



Missions Toolkit

Our Top 10 Picks of THE Best Current Missions Resources

SHORT TERM MISSIONS PREPARATION

Round Trip

Fourth Line Films with Christianity Today, 2009

- 5 session curriculum with suggestions for group building and trip preparation
- DVD video, Leader Guide and *Participant Guide (*permission to make up to 1,000 copies)

Where you can find it: www.ChristianityToday.com

Price: \$29.95 USD (DVD Curriculum & Leader's Guide ; \$9.95 USD Participant's Guide)

Why we recommend it:

An excellent, engaging resource for teams who want to do short-term missions with excellence, integrity, and real relationship with the church around the world. It emphasizes not only on how a team should go, but also on how to process the experience, and what to do with it when returning home. The DVD series includes the experience of two teams (one from North Carolina and one from Kenya), interviews of missions experts, and time for your team to answer and reflect on questions in the accompanying handbook.

CURRICULA MUSLIM MINISTRY

Bridges: Christians Connecting with Muslims

- Crescent Project, 2008
- Six 1-hour sessions
- DVD video & study guide
- Adult Education curriculum



Where you can find it: Crescent Project Price: \$99.95 USD

Why we recommend it:

"BRIDGES is helping Christians connect with Muslims. This dynamic study - featuring real-life stories, interviews, and practical teaching - clears up the confusion surrounding Islam and helps you see Muslims as Jesus sees them. By replacing fear and intimidation with compassion and boldness, BRIDGES is reshaping the way Christians view and respond to their Muslim neighbours."

MISSIONARY CARE

Serving As Senders by Neal Pirolo

- Emmanus Road, International
- Covers the basics in missionary care, from understanding foundational concepts to practical application.
- Paperback, 208 pages

Where you can find it: www.eri.org, Amazon.com or Amazon.ca Price: \$7.95 USD

Why we recommend it: Even though its been around for a few years, this book continues to be a foundational resource on caring for missionaries. This book is a must for any church who has raised up and sent out missionaries or is partnered with a missionary. Topics include moral, logistical financial prayer, communication and re-entry support. It's practical in application, yet gives a wonderful explanation of what a healthy "go-er and sender" relationship looks like.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . And Yourself by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert



- Moody Publishers, 2009, 230 pages
- Gives foundational concepts and clear principles in helping the poor, and presents applications when ministering to the poor and home and abroad.
- Includes small group discussion questions

Where you can find it:

- www.whenhelpinghurts.org
- amazon.com or amazon.ca

Price: \$10 USD

Why we recommend it:

It is the BEST book that describes what poverty is, and what good community development looks like. Too often well meaning, heartfelt intentions actually perpetuate paternalism and dependency. The book outlines several principles and applications for poverty alleviation: distinguishing between relief, rehabilitation, and development; the difference between asset-based and needs-based strategies; and the advantages of participatory over blueprint approaches.

BIBLE STUDY

Missions: God's Heart for the World by Paul Borthwick

- IntersVarsity Press, 2000
- 9 session bible study, includes leader's notes

Where you can find it:

- Christian Bookstores as part of the LifeGuide Bible Studies
- IntersVarsity Press on-line

Approximate price: \$6.40 USD

Why we recommend it:

This Bible study "helps participants discover their part in God's plan to reach out to the world - through Jesus and through ambassadors like us. Topics include: blessed to be a blessing, God's attack on racism, diversity in heaven". This resource is a gem that stands the test of time: engaging, easy to use, very accessible, and hits all the major missions themes. Regardless of what a church's missions program looks like or which organization they're connected with, this resource hits the ball out of the park



SMALL GROUPS – MISSIONS EDUCATION

Plugged-in to Missions: A DVD Curriculum for World-Minded Christians by Christian Reformed World Missions



- 6 DVD set plus resource DVD
- Each DVD can be adapted for lessons of 30 – 90 minutes
- Each DVD presents a different topic. Includes video clips, discussion questions, activities, and prayer items.

Where you can find it:

- Faith Alive Resources: 1-800-333-8300 or www.FaithAliveResources.org

Price: \$100 USD or CDN

Why we recommend it:

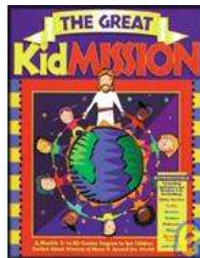
From Islam to Voodoo, missionaries and national believers face challenges abroad that are also found in North America. This DVD curriculum helps the curious and the world-minded Christian to discover these challenges and get plugged in to God's mission.

Engaging, easy to use, professionally produced and hip. Not only introduces the ministry of WM, but the broader topics as well. Well structured to facilitate discussion with help from the host. Works with very little if at all no preparation. Appropriate for high school youth group, cultural studies, catechism, adult Bible study, and small groups.

CHILDREN'S RESOURCE

The Great KidMISSION by Gospel Light Ministries

- Reproducible, 144 pages
- Activities for grades 1-6, includes Bible stories, crafts, drama, games, patterns, maps, memory verses & more.



Where you can find it:

Price: \$19.95 USD

- www.biggerbooks.com or www.gospellight.com

Why we recommend it:

This is a complete 5 – 10 session program of which you can use all or part for a missions emphasis, VBS, Sunday School or Children's worship. It gives a fresh look at important Biblical themes related to missions, and gives dozens of high-energy Bible learning activities, crafts and snacks that will help kids take part in God's plan for reaching the world.

MISSION EMPHASIS PLANNING



Missions Emphasis:

A How-To Guide

by Christian Reformed World Missions

- A free on-line downloadable document , 12 pages of step by step suggestions and ideas

Where you can find it: www.crwmm.org/resources -> Missions Committees & Outreach Teams

Why we recommend it: This planning guide is a fountain of ideas for any church planning a missions

emphasis event (MEE), or planning to host a missionary. It gives great ideas on how to organize a planning, activities to consider, themes, suggestions on what a lively missions week, how to incorporate food, and much more! You don't need to struggle with planning from scratch – this guide is a tremendous help to any Missions Committee or Missions Advocate.

SHORT TERM MISSIONS ENGAGEMENT

Serving With Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence

by David A. Livermore

- Baker Books © 2006, 192 pages
- Unpacks the assumptions related to short term missions, and equips the reader to bless the go-er and respect the receiver.

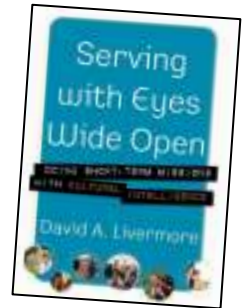
Where you can find it:

- www.bakerbooks.com
- on-line book stores

Approximate Price: \$10.39 USD /10.94 CDN

Why we recommend it:

A cautionary tale for opening our eyes to the reality of short-term missions, Western assumptions and how mistakes and naiveté of participants can hamper effectiveness and relationship building. Describes how to create *Cultural IQ*, and impacts information that every "goer" needs to know.

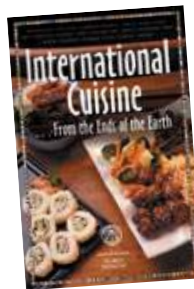


This books is a **MUST READ** for anyone going on short-term missions (especially leaders), and any church involved in international partnerships. It addresses the trend that short term missions is becoming more of a travel adventure than missions ministry, and how these trips can be redeemed through a commitment of sensitivity and learning.

FUNDRAISING

Get Cooking! Fundraising Kit by Christian Reformed World Missions

- Includes all materials needed to start a fundraising campaign, by selling the International Cuisine cookbook



Where you can find it: www.crwmm.org

Christian Reformed World Missions
US:800-346-0075 CDN: 800-730-3490

Price: \$10 USD /12 CDN

Why we recommend it:

The kit allows any church group (missions committee, short term missions team, youth group, etc) to raise funds for their own mission activities by selling cookbooks. The kit includes posters, a cookbook, easel, sign up sheets, planning guide, submission form and more. You don't have to purchase the cookbooks in advance. The *Get Cooking! Kit* allows you to obtain the books for \$5 USD/\$7 each. When your group offers them for a suggested donation of \$10 USD/\$12 CDN or more, you can raise \$5 or more for each book ordered.

