

Sending Church Partnership Agreement

The goal of missions is for all nations to know, worship and enjoy God forever. To accomplish this worthy goal, we must all work together.

In Acts 13:1-3, the local church sent out missionaries. ABWE (Association of Baptist for World Evangelism) and its Global Family of Ministries believe that local churches are God’s essential and central instrument for sending gospel workers. Our role is to partner with the sending church to resource, equip, care for, and lead missionaries who serve under the authority of their sending church, who team with other missionaries, and who partner with national workers and leaders. It is our great joy and privilege to partner with you in this endeavor.

This three-fold partnership between the sending church, the missionary, and ABWE is intended to advance a church-based vision of missions and continue that biblical pattern of ministry.

_____, as the sending church, agrees to:

- Affirm, equip, commission, send, and sustain mature, committed, and called Christians as its missionaries
- Faithfully pray for spiritual power and growth of the missionary in sanctification and ministry effectiveness
- Maintain unity in biblical doctrine and practice with ABWE and their missionary
- Prayerfully and financially assist, encourage, support, and hold their missionary accountable in their ministry
- Work with ABWE to equip, advise, and direct their missionary regarding ministry focus and location
- Delegate field team administration and oversight of their commissioned missionary to ABWE

_____, as the missionary/missionaries, agree(s) to:

- Pursue holiness, humility, and harmony with team members, partners, and supporting churches
- Demonstrate alignment with their sending church and ABWE in doctrine and practice as culturally appropriate
- Serve humbly and live according to ABWE policies and guidelines for gospel ministry
- Communicate regular ministry updates and needs to leadership, prayer, and financial partners
- Consult their sending church and ABWE regarding ministry choices and changes early in the decision process
- Be a life-long learner, engaging in development opportunities recommended by the sending church and ABWE

ABWE, as the agency, agrees to:

- Honor the biblical authority of the sending church as we partner to equip, commission, and send missionaries
- Faithfully serve and pray for the missionary and their sending church as humble facilitators and mentors
- Promote and remain faithful to sound doctrine as outlined by our association’s governing statement of faith
- Accept the roles of employer/supervisor and administrator, providing oversight as entrusted by the sending church
- Provide care, guidance, and services to the missionary consistent with ABWE handbooks and policy manuals
- Encourage life-long learning by resourcing, preparing, and training the appointed missionaries

The signatures below represent a prayerful engagement into this agreement for the advancement of the gospel.

PASTOR/ELDER

MISSIONARY APPLICANT

MISSIONARY APPLICANT

ABWE REPRESENTATIVE

SIGNATURE / DATE

SIGNATURE / DATE

SIGNATURE / DATE

SIGNATURE / DATE