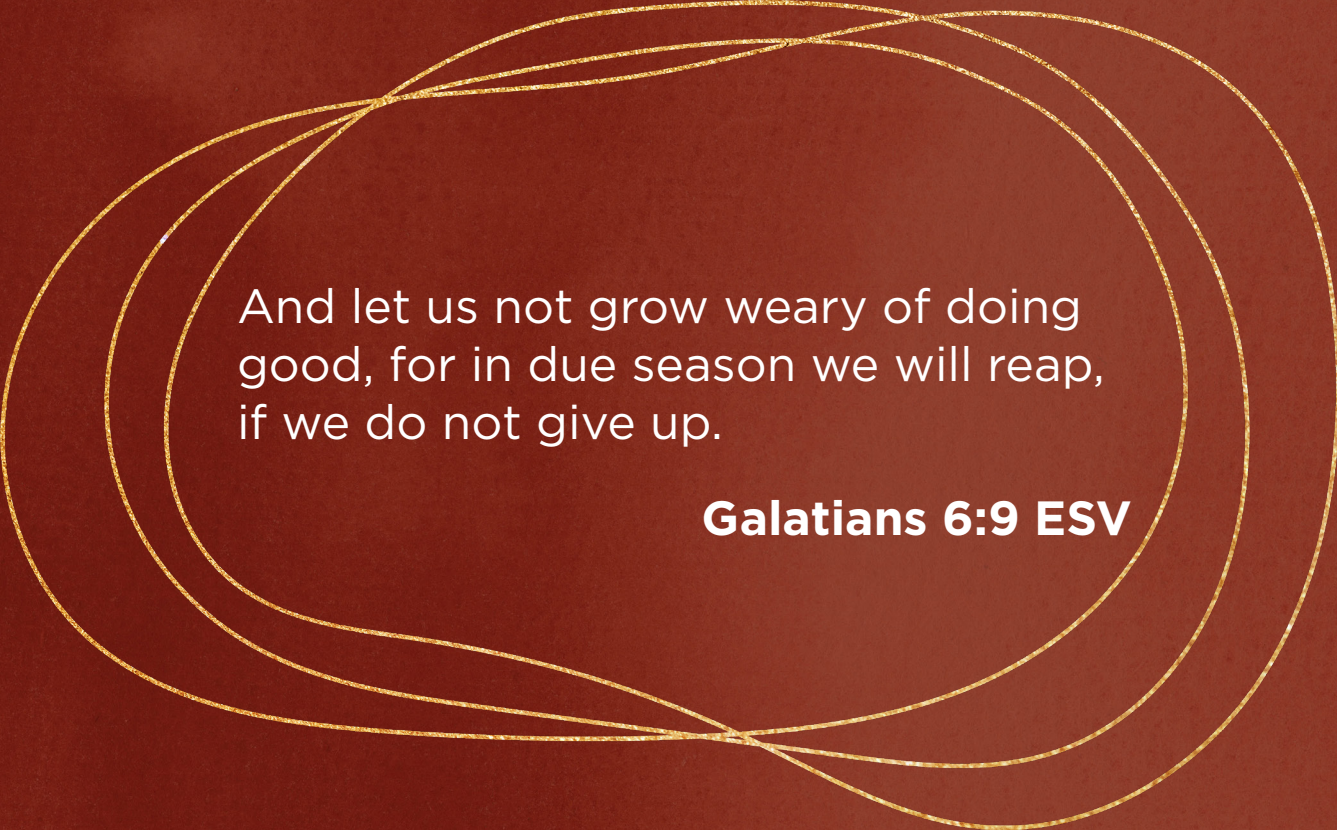


Engaging The World For Gospel Impact

A Guide to Getting Your
Congregation Excited About
Missions





And let us not grow weary of doing
good, for in due season we will reap,
if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9 ESV



Thank you

Thank you for attending **How To Get Your Congregation Excited About Missions**. Thank you for your personal passion and energy to engage your congregation in the fulfillment of the Great Commission! Every local church is invited into the world-changing enterprise of missions! Thank you for leading your church into the multi-faceted work of outreach – from here to everywhere! Don't give up – God's best is yet to come!

The following is a guide from the workshop. Later, we'll send you a link to review the workshop. Feel free to connect with us for further questions or even to ask for prayer as you seek to inspire your congregation to embrace outreach and missions. We can make Gospel Impact together. Every video, social media post, email, event, flyer, and relationship brings a person closer to embracing God's clear call to reaching the world with the Good News - the billions who don't know Jesus. We're praying for you!

Rich Peterson (r.peterson@worldventure.com)

Nikole Hahn (n.hahn@worldventure.com)

Give them what they need on the back of what they want. Be known for connecting your thread to truth.

- **Mark McDonald**

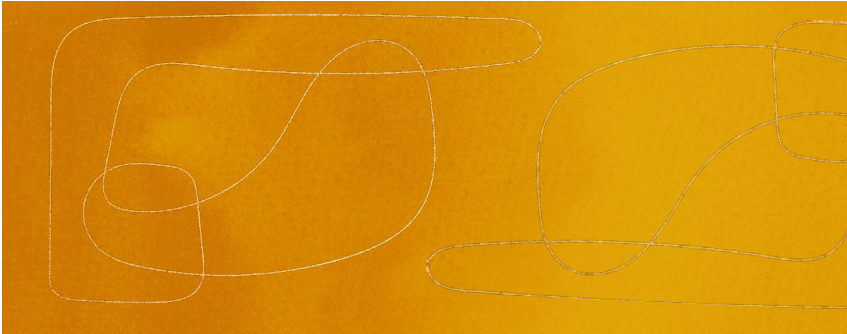
Getting your congregation excited about missions involves **creating a sense of purpose**, **connecting** with their passions, and **providing opportunities** for meaningful engagement. Here are some strategies you can use:



Education & Awareness

- Regularly share stories and updates about successful mission projects and their impact.
- Organize informational sessions or guest speakers to educate the congregation about global and local mission needs.
- Use multimedia presentations to visually show the work.

Recruit the creatives in your church to help you in this area. People gifted in story-telling, design, and photography. Be open-minded and try their suggestions. Don't overthink it. This is also an excellent opportunity to engage your youth group. You can mentor them while they serve in missions.



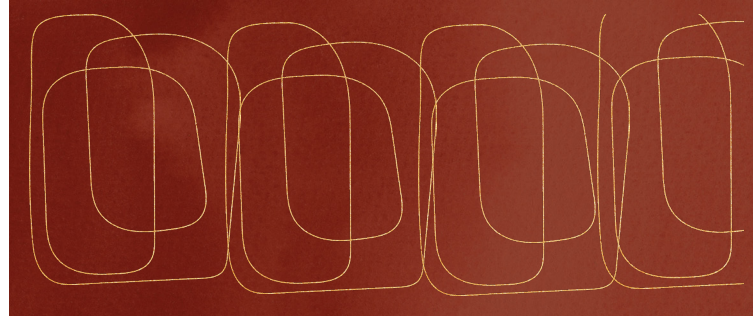
What interests your congregation? How do they consume online content? Can you craft posts to share stories that move people? Can you build something in common between the congregation and the missionary to connect them emotionally?



Highlight The Benefits:

- Emphasize the personal and spiritual growth that can result from involvement in mission work.
- Share testimonies from individuals who have participated in missions and how it has positively impacted their lives.

Blogs and articles (print/email) are great ways to share about personal and spiritual growth that happens in mission work. Tap into what matters to the congregation. Are they hungry for growth? If you look at social media data, the majority of people online are women. Repurpose the articles into short videos for Sunday morning or for your YouTube channel.



Wrap this into a Sunday message

A majority of people that understand and embrace the Great Commission are older. The goal is to create a sense of urgency across different age groups for missions. To do this, understand your congregation's digital habits, reading habits, and what moves them to act. Did the people who go to your church grow up in church or are they coming from a different background? Adjust your message to the different audiences attending your church.

Align With Congregational Values:

- Connect mission projects with the core values and beliefs of your congregation.
- Show how mission work aligns with the church's overall mission and vision.

Do you send out a weekly email? Look into email services and set one up. Segment using tags on services such as MailChimp with “prayer warriors” and “missions” as well as other tags as appropriate.

Emails can be sent out to specific groups of people. You can tailor your content based on age/preferences. For example, you can create one email, then rewrite, rework the email for different interests and age groups by design and wording. It says the same thing, but it's packaged differently. Each segment would get the same email, but it would look different. There are no duplicates in doing an email this way. **An email service also gives you insights or data** that you can use to determine if your email was effective.

Study other similar and different publications that put out an organization newsletter. Secular and Christian sources can help you find inspiration such as The Saturday Evening Post or National Geographic. Study the formatting.



If you don't send out a weekly newsletter with an email service, but are using the copy and paste method into “to” and “cc” or “bcc,” you have no idea if people are even reading what you put together. And many email services will put those emails into spam folders or it may not get through a spam filter.

Involve The Congregation:

- Encourage members to actively participate in the decision-making process for missions projects.
- Create committees or task forces specifically dedicated to mission work, allowing congregants to contribute their ideas and skills.

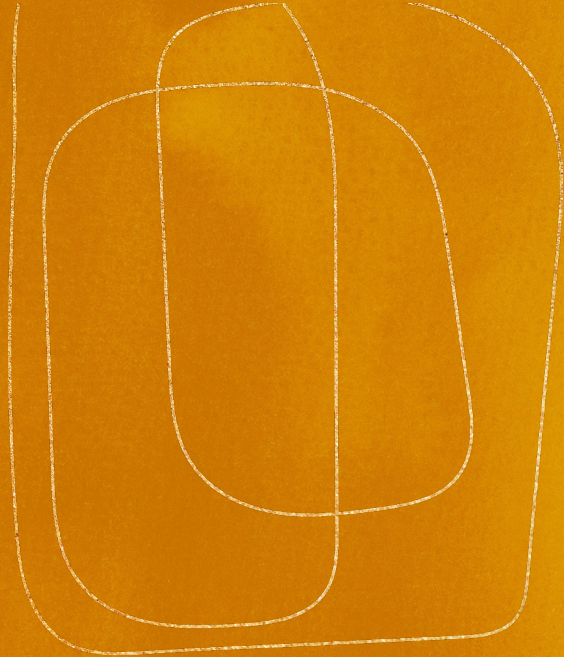
Ideas From The Survey:

“Our church has supported two missionary families as well as supported local missions and has a heart for the intellectual and physical disability community.”

“Perspective class mission weekend event.”

“Formation of a larger team (dozen participants) for Global Outreach Team (Missions team)”

“We created a missions room with a large wood 3D map of the world and created a missionary booklet with all our missionaries in it. We put missions books and resources in there and used it to train summer teams.”



Create Personal Connections:

- Establish partnerships with specific missionaries or organizations and foster relationships with them.
- Arrange for missionaries to visit the church and share their experiences first hand.

- **Live call** during service if missionaries are located overseas (Streaming, Zoom, Vmix).
- **Church-sponsored online** meet up with missionaries serving in areas that need immediate prayer.
- **Prayer devotionals** written by a volunteer or staff to inspire prayer for the nations and emailed out or posted on a blog.
- **Pastor and deacons** setting aside time to pray for their missionaries and for their congregation to understand missions and outreach and adopt it as a lifestyle or habit.
- **Tag the organization the missionary is with when you post online about a missions event.**

“Missions is not just a program for others, but everyone’s responsibility.”

- From The Survey

Hands-On Projects:

- Implement hands-on mission projects that congregants can get involved in, both locally and globally.
- Consider organizing short-term mission trips or volunteer opportunities.

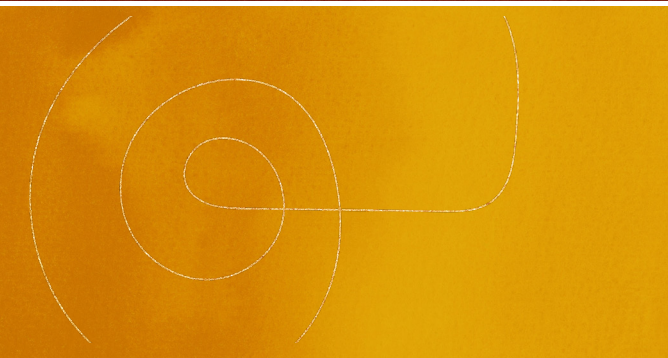
- **Video recording** from a Global Worker you support with useful, applicable tips such as reaching Muslim refugees shown during the service and/or online, perhaps side-by-side with a recording from a local refugee outreach center in your area explaining the need. Videos that are practical can make missions feel real.
- **Volunteer opportunities** locally.
- **Fun trips** to local, immigrant-owned establishments for people to learn about a culture in their area.
- **International Festivals** featuring international foods and perhaps people from the local area willing to share their culture with you.

Missions is for all ages. There are ample opportunities from prayer to actually going on mission. Even a homebound senior saint can pray for the nations.




Celebrate Successes:

- Regularly celebrate and acknowledge the achievements and milestones of mission projects.
- Recognize and appreciate the efforts of individuals who contribute to mission work.

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- **Video (shorts/reels/Sunday morning)** of stories of people in the congregation serving in missions for the first time.
 - **Video (shorts/reels/Sunday morning)** of achievements and milestones of mission projects.
 - **Did your children's ministry raise money for a missionary or a mission or local project?**
 - **Did your youth group go on a mission trip?**

“[New Program]\$1 Missions Fund - a special monthly offering for the missionaries/organization of the month.” - From The Survey

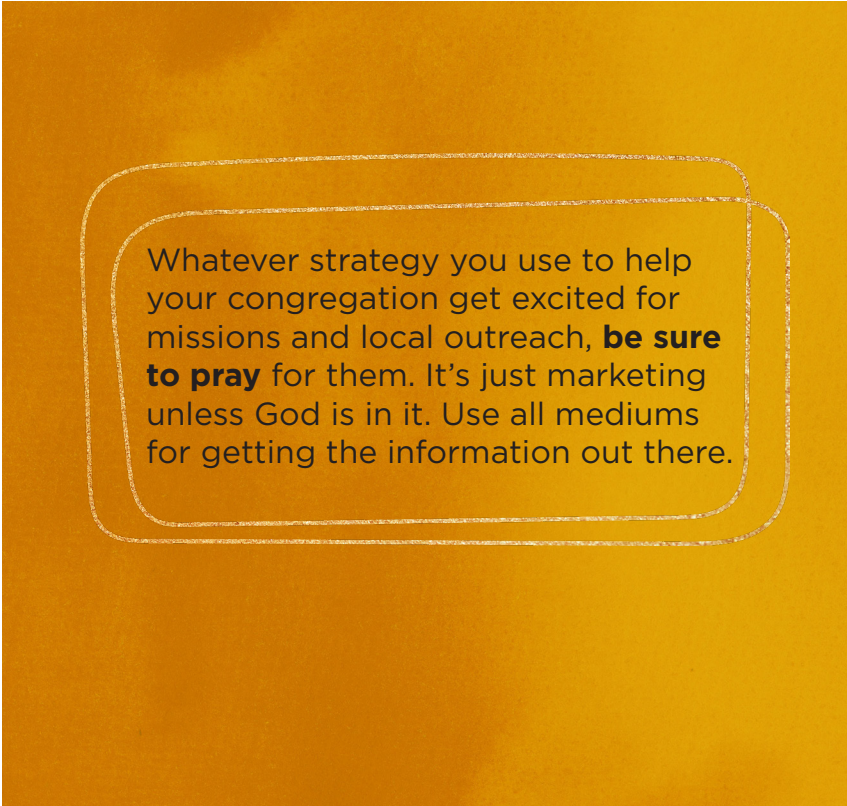




Prayer Emphasis:

- Integrate prayer for mission work into regular church services.
- Host prayer meetings specifically focused on global and mission needs.

- **If you have a prayer night**, pick a missionary or mission org and also pick a local outreach to spend five or ten minutes praying over.
- **Do you have small groups?** Have a small group adopt one missionary to pray for and be updated on.
- **Create a group that writes** emails/ letters to missionaries and helps to engage with orgs in order to become more involved in encouraging others to serve.
- **Each month, pick a missionary for the children's and youth group to pray for.**
- **Ask a missionary to provide a photo and name of someone the same age as your youth** that the missionary is ministering to, and have that youth group pray for him, learn about him, and get updates.



Whatever strategy you use to help your congregation get excited for missions and local outreach, **be sure to pray** for them. It's just marketing unless God is in it. Use all mediums for getting the information out there.

Use Technology:

- Leverage social media, church websites, and newsletters to keep the congregation updated on mission activities.
- Create engaging content, such as blogs, podcasts, or video interviews, to share mission stories.

Finding and creating content for social media is time consuming. Repurpose your missionary's content (with permission) to engage your congregation in the story of how God is moving in the world.

- [How to be Creative With Missions \(When You are Not Creative\)](#)
- [Virtual Prayer For The Technologically Challenged](#)
- [How to Use Netflix and Amazon For Missions](#)

Use private messaging apps or text messaging weekly or once per month to send out prayer prompts.

"We have started showing a 2-3 minute interview video of our Global Partner who is in the service that day. They also have a table on the patio to greet and meet people. Our Global Outreach Team also hosts a luncheon following the service."

- From The Survey





Training and Equipping:

- Provide training sessions or workshops to equip congregants with the skills and knowledge needed for mission work.
- Offer resources and support for individuals interested in exploring missions.

Links From WorldVenture:

- For people wanting to talk to a mobilizer about going, [complete this form](#). This is not a commitment. It's just getting you to a mobilizer.
- Explore our website. [Click here.](#)

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- After a training session, **make a day trip** somewhere part of the training where the participants can experience how the skills can be practically applied.
 - Have your **visiting missionary teach a class** on how to reach a people group in their area while sharing what he does in his country of service.
 - **Stock the books** your missionary publishes in your church library and feature them at the Welcome Center.
 - **Feature publications** that inspire people to dig deeper into what missions looks like for them.

Remember that creating excitement about missions requires ongoing effort and a genuine commitment to fostering a mission-minded culture within the congregation. Tailor your approach to the unique needs and interests of your community.



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