

Activities that Build Teams

Global Missions Conference

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Brian Gibbs

Director of Training
Continent of Great Cities

I. Theological Basis for Teams

Dr. Sonny Guild, Director for the Halbert Institute of Missions at Abilene Christian University, will begin the class by providing a theological basis for the class – Colossians 3:12-15

II. Building the Team

- A. Residency period with the Sponsoring Church
 - 1. We strongly recommend a period of residency with the sponsoring church before the missionary goes to the field.
 - 2. The duration can vary, but a minimum of four months is recommended. Normally it would be from four to six months.
 - 3. Ten Primary Objectives of the Period of Residency with the Sponsoring Congregation – SEE HANDOUT
- B. Sponsoring Church Workshops
 - 1. Purpose – To provide a forum in which sponsoring churches can remain informed about what is happening on the field and can discuss joint decisions or actions that will benefit the work on the field.
 - (a) Need to send a professional mental health professional to work with team
 - (b) Purchase property or some other large one-time expense

NOTE – The Sponsoring Church Workshop does not make decisions for the individual congregations. Recommendations are made, but each congregation decides whether or not it will participate.
 - 2. Hold the first workshop shortly before the team leaves for the field.
 - 3. With the exception of the second workshop, always have a representative of the team present at the workshop.
 - 4. Move workshop around from one sponsoring church to another.
 - 5. Those present should be elders, missions committee members, staff (especially the preacher) and any other interested church members.
 - 6. Invite the mission team's family and friends to attend as well.
 - 7. The majority of the agenda should be set by the mission team.
- C. Dr. Sonny Guild will talk about further team building exercises

III. On-field Team Building

- A. Dr. Sonny Guild will talk about building the team on the field.
- B. How sponsoring churches can participate in building the mission church and the spiritual life of the national Christians
 - 1. Consider the growing church as a sister church.
 - 2. Foster relationships leaders to leaders, ministers to ministers, Bible class teachers to Bible class teachers, etc.
 - (a) Send elders and their wives to mentor national leaders.
 - (b) As national ministers emerge, send staff members to share their particular expertise with those who minister in those areas.
 - (c) Send your best Bible class teachers to train Bible class teachers – Have the missionaries orient them as to the realities within which national teachers must teach.
 - 3. Be willing to invest in sending nationals to receive appropriate training in-country – (Always do this in consultation with the missionary.)
 - (a) ENOC and ENOCA are two annual gatherings for fellowship and for training Brazilian church leaders and their wives.

- (b) Estudo Intensivo is a modular leadership training program that rotates among various key churches in Brazil.
- 4. Send short-term groups
 - (a) Campaign or work groups
 - (b) Let's Start Talking groups
 - (c) Send family groups when possible