



Do you qualify for missionary service?

Are you spiritually compelled?

In revealing his motive, one missionary, the apostle Paul, wrote, “Woe is me if I preach not the gospel.” God needs people who are compelled! Your calling must be unselfish, based upon your obedience to God and the desire to see others saved. Unless you are actively serving the Lord now and witness to those across the street, you should not plan to undertake it for those across the world.

1. Do I have a compelling burden to lead the lost to Christ?
2. Do I have a call from God to be a missionary?
3. Am I willing to go no matter what the cost?
4. Am I aware that Christian work on the foreign field may be as discouraging, or more so, than the work at home?
5. Am I called of God to go or merely influenced by the calling of my companion?
6. Would I prefer being in any other field of service?
7. Do I believe that mankind can only be redeemed through the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ?
8. Do I discipline myself to make time for personal bible study?
9. As the head of my household, do I have family altar daily?

Are you emotionally stable?

If you are not stable emotionally you may break down, or cause the breakdown of others with whom you work. You do not have to be a nervous wreck to drive your companions to distraction. Someone has said, “Some people give ulcers others get them.” It is a hindrance to the cause of Christ to be problematic on the mission field.

1. Do I control my emotions?
2. Are the majority of my decisions regulated by emotion?
3. Do I assume responsibilities without worry or fret?
4. Am I a good loser? Do I have an understanding heart when others lose and I win?
5. Do I have a true sense of humor? Do I ever use it to “poke fun” at others?

6. Can I ungrudgingly take advice from others? Do I profit by it?
7. Do I merely “get along” with others or do I make every effort to help them?

Are you physically sound?

The missionaries need more physical stamina than many people in other work because of the unusual demands put upon them by location: The incessant heat of the tropics, the piercing cold of the humid winters, the devitalizing effect of the hot, sticky summers, the strange food, the diseases to which they have not become immune; all of these take their toll.

1. Have I recently had a complete physical checkup?
2. Do I have good health? If not do I enjoy my aches and pains? Do I feel that I must tell everyone I meet how sick I am?
3. Do I have good posture? If not, why not?
4. Do I have an acceptable appearance? Do I use this for his glory?

Are you intellectually alert?

The missionary’s mind must be alert since he will often minister to highly educated people as well as to the illiterates. Missionaries must not be satisfied with low grades (and this includes language study.) If a person is intellectually curious, if his mind is everlastingly reaching out for the truth, his grades will be satisfactory. If you will discipline yourself to read and meditate upon the precious word of God for one hour each day you will see a difference in your grades in any course. The purpose is to sharpen your mind, clear it from all outside clutter, and give full and complete attention to whatever you are studying. Try it; you will see a marked improvement!

1. Do I do my best?
2. Do I consider new ideas? Do I profit by them?
3. Do I finish what I start? Am I as careful the last day of the project as the first?
4. Do I meet deadlines satisfactorily? Do I have practical initiative?
5. Do I present my point of view with clarity, or do I beat around the bush?
6. Do I discipline myself to make time for reading?
7. Do I read informative books and articles concerning the field to which I am called?

Are you socially sensitive?

The world is full of tensions: racial, economic, political, religious. An applicant for missionary service must be sensitive and impressionable to these conflicts. Christian service is disqualified by an attitude of racial or national or intellectual superiority.

1. Am I able to recognize my prejudices? Am I willing to ask God to remove them?
2. Do I have friends in different racial and economic groups?
3. Would I be willing to work under someone of a different race or color? Can you honor him gladly or would you be condescending, believing that when Paul said I can do all things that he actually did not believe that the nationals were as competent? The remainder of the verse through Christ, which strengtheneth me, removes all personal arrogance. Do I realize that I am nothing? I am what I am by the grace of God!
4. Do I judge by the label, or do I wait for facts?
5. When I criticize other religions am I repeating what I read in some prejudiced article, heard from someone I thought should know, or do I look into it myself and give constructive criticism because I know the facts?
6. Are you of the opinion that your methods are best simply because they are methods of your homeland?
7. Are you willing for you and your family to accept a much lower standard of living for the sake of not placing obstacles in the way of the gospel?

Are you spiritually informed?

The missionary must know his own faith: its book, its history, and its founder. He must know the religions of the people among whom he plans to serve. The fact that you are going as a missionary does not necessarily mean that you understand the spirit of the New Testament.

1. Is my salvation real? Am I, really born-again?
2. Do I read my Bible consistently?
3. Do I know what I believe and why I believe it? Are my convictions Bible-based?
4. Am I a student of church history?
5. Do I stimulate my thinking by reading contemporary religious books?
6. Do I have an active vibrant prayer life? Do I seek opportunities for Christian service?

Your score was not perfect? Of course not! But if you are striving toward a high goal and if you know that God has called you to be a missionary, do not give up! The test of your missionary call will be evidenced by what it takes to stop you!