

School of Missions

The purpose of the School of Missions is to train up and equip qualified men and women within the context of the local church for ministry in an cross-cultural context both here at home and overseas. The curriculum for School of Missions is geared toward those who are moving overseas as international missionaries but is beneficial for anyone wanting to grow in their understanding and skill in global missions.

The School of Missions is birthed out of the vision to see the local church at the center of raising up and sending out its own wave of gospel-centered missionaries. The goal of the School of Missions is not to replace or repeat what a seminary or mission organization has to offer but to complement these organizations and to offer additional tools. The hope is to see missionaries go out in teams or join existing teams to multiply disciples and church in international cities around the global.

All those seeking to be sent from Sojourn as missionaries must complete the Development Process which is detailed in the section below. It is advised that you go through this development process within two years before moving to the field. The hope is that you will complete the process and soon after begin your missionary service.

The School of Missions is developed around three key areas:

Developing the person's Head, Heart and Hands:



Head (Knowledge): Knowing the Word of God and how to apply it are essential for all of God's people, but especially those working in a cross-cultural setting. It is also key to have a clear and working knowledge of theology, mission principles and practice, and global awareness.



Heart (Character): Regular involvement and service within the body at Sojourn aids in character refinement and development that will be beneficial overseas. It is also key to begin working through deep-rooted issues that will be a source of struggle on the field. Refining your character is of utmost importance.



Hands (Skills): Whether it is learning a language, driving a manual car, developing international friends, sharing your faith or navigating culture shock; cross-cultural skills must be developed long before you arrive on the field. We also want to encourage local cross-cultural ministry involvement as an essential way to prepare for overseas ministry.

Details and Sample Topics

School of Missions is a 10 month formal development program based in the local church. It has been created to work in conjunction with the life and ministry of the local church. As a stand alone development program, it fails to offer a holistic training apart from what the local church has to offer.

Sample Topics

Biblical Basis of Missions
Missions History
The Missionary Call
Traits of an Effective Missionary
Cross-Cultural Principles & Culture Shock
Life & Ministry in Cities
Business for Mission
Theology of Suffering
Evangelism & Discipleship through Stories (Orality)
Abiding with Christ
What is the Church? (Ecclesiology)
Multiplying Disciples and Churches
Team & Community in Missions
Marriage, Family and Singleness Overseas
Conflict Resolution
Pre-field Ministry
Your First Term Overseas
Healthy Partnerships
Engaging with the Poor & Broken

Book List

Introduction to Global Missions by Pratt, Sills and Walters
The Missionary Call by Sills
A Practical Theology of Mission by Wright
Cross-Cultural Connections by Elmer
Everyday Church by Chester and Timmis
Why Cities Matter by Um and Buzzard
Tentmaking by Lai
To the Golden Shore by Judson
The Insanity of God by Ripken
Total Church by Chester and Timmis
Life Together by Bonhoeffer
Third Culture Kids by Pollock
On Being a Missionary by Hale
Resolving Everyday Conflict by Sande
People Raising by Dillon
When Helping Hurts by Corbett