, only God can touch and move hearts to action. All our efforts must begin with concentrated prayer and must be continually uplifted with prayer in order for the Holy Spirit to move among our congregation and bring about the maximum impact of our efforts.

Envisioning: We will put significant efforts and energy into communicating both God’s heart for the nations and how He is moving in new and unique ways around the world. Communication will target communities through GO Advocates and the congregation at large through quarterly Spotlights, the website and other creative communication tools.

Engaging: The most effective method of mobilization is through giving Perimeter people the opportunity to engage in God’s work around the world. GO Journeys allow people to see, taste, smell, touch and minister to people and cultures from which God desires to receive worship.

Encouraging/Accountability: An experience or one-time event is not enough to maintain a growing passion for the nations. Just as we need encouragement and accountability to grow in our personal walks with Christ, believers also need encouragement and accountability to grow in their world vision.

Appendix 8

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement is a dynamic course where you'll discover what God is doing around the world and consider your part in His purposes.

Perspectives will help you understand God's plan for our world—and for your life—as you explore the following topics:

- **Biblical** - God's unchanging purpose for the nations
- **Historical** - Expansion and pioneers of the Christian Movement
- **Strategic** - What are "unreached" people groups" and why are they so important to complete God's eternal purpose?
- **Cultural** - The Gospel and cross-cultural communication

Perspectives is offered throughout the year at extension sites around the world. Over 60,000 people have taken this course in North America alone, with over 12,000 alumni in New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, and other countries. *Perspectives* is also available in Spanish and Korean, and other translations are in progress.

Undergraduate and graduate credit is available through schools such as Trinity International University and other cooperating institutions. *Perspectives* is also offered on-line and by correspondence. In addition, over 100 schools use the *Perspectives* Reader in their missions courses (over 120,000 in print).

With over 600 instructors and more than 150 locations annually, over 6000 people are exposed to some of the most innovative missions minds each year.

Perspectives is taught by professors, missionaries, & teachers who have seen God at work all over the world. Instructors include people like Don Richardson (missionary to the Sawi people and author of *Peace Child*), David Bryant (author of *In the Gap*, former mission specialist for InterVarsity, now Chairman of Concerts of Prayer International), and Ralph Winter (missionary to Guatemala and visionary founder of the USCWM).

Perspectives is offered in the Atlanta area each Fall. Perimeter Church will host the class for the third time in the Fall of 2004. North Point Community Church, Mt. Paran Church of God, and Roswell United Methodist Church are just a few of the other churches in the North Metro Atlanta area that have hosted the class.

Appendix 9

Local Language & Culture Learning Assignment

“Ethnographic Study Skills”

(Gleaned from Spradley & McCurdy’s The Cultural Experience)

Premise

Acts 17:21-23 (ESV)

Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. [22] So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. [23] For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you...

An effective missionary is an active listener/observer and a strategic learner. A missionary who enters a different culture with such a learner’s posture will communicate respect, and often love, for the people he/she desires to reach with the gospel. With this approach people are much more willing to listen to the missionary, and the gospel he/she proclaims will more likely be more relevant to their people and unique cultural context.

Purpose

Therefore, we want every missionary candidate to learn and practice some “Ethnographic” study skills BEFORE he/she leaves for their appointed field. This will have multiple benefits:

1. You learn necessary skills for effectively communicating the gospel across cultures (and perhaps to get a jump-start on language learning).
2. God is glorified, as you become a blessing to a local ethnic community, combating the common misperceptions that American Christians are ethnocentric, immoral, inconsiderate, hypocritical, or materialistic narcissists.
3. The body of Christ is edified as you help Perimeter become effective “salt and light” in the communities around us, for God’s greater glory, and joy of all peoples (locally!).

Practice *(Your Assignment)*

1. Commit to a Local People Group
2. Identify an Informant (or Two) From That Group
3. Journal, or Jot “Field Notes”
4. Share Your Progress With Your GO Mentor
5. Contextualize the Gospel Message for that Group

Details and Descriptions

Ethnography is not merely an objective description of people and their behavior from the observer's viewpoint. It is a systematic attempt to discover the knowledge a group of people have learned, and are using, to organize behavior. So your assignment is as follows:

1. Commit to a Local People Group

- Unreached peoples in the Atlanta area:
- 60,000 Muslims, meeting in over 30 different mosques.
- 40 different Buddhist temples or groups.
- Hindus meeting in 6 different temples or groups.
- 64,000 legal Hispanic residents in Gwinnett county.
- 42,000 Asian residents in Gwinnett county.

The opportunities to connect with other people groups in the Atlanta area abound! Ideally you should build relationships with an ethnic group closest to the group that you hope to reach abroad, or with a group within which you have already established some relationships. For evangelistic purposes, it would be best if the group you choose were non-Christians.

2. Identify a Cultural Helper (or Two) From That Group

Find one or two persons within your target group that would agree to be your "TEACHER" of their culture (and perhaps their language). We would recommend that you meet regularly with your cultural helper, at least once a week. The meeting places should be on their turf, and in their context (as much as possible). For evangelistic purposes, it would be best if your cultural helper were non-Christians.

Questions, questions, questions!

Instead of asking, "What do I see people doing?" a good ethnographer will ask, "What do these people see themselves doing?" And we cannot answer this question with our own concepts, for that would implicitly introduce OUR prejudicial view of their actions.

3. Journal or Jot "Field Notes"

Write down what you learn in a notepad or journal, for further reflection and prayer. This will help you to see certain patterns that may reveal common values and beliefs. These insights can become contextual bridges for the reception of the gospel message.

4. Share Your Progress With Your GO Mentor

Finally, share what you are learning (from your journal or field notes) with your GO Mentor for God's glory, your joy, and for prayer.

5. Seek to Contextualize the Gospel Message for that Group

Often you will find that your informants will have questions for YOU to answer. You may be tempted to DUMP the gospel message on people, as soon as possible. But the danger of the “quick sell” approach is that often the message is foreign, unclear, irrelevant, or misinterpreted by the hearers. So it is our hope that you would first come alongside a people group as a humble and respectful learner (Colossians 4:5-6), and consequently as an effective cross-cultural evangelist – to the praise of His glory, in Christ (Ephesians 1:13-14) – always ready to give a reason (apologia) for the hope that is within you (1 Peter 3:15).

Definitions:

Cultural Helper = A person within the target culture whom you regard as your primary teacher about that culture.

Field Notes = Drawings, scribbles, and notable facts/quotes written down (as soon as possible) for further reflection and comparison to other information gathered.

Sample Questions:

The following is just a sampling of topics and questions one might pursue as you come alongside a local people group. Write down your observations and answers from cultural helpers (“field notes”) regarding:

1. Social Structures:
 - A. Environmental structures
 - B. Family living structures
 - C. Social networks
 - D. What groups are trusted, avoided, or derided?
 - E. Compulsory community celebrations? Who’s invited? Who isn’t?
 - F. Economic status and Education levels
 - G. Daily routines

2. Community/Communication:
 - A. Terms used for self-identity? Terms used to identify others, outsiders?
 - B. Common idioms or sayings? “Taboo” terms?
 - C. Common religious beliefs and terminology?
 - D. What constitutes a “good” or a “bad” person?
 - E. Common instruction given to children (“do’s and don’ts”)?

This is only a sample of “Grand tour” questions to get you started. Review your noted observations and information later, looking for significant patterns that might help you see the deeper levels of cultural behavior, such as; common beliefs, values, and worldview. As you seek greater understanding you will discover potential opportunities (and obstacles) in communicating the gospel among this particular people group.

Community Outreach Serving Opportunities



As a part of the Extension Ministries Division at Perimeter Church, Community Outreach seeks to advance the community aspect of the Extension Ministries vision to "reach out beyond the 'walls' of the church in Word and deed to the community, city and world."

We have identified (and are serving in) four major areas of need within our community:

Women & Families, Internationals, Youth at Risk, and Elderly & Disabled. Our passionate prayer is for God to bring transformation, through us, into the lives of individuals and in our community. More information is available at

www.perimeter.org/communityoutreach.



One of the vehicles being used to bring transformation within our community is a movement among churches called Unite! The vision is to unite churches to pray, serve, and celebrate together so that our community sees our good works, experiences transformation, and glorifies our Father who is in heaven (from Matthew 5:16). *Unite!* started in April 2003, and is already making an impact towards building relationships between churches and bringing transformation within our community. More information is available on Unite! at www.UniteUs.org.

Internationals

Apartment Ministries

Many refugee and immigrant families in Atlanta have great need, and often live in local apartment complexes. Therefore, this ministry focuses on “taking the church to the people” and demonstrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ through both Word & deed by developing relationships and meeting real needs among the apartment residents, especially the children. We seek to bring about community transformation by working in partnerships with other ministries and churches.

Good Samaritan Clinic – Gwinnett County

This team is partnering with Good Samaritan Health Clinic (located in downtown Atlanta) for the purposes of establishing a healthcare clinic in our community. It is our desire that as we meet the physical health needs, doors would open to meeting the spiritual health needs. Opportunities to serve: doctors to give of their time and services, administrative help, donations coordinator, healthcare product donations, health screening coordinator, praying with and for the people we serve.

World Relief – Atlanta

Atlanta serves as one of the leading gateway cities to internationals entering the United States as refugees from war and oppression. Partnering with World Relief, Community Outreach seeks to serve the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of refugees in our community. Opportunities to serve: family sponsorship, greet a family at the airport, donate furniture for refugee families, provide transportation, tutoring, host a family to your home for dinner, provide meals, teach ESL, job & life skills, household budgeting, how to drive, how to use kitchen appliances, how to maintain and clean the home, and much more. Time requirements are flexible, and you may serve as an individual, with a group, or a family.

Youth at Risk

Children’s Restoration Network

The mission of CRN is to offer hope and support enabling children and their mothers to break the cycle of homelessness and to address their spiritual, emotional, and physical needs. CRN helps over 80 different shelters provide homeless children and mothers with basic needs. Opportunities to serve: evening tutoring, mentoring, game night help, start a chess club, start a garden, teach skills (cooking, auto repair, gardening, etc.), special events help, facilities maintenance (projects & repairs), and more.

Gwinnett Children’s Shelter

The mission of the Gwinnett Children’s Shelter is to meet or make provision for the needs of children and adolescents who are removed from or cannot continue to live in their home environments. It is our desire to give these children frequent encounters with loving adults who will have a positive impact (socially, emotionally, and spiritually) in their lives. Opportunities to serve: after school tutoring, after school activities, mentoring, facilities maintenance (projects & repairs), painting, landscaping, and more.

Gwinnett Youth Detention Center

The ongoing ministry at Gwinnett Youth Detention Center is a thriving ministry to youth at risk. Our team visits every Monday night from 7pm – 9pm. The kids, at the detention center that we minister to, participate by choice, and eagerly await the opportunity to gain answers to their spiritual questions. This ministry is for young and old, beginners and veteran Christians. It offers the opportunity for God to touch your heart for “the least and the lost,” to observe, encourage, or share your faith. Additional opportunities are forming for Wednesdays and Saturday mornings. Opportunities to serve: join us on Monday nights, lead in worship, pray for the kids, help with our ministry database, help develop our follow-up program.

Public Schools - Northeast Atlanta

One of the greatest needs for the children in our communities today is mentoring. Interestingly enough, public schools are very interested in partnering with individuals, churches and groups who will invest in the lives of the children in their particular schools. Forsyth County Public Schools, for example, are requesting volunteers to give 30 minutes per week to serve as a student mentor. What an incredible opportunity! Another exciting opportunity to serve in public schools is through the new “Released Time” Christian education program. This is a program which allows high school students to leave campus, attend a Christian education class, and receive course credit. Opportunities to serve: at-lunch mentoring, after-school tutoring, participate in (or start) a “Released Time” program, help with school work projects, and more.

Women & Families

A Beacon of Hope

A Beacon of Hope Women’s Center is a non-profit organization that provides counsel and care to women who find themselves unexpectedly pregnant and in need of help regarding their decision. Opportunities to serve: baby showers for new moms, teaching life & job skills training, mentoring, providing meals, transportation, or temporary housing, office support, and more.

Bethany Christian Services

15 Dunwoody Park, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30338

Bethany Christian Services is widely known for their heart for adoption, but additional ministry includes helping people struggling with unplanned pregnancies, infertility, and more. Opportunities to serve: providing meals, transportation, or temporary housing, giving baby showers for new moms, making mother's keepsake boxes, filling children’s foster care bags, mentoring, foster care parenting, and adoption.

Hands of Christ Duluth Cooperative

The purpose of the Hands of Christ Duluth Cooperative is to utilize the resources of the community as a Christian Cooperative to glorify God and demonstrate Christ's love by ministering to the material and spiritual needs of those in crisis. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am – 2pm. Opportunities to serve: sort food, stock shelves, donation intake volunteers, administrative support, organizing neighborhood food drives, family sponsorship during holidays, and help write grant proposals.

Home Repairs Team

The Home Repairs team seeks to build relationships with families in the community and share the love of Christ with them by first satisfying a physical need (home repairs) and then follow God's leading for any other ministry needs to which we can direct them. Opportunities to serve: skilled and un-skilled help, coordinating work projects, making phone calls to line up repair teams, help build relationships with those we're serving during projects. Skilled persons needed in drywall, general carpentry, electrical, plumbing, roofing, lawn care, and HVAC.

House of Hope

House of Hope Transitional Housing Ministry is designed to help women and single mothers in crisis by providing safe housing, financial guidance, basic home skills, parenting training, counseling, child care, job skills training, and Biblical teaching. Opportunities to serve: helping with after school programs, Bible Study (lead or assist), childcare, job & life skills training, mentoring, moving help, furniture donations, making "Welcome Home" baskets, and more.

"Movers & Shakers" Furniture Delivery

This team operates for the purpose of distributing donated furniture and appliances to those in need throughout our community, extending the hand of friendship, and praying for each family that receives donated items. Opportunities to serve: help with pick-up & delivery (once per month), coordinate donations, coordinate deliveries, and serve as warehouse manager.

Norcross Cooperative Ministries

Our purpose is to show and share the love of God by supporting the Norcross Co-op in its assistance to over 10,000 local families who come each year for food, clothing, money, Christmas gifts, and help in finding employment. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am – 2pm, Wednesday evening from 6pm – 8pm, and Saturday from 10am – 12pm. Opportunities to serve: sort food and clothes, stock shelves, donation intake / prayer volunteers, administrative support, organizing neighborhood food drives, family sponsorship during holidays, and help write grant proposals.

Rainbow Village

The mission of Rainbow Village is to provide families in north metro Atlanta in domestic or economic crisis with a healing environment to rebuild their lives through a community based transitional housing program that promotes self-sufficiency. Opportunities to serve: after school tutoring, home repairs, office help, job & life skills training, holiday events, landscaping around homes, providing meals, and more.

Victoria's Friends / Wellspring

This ministry serves as an outreach and support group for women in the sexual entertainment industry, and provides safe refuge for any woman desiring a new beginning in life through surrender to Christ. Opportunities to serve: praying for outreaches to the adult entertainment clubs, participating in outreaches, making "Mary Magdalene" gift baskets for outreaches, mentoring, serving as a temporary home host, job & life skills training, helping to find employment, and more.

Women 4 Women

This ministry seeks to serve one-on-one long term with single women facing unplanned pregnancy in order to help meet their emotional, spiritual and physical need, with full recognition and affirmation of the sanctity of life. Opportunities to serve: administrative support, marketing, job postings, fundraising, legal help, automotive repairs & donations, baby showers, childcare, baby clothing & supply donations, job & life skills training, and mentoring.

Elderly & Disabled

Delmar Gardens Nursing Home

Many residents in nursing homes are without families or friends who care about them. You just can't believe how much it means to the residents when we come in and spend a few hours a month with them. There are lots of different ways that you can easily make a big impact in the life of another person. Opportunities to serve: visitation and fellowship (bring your children, grandchildren or approved pet), Wednesday Bible study (morning or afternoon), Sunday afternoon worship (lead, assist, or participate), use your musical gifts, arts & crafts, develop a senior's prayer team, and more.

Hi Hope Center

Hi Hope Center serves over 130 persons offers housing, personal, social and spiritual support and opportunity for developmentally disabled and handicapped adults so they can live with greater independence. There are lots of opportunities to meet relational needs and be a blessing to the residents and their families. Opportunities to serve: spend time with a disabled adult, help with work projects around the facility, spend a few hours on Saturdays helping to give respite care for families of developmentally disabled children, teach arts & crafts, offer musical talents, and much more.

Ivy Hall Assisted Living

Ivy Hall is located very near Perimeter church. Perimeter conducts a Thursday morning Bible study and welcomes volunteers to participate by being a greeter, song leader, teacher, or caring person who visits with residents at this time. Opportunities to serve: Thursday morning Bible study, monthly visitation with a resident, reading poetry, using your musical talent to entertain on Friday afternoons, giving art lessons, and more.

Peachtree Christian Hospice

Peachtree Christian Hospice is a 12-bed hospice facility that provides a loving place of comfort, rest, and hope to individuals with a life-limiting illness. Their mission is to meet the physical, psychological, psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual needs of the terminally ill. There are a multitude of relational needs and opportunities to be a blessing at Peachtree Christian Hospice. Opportunities to serve: help with floral arrangements, maintain library, book donations, decorate patient rooms during holidays or birthdays, offer musical talents, read poetry, pray for patients, families, and staff, help with Bible study, and more.

Plantation South Assisted Living

There are a multitude of relational needs and opportunities to be a blessing to others at Plantation South Assisted Living. One of the easiest ways to serve is just to go and visit with a resident. Opportunities to serve: visitation and fellowship (bring your children, grandchildren or approved pet), Tuesday morning Bible study or Sunday afternoon worship (lead, assist, or participate), provide musical entertainment, arts & crafts, pampering (nails, hair, make-up), develop a senior's prayer team, provide transportation for errands, and more.

Sunrise Assisted Living

Sunrise Assisted Living is located just down the road from Perimeter church. There are lots of opportunities to make a difference in the life of a senior. Opportunities to serve: Gentlemen's Hour (treating male residents to, coffee, dessert, local "field trips," etc.), Women's Tea Parties, painting nails & hand massages, visitation and fellowship, weekday Bible study, provide transportation for errands, and more.

How to Choose a Mission Agency

There are over 700 Protestant missionary sending agencies in the United States and Canada. They range from huge to tiny, well-established to new, and excellent to not-so-excellent. Most of them have impressive publicity and fine representatives. How can a potential volunteer know which to choose?

As an alternative to setting out fleeces or flipping coins, here is a basic checklist of criteria for choosing an agency.

Statement of Faith

Although most non-denominational agencies are conservative, they are not highly detailed in their doctrinal statements. Because of this you will have little trouble agreeing with them on the basics if your theology is conservative. Further, you may be surprised to find that some denominations with a liberal membership have a missionary force that is quite conservative.

Country

Most missionary candidates have at least some feelings of preference for a certain field or area or type of subculture. But try not to be overly rigid, because many agencies will want to make suggestions about your location. Long experience shows that God often speaks to a candidate through an agency or church.

Partnership

Today, most people recognize that it will take more than one church or one agency to accomplish God's plan to reach the world. Partnership is the name of the game. By working together, whether in teams or partnerships, we can accomplish more than if we each do our own thing. God has called the church to be His primary means of making disciples of every tribe, tongue and nation. How is the agency serving the local church? How do they partner with other local churches and agencies? Does the agency have the attitude of stewardship or ownership?

Track Record

How well is the agency doing? What has been its impact on the field? Has the work grown, especially in the last two years? Even though work is very slow in some countries, an agency should have something to point to.

Size

On the positive side, a small agency has the advantages of a friendly, informal family. A large agency has the fringe benefits of a solid, sophisticated organization. On the negative side, the sloppy methods of some small agencies have helped to keep them small for decades. And the bureaucratic efficiency of some large agencies could give you that lost feeling of being merely a little cog in a big machine.

Importance

How needed is the agency? What would happen to the progress of world evangelization if it disappeared? Just how much is riding on its success? Remember that some of the less dramatic types of work, such as teaching missionary children, may be in the background, but are nonetheless essential.

Goals and Management

Is the agency moving in a clear direction? Do the directors actually help their people? It's difficult to tell from publicity material alone – a dedicated field staff with all eyes on the Lord may stumble and flounder from one huge success to another for years, if supervisory support is erratic.

Type of Work

Does the agency actually need you? If you feel you should get into one particular type of work, make sure that they want people in that line now. If you're more flexible, no problem!

Leadership

Who are the leaders, the guiding lights? How long have they been with the agency? What is their reputation in the church? Don't be bashful about asking people from other agencies about their leadership; you aren't digging up dirt, you're doing your homework wisely.

Organization

Who are/were the key leaders? Are any of them around and available to talk with you? Is the board of directors appointed? Elected? Is the whole show run by one man? Is it run as an oligarchy by one family? Some small agencies are. Are they authoritarian, democratic, or somewhere in between? Is the individual missionary's voice heard in policy discussions? What is their attitude toward women?

Origin

How and when did they get their start, as a natural outgrowth of the ministry of one person or small group? As a splinter from another agency? As a new outreach from an established organization? How have they adapted to meet the challenges of the new millennium?

Training

What qualities and qualifications must you have? Does the agency provide or require special training? A valuable training program should include courses that will help you to learn and research the culture and how to work together with other missionaries and national believers. Language acquisition, personal equipping for cross-cultural transitions and some Bible training should also be included.

Turnover

How many years does the average missionary stay on? And where do they go after they leave – into some other notable work or into thin air?

Personnel Sources

Where do the candidates come from? One denomination? Several countries? The white-collar culture? If you were raised in the Oakland ghetto, you may be broadened by working alongside ex-farmhands from Missouri, but be prepared for a few adjustments.

Finances

What happens if you're in the Upper Amazon Valley and your support drops off one month? Or if you get 100% of your support this month and your co-worker down the river gets only 50%, in your pay checks do you both receive 75% or do you each get what came in specifically for you? Is this agency's financial policy sound? Is it open to the public? Are their contributions solidly behind them with a high per-person support figure? If their overhead expense is greater than a quarter of the total budget, find out why. How much of your personal support will go toward the agency's overhead?

Style

Finally, there is that indefinable business of feel. Are these your kind of people? If not, do you like them anyway? Are you comfortable with them? Talk to the missionaries on furlough. Write to one of their missionaries in your country of interest. Visit the field. It's worth the effort; it's like picking out a new family.

Don't ever let yourself get bogged down in the details of choosing an agency. Remember, if God has called you to the field, then someone is waiting for you. God will show you where you are to serve Him.

Appendix 12

ACTFL Guidelines – Speaking

These are oral proficiency levels developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Novice-Low: Oral production consists of isolated words and perhaps a few high frequency phrases. Essentially no functional communicative ability.

Novice-Mid: Oral production continues to consist of isolated words and learned phrases within very predictable areas of need, although quantity is increased. Vocabulary is sufficient only for handling simple, elementary needs and expressing basic courtesies. Utterances rarely consist of more than two or three words and show frequent long pauses and repetition of interlocutor's words. Speaker may have some difficulty producing even the simplest utterances. Some novice-mid speakers will be understood only with great difficulty.

Novice-high: Able to satisfy partially the requirements of basic communicative exchanges by relying heavily on learned utterances but occasionally expanding these through simple recombinations of their elements. Can ask questions or make statements involving learned material. Shows signs of spontaneity although this falls short of real autonomy of expression. Speech continues to consist of learned utterances rather than of personalized, situationally adapted ones. Vocabulary centers on areas such as basic objects, places, and most common kinship terms. Pronunciation may still be strongly influenced by first language. Errors are frequent and, in spite of repetition, some Novice-High speakers will have difficulty being understood even by sympathetic interlocutors.

Intermediate-Low: Able to handle successfully a limited number of interactive, task-oriented, and social situations. Can ask and answer questions, initiate and respond to simple statements, and maintain face-to-face conversations, although in a highly restricted manner and with much linguistic inaccuracy. Within these limitations, can perform such tasks as introducing self, ordering a meal, asking directions, and making purchases. Vocabulary is adequate to express only the most elementary needs. Strong interference from native language may occur. Misunderstandings frequently arise, but with repetition, the Intermediate-Low speaker can generally be understood by sympathetic interlocutors.

Intermediate-Mid: Able to handle successfully a variety of uncomplicated, basic, and communicative tasks and social situations. Can talk simply about self and family members. Can ask and answer questions and participate in simple conversations on topics beyond the most immediate needs; e.g. personal history and leisure time activities. Utterance length increases slightly, but speech may continue to be characterized by frequent long pauses, since the smooth incorporation of even basic conversational strategies is often hindered as the speaker struggles to create appropriate language forms. Pronunciation may continue to be strongly influenced by first language and fluency may still be strained. Although misunderstandings still arise, the Intermediate-Mid speaker can generally be understood by sympathetic interlocutors.

Intermediate-High: Able to handle successfully most uncomplicated tasks and social situations. Can initiate, sustain, and close a general conversation with a number of strategies appropriate to a range of circumstances and topics, but errors are evident. Limited vocabulary still necessitates hesitation and may bring about slightly unexpected circumlocution. There is emerging evidence of connected discourse, particularly for simple narration and/or description. The Intermediate-High speaker can generally be understood even by interlocutors not accustomed to dealing with speakers at this level, but repetition may still be required.

From LinguaLinks Library Version 2.0, Summer Institute of Linguistics

Self-Assessment Checklist for Speaking

Here's how to use this checklist. You might want to use pencil, so that you can erase your answers and use the checklist again.

1. Read each statement, and for each one circle the number which you feel best expresses how well you think you do when actually using the target language in specific, real-life situations.
2. If you feel that a statement describes something you would never want to do in the language, disregard it.
3. Go back and look at your answers for each level. For example, look at the Novice level tasks. If you have marked yourself as at least adequate for nearly all of the items then you can assume that you have achieved that level of proficiency. If you have marked yourself as adequate for about half of the items, you may be in the upper range of the next lowest level.
4. Record your assessment of your level on the proficiency summary worksheet.

Speaking Tasks – Novice Level

1. I can greet people politely when I see them.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

2. I can thank people for doing something for me.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

3. I can order a cup of coffee or food in a restaurant.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

4. I can count to 100.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

5. I can say good-bye.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

6. I can tell someone my name and where I am from.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

7. I can name 10 or more concrete objects in each of the following areas: furniture, plants, animals, tools, machines, food items.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

8. I know the names for various classes of people, such as men, women, boys, girls, babies.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

9. I know the words for the major color distinctions in the target language.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

10. I can describe the size or age of objects and people, such as a big boat, or a small child.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

Speaking Tasks – Intermediate Level

1. I can introduce myself, giving my name and basic information such as would be given at a first meeting.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

2. I can give someone directions on how to get from one place to another.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

3. I can describe to a doctor or nurse the symptoms of health problems I have.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

4. I can tell about my family, giving their names and simple information about them, such as their occupations or what they look like.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

5. I can arrange to meet someone at a particular time, place, and date in the near future.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

6. I can describe what I usually do on the weekend.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

7. I can request items, discuss prices and handle currency in a situation involving a purchase.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

8. I can ask questions about menu items, order food, and ask for and settle a bill at a restaurant.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

9. I can describe in detail a particular place, such as a school, park, or store.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

10. I can talk about things I like to do, such as leisure activities, favorite hobbies, or pastimes.

1	2	3	4	5	6
not at all	barely	somewhat	adequately	well	extremely well

11. I can talk about things I expect to do in the future, such as a planned trip or activity.

1
not at all

2
barely

3
somewhat

4
adequately

5
well

6
extremely well

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