



# A GUIDE FOR THE JOURNEY

Your next steps to cross-cultural ministry

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



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

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**abwe**  
INTERNATIONAL

*“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 "P. Davis", written over a light-colored background.

Paul Davis  
President, ABWE

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## 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 missions. If missions is reduced to providing relief, education, or compassion—in other words, if everything is missions—then *nothing* is.

Similarly, missions is more than 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 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). Humans in all cultures are equally lost, in need of rescue from an eternity in hell.

The good news 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 promised 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 the blood of Christ—from among the nations. We call that people the *church*.

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 the earth is “full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:9). God’s work in history will be finished when all his people from every tribe and language are worshiping Christ in heaven (Revelation 5:9).

The gospel is the message God is using in history to save and set apart a people for himself in the church from every nationality, language, and ethnicity. Missions, then, is what *carries* this gospel to all the nations. Missions is the job of the church between Christ’s first coming and his return.

So what is missions? **Missions is the task proclaiming the gospel to every people group that has not yet heard it, in order to establish churches**—churches that will carry on mission by reaching their culture, teaching others, and sending 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 that isn’t quite true. We derive words like missionary and missions from the Latin *missio*, which simply means *sending*. The Greek equivalent is *apostellō*, from which the word apostle comes. While there were only 12 or 13 apostles—“sent ones”—originally commissioned by Jesus to lay the foundation of the church, in a broader sense, anyone who is “sent” carrying the gospel message is a similar type of missionary ambassador.

We would think, then, that a missionary is simply sent to win as many converts as possible. But that wasn’t the Apostle Paul’s job description. After spending only a short time traversing the Roman Empire and planting churches in a handful of key towns, Paul says, “[F]rom Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ” (Romans 15:19). How had he “fulfilled” the ministry of the gospel—as in, mission accomplished—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. Rather, a missionary is one who serves in a culture long enough to see a healthy church form, full of converts *capable of evangelizing the rest of their people*. Paul established churches as beachheads to ensure that the gospel would spread. When a healthy church with qualified leaders was planted and ready to own the mission for themselves, Paul’s work was done.

But in recent years, a disproportionate number of missionaries have been sent to minister in places that have already been “reached”—where there are theoretically already enough believers already present 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, with no churches or believers in their context to share with them—comprise about 7,000 people groups. That totals about nearly 4 billion people who have never heard of Christ. Most of these 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 (based on lines of latitude and longitude).

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

God may be drawing you to become a Pauline-type, pioneering missionary, “fulfilling the ministry of the gospel” among people who will otherwise perish without hearing about Jesus. Or perhaps he is leading 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 a noble 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 of the Great Commission—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 billions.

### *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
- *Missions: How the Local Church Goes Global*  
Andy Johnson
- *Radical*  
David Platt

## STEP 2

# UNDERSTANDING 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 plan? What if it’s outside my comfort zone? What if I can’t hear God’s voice?* 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 because *it was never lost*. His complete, entire will is contained 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)*

The Bible reveals God’s will: for us to disciple the 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). But God *has* revealed his *moral will*—his commands. And within those parameters, we actually have freedom to choose what we enjoy.

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 Scriptural will means being “saved, Spirit-filled, sanctified, submissive, and suffering” (*Found: God's Will*, 54). That's it.

Does that free us to live for our own pleasures? 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 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 CONNECTING 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 is unhealthy. 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 identified the first missionaries when the local church gathered. Just as biblical missions begets churches, the church is ordained to beget 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—spouse, family, mentors, and friends. But most of all, since we see in Acts 13 that the church is to commission those who go, any

decision about missions should begin with a conversation with your local pastors and elders. 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 them 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 for those contemplating cross-cultural ministry. Make sure you follow their process.

***6. Schedule multiple follow-up conversations.***

Your first conversation may plant a seed in your pastor's mind about sending. 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. Seek the voices most relevant and authoritative—not just those whom you know will rubber-stamp your ideas.

### *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). Believe that God is directing you through your spiritual authorities.

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 adds members (Acts 2:47), removes members (1 Corinthians 5:4-5), or gathers together to confront (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 modern notion or a mere formality; it's a covenantal obligation.

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 local churches worldwide. Your history of serving the local church reflects on your ability to carry forward the church as God's vehicle for mission. If you've served faithfully, God is already using you—rejoice! But if you don't have a history of faithfully serving the local church, it's doubtful that trajectory 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, alternative church.

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

### *Recommended Reading*

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



## STEP 4

# ENGAGING 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, churches, and missions movements among every people.*

We hope as you read this vision statement, you hear echoes from our biblical definition of missions. Our dream is to see every field we serve go from being “unreached” to leading their own missionary-sending movements from churches led by nationals, embracing the Great Commission themselves.

## OUR IDENTITY

ABWE (Association of Baptists for World Evangelism) International is an independent, unaffiliated missions agency with over 1,000 missionaries serving in 70 countries. Over 400 churches send missionaries through ABWE, and thousands more 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 sound doctrine. Our missionaries and sending churches all embrace the statement of faith found at [abwe.org/our-doctrine](http://abwe.org/our-doctrine).

## PATHWAYS

ABWE missionaries serve across the world in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and the

Americas, aiming to make disciples, plant churches, and train leaders to carry on missions movements. We prioritize relational evangelism through chronological Bible study, utilizing any and every platform to put workers in contact with the lost. ABWE missionaries also raise financial support from churches and individual donors with coaching from ABWE. But missionary service is *not* one-size-fits-all.

ABWE's Pathways allow you to choose the route that's right for you based on duration of service, season of life, financial need, professional skill, or educational level. ABWE serves its missionaries by providing biblical and missiological training, administrative oversight, training, member care, financial planning, benefit coordination, team building, professional development and strategic leadership.

**Long-term (more than 4 years).** The long-term track is for people who have recognized a clear calling to career missions and are sent by their church to serve until the task is complete, engaged in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting on a team in a lead or support role.

**Mid-term (about 1 to 4 years).** Mid-term is designed for people desiring an apprenticeship experience or seeking to complete a limited duration assignment who are serious about missions and may be open to long-term service but may not have determined their long-term calling.

**Short-term (about 2 months to 1 year).** Serving short-term, either as a team or alone, can be a critical component in discerning God's long-term leading. Most ABWE field teams are able to accommodate short-term workers. Our training process is abbreviated and focuses on your mentorship experience on the field with more experienced workers. Short-term is distinct from vision trips (1-2 weeks to visit a field and see if you're a fit), short team trips, or brief volunteer opportunities on the field, which can be coordinated directly with the field team.

**Intern.** Students, recent graduates, or pastoral residents can serve as individuals, join team trips, experience immersive cross-cultural internships on the field, and receive practical advice on missions through seminars and mentoring. For teams, we can help 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 towards missionary work.

**Associate.** An associate missionary with ABWE is a mid- or long-term field team member actively involved with ministry, yet who has the opportunity to get to the field through alternative routes—working a secular job as a “tentmaker,” relying on another funding source, or utilizing retirement income, etc. This flexible option opens the door for non-conventional cross-cultural workers to connect themselves to ABWE’s established, full-time church-planting teams to maximize their impact.

## 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](mailto:mobilization@abwe.org). Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram ([@abwe\\_intl](https://www.instagram.com/abwe_intl)) for up-to-date, inspiring missions content.

Our 24-Hour DEMO also offers the chance to spend a full day at our headquarters exploring your next steps. Visit [abwe.org/demo](https://abwe.org/demo).

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

## STEP 5

# BECOMING 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, consider short-term or mid-term. An apprenticeship-type of experience can help you make an informed decision before you commit for a career, or it could simply be a valuable season invested in cross-cultural ministry before God leads you to serve elsewhere.

Whichever pathway you choose, your process will follow a similar trajectory.

## HOW TO APPLY

### *Phase 1: Identify*

Let's identify if we are a fit for you. Go to [abwe.org/start](https://abwe.org/start) and begin an application. You can switch pathways at any time as needed during the process.

Once you've registered an account and verified your email, you'll be taken to a personalized checklist outlining all the info we need—covering your personal testimony, citizenship, prior experience, sending church information, education, employment, and local church involvement.

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

Through the whole process, you'll receive email notifications on the status of your application.

### *Phase 2: Assess*

After your application is approved, you'll begin working on required readings specific to your field of interest. We'll also walk you through basic security and child safety training, and we may ask you to complete one or more profile tests. If you're serving short-term, you can begin raising funds right away.

Career applicants undergo a 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.

### *Phase 3: Activate*

Long-term, Mid-term, and Associate missionaries attend a week-long New Missionary Orientation (NMO) at our International Headquarters in March, July, or October. Short-term workers complete their orientation online.

NMO 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 pre-field life.

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

Each July, we celebrate all new appointees from the past year in a formal Recognition Service welcoming you into the ABWE family. This Recognition Service kicks off our annual conference. Your relatives, friends, and pastors are invited to attend this service as you begin your missionary career.

For more information about NMO, see [abwe.org/resources/events/new-missionary-orientation](https://abwe.org/resources/events/new-missionary-orientation).

### *Phase 4: Develop*

On average, new long-term missionaries spend 18-20 months in prefield ministry, developing the prayer and financial partnerships necessary to go to the mission field and completing crucial ministry training and education. This is an important time of personal preparation and investment in those who are sending you—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 what other organizations sometimes call “deputation” because we truly believe that it is a *ministry*. Prefield provides unique opportunities to minister to hundreds of churches and individuals. It is also an opportunity for you to challenge churches with God’s heart for the nations.

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

Your prefield journey depends on your background and field of service. Frequently, new missionaries have a heart for missions but lack the biblical knowledge or ministry experience that is essential. That’s where we come in.

## OUR PREFIELD PROCESS

### *1. Reading*

Once you’ve become a career missionary, your training and partnership development processes will run simultaneously. All ABWE missionaries complete reading assignments in addition to required continuing education and training. Mid-term and short-term missionaries also complete readings based on field.

## *2. Education*

To provide you with a solid foundation for missionary service, ABWE requires career missionaries to have at least 12 college or graduate credit hours in Bible and theology. For those who do not have these credits, we offer the following courses onsite at our headquarters in Harrisburg, PA and online for 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

If you've already taken similar courses elsewhere, our training team is able to count those credit hours in place of ABWE's courses. If you're short- or mid-term, you aren't under the same requirements, but it's a good idea to think ahead if you're sensing God leading you into career missions. 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 else seeking basic Bible training. Online courses may also be finished while on the field.

## *3. Ministry Experience*

ABWE requires missionaries to have some ministry experience.

If your ministry experience is limited, we will work with you to develop customized prefield ministry internships and mentoring opportunities as needed. We aim to include your sending church in overseeing these growth experiences.

## *4. 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, typically completed overseas after deployment.

### *5. Cultural Preparation*

Previously acquired cross-cultural preparation is highly recommended for any field, and we'll help assess your current cross-cultural proficiencies and experience. Every prefield missionary conducts an online research study on the country they plan to serve. Completing this assignment is a prerequisite for Essential Mission Components.

### *6. Family Life*

Our interviews with missionary candidates sometimes reveal a need for counseling. Marriage issues, financial concerns, and parenting struggles don't have to keep you from the field. Our Member Care Team exists to help you understand and overcome any issues that could derail your ministry and missionary life, and our prefield director supervises the completion of any recommended counseling.

### *7. Online Support*

To track your prefield progress, our online portal, ABWE Central, allows you to report your assignments and provides up-to-date information on your current status. Central also tracks your personal support and financial information.

Additionally, our training leaders, prefield team and global leaders provide valuable accountability by monitoring your assignments and helping you complete your tasks.



## TRAINING

In addition to the ongoing development process, we also take missionaries through the following trainings on prefield or during their first term:

- Good Soil (two days on evangelism & discipleship)
- Essential Mission Components (five days on church multiplication)
- Field Prep (two weeks on cultural acclimation, personal health and safety, transition, etc.)—at about 85% of your support

Your training will be individualized based upon your previous experience, anticipated ministry, and field of service.

## SUMMARY

Our training and resources set us apart as a mission agency and have 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.

## STEP 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 and built a firm network of support. Now it’s time to go where God has called.

We designed our prefield program to ensure that you are equipped to effectively reach the people of your field, but that’s not where we stop. Once on the field, you’ll integrate with 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. Our goal is to develop you as a long-term leader.

Never forget that you have a loving church, a faithful support network, and a spiritual family that has your back, and a mighty God. We are thrilled to see how he uses you.

## CONCLUSION

We hope this resource has been useful for you as you map out your journey. We want to conclude where we began—with the gospel.

If you are a follower of Christ, recall that 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)  
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