

Missionary Sending

MID & LONG-TERM



GLOBAL OUTREACH
MCLEAN BIBLE CHURCH

Table of Contents

Global Outreach Mission and Strategy	03
What is an MBC Missionary?	07
Where are MBC Missionaries Sent?	08
How are MBC Missionaries Sent?	09
MBC Missionary Sending	10
Sending Pipeline Phases	11
Self-Assessment Questions	14
Resources	15

Global Outreach Overview

MISSION

At McLean Bible Church (MBC), we glorify God by making disciples and multiplying churches among all nations, beginning in the greater Washington, DC area.

In Global Outreach, we serve McLean Bible Church by equipping and mobilizing church members to make disciples of Jesus Christ and multiply churches among all nations. We are uniquely placed in the Washington, DC area, and take our responsibility to effectively steward our resources for God's kingdom seriously.

STRATEGY

To accomplish our mission, we prepare MBC members for effective Christ-proclaiming opportunities around the world, especially among unreached people and places. We do this in the following ways:

PRAY

We prayerfully depend on God.

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Matthew 9:37-38

Prayer is the foundational work of mission because God is the author of salvation and the head of the church. Through prayer, the church participates in God's work to advance the gospel to the ends of the earth.

“The history of missions is the history of answered prayer.”

Samuel Zwemer

TRAIN & EQUIP

We train and equip MBC members for global disciple-making.

We strive “...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”

Ephesians 4:12

The church is responsible to train its members to be missionaries and every Christ-follower should be equipped to make disciples and multiply churches. Using simple yet thorough training methods, we provide the knowledge, tools, and resources MBC members need for effective disciple-making. Being an active member of a healthy local church is the best missionary training a Christian can receive.

“Church-centered mission is fueled by Christians who understand that the Christian life is a church-centered life.”

MOBILIZE

We mobilize MBC members to actively engage in the spread of God’s Word worldwide.

“So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.”

Acts 19:20

We encourage and provide opportunities for MBC members to respond to spiritual needs around the world. Each ministry, discipleship group, family, and individual has a role to play in making disciples and multiplying churches among all nations. Everyone can pray, give, go, or send others. We help MBC members discern and increase their participation in those four activities so that the gospel advances. We champion mission education and awareness, provide resources to facilitate serving, and motivate MBC members to wrestle with their plans for personal involvement in global disciple-making. We also encourage church members to make disciples of Christ among the diverse people represented here locally.

“I’m not afraid of failure; I’m afraid of succeeding at things that don’t matter.”
William Carey

SEND

We send MBC members to make disciples and multiply churches in cross-cultural contexts.

“How are they to preach unless they are sent?”

Romans 10:15

The local church is the center of sending God’s people to serve internationally. Therefore, we prioritize sending out members from our church family. We connect MBC missionaries to vetted opportunities, among unreached people, in regions where there is little to no access to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

Jim Elliot

PARTNER

We partner with organizations and individuals who are biblically faithful and practically effective in advancing the gospel where it is most needed.

“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 1:3-6

The gospel is advancing around the world! While there are many good Christian ministries, we evaluate partnership opportunities in order to support those that result in long-term access to the gospel. The crown jewel of gospel work is an organized, healthy church of national believers; so, we humbly support local churches to become the center and face of ministry in their communities.

“If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together.”

African Proverb



FOCUS ON THE UNREACHED

We focus our global outreach where there is little to no access to the gospel.

“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!”

Psalms 67:1-3

Forty percent of the world’s population of 7.7 billion people live where there is little to no access to the gospel. We call these people the “unreached.” Only 5% of the world’s Christians and churches exist among them. They will likely be born, live their lives, and then die without ever hearing about our great Savior. Sadly, Western Christians and churches send 95% of their missions funding and worse, 97% of their missionaries, to work among people who already have access to extensive gospel resources. In light of this, we prioritize effective, faithful work that advances the gospel of Jesus Christ, among the unreached, primarily through the establishment and support of healthy local churches.

“If there be anything about which we cannot tolerate lukewarmness,
it is in the matter of sending the gospel to a dying world.”

Charles Spurgeon

What is an MBC missionary?

McLean Bible Church Missionaries are sent out from MBC to cross geographic, cultural, and/or linguistic barriers as part of a missionary team focused on advancing the gospel, making disciples, and multiplying churches, primarily among unreached peoples and places.

MBC missionaries are current, active, MBC members in good standing when sent. They live outside the United States for the spread of the gospel. In addition, they have progressed through a process of evaluation, training, and affirmation by Global Outreach leaders and have been commissioned by McLean Bible Church.

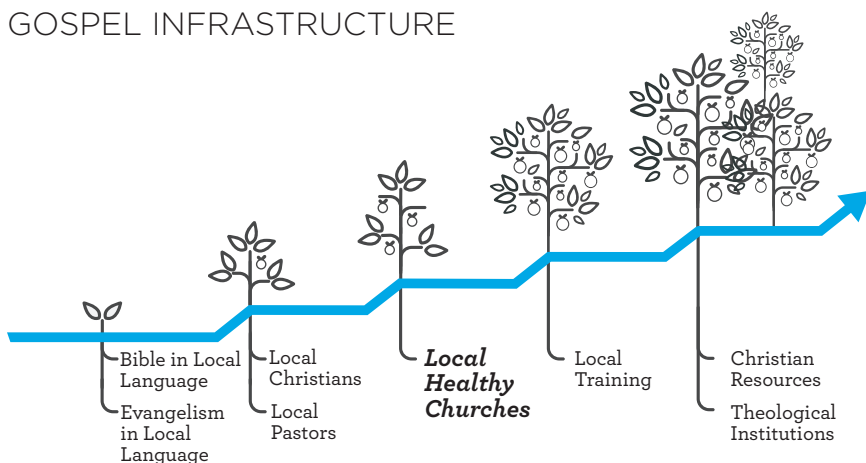
MBC Missionaries are singles, couples, or families, who progress through the MBC and Global Outreach's "Sending Pipeline" to be equipped and commissioned by MBC to serve overseas.



Where are mbc missionaries sent?

As we consider the call “to go and make disciples” in Matthew 28, MBC Missionary efforts focus on creating more gospel access for the unreached through building or improving Christ-proclaiming structures in regions and countries where none exist.

GOSPEL INFRASTRUCTURE



These structures work together to provide long-lasting witness for Jesus Christ. This “Gospel infrastructure”, fueled by the Holy Spirit, supplies ongoing and sustained gospel access to a people group. Gospel infrastructure includes biblical disciple-making communities (churches), Christian literature, pastoral training, theological education institutions, and more. Over 2 billion individuals living today have little to no access to the gospel. MBC missionaries are sent internationally to help establish healthy gospel infrastructure where none currently exists (unreached places), or to help strengthen gospel infrastructure where it’s needed in more reached places.

How are mbc
missionaries sent?

As the world changes due to innovation, new ways to reach the world have emerged. Christians today have a variety of opportunities to serve. They can: pray, give, and go. Some Christians serve through traditional vocational missionary sending avenues. Others find creative ways to serve the unreached using their vocation, relocating for international job postings, study abroad, retirement, and more. We call this a marketplace missionary. Each Christian can play a role in proclaiming Christ to all nations.

ONE
MISSIONARY

ECOSYSTEM OF DISCIPLE MAKERS, WORKING WITH MISSIONARIES AND THE LOCAL CHURCH



VOCATIONAL MISSIONARY

A person who identifies as a missionary and engages in strategic gospel work overseas in a cross-cultural context, full time. Usually, vocational missionaries are sent to do this work by their church or through a traditional missionary agency.

MARKETPLACE MISSIONARY

A person who moves outside of the United States for an international job posting, study abroad, retirement, or more, and who desires to leverage their time abroad in order to engage in strategic gospel work.

MBC trains, equips, and sends both vocational and marketplace missionaries.

Missionary Sending

We believe the local church should be the center of sending, shepherding, and supporting God's people who serve in cross-cultural contexts. Therefore, we prioritize sending people to serve in mid or long-term capacities directly from our church family.

Mid-Term Sending refers to individuals who will spend two months to two years serving in a cross-cultural context.

Long-Term Sending refers to individuals who will serve in a cross-cultural context for 2+ years.

A cross-cultural MBC missionary should be:

- MBC member or in the process of becoming a member (required)
- Affirmed by others in the church as a committed follower of Christ
- Baptized or in the process to be baptized
- Regular weekly attendee at MBC Sunday services for 1+ year(s)
- Regular participant in an MBC group and a regular volunteer in an MBC ministry

For those who complete some or most of the guidelines above, and who feel the Lord leading them to vocational or non-traditional sending avenues, we invite you to begin the process of being “sent out” by MBC through our sending pipeline.

Entering the sending pipeline is most beneficial for those who desire to serve abroad in the next 1-2 years. Progressing through the training and equipping in the sending pipeline should take about 12 months.

Sending Pipeline Phases

Progression through the sending pipeline should take about 12 months. There are three phases in the sending pipeline: Assessment, Development, and Sending. Each phase is detailed below.

SENDING PIPELINE: ASSESSMENT PHASE

Missionary Intake Form

Those who want to explore what it looks like to be sent out by MBC as a missionary should fill out this form. Form is located at mcleanbible.org/globaloutreach or mbcgo.net/mintake.

Self-Assessment

The self-assessment form asks candidate to evaluate and review areas in their life; both spiritual and personal. This should be an honest review of their current and past circumstances.

Pastoral Assessment

Once a candidate submits a self-assessment, a pastor or leader who knows them well assess what was submitted. The assessor then submits a pastoral assessment, based on their review. The assessor's analysis in identifying potential gaps in knowledge or maturity will generate a personalized "Development Plan" for the candidate, which provides specifics tasks to complete in each area where growth is needed.



SENDING PIPELINE: DEVELOPMENT PHASE

Development Plan Delivered

Candidate receives a personalized development plan and begins to work through the tasks assigned. During this phase, they will also be asked to join monthly cohort calls, with others in the development plan phase for mutual encouragement and fellowship.

Church Intensive

Attend the one-day training which studies the central role of church in mission and how that looks in cross-cultural contexts.

Missionary Training Retreat

Attend the Missionary Training Retreat which will equip candidate how to effectively serve cross-culturally. This is offered multiple times a year.

Counseling Completed

To best support and equip future missionaries, all candidates will meet with the MBC Director of Counseling for pre-launch evaluation.

Development Plan Completed

Global Outreach Mobilization leader to check and confirm all tasks are complete before candidate moves on to the next pipeline phase.



SENDING PIPELINE: SENDING PHASE

Placement (Opportunity Match)

Global Outreach Mobilization and Partnership leaders will coordinate with candidate for a need analysis to identify potential places, people, and strategic work and the timeline of candidate's departure overseas.

Tier Assigned

Global Outreach Mobilization Leader to assign the candidate's tier. MBC Missionaries are categorized from tiers 1-4, each with differing levels of expectations/responsibilities (from both the missionary to MBC, and MBC to the missionary).

Agency/Field Team Recruitment

Based on previous opportunity match, Global Outreach Mobilization Leader to work with candidate to select agency or field they will report to/serve under while abroad. Candidate will complete any application/training that agency/field team requires.

Support Team Recruitment

Candidate is required to recruit an inner circle, or a group of friends/family who attend MBC who candidate has a high level of trust with, as well as a Church Group, preferably the Church Group candidate is in community with prior to launch. Both groups will commit to caring for candidate once they are overseas.

Support Raising

If applicable, candidate to communicate to Global Outreach the budget/cost that was provided by their agency/field team. Global Outreach will review and ascribe the support amount based on the tier-category.

Missionary Sending Commitment

Global Outreach Mobilization Leader to fill out a Missionary Sending Commitment for each candidate/unit. The Missionary Sending Commitment is to be signed by both the missionary and MBC-Global Outreach before the candidate departs overseas.

Commissioning

If all is complete, Global Outreach Mobilization leader will recommend the candidate for a public commissioning, prior to departure, where church leaders and church group members will affirm the missionary calling in the candidate's life and pray for them on stage, at the MBC location they attend.

Self-Assessment Questions

Being a cross-cultural missionary is a high calling. This requires self-examination and a plan to develop and grow in Christlikeness, in order to be equipped as an effective servant.

The self-assessment contains three key areas for missionary preparedness:

1. Knowing God, His Word, and His Mission
2. Being Transformed into the Image of Christ (Character)
3. Doing the Work of Ministry and Multiplication (Action + Competency)

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

- How would you describe Scripture? Do you believe every word of Scripture is without error? (Consider also: inspiration, exclusivism, interplay of general/special revelation, etc.)
- Briefly explain the trinity and your understanding of who God is?
- What is your view of sin?
- Describe how you practice your devotional life personally and with your family (if married).
- Describe how you intentionally love and serve your spouse, children and/or friends.
- Describe how you are living in open and transparent community with other believers.
- Describe in specific detail how your ministry skills have been tested in the context of the local church. What has this looked like? How are you growing in these areas?
- Describe your ministry calling. Also describe how it has been tested in the context of the local church. What has this looked like? How are you growing in these areas?
- Describe how you are living the life of a missionary here in your current context. Including: how regularly are you sharing the gospel with people (be specific: daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or less). Are you discipling believers toward maturity?
- Describe how you are interacting with the cultures all around you. Do you have significant experience in international contexts? Are you in relationships with people who are different from you in your current context?

Resources

PEOPLE GROUPS AROUND THE WORLD

joshuaproject.net

MISSION BOOKS

Missions: How the Local Church Goes Global, **Andy Johnson**

Let the Nations Be Glad, **John Piper**

Radical, **David Platt**

Something Needs to Change, **David Platt**

Gaining By Losing, **JD Greear**

From Jerusalem to Irian-Jaya, **Ruth Tucker**

12 Traits of a Healthy Church, **David Platt**

MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHIES

To the Golden Shore: The Life of Adoniram Judson, **Courtney Anderson**

Shadow of the Almighty: The Life and Testament of Jim Elliot, **Elisabeth Elliot**

Evidence Not Seen: A Woman's Miraculous Faith in the Jungles of World War II, **Darlene Diebler Rose**

FOR CHILDREN: Christian Heroes Then & Now Series

CULTURAL RESOURCES

From Foreign to Familiar: A Guide to Understanding Hot and Cold Climate Cultures, **Sarah Lanier**

How to Share the Gospel with Those from Other Worldviews | dare2share.org/training/worldviews

EVANGELISM BOOKS

The Master Plan of Evangelism, **Robert E. Coleman**

Conversion: How God Creates a People, **Michael Lawrence**

THE WORLD'S MOST IN DEMAND PROFESSIONS

michaelpage.com/minisite/most-in-demand-professions

MISSIONARY AGENCIES

- Global Serve International
- Pioneers
- Radius International (training only)
- Reaching and Teaching
- Scatter Global
- Wycliffe
- ABWE International



mcleanbible.org/globaloutreach

Use the email below to connect with Global Outreach staff:

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