

FBC Missions Team Charter

A. Preamble

Faith Bible Church is dedicated to making disciples of Jesus Christ among the nations in obedience to His command in various Scriptures which are collectively known as the Great Commission.

We, as a Church, pursue this vision by:

1. Commitment to consistent prayer for our missionaries, for our target unreached people groups, and for guidance in the missionary enterprise.
2. Honoring our missionaries and cultivating relationships with them as significant partners in our church's ministry.
3. Intentional identification, training, selection, commissioning, and sending missionaries from our own local body of believers.
4. Caring for and supporting short-term and long-term missionaries both from our own local body of believers and from other like-minded churches.
5. Missions education and training for all ages.

B. Biblical Basis

1. The expressed purpose of God is to bring glory to himself in all the nations. (1 Chr. 16:24; Ps. 57:11; 72:19; 96:3; 106:47; Isa. 43:7; Isa. 66:18-20; Dan. 7:14; Ro. 16:26)
2. God's intention to bring the message of salvation to all nations is evident throughout all the Scriptures. (e.g. – Ge. 3:15; 9:1-17; 12:1-3; 1 Sa. 17:46; 1 Ki. 8:60; Daniel, Jonah, Esther, Acts, Rv. 5:9-10; 7:9-10)
3. God commands his people in both the Old and New Testaments to be involved in spreading the message of salvation to all nations. (Ps. 67; Hag. 2:7; Mt. 28:18-20; Lk. 24:45-47; Ac. 1:8; Ro. 15:17-21)
4. The New Testament reveals the role of the local church through example and specific teachings. (Ac. 13:1-3; Ro. 16:25-26; Ep. 3:8-21; 1 Th. 1:4-8; 3 Jn. 5-8)
5. The Bible promises inclusion of people from every ethnicity of the world worshipping together around the throne of God. (Ps. 72:11; 86:9; Dan. 7:14; Mt. 24:14; Rv. 5:9-10; 7:9-10)

C. Definition of Missions

FBC defines “missions” as any cross-cultural ministry beyond the normal outreach of the local church which has as its purpose the fulfillment of the Great Commission by making disciples of Jesus Christ and planting churches and/or the training of indigenous leaders to do the same.

D. Purpose

1. To provide a framework for efficient, consistent administration of the missions ministries of FBC.

2. To promote scriptural missions education and commitment for the entire FBC body.
3. To enable a clear sense of direction in our corporate missions ministries, while making decisions in an orderly and objective manner.
4. To design the relationship between the church, the missionary, and the agency.
5. To make Missions Team principles and functions clear and available to FBC members, adherents, missionaries, missionary candidates, and interested friends.
6. To establish principles from which other missions-related issues not covered in this policy may be thoughtfully evaluated.

E. Principles

1. As with all the ministries of FBC, the authority, composition, and decisions of the Missions Team are ultimately under the authority and watchcare of the Elders. The Elders' counsel and approval should be sought for all major decisions.
2. All missions ministries and activities of the Missions Team of FBC should be evaluated in light of the alignment with the known doctrinal position of FBC and its leadership.
3. Since missions ministries almost always deal with precious human lives, the Missions Team should take great care to include direct communication with persons directly involved in any decision in the discussion as much as possible.
4. FBC gives priority to involving and sending its own members to strategic missions ministry.
5. FBC emphasizes strong, supportive, mutually accountable relationships with its missionaries and their respective agencies.
6. We will prioritize deeper spiritual, financial, and pastoral relationships with fewer missionaries rather than the converse.

F. The Missions Team

1. Composition. The Missions Team (MT) will be composed of not less than three active FBC members.
2. Qualifications. Each member will be expected to maintain the following qualifications:
 - A. A healthy personal spiritual life
 - B. A teachable spirit, a deep interest in missions, and a desire to make the missions ministries of FBC a priority.
 - C. A personal lifestyle which reflects commitments to give financially to missions and to pray regularly for world missions and missionaries.
 - D. Availability to fulfill commitments with respect to MT responsibilities.
3. Subcommittees. MT members will be responsible for oversight of FBC's missions ministries including prayer, education, communications, missions conferences, missions finances, short-term ministries, special projects, etc. The MT may recruit other FBC members to assist them in the fulfillment of these responsibilities, as they may require.

4. Goals. The MT will, annually, develop specific goals for the furtherance of missions ministries at FBC. These goals will be submitted to the elders for their review and approval.
5. Training. Besides giving attention to ongoing missions education for the congregation, MT should take care to continually upgrade the missions understanding, awareness, experience, and missions administration skills among its members and foster the same among the Elders.
6. Responsibilities. The MT will have general oversight responsibility for the following areas:
 - A. Encouraging the growth and leadership of FBC's Pastors and Elders in the area of missions;
 - B. MT development, ministries, policies and practices, goals and objectives;
 - C. Oversight of FBC missions education and missionary training;
 - D. Leading FBC in, modeling, and encouraging informed, specific prayer for missions and missionaries;
 - E. Recruitment and shepherding of missionaries and missions team participants;
 - F. Maintaining a process for screening, acceptance, accountability, communication, care, and (when necessary) termination of missionaries – both career and “short-term”;
 - G. Planning, approval, and monitoring of short-term missions ministry experiences for various constituencies of FBC;
 - H. Missions event and conference planning and implementation; and,
 - I. Development and management of the missions budget including, but not limited to, strategies for allocation of funds, use of special, designated, and/or project funds, support levels, policies for handling surplus and/or shortfalls, and use of discretionary funds.

G. Conclusion

Faith Bible Church believes in the scriptural priority of discipling all nations. We also affirm the centrality of the local church to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. We believe that, according to God's own plan, the Lord is most glorified when people from every tongue and tribe and nation are drawn to worship him. It is our desire, on behalf of the whole congregation, to establish an orderly missions policy and leadership so that we might more effectively fulfill our obedience to the Great Commission.