



## Ideas for Missionary Care Packages

Care packages will differ depending on who they are for and where they are going. Many US missionaries are longing for a taste of "home" that they are unable to get overseas. When thinking about preparing packages for your missionaries, ask: Is there anything from the US they may want that they can't get in the country they're serving? Do they have children? What are their ages? Are there any birthdays, anniversaries, or special occasions coming up that would be fun to celebrate with a care package?

The best piece of advice is "ask before sending, don't guess." You want your missionary to enjoy the package they receive. Missionary life can often be lonely. Care packages provide a tangible way to say, "We haven't forgotten you or the work you are doing. We see this as part of our partnership in the Gospel."

### Basic List

- Gum
- Cookies
- Cheetos
- Beef jerky
- Spices and seasonings
  - Taco seasoning
  - Fajita seasoning
  - Chili mix
- Gift cards (iTunes, Amazon, Kindle, or anything that can be redeemed online)
- Christian books
- American magazines (Good Housekeeping, Sports Illustrated, etc.)
- Unlocked smart phones
- American movies/TV shows
- Protein bars
- Powdered Gatorade
- Ro-Tel
- VELVEETA® Cheese
- Gummy Bears
- Fruit roll ups
- "Jiffy" cornbread mix
- Hand soaps and lotions
- American candy
- Pickles
- Peanut butter
- Toys
- School supplies
- Baking mixes
- Pepperoni
- Bacon bits
- Nuts and seeds

### Packaging Details

When filling out the customs form, be CERTAIN to check the box that indicates this is a "Gift" (not merchandise for resale). It's important to find out what the allowable weight of a package coming into a country might be to avoid added tax. The smaller boxes that the postman can carry on his bicycle do not require added tax and generally pass customs. Well meaning churches have caused a budget setback for the missionary simply because it cost too much to "receive" the package. **Before sending, be sure and ask your missionary about specific packaging instructions, such as, how to write the address and how to fill out the customs form to avoid paying tax on a gift.**