

*A*  
**Missions Toolkit**  
*for*  
**Local Churches**

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**A missions manual  
for independent Baptist Churches  
serious about global outreach**

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**By**  
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**Baptist Mid-Missions • Cleveland, Ohio**

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## **A Missions Toolkit for Churches**

By William H. Smallman, D. Miss.,  
(and others of Baptist Mid-Missions)  
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A Word from the President of Baptist Mid-Missions  
**Gary L. Anderson, D.D.**

The New Testament church was a missionary organization, founded and led by missionaries with missions as its primary purpose. Treating missions as a discretionary element of the church, an addendum which can wait until we have secured those matters considered essential such as staff, buildings and programs, is a departure from God's design. Rendering to missions a lesser place of importance within the church in no small part explains why with unprecedented opportunities and unrivaled resources with which to reach our world for Christ we cannot claim we are doing a better job than any generation before us. A Missions Toolkit was compiled with the prayer that God would use it to inspire and equip churches to do more to populate that yet future gathering of the redeemed from every kindred, tongue, nation and tribe. God help us to live and serve in a manner that fully embraces that proud privilege.

Gary L. Anderson, president  
Baptist Mid-Missions

## Foreword

Missions is serious business. The Lord of the Harvest has raised up churches around the world that seek to perpetuate the ministry of the gospel by multiplying churches that will multiply themselves. Churches have struggled to fulfill their mandate by all legitimate means at their disposal, and have combined efforts by establishing mission agencies for the specialized work at hand. This does not undermine the involvement or authority of the local church. The mission agencies facilitate the engagement of pastors and church members in the partnership of Great Commission efforts.

Let's define the focal points of this particular book:

- We look at missions from the vantage point of the local church, whether a sending or supporting church. What can its members do to enhance the quality of their global missionary involvement?
- We look at missions for independent Baptist churches in traditional fundamentalist orbit. In today's journalistic jargon the word "fundamentalist" suggests fanaticism and exclusivism, while we continue to use the honorable term in its original (1920) sense of defining and defending the fundamentals of traditional orthodox Christianity in a socio-religious environment which has turned hostile toward such a stand.
- We look for practical solutions to the "how?" questions, more than to theoretical bases for the "why?" questions. Both are valid approaches, but this work is designed more as a how-to manual for church missions committees than as a theological tome for the missiologists who already have libraries of worthy (and unworthy) works to chew on.

Keep in mind the purpose for the missionary program at your church: to reproduce the biblical convictions of this church around the world with appropriate cultural variety. Missions is the DNA of the church as it reproduces its essential features by various means. So the very selection of what missionaries to support involves a decision as to just who and what you are as a church, since your missionaries represent the convictions that you want to perpetuate around the world. *(continued next page)*

This book emerges from years of ministry in churches, dealing with issues that arise in the real world of missions in and from the church. It also comes from the seminary classroom for the training of pastors seeking strong missions programs, rather than training the missionaries themselves. The primary author has been a church planting pastor, field missionary doing church planting and seminary training, a mission administrator, and adjunct instructor in Missiology. The many others consulted for enriching chapters in their areas of expertise have mostly also been field missionaries, several with pastoral experience in the States as well as overseas. Thanks go to Glenn Kerr of Bibles International, Steve Fulks in Enlistment and Church Relations, and Larry Beckman of the Baptist World Relief program for their significant contributions to the chapters on their ministry areas within Baptist Mid-Missions. Many others have reviewed and clarified chapters in their realms of responsibility, so this is truly a shared effort as the mission offers this resource to pastors and missions committees in churches we serve.

This is a great adventure. Our primary objective is to expand the territory where Jesus Christ is exalted as LORD and Savior. That begins at home by deepening the quality of Christian character and witness among church members, increases through the support of missionaries, and reaches its highest realization as God calls members of your church to serve at the uttermost parts of the earth.

So this simple Toolbox is offered to facilitate that process: Glorify Christ as churches multiply themselves around the world. Let us know how we can improve the Toolbox for you in future editions. Write to us at [LIFT@BMM.org](mailto:LIFT@BMM.org) with your input, critiques, suggestions, and case studies.

Rev. William H. Smallman, D.Miss.  
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