

Ideas for Involving Women in Missions Discipleship

Learn || Pray || Give || Do || Tell

* LEARNING ABOUT MISSIONS *

Learning about missions intentionally involves women in experiences that increase their awareness and knowledge of missions. These learning experiences will help them develop understanding, appreciation, attitudes, and skills for doing, telling, supporting, and praying for missions.

WAYS TO LEARN ABOUT MISSIONS

- Have a special presentation about missions during a women's event.
- Invite missionary speakers in person or via video.
- Include a monthly missions moment in worship for church members or guest speakers to share their missions experience.
- Utilize missions videos and other media.
- Distribute missions magazines, books, and internet resources.
- Post facts about missions and unreached people groups in your church newsletter.
- Provide teachable moments with hands-on mission projects.
- Host a Bible Study on Acts to show the biblical basis for missions.
- Read biographies of missionaries and missions leaders like Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon/Look What God Can Do and other books that have several mini-stories.
- Attend a missions conference like the TN WMU Missions Get-Together.
- Attend or start a Women on Mission group at your church.
- Host a missions fair at your church.
- Take a group to attend a missions fair at nearby churches or associations.

RESOURCES

- www.wmu.com
 - Missions Mosaic magazine
 - Missions for Life: Twelve Months of Missions Plans
- www.tnwmu.org
- www.tnbaptist.org
- www.namb.net
- www.imb.org

PRAYING FOR MISSIONS

Praying for missions is communication with God on behalf of missions work; the people involved in doing it; and the people who need to know and accept God's redeeming love. Prayer for missions may also include praying for Christian believers in places where there are few believers and where cultural differences make it difficult to effectively communicate the gospel.

WAYS TO PRAY FOR MISSIONS

- Meet weekly in prayer group for missions.
- Give the unreached people groups booklet to small groups/SS classes and ask them to present and pray for one each week.
- Host a special study to teach people why and how to pray for missions.
- Promote Weeks of Prayer for international, North American, state, and associational missions, providing prayer guides where applicable.
- Utilize the missionary prayer calendar in Missions Mosaic magazine in daily intercessory prayer.
- Share missionary prayer prompts in church newsletters, weekly texts, social media sites, etc.
- Pray for specific missionaries and people group during family worship.
- Sing missions-related songs/hymns in family and personal worship to keep the Great Commission at the front of the mind and encourage prayer throughout the day.
- Adopt one international missionary for special prayer and more personal support.
- Participate in prayer walks - on-site and virtual.
- Set up a prayer wall in your church to feature pictures of missionaries and the places they serve, as well as their prayer requests.

RESOURCES

- WMU Missionary Prayer Calendar: wmu.com/prayercalendar
- North American Mission Board
 - Prayer guide for North American missions: anniearmstrong.com/resource/prayer-guide
 - NAMB newsletters: namb.net/subscribe
- International Mission Board
 - Prayer guide for international missions: imb.org/pray/week-of-prayer
 - IMB prayer app
 - imb.org/pray/
 - imb.org/prayer-points/
- Tennessee Baptist Mission Board
 - Monthly TBMB prayer calendar: goldenoffering.org
 - Prayer guide for state missions: tnbaptist.org/week-of-prayer-gotm
- 52 Sundays, a weekly journal and prayer guide for churches, which tells of missions work of the International Mission Board (IMB), the North American Mission Board (NAMB), and state convention mission work.
 - sbc.net/resource-library/52-sundays/
- Joshua Project as a website, app, and email that shares an "Unreached of the Day." This helps people pray for one unreached people group every day and learn about the challenges Christians face in those cultures.
 - joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday/today

SUPPORTING MISSIONS

Supporting missions involves providing financial support for missions work conducted by representative missions programs (international, North American, state, and association) for churches, through the Cooperative Program and missions offerings. People support missionaries, missions partners, and missions work through their giving and encouragement. People also support missions through emphasizing the need for individuals to become involved in mission service and nurturing those whom God calls to mission service. Supporting missions is a practical way for women to participate in missions.

WAYS TO SUPPORT MISSIONS

- Provide financial support to specific missionaries.
- Provide personal ministry for missionaries and their families.
- Create an environment for women to hear and respond to God's call to mission service.
- Nurture individuals who respond to God's call to mission service.
- Send cards to missionaries to offer encouragement.
- Send care packages to missionaries - ask first what they want and how to send to avoid large customs/import fees.
- Provide housing, transportation, and friendship for missionaries on state-side assignment.
- Find out if there are MKs in the college near you and take them out to eat or invite them over.
- Donate airline miles for missionaries with medical travel.
- Give gift cards to eat out or buy needed items.
- Donate gift cards to help stock supplies and other household items for the TN WMU Missionary House in Mt. Juliet for missionaries on state-side assignment.
- Organize an event to raise funds for missions.
- Christmas in August - During August, collect gifts for a select group of North American missionaries provided by the North American Mission Board. The missionaries use these items to replenish ministry supplies, purchase items for ministry centers, and minister to people in their communities who need to hear about Jesus.
- Give financially to the WMU Foundation (or you could provide other information about giving to Missions for Life fund or other TN WMU Funds)
- Include Tennessee WMU or national WMU Foundation in your estate plans. Leave a gift to God's mission through your will, a trust, a Charitable Gift Annuity, 401K or other retirement plan, or through a life insurance policy.

DO MISSIONS AND TELL ABOUT JESUS

Doing missions and telling about Jesus is sharing the gospel with people and doing redemptive, loving service to meet needs in the name and spirit of Christ. Doing missions is also responding to social and moral issues. To tell about Jesus is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with another person and give that person an opportunity to confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Missions may be done locally, within the state, nationally, and globally.

WAYS TO DO MISSIONS AND TELL ABOUT JESUS

- Train and prepare to tell others about Jesus, including your personal testimony, gospel conversation, scripture distribution, mass evangelism, marketplace or lifestyle evangelism, tract distribution, etc.
 - Train women to be able to transition from small talk to the spiritual.
 - Train how to lead inductive Bible studies for people who are interested in Christianity but not yet believers.

- Plan a missions project that includes collecting items, going to the place of ministry to work , and sharing the gospel.
 - Project Ideas
 - Bake goodies and deliver them to local first responders.
 - Assemble no-sew fleece blankets for a local women’s shelter.
 - Knit or crochet prayer shawls and lap blankets for people facing health challenges.
 - Sew pillowcase dresses for children in another country.
 - Host a sandwich-making party and distribute the sandwiches to the homeless.
 - Assemble and send college care packages.
 - Fill a freezer with meals for a new mom.
 - Create birthday bags for a local food pantry (hats, candles, balloons, cake mix)
 - Host a food drive and deliver collected items to a local food pantry; offer to clean, organize, and serve.
 - Pack Christmas Backpacks: tnbaptist.org/backpacks
 - Gather and donate toiletries, make-up, and new underwear for a local women’s shelter or human trafficking ministry.
 - Donate children’s books and movies to a local children’s hospital.
 - Host a baby shower for a local pregnancy center to help them restock supplies for pregnant and new mothers.
 - Knit or crochet baby booties for a local pregnancy center.
 - Deliver bags of groceries, firewood, or gift cards to a local family in need.
 - Pass out water bottles to construction workers on a hot day.
- Begin or volunteer at a Christian Job Corps site.
- Support Baptist Collegiate Ministries by providing a meal or snacks for outreach events.

RESOURCES

- 3 Circles: Life Conversation Guide/NAMB app
- *Across the Street and Around the World: Ideas to Spark Missional Focus*
Book contains hundreds of ideas to engage in intentional missional ministry. Ideas are organized by the amount of time needed - one hour, one day, one week, or longer: shop.ironstreammedia.com

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN THINKING ABOUT HOW WOMEN CAN BE INVOLVED

- Individually - she wants projects that she can do by herself or go plug into as an individual.
- With a group or like-minded women - she has friends and they want to serve together (WoM group, BUNCO group, old college friends, etc.)
- Mom with young children - where she goes, they go
- Mom with adult children - projects or opportunities where a family (with teens or all adults) can work together.
- With a spouse - can the spouse tag along?

CONTACT THE TENNESSEE WMU TEAM AT WMU@TNBAPTIST.ORG OR 615.371.7908
FOR ASSISTANCE IN INVOLVING THE WOMEN IN YOUR CHURCH IN MISSIONS DISCIPLESHIP.