

NOT ASHAMED
SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2022 OF CHRIST

5. Financial burdens. Cost of living constantly rising while support stays the same in a best case scenario

- A. Be sensitive to the economic challenges of living internationally
- B. Plan for occasional unannounced offerings or asking to help with a special project
- C. Evaluate adjusting your support levels according to needs
- D. Offer to pay for a financial class for missionaries who are struggling to be good stewards - could be they have never been taught, or didn't learn it well the first time

Conclusion: _____

Title: 5 Challenges Of Missionaries And How Your Church Can Help

Speaker: Adam Fridenstine

“For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.” (Nehemiah 6:9)

“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.” (Ephesians 4:29)

“But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:10-19)

Introduction: _____

1. Cultural adjustments, slow moving lifestyle, and legal challenges

- A. Pray hard
 - B. Be patient
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2. Expectations from ministries in the States

- A. Don't have a different standard for them than you would have for yourself
 - B. Remember that missionaries aren't going to be able to please each pastor, be the one that is easy to get along with
 - C. Visit the missionary on his field
 - D. Communicate with the missionaries about happenings on the home front
 - E. Remember that we are co-laborers, not competition
 - F. Don't push your missionaries to produce "numbers"
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3. Balance, ministry in various ministries as well as the need to communicate and travel to visit the US churches

- A. Be patient
 - B. Initiate communication with the missionary, even when you aren't requiring something else from him
 - C. Try to be flexible in how to receive updates from the missionaries
 - D. Ask direct and love-loaded questions about the missionary and his family, marriage, health etc.
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4. Discouragement and emotional needs

- A. Try to be the support team for your missionaries
- B. Have your church members "adopt" a missionary family
- C. Be sensitive to the "Elisha syndrome" in missionaries, help them know they are not alone
- D. Take 30 minutes a week and reach out to different missionaries for a no pressure video call or phone call and just ask real questions about their lives and ask how to pray for them
- E. Check in with them. What is going as planned? What is not going as planned? Ask how to help