

abwe®
INTERNATIONAL

A GUIDE FOR THE JOURNEY

Your next steps to cross-cultural ministry

TRAINING **LEADERS**. PLANTING **CHURCHES**.
LAUNCHING **MISSIONS MOVEMENTS**.



“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” (Romans 10:15)

Dear friend,

We're thrilled to help you explore serving in God's global mission. God is delighted too — not because he needs us, but because he is glorified in using ordinary people.

Considering missions can be daunting and confusing. We've designed this short booklet to answer those gnawing questions you probably have — from funding your ministry to discerning a calling.

Our Mobilization team is always here for you. Call or email us any time — we'd love to hear how God is working in you.

In Christ,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Davis'.

Paul Davis
President, ABWE

877.636.5478

mobilization@abwe.org

abwe.org/go

CONTENTS

STEP 1: UNDERSTANDING MISSIONS	3
WHAT IS MISSIONS?	3
WHAT IS A MISSIONARY?	5
STEP 2: UNDERSTAND YOUR CALL	9
STEP 3: CONNECT WITH YOUR CHURCH	12
TALK TO YOUR PASTOR	13
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP	14
SERVE	15
BLOOM WHERE PLANTED	15
STEP 4: ENGAGE ABWE	17
OUR VISION	17
OUR IDENTITY	17
WAYS TO SERVE	18
CONNECT WITH US	19
STEP 5: BECOME A MISSIONARY	20
HOW TO APPLY	20
OUR PREFIELD PROCESS	24
1. Reading	24
2. Education	24
3. Ministry Experience	25
4. Missions Training	26
5. Linguistic Preparation	26
6. Cultural Preparation	26
7. Family Life	27
8. Online Support	27
TRAINING	28
SUMMARY	28
STEP 6: DEPLOYING TO THE FIELD	29
CONCLUSION	30

STEP 1: UNDERSTANDING MISSIONS

“Missions exists because worship doesn’t.” — John Piper

God is a missionary God. He is passionately committed to spreading his glory to all nations. So how should we define “missions?”

First, we must start with what missions is *not*. God commands his people serve the poor and hungry, but social justice is not what we mean by missions. If missions is reduced to providing relief, education, or compassion — if everything is missions — then nothing is missions at all.

Similarly, missions is more than just sharing the gospel. If missions simply meant evangelism, then we could all do that in our hometown without crossing cultures.

WHAT IS MISSIONS?

To define missions, we must begin with the *gospel*, then work out to consider what God is doing in *history*.

The *gospel* is simply the good news of Jesus Christ’s death, resurrection, and reign to save sinners. This was necessary because, although all human cultures have knowledge of God through creation (Romans 1:19-20),

every people group has rejected God (1:21-23) and is born in sin, trapped under God's wrath (Ephesians 2:1-3). Since God's standards of good and evil are written on every heart, all are accountable for their sin — even if they've never heard of Jesus or read the Bible (Romans 2:14-15). All human cultures are equally lost, in need of rescue from an eternity in Hell.

The good news of the gospel is that “God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Christ — the ultimate missionary — left the comforts of heaven, crossed into our world, died in our place, and rose in victory. Now all who repent and trust in Christ are made right with God and given eternal life.

What is God doing in history? At the onset of God's redemptive plan, he promised that through Abraham “all the families of the earth shall be blessed” (Genesis 17:3). Jesus, the promise offspring from Abraham's line, purchased “people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation” on the cross (Revelation 5:9). Right now, God is making a people for himself — bought by Jesus — from among the nations. We call that people the Church.

And in the time between, Christ told his followers, “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21). We are commanded to disciple all the nations (Matthew 28:18-20) until Christ returns. And at

the end of time, God's work will be finished when people from every tribe and language stand worshiping Christ in heaven (Revelation 7:9).

The gospel is the saving message God is using in history to set apart a people for himself in the church of every nationality, language, and ethnicity. Missions, then, is what *takes* the gospel to all the nations. It's the job of the church that's sandwiched between Christ's first coming and his return.

Missions is the task proclaiming the gospel to every people group that has not heard it to establish churches — churches which, in turn, carry on the work of reaching their culture, teaching others, and sending more missionaries out.

WHAT IS A MISSIONARY?

With missions defined, next we ask, "What is a missionary?" And Scripture has a surprising answer.

Some have said that the word "missionary" is not in the Bible — but this isn't quite true. We derive words like missionary and missions from the Latin *missio*, which simply means *sending*. The Greek equivalent is *apostelló*, from which the word Apostle comes. So while there were only twelve Apostles — "sent ones" — commissioned explicitly by Jesus to lay the foundation of the church, in the broader biblical sense, anyone who

is “sent” carrying the gospel message is this same type of missionary ambassador.

We would think, then, that a missionary is simply someone sent to win as many converts as possible. But that isn’t the Apostle Paul’s job description. After spending only a short time traversing parts of the Roman Empire and planting key churches in a handful of towns, Paul remarks that “from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ” (Romans 15:19). How can Paul say that he has “fulfilled” the ministry of the gospel — that his apostolic missionary job is *done* — when millions of lost people remained throughout the Roman world?

It isn’t the missionary’s aim, necessarily, to see every single individual won to faith. This can be startling to consider. Rather, a missionary is one who serves in a culture long enough to see a healthy church form full of converts who are *then capable of evangelizing the rest of their people*. Paul established churches as gospel-beachheads to ensure that the good news would spread. When a biblical church with qualified leaders was in place and ready to own the mission for themselves, Paul’s work was done.

This is vitally significant because in recent years, a grotesquely disproportionate number of missionaries have been sent to minister among people groups who have already been “reached” — where there are already

enough churches and believers established to evangelize the rest. According to the Joshua Project, more than 90% of missionaries serve “reached” people groups.

Meanwhile, the “unreached” — those who have little or no access to the gospel at all, with no churches or believers in their context to share with the — comprise more than 6,000 people groups. That totals about 2.9 billion people who have never heard of Christ. Most of these unreached people groups live in North Africa, the Middle East, Asia, India, and the Pacific Islands, a region of the world known as the 10/40 Window.

Unlike most in the West who could easily hear the gospel through a Christian friend or nearby church, these unreached people generally have no churches to visit, friends to call, or sermons to catch on the radio. Though some heard of a “Jesus,” they have never understood the gospel itself. Thus, they are lost.

Is God calling you to be a Paul-type pioneering missionary, “fulfilling the ministry of the gospel” among people who will otherwise perish without ever hearing about Jesus? Or, perhaps, is God calling you to be a Timothy-type missionary, who comes in after the pioneer to strengthen and build young communities of faith (1 Timothy 1:3, 2 Timothy 2:1-2)? Either way, we pray you recognize that a missionary isn’t just an adventurous, free spirit stirred by some social cause.

A missionary preaches the gospel with the aim of starting churches that can reach people groups among whom Jesus isn't yet known and worshiped.

From this definition, it's clear that not everyone can be a missionary. But everyone *can* have a part in the bigger task — by going, sending, supporting, or mobilizing others. What is your role?

Do you long to devote your life to this task? Do you have the desire to cross cultural boundaries, or help send those who do? If so, God's Spirit may be directing you. We implore you to pray, study God's Word, and obey God wherever he leads. Eternity hangs in the balance for 2.9 billion.

RECOMMENDED READING

- *Let the Nations Be Glad* (John Piper)
- *Theology and Practice of Mission* (Bruce Riley Ashford)
- *When Everything Is Missions* (Denny Spitters & Matthew Ellison)
- *Radical* (David Platt)

STEP 2: UNDERSTAND YOUR CALL

“To know the will of God, we need an open Bible and an open map.” — William Carey

Are you “called” to be a missionary? Discovering God’s will for your life can be daunting. *What if I miss God’s best? What if it’s my comfort zone? What if I can’t hear God speak?* These questions can create anxiety — or avoidance.

God doesn’t want us frozen by fear. While God can certainly give us inner “nudges,” his will doesn’t need to be found — it was never lost! It’s all in his Word:

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105)

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **that the man of God may be complete**, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

*His divine power has granted to us **all things** that pertain to life and godliness... by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises.... (2 Peter 1:3a, 4a)*

God's Word reveals his will: for us to disciple all nations. That's the big picture. To be sure, Scripture doesn't tell us everything. God's plan for the details of our individual lives often secret (Deuteronomy 29:29). But if we simply obey what we know, he will guide us:

The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way. (Psalm 37:23)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

We cannot decipher God's sovereign will for every detail of our future. It is futile to try — God, after all, “frustrates the plans of the peoples” (Psalm 33:10). God *has* revealed his *moral will* — his commands. Within those parameters, we actually have freedom.

Augustine wrote, “Love God and do as you please.” In other words, if we truly love God, we will aim to please him. John MacArthur says this means that living by God's will as it is plainly put forth in Scripture is that we be “saved, Spirit-filled, sanctified, submissive, and suffering” (*Found: God's Will*, 54).

Does that free us to live for ourselves? Hardly. “To whom much was given, of him much will be required” (Luke 12:48). We are accountable to live intentionally, wisely,

and submissively for God's glory, not our own selfish benefit. And if we trust that God's will is sufficiently revealed in Scripture, we will begin to see his missionary heart bleeding through every page — and we will sense that we are all called in some way, whether as goers or senders, to engage that mission.

So as William Carey, missionary to India, stated, “To know the will of God we need an open Bible and an open map.” The question of calling isn't one of waiting to see a flashing neon sign over a world map or feel a “liver-quiver” when someone mentions the right country — it's about assessing your abilities, circumstances, and desires in light of the global need.

But you can't assess these things alone.

RECOMMENDED READING

- *Found: God's Will* (John MacArthur)
- *Decision Making and the Will of God* (Garry Friesen)
- *Just Do Something: A Liberating Approach to Finding God's Will* (Kevin DeYoung)

STEP 3: CONNECT WITH YOUR CHURCH

“Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.” — Acts 13:3

Making decisions in isolation isn't healthy. God's mission is too big to be accomplished alone. He designed the local church community as the sending base for his mission. Note Acts 13:1-3:

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

The Holy Spirit sent the first missionaries when the local church gathered. Just as biblical missions aims to launch churches, it's also the church that is ordained to launch missionaries.

So how can we be sure the church is sending us, and we aren't flying solo in our decision-making?

TALK TO YOUR PASTOR

“In an abundance of counselors there is safety” (Proverbs 11:14). We must seek counsel from trusted influences including your spouse, family, mentors, and friends. But most of all, since we see in Acts 13 that the local church is to commission those who go, any decision about missions should begin with a conversation with your pastor(s). Here are some ways to start the conversation:

1. Explain your current burden and circumstances. If you don't have a deep relationship with your pastors and elders, start one.

2. Ask him to join you in prayer. In Acts 13, the Holy Spirit worked through the prayer of church leaders.

3. Invite honest feedback on your life and ministry. If your marriage is a wreck, your kids are in rebellion, or your ministry is seriously deficient, you may need a spiritual leader watching your life to say you're not ready. There's no shame in staying put where you are.

4. Ask to hear the church's philosophy of mission. Your church may have a strategic focus on one part of the world or type of ministry. Hold your desires open-handedly and seek to submit to the godly direction set by your leaders. Don't just talk; listen.

5. Ask for input on agencies. Your pastors may have certain agencies they prefer or a pipeline in place for those contemplating cross-cultural ministry.

6. Schedule multiple follow-up conversations. Your first conversation may simply be to plant the seed in your pastors' minds about sending you. Continue the conversation over time and see how God directs.

7. Find opportunities to share your heart with your church's staff, elders, or missions committee. Don't limit your conversations to your go-to friend at the church; have the right conversations with the right people or groups, and seek the voices most relevant.

8. Be open to redirection. Your pastor may ask you to wait or consider other ministries in the church. Whether you agree with your pastor's response or not, Scripture commands us both to use discernment and submit to our church's leaders (Hebrews 13:17).

Perhaps you're now thinking, "Well, this all assumes I'm a member of a church and know my pastors." Exactly!

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The New Testament depicts the church as a distinct community — one that can be added to (Acts 2:47), removed from (1 Corinthians 5:4-5), or confronted by (Matthew 18:17). And when Paul calls the church a

“body” in Ephesians 4, he implies that there is real commitment and accountability. From this we deduce that membership isn’t just a formality; it’s a covenant.

If you have not yet officially joined your church, explore your church’s membership process. Commit to God’s people before you ask them to commit to you.

SERVE

Are you involved in your church? Remember that missions is about both exporting the gospel *and* exporting the church. Your history of serving the local church reflects your ability to carry forward the church as God’s vehicle for mission. If you’ve served faithfully, God is already using you — rejoice! If you don’t have a history of faithfully serving the local church, it’s doubtful that will change once you deploy overseas.

BLOOM WHERE PLANTED

Perhaps you’ve heard the “747 principle”—that no one becomes a missionary in midair before they step off a plane and onto the field.

Do you share your faith with friends, neighbors, family, strangers, and people of other cultures? Before being sent in Acts 13, Paul and Barnabas were already involved in evangelism and discipleship activity through the church in Antioch (Acts 11:19-30). Reflect honestly and

use your present ministry activity to assess your future missionary fitness. Consider how God has already used you. Consider your wiring, spiritual gifts, and past experiences.

Finally, perhaps you don't have the kind of relationship with your church that you've been reading about. If so, don't lose heart. God uses imperfect people and imperfect churches. If your church does not send missionaries, pray that your situation will spark a burden for missions and seek to offer solutions rather than giving critiques. If perhaps you feel that your church does not have the marks of a biblical church, do not consider leaving until you've spoken with your pastors, prayed, evaluated the legitimacy of your concerns, and found a better church.

Honor church as the bride Christ bled for (Ephesians 5:25) and trust God to honor your efforts in return.

RECOMMENDED READING

- *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church* – Mark Dever
- *Gaining by Losing* – J.D. Greear

STEP 4: ENGAGE ABWE

You're ready to take a step towards becoming a missionary, but you have plenty of unanswered questions — so we want you to get to know us.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to fulfill the Great Commission by multiplying leaders, church, and missions movements among every people.

We hope as you read this vision statement, you hear the echoes from our earlier biblical definition of missions. Our dream is to see every field where we work go all the way from “unreached” to leading their own church-planting missions movements from churches led by nationals, owning the Great Commission for themselves.

OUR IDENTITY

ABWE (Association of Baptists for World Evangelism) is an independent, unaffiliated missions agency with over 1,000 missionaries serving in over 70 countries. About 500 churches send missionaries through ABWE, and 5,000 churches support ABWE missionaries.

We value evangelism and gospel-centered discipleship, the local church, life-long learning, excellence, teamwork, compassion, and equipping nationals.

Most of all, we are committed to the purity of the gospel and upholding sound doctrine. Our missionaries and sending churches all embrace our statement of faith. See abwe.org/about/our-doctrine.

WAYS TO SERVE

ABWE missionaries serve across the world in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and the Americas. ABWE missionaries raise their financial support from churches and individual donors with coaching from ABWE.

Long-term. For career missionaries, ABWE serves by providing administrative oversight, training, member care, financial and benefit coordination, team building, professional development and strategic leadership.

Short-term. In addition to career missionary service, there are endless opportunities for vocational ministry trips through ABWE's Adult Short-Term program. Whether you are a nurse, educator, computer technician, pastor, engineer, etc., you can be used to the fullest in cross-cultural service as a part of our global missions team. Our short-term program is also a great way to "date" a missionary life before you "marry" it. Short-term opportunities are all posted on our website and frequently updated.

Students. Students can serve trips as individuals, join team trips, experience immersive cross-cultural internships on the field, and receive practical advice on missions through seminars and mentoring. Additionally, if you have a group of students you want to lead on a mission trip, we can help you organize funds, travel, training, and other logistics for taking a team to work beside our workers on the field. We love coming alongside pastors and college faculty to encourage young adults toward missionary work.

CONNECT WITH US

You may have questions this booklet can't answer. We're here to pray with you and help you find a fit. Your journey with ABWE is never impersonal.

Call 877.636.5478 or email mobilization@abwe.org. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram for up-to-date, inspiring missions content.

Our 24-Hour Demo event also offers the chance to spend a full day at our headquarters exploring ways to go. Visit abwe.org/demo.

You can also browse current ministry opportunities by field, duration, or skills on our website.

STEP 5: BECOME A MISSIONARY

Your church stands behind you. You've engaged ABWE and now embrace our vision and statement of faith. Now you want to enlist.

If you are still unsure of how God is leading you long-term, you might consider enlisting with ABWE as an intern or short-term missionary — serving anywhere from a few weeks to two years. This time of apprenticeship could help you make an informed decision before you commit long-term, or it could simply be a valuable season invested in cross-cultural ministry before God leads you to serve elsewhere.

Or, you may be ready to apply as long-term missionary now. Welcome! Whether you begin in long or short term, your application will follow a similar route.

HOW TO APPLY

PHASE 1: APPLICATION

Register at go.abwe.org and begin a long-term/career, mid-term, or short-term application — you can switch at any time.

First you'll share your testimony, experience, education, employment, and local church involvement.

Once we've reviewed your initial form, we'll connect with you and possibly your pastor(s). Our goal is to establish a three-way partnership between you, your sending church, and ABWE.

If approved, you'll be invited to continue, delving deeper into your experience, family, employment, and more. You'll receive email notifications on the status of your application.

PHASE 2: DOCTRINAL INTERVIEW (CAREER)

OR

PHASE 2: FIELD PREP (SHORT-TERM)

Career applicants undergo a 1-2-hour doctrinal interview to ensure they align with our statement of faith and can articulate core Christian beliefs with biblical support. The interview takes place at your church with your pastor(s) present. You may use your Bible, and married couples can work together.

Short-term applicants attend 3-day Field Prep seminar before embarking onto the field to join an existing ABWE team. Our team then walks short-term missionaries through any needed training and linguistic prep, and we continue to mentor you when you're on the field praying about your long-term options.

PHASE 3: NEW MISSIONARY ORIENTATION

Career applicants, upon passing the doctrinal interview, are invited to New Missionary Orientation at our International Headquarters in March or July.

New Missionary Orientation week immerses you into our vision, helps you evaluate your fit with us, and offers in-depth trainings on topics in missionary life including raising financial support or adapting to culture. You'll bond with other new missionaries. ABWE covers lodging and food, so your only responsibility is travel. Our goal is to help confirm God's call in your life and equip you for the pre-field phase of your ministry.

During New Missionary Orientation, you'll meet and be interviewed by our leaders. We conclude with a formal interview with our global leadership team to appoint you as an official ABWE missionary.

At the end of July's New Missionary Orientation, we celebrate all the newly appointed career missionaries — from March and July — in a formal Recognition Service welcoming you into the ABWE family. Your relatives, friends, and pastors are invited to attend this service as you begin your missionary career!

For more information about the orientation week, see abwe.org/resources/events/new-missionary-orientation.

PHASE 4: PREFIELD MINISTRY

On average, new missionaries spend 12-24 months on prefield as they raise the prayer and financial support necessary to go to the mission field and complete crucial ministry training and education. This is an important time of personal preparation and investment in those who are sending you. It is a time to learn to trust God to meet your spiritual, emotional, and material needs as you develop your support base and prepare to relocate.

At ABWE, we use the term “prefield ministry” to refer to this time between missionary appointment and leaving for the field because we truly believe that it is just that — a ministry. Prefield work provides amazing and unique opportunities for missionaries to minister to hundreds of churches and individuals. It is also an opportunity for you to challenge churches with the burden God has given you to reach the nations.

As you share your heart for spreading the gospel, you are able to evangelize, inspire, and challenge people to partner with you in God’s Great Commission — whether that is through financial support, prayer support, or joining you on the mission field.

Your path to the mission field depends a lot on your background and where you’re going to serve. Frequently, we have people who come to us with a heart

for missions but lack the Biblical knowledge or ministry experience that we believe is essential to missions. That's where we come in.

We've created a robust prefield development program to prepare our missionaries with personalized coaching and training before they head to the field. Our goal is to equip you with the knowledge and skills you will need to effectively minister in the place that God has called you to reach.

OUR PREFIELD PROCESS

1. Reading

Once you've become an ABWE missionary, you will begin a dual track of meeting both the fundraising and educational goals that are required to get to the field. All ABWE missionaries are required to complete several reading assignments in addition to required continuing education and training.

2. Education

To provide you with a solid foundation for missionary service, ABWE requires that all our missionaries have taken college or graduate level courses. The following graduate-level courses are available onsite at ABWE's home office in Harrisburg, PA and through distance learning, and they can all be taken for Graduate Academic Credit:

- Methods of Bible Study
- Old Testament Story or Roots of Faith OT
- New Testament Story or Roots of Faith NT
- Basic Missional Theology

Most missionary candidates who come to ABWE have already completed some or all of these required courses, but for those candidates who have not taken these courses, we require that all of these courses be completed before you depart to the mission field.

These courses are available also to members of churches that send and support ABWE missionaries, national partners working with ABWE missionaries, missionaries from other organizations, and anyone seeking basic Bible training.

3. Ministry Experience

ABWE requires missionaries to have some appropriate type of supervised ministry experience.

Don't have the ministry experience necessary for field ministry? Let us work with you to develop customized prefield ministry internships and mentoring opportunities to get the experience you need. Where possible, we try to include your sending church in helping to establish and oversee these supervised ministry experiences.

4. Missions Training

Because we want to help you succeed, we require certain trainings to help prepare you for ministry. This includes a five-day course called Essential Mission Components: Mapping to the End Vision of Missions, which focuses on ABWE's core ministries of cross-cultural evangelism, discipleship, and church planting, and Field Preparation Seminar, which will equip you to transition to the mission field, adjust to living in another culture, and come alongside the existing ABWE field team.

5. Linguistic Preparation

Because of the difficulty of learning a new language, we will evaluate your need for language preparation and will provide basic training to help you start this part of your journey to the field. If more extensive training is needed, we will recommend a language acquisition program.

6. Cultural Preparation

Previously acquired cross-cultural preparation is highly recommended for any mission field, and even required for serving on some fields. We will look at your cross-cultural experience and training, and knowledge of the culture and country where you intend to serve and help you prepare for ministering in your specific ministry context.

Every prefield missionary is required to conduct an online research study regarding the country where you plan to serve. Completing this “Country Specific Research and Eco-Factor Cards” assignment is a prerequisite for attending the Essential Mission Components (EMC) course.

7. Family Life

Our interviews with missionary candidates often reveal a need for counseling. Whether it be in issues in your marriage, financial concerns or parenting struggles, our team of missionary care personnel is here to help you understand and overcome any issues that could derail your ministry and missionary life. ABWE’s Director of Prefield Ministries personally supervises the assignment and completion of these counseling assignments.

8. Online Support

As a way to track your progress in the prefield journey, ABWE gives you access to ABWE Central, an online portal that allows you to report your assignments and provides up-to-date information on your progress, as well as tracks your personal support and financial information.

Additionally, our training leaders, prefield department and executive directors provide valuable accountability

by monitoring your assignments and helping you meet the requirements for field departure.

TRAINING

In addition to the ongoing development process, we also take prefield missionaries through the following trainings at our International Headquarters

- Good Soil (evangelism & discipleship) — at the onset of prefield
- Essential Missions Components (church planting, multiplication, and missions movements) — at or near 50% of your financial support
- Field Prep (cultural acclimation, spiritual warfare, transition, etc.) — at or near 85%

SUMMARY

We've been told that our training program sets us apart as a mission agency and has been invaluable to many people, just like you, who wanted to serve but weren't sure they were ready.

We are excited to see how God uses you as you embark on this incredible journey of becoming a global ambassador for Christ to the nations.

STED 6: DEPLOYING TO THE FIELD

“Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.” — William Carey

You’ve finished your educational and training requirements, built a firm network of support, and now it’s time to go where God has called.

We designed our prefield program to ensure that you are prepared and equipped to effectively reach the people of your mission field, but that’s not where we stop. Once on the field, you’ll integrate with your other ABWE teammates, and we will continue to support, aid, and guide you as you serve as a valued member of the ABWE missionary family.

Never forget that you have a mighty God, a loving church, a faithful support network, and a storied missions family who have your back. We are excited to see how God uses you to reach the nations!

CONCLUSION

We hope this resource has been useful for you as you're mapping out your journey, with God's direction. We want to conclude exactly where we began—with the gospel.

If you are a follower of Christ, you “died” with him and have been raised to a new life under his lordship.

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (Colossians 3:1-3)

In saving us, God calls us to set our minds on the spread of his glory to all nations via the gospel. We each have a role to play, as goers or senders. As you journey on, remember the words penned by C.T. Studd:

*Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

INTERESTED IN TAKING THE NEXT STEP?
LET'S CHAT.

877.636.5478 (ext. 2389)
mobilization@abwe.org
abwe.org/go

abwe
INTERNATIONAL