

## Short Term Volunteer Missionary Recommended Reading

This is a short list of resources that we have compiled for you. If you have any to recommend, please let us know and we'll take a look at them. As we read more, we will add them as well.

### **When Helping Hurts, How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting The Poor and Yourself.**

[Steve Corbett](#) and [Brian Fikkert](#) Moody Pub 2009

Churches and individual Christians typically have faulty assumptions about the causes of poverty, resulting in the use of strategies that do considerable harm to poor people and themselves. When Helping Hurts provides foundational concepts, clearly articulated general principles and relevant applications. The result is an effective and holistic ministry to the poor, not a truncated gospel. A situation is assessed for whether relief, rehabilitation, or development is the best response to a situation. Efforts are characterized by an "asset based" approach rather than a "needs based" approach. Short term mission efforts are addressed and microenterprise development (MED) is explored.

### **Serving with Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence**

[David A. Livermore](#) Baker Books 2006

More than one million people participate in short-term mission projects outside of North America every year--and millions more are involved in domestic cross-cultural missions right here at home. This is encouraging news. But the work is not done. There are weaknesses in our approach and practice. And these volunteers need resources to help them prepare for effective cross-cultural engagement. Serving with Eyes Wide Open helps Christians understand the changing face of Christianity and how that affects short-term missions. In three parts, author David A. Livermore will take a broad look at what the twenty-first-century church is doing on the mission field, the assumptions people make about Christianity, and what it takes to adapt effectively to new cultural contexts. Perfect for all who engage in short-term mission trips--either at home or abroad--Serving with Eyes Wide Open will equip readers to serve more sensitively.

### **Going Global: A Congregation's Introduction to Mission Beyond our Borders.**

Gary Nelson, Gordon W. King and Terry G. Smith Chalice Press, 2011

The ways to be effective in global missions have changed. The authors believe that content and values must undergird the North American local church's approach to global mission. It is not enough to do something. It is in fact possible to do all of the right things for all of the wrong reasons, with negative results. It is also possible that mission over there can become more about the church at home.

Going Global discusses common principles and practices that inform and energize local churches as they enter the global ministry arena. This book will assist church leadership as they look for resources to help them balance the agenda of short-term versus long-term mission, fund-raising, and the tension between evangelism and compassionate social ministry.

### **Maximum Impact Short-Term Mission: The God-Commanded, Repetitive Deployment of Swift, Temporary, Non-Professional Missionaries**

[Roger Peterson](#) , [Gordon Aeschliman](#) , [R. Wayne Sneed](#) STEM Press 2003

288-page exhaustive perfect-bound paperback featuring the 9-cell planning matrix "MISTM-Grid", non-negotiable process trilogy (pre-field, on-field, post-field), non-negotiable participant trilogy (senders, goers, receivers), ground-breaking, solid STM theology (OT & NT), historical overview of STM using more than 40 case studies of actual churches, agencies, and schools that send STMs, and excellent tables and illustrations to capture summarized snapshots of the critical pieces of Christian short-term missions.

### **Mack & Leeann's Guide to Short-Term Missions (Paperback)**

by [J. Mack Stiles](#) , [Leeann Stiles](#) InterVarsity Press (August 2000)

Today the world is as close as an airplane flight. Thousands take advantage of this, going for short visits to other countries to be more involved in God's worldwide mission. How can we prepare for such a trip? What are the hazards to avoid and opportunities to take advantage of? Here is field-tested advice no one should go without. Mack and Leeann Stiles are veteran leaders of a dozen two-month mission trips all over the globe. Their practical advice, hard-won lessons and hilarious stories will help us know what to expect as we get ready to see God in action in new ways.

This book uncovers keys to establishing partnerships with sending churches, learning from our hosts in the countries we visit, becoming a culturally sensitive person, overcoming the shortcomings of short-term missions, growing a servant spirit, learning to trust God, our hosts and ourselves, facing injustice with realism and compassion, speaking about Jesus in a way that makes sense in a new culture, dealing with reentry culture shock when we get back home

Short mission trips can put feet on our knowledge of God and give us a God-sized picture of the world. In the process of going we will grow, and even though we may feel inadequate or scared, we will also give much to those we go to.

### **The New Global Mission: The Gospel from Everywhere to Everyone**

### **(Christian Doctrine in Global Perspective)**

[Samuel Escobar](#) InterVarsity Press 2003

Christian mission is no longer a matter of missionaries from the West going to the rest of the world. Rather, the growth of Christianity in Latin America, Africa and parts of Asia is eclipsing that of the Western church. In the third millennium of the Christian era, Christian mission is truly global, with missionaries from all places going to all peoples. Veteran missiologist Samuel Escobar presents this introduction to Christian mission today. He explores the new realities of our globalized world and assesses the context of a changing mission field that is simultaneously secular and syncretistic. He also sets forth a thoroughly biblical theology of missions, considering how God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are at work around the world, with implications for how Christians are to go about the task of global mission.

### **Send Me: Your Journey to the Nations**

Steve Hoke and Bill Taylor. World Evangelical Fellowship Missions Committee 1999

Send Me! is a preparatory global mission workbook designed for two kinds of people: those who have a deep desire in their hearts to serve God cross-culturally and those who want to help them. It has been designed to help you work through the process of charting a course from where you are to where God would have you be.

It describes the path to cross-cultural service in 10 steps, with each step presenting a basic explanation of the importance of that phase of the process. Good resource on preparing to serve cross culturally more oriented to the individual rather than to the team dynamic.

### **The Hole In Our Gospel. The Answer That Changed My Life and Might Just Change The World.**

Richard Stearns Thomas Nelson, 2009.

Ten years ago, Rich Stearns came face-to-face with that question as he sat in a mud hut in Rakai, Uganda, listening to the heartbreaking story of an orphaned child. Stearns' journey there took much more than a long flight to Africa. It took answering God's call on his life, a call that tore him out of his corner office at one of America's most prestigious corporations-to walk with the poorest of the poor in our world.

The Hole in Our Gospel is the compelling true story of a corporate CEO who set aside worldly success for something far more significant, and discovered the full power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to change his own life. He uses his journey to demonstrate how the gospel-the whole gospel-was always meant to be a world changing social revolution, a revolution that begins with us.

## **Short-Term Missions: From Mission Tourists to Global Citizens**

[Tim Dearborn](#) InterVarsity Press; Workbook edition 2003

Going on a short-term missions trip can be a life- and faith-transforming experience. It can enrich the way you view the world. It will cause you to rely on God more fully. It is an opportunity to develop deep relationships with your team and the people you serve. A short-term missions experience can also involve weeks of physical and spiritual distress. An unprepared team can wreak havoc on each other and the people they intend to serve. To get the most out of such a mission trip, you need to go prepared. Whether you are going on your own or with a team, the keys to preparation are here in Tim Dearborn's workbook. It includes

- Concise summary of cross cultural principles
- Help in facing spiritual warfare
- Tips on avoiding a tourist mentality
- Spiritual preparation through individual or group Bible study
- 8-week course for teams to do together

You'll get a biblical perspective on the world, gain cross cultural understanding and even prepare for reentry when you return. If you are planning to go on a short-term mission trip, don't leave home without working through this book!

## **Foreign to Familiar: A Guide to Understanding Hot - And Cold - Climate Cultures**

[Sarah A. Lanier](#) McDougal Publishing Company

Author Sarah Lanier explains how cultures around the world can fit into two basic categories and how these categories differ. Whether you are a cross-cultural worker or simply live in a cross-cultural neighborhood, you'll find this book to be a valuable resource for understanding and relating to others from a different "climate".

Read about relationship versus task orientation, direct versus indirect communication, individualism versus group identity, inclusion versus privacy, different concepts of time and planning

This book is also available in Spanish.

## **Re-Entry: Making the Transition from Missions to Life at Home (Paperback)**

by [Peter Jordan](#) YWAM Publishing (December 1992)

Essential teaching for every short- and long-term outreach participant & every church and mission agency that sends them. Peter Jordan's vital, insightful teaching on the challenges and opportunities that await returning missionaries makes this essential reading for everyone involved in missions. A missions "must-read"!

*"Having counseled with hundreds of returning missionaries, Peter & Donna know from experience the re-entry challenges and opportunities that await missionaries worldwide. They have much to say on this vital subject of re-entry... and the authority to say it."* - Loren Cunningham, Founder and President, Youth With a Mission

## **Getting Sent: A Relational Approach to Support Raising (Paperback)**

by [Pete Sommer](#) InterVarsity Press

Most of us would rather have a root canal than ask for money. Raising support is one of the most difficult challenges facing Christians in ministry. Fears of rejection, concerns about biblical validity, feelings of not being deserving, anxiety about limited resources can all block us from obtaining the means to fulfill our calling. This book both affirms that God uses the Christian community to send us into ministry and demystifies the process. This down-to-earth handbook offers a clear, biblical perspective gives step-by-step instructions on how to assemble the tools unique to each person's support-raising task, helps you know what range of gift to ask of a potential donor, outlines the how-tos of holding a home promotional event, tells the four predictors of church support, is aware of the diverse ethnic contexts of today's new mission candidates, includes a chapter by a woman for women on their unique challenges in support raising, shows how to build a base in a strong church when you don't have one, explains exactly why people do and don't give,

The relational strategy in this book has proven valuable for those who serve Christ on campus, in the city or in other special ministries at home or abroad. It is not necessarily the quickest approach to raising money, but it is the most lasting and fulfilling for those who give and receive.

## **Bless God and Take Courage: The Judson History And Legacy**

[Rosalie Hall Hunt](#) Judson Press 2005

Adventure, love, war, passion, tragedy, and triumph—this was life for America's first missionaries. Rosalie Hall Hunt has provided a well-researched, thorough, and scholarly account of Adoniram, of the three women—Ann, Sarah, and Emily—who served as his partners in life and mission, of the Judson descendants, and of the lasting impact of the Judson ministry. An engaging and in-depth tale of the people whose vocation led to the birth of American missions, Bless God and Take Courage documents the life and legacy of the Judson's with never-before-published discoveries and details, including: Newly unearthed correspondence between Adoniram and his third wife, Emily, events from the first trip to Burma, more details on Adoniram's imprisonment at Let Ma Yoon, the aftermaths of the Judsons' deaths, the continuing impact of the Judson ministry among modern-day Burmese Christians

## **Stepping Out: A Guide To Short-Term Missions.**

Tim Gibson et. al. Seattle: YWAM Publishing, 1992.

A guide, a resource book, a discussion starter - this book is all three and more. By focusing on the reasons, tactics for getting others involved in support, preparation, and the realities of short-term missions trip, the contributors give freely from the wealth of their experiences. Whether you are undecided, have already made a commitment to go, are in the field already or have completed the trip and are wondering what's next, Stepping Out covers much ground in a succinct and easily readable format. Also included, and placed strategically throughout the book, are Checkpoints, which are provided to help evaluate and quantify your position on certain issues, thus fine tuning your interaction with your chosen mission field.

## **The Next Christendom**

Philip Jenkins- Oxford: Oxford UP, 2002

From Amazon: The explosive southward expansion of Christianity in Africa, Asia, and Latin American has barely registered on Western consciousness. Nor has the globalization of Christianity--and the enormous religious, political, and social consequences it portends--been properly understood. Philip Jenkins' The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity is the first book to take the full measure of the changing face of the Christian faith. Jenkins asserts that by the year 2050 only one Christian in five will be a non-Latino white person and that the center of gravity of the Christian world will have shifted firmly to the Southern hemisphere. Within a few decades Kinshasa, Buenos Aires, Addis Ababa, and Manila will replace Rome, Athens, Paris, London, and New York as the focal points of the Church. Moreover, Jenkins shows that the churches that have grown most rapidly in the global south are far more traditional, morally conservative, evangelical, and apocalyptic than their northern counterparts. Mysticism, Puritanism, belief in prophecy, faith-healing, exorcism, and dream-visions--concepts which more liberal western churches have traded in for progressive political and social concerns--are basic to the newer churches in the south. And the effects of such beliefs on global politics, Jenkins argues, will be enormous, as religious identification begins to take precedence over allegiance to secular nation-states. Indeed, as Christianity grows in regions where Islam is also expected to increase--as recent conflicts in Indonesia, Nigeria, and the Philippines reveal--we may see a return to the religious wars of the past, fought out with renewed intensity and high-tech weapons far surpassing the swords and spears of the middle-ages. Jenkins shows that Christianity is on the rise again, and to understand what that rise may mean requires a new awareness of what is happening in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

## **Operation World**

Patrick Johnstone and Jason Mmadryk, <http://www.operationworld.org/resources/index.html>

You can play a vital role in proclaiming the Good News by praying daily for the world. With Operation World as your guide, you can pray intelligently for any country in the world. You will learn vital information about each country that will help you pray specifically for its needs. Operation World is the most widely used reference book for missions in the world. It has been used by missionaries and missions executives for years. Features include: - up-to-date statistics on the Eastern Bloc countries - prayer calendar enabling you to pray for the entire world in one year - detailed maps and graphs -- Operation World is your personal guide to praying for the world.

## **Discovering Missions (Paperback)**

Charles R. Gailey and Howard Culbertson Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, 2007

From Amazon: Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded to you. --Matthew 28:19-20 NIV

The study and practice of missiology is important to the Church today. Christ's commandment to go into all the world and tell others of God's love for them is central to every Christian's responsibility and purpose.

Discovering Missions is a foundational textbook that examines the importance of missionary work overseas as well as within one's community. With perception and relevancy, it supplies understanding and awareness for important terms and practices related to mission work and strengthen one's calling to serve others and teach them about Christ. Objectives, sidebars, key-word lists, and discussion questions are included in each chapter to enrich the reader's study and comprehension.

Discovering Missions offers capable, qualified teaching on the study of missions and is a valuable tool for seminaries and universities as well as pastors and laypeople seeking to increase their comprehension of missiology and its impact on the Church and the world today.