

ADA BIBLE CHURCH GLOBAL MISSION FAQs

What is Ada Bible Church's Vision for Missions?

The Global Mission's Vision is to develop and maintain global disciple making ministries. We are committed to seeing the least reached people groups accept Jesus Christ as Savior and grow in faith through the ministry of the local indigenous churches.

What are Ada Bible Church's Mission Values?

We have established key values related to what we believe is effective global ministry. These values include Intentionality, Scripture, Community, Multiplication, Local Leadership, Service, Holistic Approach and Partnership. We believe that ministry happens best in the context of healthy relationships, that ministries should train leaders who will train leaders, that we should aid LOCAL ministry leaders who are reputable in their own culture and to assure a connection to a local body of believers.

Who is responsible for overseeing that vision?

The Elder Board of ABC is divided into focus teams. Elders are placed in each team based on their spiritual giftedness. The Elders on the Outreach team are responsible for overseeing the vision of all ABC outreach programs, including the Global Missions Ministry. The Mission Board is then responsible for determining the strategy and implementation of that vision. The Missions Pastor is the chairman of the Mission Board and is responsible for the daily implementation of that vision.

In what countries does Ada Bible Church support missionaries or organizations?

Ada Bible Church currently supports, at varying levels, missionaries or organizations in Kenya, Spain, Canada, Mexico, USA, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Romania, Ukraine, Peru, Brazil, Tanzania, Philippines and China. We also support many short term missionaries who go to other countries.

How does Ada Bible Church divide its resources among those areas?

Even though we want to support as many missionary efforts as possible, we have limited resources. We do not determine who to support by whether they have a "good" or "bad" ministry. It is more like trying to determine the "right" ministries out of thousands of "good" ministries. Ada Bible Church has selected three areas in the world in which to focus our resources. Those areas are referred to as "Focus Areas." We will not ignore other areas, but we believe it prudent to focus the majority of our resources in our Focus Areas. We believe our ability to greatly impact the Kingdom of God is tied to deeply investing in the Focus Areas in which God has called us.

Does Ada Bible Church "commission" or "send" missionaries?

Several people from Ada Bible Church have felt called to the mission field. These individuals fill out missionary support applications which are reviewed by the Mission Board for support recommendations. In some churches, anyone that leaves for the mission field and receives financial support is considered "sent" or "commissioned" by their home church. At Ada Bible Church, we try to encourage and support those members who leave for the mission field in any way we are able. However, these individuals are not "licensed" (a.k.a., "commissioned") by Ada Bible Church. At this

point, we are unable to effectively or efficiently handle the special training needed for global field work, e.g., language training, cross cultural training, pre-field preparations, vocational expertise, field care, etc. As we continue to grow, we may be able to get more actively involved in those areas. However until then, we count on the missionary's sending organization to handle those details.

How did Ada Bible Church determine its Focus Areas?

Through a two year process, the Mission Board researched and prayed about what God would have for Ada Bible Church in relation to Global Missions. The Mission Board had several criteria which guided their search, e.g., least reached, leadership multiplication, local church partnership ability, current mission work being done, openness to the Gospel, etc. Several exploratory trips were taken and dozens of organizations were visited and interviewed. After months and months of diligent searching and prayer, God directed Ada Bible Church to our current three Focus Areas of China, East Africa and Ukraine.

Will Ada Bible Church add more "Focus Areas" in the future?

As our budget and resources grow, we hope to add another area or two, as God directs.

How can attenders become involved?

The bulletin and Newsletters will have announcements about mission informational meetings and mission trip opportunities. Anyone is welcome at these meetings and we encourage attendance. Our website (www.adabible.org) has listings for any upcoming scheduled meetings. Also, please feel free to contact eshepard@adabible.org if you have any questions about our mission programs. We would love to put you on an email list to receive special mission's information.

How does Ada Bible Church determine Short Term mission trip support?

We have three levels of support with short term mission trips:

Level 1 is "Encouraged" trips. These are trips that seem beneficial, but not closely tied to ABC's vision. We would simply encourage participation if someone felt called, but wouldn't provide any resources.

Level 2 is "Encouraged & Supported" trips. These trips are determined to be beneficial and more closely tied to ABC's vision. We would allow a financial grant for ABC participants, but would not generally allocate other resources.

Level 3 is "Encouraged, Supported & Sponsored" trips. These trips are determined to be closely tied to ABC's visions and calling. We may provide additional funding, materials, training, team building, vision casting, goals, organization and other resources. In addition, this level of trip will normally have an ABC staff member, board member, or church leader who would be the STM team leader. These level 3 trips are generally departmental or Focus Area trips.

Can I give money to Ada Bible Church for one of our missionaries or organizations?

Ada Bible Church does an annual review of how our mission funds will be divided. This division of support is done with much prayer. The detailed budget is voted on by the Mission Board then affirmed by the congregation. Our belief is that the whole congregational body should act as a single unit. That is, we make decisions as a body, not individually. However, we would still encourage anyone to follow God's individual prompting in relation to financial support of a missionary or organization. But since Ada Bible Church does not allow for individual "directed" giving, support would need to be

sent to the missionary or organization directly, i.e., you can't write a check to "Ada Bible Church" with the missionary's name in the memo line. All missionaries that Ada Bible Church supports are connected to a mission organization that has a 501c3 designation. You can write a check to that organization. The missionary's support organization will then send you a tax receipt for your gift.

Can I give money to Ada Bible Church for my friend's mission trip?

We allow funds to be directed to level 3 (departmental or "Focus Area") mission trips only. These types of short term mission trips are funded by team fundraising efforts and from a financial grant from Ada Bible Church. All fund raising efforts for these trips are team efforts, not individual efforts, i.e., all the money collected is divided equally among each team members' expenses and not an individual team member. Ada Bible Church does NOT allow money to be "funneled" through the church for non-departmental or non-Focus Area trips. We want to encourage Ada Bible Church members to follow God's leading on their hearts if prompted to serve on a short term mission team. Ada Bible Church may also give a small grant to assist these individuals with their level 1 or 2 mission trip expenses; however, we do not allow funds to be directed individuals or to teams through Ada Bible Church. Typically, these individuals serve missionaries that are connected with a mission organization. Those organizations have a 501c3 designation and you can write a check to that specific organization to assist the individual or team. That support organization will then send you a tax receipt for your gift.