

The Ultimate Guide to Missions Fundraising

How to Build Lasting Support for Your Calling



Copyright © 2025 International Project, All rights reserved.

International Project exists to start churches through Unreached People Groups living outside their homelands.

International Project
PO Box 1646, New York, NY 10026
(646) 657-9014
[Email us](#) | [Visit our website](#)

All bible passages are taken from the RSV unless otherwise noted.

Table of Contents

Introduction: A Call to Courage.....3

Chapter 1: Why Do We Fundraise Anyway?.....5

Chapter 2: Overcoming Fears and Excuses.....7

Chapter 3: The Biblical Basis for Raising Missionary Support.....9

Chapter 4: Before You Ask, Ask God.....12

Chapter 5: The 5 Steps of Faith Filled Fundraising.....15

Chapter 6: Everyone You Know Matters.....18

Chapter 7: Tell the Story, Share the Vision.....22

Chapter 8: Partnering with Your Church: How to Begin Strong.....26

Chapter 9: The Meeting That Matters.....28

Chapter 10: The Ministry of Gratitude.....32

Chapter 11: The Mid Race Check In.....33

Chapter 12: Go Time: Fundraising for Short Term Missions + Internships.....35

Chapter 13: Short Term Letters That Move People: A How to Guide.....39

Chapter 14: Faithful and Fully Funded.....42

Your Next Steps: Find Your Fit.....44

Let’s Stay Connected.....49

Appendix: Resources for Further Reading.....49

Introduction: A Call to Courage

We're going to be honest with you...

Fundraising might be one of the most difficult things God ever calls you to do.

We don't say that to scare you. We say it because it's true.

This process can be challenging.

- It will take time
- It will take prayer
- It will take strength

If you downloaded this eBook, we trust that you are a follower of Jesus who is seriously considering a call to missions or support based ministry.

As a follower of Jesus, you already know the truth of Philippians 4:13, that through Christ, you can do all things through His strength.

You can do all things...including fundraising for your ministry.

Even though support raising will not always feel easy, Scripture promises that God will walk with you through every step of the journey.

Philippians 4:19 tells us “And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” (RSV)

That promise is also for you!

You may have a dozen reasons why you think you can't do this.

You might feel:

- Too young
- Too inexperienced
- Too unsure of your calling

But none of those limitations disqualify you. These are all challenges faced by characters in the Bible—from Moses, to David, to the 12 disciples Jesus chose to build His church.

Remember, your dependence on God is exactly where God's power can be seen most clearly.

So, knowing that up front, what will you do with it?

Will you take the leap of bold trust God is calling you to?

If you are ready for a God sized adventure, keep reading.

Let's explore how to fundraise with confidence and faith for the ministry God is calling you to.

Chapter 1: Why Do We Fundraise Anyway?

“Wait... you have to raise support for your job?”

You’ll probably hear that question more than once on your ministry fundraising journey.

Support raising naturally invites curiosity and conversation.

We’re here to help you answer those questions with a clear and compelling response. Not just for others who ask, but for yourself—to help you remain confident of your calling when things get difficult.

If you believe God has called you to serve in missions, and your agency requires support raising, then this is part of your calling.

Let us say that again: Fundraising itself is ministry.

Fundraising is not separate from ministry or somehow less important than the work you’ll do on the field. It is an essential part of your ministry journey.

Raising support is not just about getting money. It is about building a team of people who will join you in the mission.

When you invite others to support your work, you are also inviting them to:

- Invest in eternal impact
- Join in what God is doing in the world
- Actively share in your calling

Support raising builds relationships and grows the Kingdom of God through partnerships.

With the help of this guide, we hope you stop viewing fundraising as something you “have to” do and begin to see it as something you get to do—a genuine blessing.

Fundraising can be a gift. It gives you the chance to grow in faith and invite others into what God is doing.

This resource will help you bridge the gap between where you are now and reaching full financial support for your mission. It will walk you step by step through the fundraising process.

You will get an overview of what ministry fundraising involves, along with tools that will grow your confidence and deepen your faith.

Inside, you will find practical instructions, encouragement, Scripture, and support for the journey ahead.

Chapter 2: Overcoming Fears and Excuses

The idea of raising thousands of dollars to serve in full time ministry can feel overwhelming.

You might have a lot of questions like:

- Who should I ask for support?
- How do I fundraise without sounding salesy?
- Will people really want to support me?

You might also have some hesitations like:

- I don't like asking people for money. It feels awkward or pushy.
- I'm afraid people will think I'm selfish or greedy.
- I worry I'll be judged or rejected for asking.

Many other missionaries feel this way too—or at least did in the past.

But here's the truth: This is bigger than you! This is about God and His heart to see all peoples come to a knowledge of Christ.

**“God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”
1 Timothy 2:3b-4**

You are making sacrifices to reach others with the Gospel—people want to take part in that!

Not everyone enters full time ministry themselves, but they *can* send others. When you invite others to give to you and your ministry, you invite them to join Kingdom work that goes beyond both of you.

Will some people say no? Probably.

Will you face rejection? Yes, at times.

But that doesn't necessarily mean you're doing anything wrong.

There are many reasons people choose not to support. Someone's financial situation or personal circumstances may keep them from giving. You may not know the fullness of their situation.

Try not to take rejection personally. You can still maintain strong relationships with people who aren't in a position to financially support you.

Some people will still partner with you in prayer and that's just as important. And they may give later when they are able.

Nevertheless, facing rejection can be painful and difficult. Invite God to give you wisdom and help you with your fear of rejection. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you:

- Resilience when people say no
- Perseverance when the process feels long
- Confidence that God is opening the right hearts

Remember: Where God guides, He provides.

Trust that He will come through for you because He has called you to do this work.

We encourage you to pause now to sit with these thoughts. Bring your questions and fears to God in prayer. Ask Him to strengthen your faith and remind you of your call.

Consider journaling your:

- Concerns
- Doubts
- Prayers
- Moments when God speaks

We encourage you to meet with a trusted mentor or friend and share these thoughts with them. Do not carry the weight of this process alone.

The Bible tells us that God has given us community to rely on in **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10: "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up..."**

This whole process of fundraising hinges on building and maintaining relationships, with God and others.

Don't be afraid to turn to your friends and community for help even before you start asking for support!

Chapter 3: The Biblical Basis for Raising Missionary Support

Although raising support can be difficult or feel awkward at times, it is not a foreign concept. In fact, many New Testament workers raised their own support too.

Jesus Himself relied on the financial support of others during His ministry, and the apostles, as did Paul in some seasons. This model is not only practical but also deeply rooted in Scripture.

Here are the most salient examples in the Bible where we see ministry workers relying on raising support:

1. Jesus and the 72

Jesus gives clear instructions to His disciples as He sends them out to share the Gospel:

"Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house." Luke 10:7

From Jesus' words, we can deduce that workers in ministry are worthy of financial support. This passage underscores the idea that those who serve deserve the support of others in return for their labor.

Jesus Himself depended on the generosity of others to continue His mission. This principle is foundational to the practice of fundraising for ministry.

2. Paul's Support from Churches

Paul writes to the church in Philippi:

"Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the Gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need." Philippians 4:15-16

The church in Philippi supported Paul's ministry, and he thanked them for their generosity. Paul highlighted their unique role in providing for his needs, enabling him to carry out the work God called him to.

In this passage, we see that it is not only acceptable, but essential in some circumstances for those ministry workers to rely on others for financial support.

3. The Generosity of the Macedonian Churches

Paul speaks of the Macedonian churches and their willingness to give beyond their ability:

"For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people." 2 Corinthians 8:3-4

The Macedonian believers are an example of radical generosity, giving beyond what was comfortable or expected. They recognized that supporting ministry was a privilege and a way to participate in God's work.

Their example shows that fundraising is not just about meeting a need; it's an opportunity for others to engage in the mission and advance the kingdom of God through their giving.

A Key Scripture

All of the above are clear, compelling examples of fundraising used in the New Testament. But perhaps the most direct Scripture addressing fundraising for ministry comes from Paul's clear instruction about the support of those who preach the Gospel:

"In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should receive their living from the Gospel." 1 Corinthians 9:14

This passage underscores the biblical principle that other Christians should help support those who serve in full time ministry for the work they do for the Gospel.

You see, one of the most common ways that we are able to start churches among the unreached is by providing for and sending workers to frontier people groups.

When you ask people to partner with you, they are a part of getting the Gospel to all nations.

God commands those who preach and teach to receive support from the people they serve. But before that can happen, missionaries have to go and start these faith communities before they can become self sustaining.

Don't Forget, This Is Ministry Too

The call to fundraise is not merely a logistical necessity, but is rooted in this clear Biblical mandate.

These Scriptures lay the foundation for fundraising in ministry.

They highlight the:

- Need for workers to be supported
- Generosity of believers
- Privilege of partnering in God's mission through financial giving

Support raising is not a secondary task or an afterthought. It is a vital part of the ministry process.

Fundraising is a way for God's people to come together and work toward His Kingdom purposes.

Still Wrestling with the Idea?

If this idea still feels uncomfortable or you're not quite convinced, we encourage you to pray about it. Even now, take a moment to pause and express any doubts or uncertainties you may have to God. He is faithful to give you peace and clarity in His timing.

We also encourage you to reach out to someone wise—whether a pastor, professor, or current or former missionary—to hear their perspective on fundraising for ministry.

You may also consult with a fundraising coach who can help you in this process.

Ultimately, remember that fundraising is not just about raising money; it's about building a team of people who will join you in the mission. It's an invitation for others to partner with you in the work God is calling you to do.

Chapter 4: Before You Ask, Ask God

This journey begins not with a list of names or a financial goal—but with prayer.

Prayer is how you stay rooted. It's how you stay connected to the One who called you in the first place.

Before you send any message or schedule a meeting, spend time with God. Let Him remind you that He is the source of your strength and provision.

Remember, you are stepping into something that requires faith, obedience, and dependence on God. Prayer is what grounds and sustains you in this whole support raising process.

Ask God to help you gather a small group of like minded friends and family who are willing to commit to praying with you throughout this journey.

Consider ways to stay connected for the long haul. Perhaps this means meeting together—either in person or through video chat—at least twice a month during your fundraising season. Alternatively, you could use a group chat or email chain to send out prayer requests.

Whatever you do, keep them updated. Let them know how things are going. Share both your needs and your praises.

This group will become a lifeline when things get difficult or discouraging. They can pray over you, encourage you, and remind you of your calling when you need it most.

God Wants Us to Ask Him

A significant part of prayer is sharing with God what you need. Jesus modeled this in The Lord's Prayer that He taught His disciples to pray.

He uses words that require our dependence on God and unashamedly ask for His help.

“This, then, is how you should pray:

‘Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:9-13)

Did you notice the words of dependence like:

- “Give us” (v 11)
- “Forgive us” (v 12)
- “Lead us” (v 13)
- “Deliver us” (v 13)

We cannot do those things on our own. These are all things that we must ask for His help to accomplish.

Prayer is how you depend on God instead of relying on your own strength. It is where you bring your doubts honestly before Him—just like the Psalmists did—and still choose to trust His promises.

Psalm 34 is an encouraging example of this. It acknowledges that life can be difficult, but speaks of God’s faithfulness to us in hard times.

“The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help.

He rescues them from all their troubles.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;

he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

The righteous person faces many troubles,

but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.”

(vs 17-19, NLT)

The Power of Prayer

Scripture makes it clear that prayer brings peace and removes anxiety:

Philippians 4:6-7 says, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

When you pray, you are not just speaking into the air. You are talking to a God who listens and responds.

James 5:16 reminds us, “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

And 1 John 5:14 says, “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us.”

You are not doing this alone. God is with you. He hears you and is able to move on your behalf.

Start with prayer. Invite the Spirit to lead. And trust that God will do what only He can do.

Chapter 5: The 5 Steps of Faith Filled Fundraising

When it comes to raising support, the process feels more achievable when you break it down into clear, simple steps.

Once you've built a strong foundation of prayer, the fundraising process typically includes 5 main components:

1. Determining your budget
2. Articulating your vision
3. Compiling your contact list
4. Presenting your vision
5. Following up and thanking potential supporters

Here's a quick summary of what each of these steps will look like. You will learn more detailed strategies for each step in the following chapters.

1. Determining Your Budget

You need a clear picture of your financial goal before you start fundraising. Work with your sending organization to set a budget that includes:

- Ministry costs
- Personal living expenses
- Travel
- Insurance
- Retirement savings
- And more

Don't guess. Know what you actually need in order to thrive on the mission field. A well informed, realistic budget will give you peace and credibility when you invite others to support you.

2. Articulating Your Vision

People don't just give to needs—they give to vision. Before you schedule meetings, take time to write out a clear, compelling explanation of what you're doing, why you're doing it, and how it will make a difference.

Practice saying it out loud. Write a 1 minute version to share with people informally, as well as a 20 minute version you will use during a formal support meeting.

Ask someone else to listen and give feedback. Keep it personal, passionate, and clear.

3. Compiling Your Contact List

Start with the people closest to you. Think through friends, family, mentors, church connections, coworkers, and even old classmates or teammates. You're not just looking for people with money—you're looking for people who care about you and what God is doing through you.

Don't filter people out prematurely. Let them decide if they want to partner. You might be surprised who says yes!

4. Presenting Your Vision

This step is where your prayer, preparation, and practice come together. People also call this "The Ask" meeting, since it offers a clear call to action to the person you are presenting to.

Don't worry—we've got a whole chapter dedicated to this meeting, but here's a quick overview!

During this presentation, you will meet with a prospective donor (in person or online) and share what God is calling you to do. You clearly and confidently invite the person to join your team through prayer and financial support.

Yes, it can feel awkward. But with time, it becomes more natural.

Remember, you're not selling anything. You're offering an opportunity to invest in something eternal and to partner with you in the Great Commission.

Be direct, clear, and kind. Leave room for questions and let the Holy Spirit do the rest.

Ask them their preferred means of contact for follow up. You might be surprised who prefers a call versus a text versus an email.

5. Following Up and Thanking Supporters

Follow up matters just as much as the meeting itself. Make sure you have presented a clear step by step process for people to give.

After someone says they'll give, follow up until the person follows through on their commitment, using their preferred method of contact.

And always say thank you. Regular updates and personal notes of thanks help your supporters stay connected to the mission. A simple thank you note, email, or text goes a long way.

Evaluate and Re Execute

Some missionaries raise full support in as little as 4 months, but many take closer to a year. The timeline depends on factors like your travel schedule, how much you need to raise, and how consistent you can be in your efforts.

Once you've done a few presentations, you may need to troubleshoot and adjust your approach. Maybe you need to communicate your vision more clearly. Don't be afraid to revise.

Talk to your mission coach or a trusted mentor. Make a list of questions about any obstacles or concerns you're facing and bring those into the conversation.

Remember, you're not alone in this. Your coach and your organization want to see you succeed and they will gladly help you see your fundraising through to 100%!

Chapter 6: Everyone You Know Matters

When you start fundraising, you might feel overwhelmed or discouraged, especially if you think: “I don’t know many people!”

The fact is, that’s rarely true! You almost always have more connections than you think!

Start by sitting down and writing or typing a list of every single person who comes to mind.

If you’re married, each spouse should make their own list and you can combine them later.

Start with Your Social Media Accounts

Scroll through your followers and those you follow. Focus on people you’ve had at least some kind of personal interaction with.

As you go, write down names. Don’t filter your list or decide in advance who will or won’t give. Just write down everyone that you can think of!

This list may grow longer than you expect!

Think through Past Connections

Once you’ve gone through social media, think about other categories of relationships.

Point by point, ask yourself if there’s anyone else who you haven’t connected with online. Here are some places to start:

Connections Checklist

Family

- ☐ Immediate family (parents, siblings)
- ☐ Extended family (cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents)
- ☐ In laws
- ☐ Friends of your parents
- ☐ Distant relatives

Social Justice Allies

- ☐ Friends passionate about refugee work, anti trafficking, or global missions
- ☐ International development contacts

Church Connections

- ☐ Current church members
- ☐ Past churches you've attended
- ☐ Bible study groups or small group members
- ☐ Pastoral staff or church leaders
- ☐ Churches of your supporters

College + High School

- ☐ Classmates
- ☐ Professors and faculty
- ☐ Coaches, youth group leaders, or mentors
- ☐ Old teammates (sports, band, clubs)

Parachurch + Ministry

- ☐ Friends from Young Life, Cru, the MomCo, etc.
- ☐ Mission trip teammates
- ☐ Retreat and camp connections
- ☐ Short term mission leaders

Connections through Your Kids

- ☐ Teachers and coaches
- ☐ Parents of your child's friends
- ☐ Summer camp counselors
- ☐ School staff or administrators
- ☐ Sports team parents
- ☐ Homeschool co op families

Coworkers

- ☐ Current coworkers
- ☐ Past coworkers
- ☐ Internship supervisors or colleagues

Neighbors

- ☐ Current neighbors
- ☐ Past neighbors

Medical Professionals

- ☐ Doctors
- ☐ Eye doctor
- ☐ Physical therapist
- ☐ Dentist
- ☐ Chiropractor
- ☐ Veterinarian (if you have pets!)

Hobbies

- ☐ Friends from the gym, hiking group, trivia team, book club
- ☐ Volunteer organization friends

Businesses and Services You Use

- ☐ Handyman
- ☐ Plumber
- ☐ Electrician
- ☐ Realtor
- ☐ Tax preparer
- ☐ Insurance agent
- ☐ Hairdresser
- ☐ Barber
- ☐ Personal trainer

Past Supporters

- ☐ People who donated to previous mission trips or causes
- ☐ Past GoFundMe supporters or event donors

Referrals

- ☐ Ask your friends and family to connect you with people they know who might love to hear about your ministry!

Sometimes, your biggest supporters are just a connection away!

Think outside the Box

Don't limit your list to Christians. Include anyone interested in nonprofit work, social justice, or international development. These causes often resonate with people outside of traditional church circles.

Even if they aren't interested in the Great Commission, you can still appeal to them with the good you will be creating through your ministry. Tweak your approach with them, not hiding the Christian aspect, but emphasizing your outreach.

Consider Reaching Out to Churches

For help identifying potential churches beyond your home church, ask your friends or family to connect you with the pastor or mission committee from their church.

Also, don't overlook small churches like church plants or house church fellowships. Just because they're smaller doesn't mean they aren't generous.

Many want to support missionaries, but don't have anyone they currently sponsor. You could be their first supported ministry worker!

Don't Assume

One of the biggest things that will likely surprise you in the fundraising process is who does and doesn't give to your ministry.

Do not assume you know who will give. Be open to consider everyone.

Group Contacts by Priority

While you shouldn't assume who will give, you should think through who is most likely to support you financially and start with the people who are most likely to support you financially.

Once you have your list of people you know, sort them into 3 categories.

1. **High** - People who are very likely to support you
2. **Medium** - People who might support you with more information
3. **Low** - People you don't know well or are unsure about

Start with your high priority contacts. These early yeses can build confidence and momentum!

And who knows—the “low priority” contacts could pleasantly surprise you and turn out to be great supporters too!

People Are Important

Compiling your contact list is one of the most important steps in the fundraising process. It sets the foundation for meaningful conversations, growing support, and building a ministry team that shares your vision.

Let this process be an act of faith. You’re not just writing names on a page. You’re inviting people into what God is doing through your life and calling.

Chapter 7: Tell the Story, Share the Vision

When it comes to fundraising, your vision might feel crystal clear in your head—but unless you can clearly communicate that vision to others, you'll struggle to build a support team.

People want to support a mission they believe in. But first, they need to understand what it is!

That means you need to prepare, polish, and practice your presentation.

This is your chance to help others catch the vision God gave you. Take the time to think through your story, write it out, and rehearse it out loud.

Use visuals if possible. There are plenty of websites that offer royalty free, high quality stock photos like Unsplash or Pixabay. Make your presentation look professional and compelling, even if it's simple. Choose from ready to use templates in Canva to help you achieve a professional feel for your presentation.

Use the 6 Questions of Storytelling

Just like you learned in school, you can use the key elements of storytelling to shape your presentation:

1. Who
2. What
3. Where
4. When
5. Why
6. How

Each part helps bring clarity and depth to your story. Let's break each down.

1. Who: Introduce Yourself

Share your name and a bit about your background. Include your family, if applicable.

Talk about your professional or educational experience. Share a brief testimony of your faith journey.

Explain your calling to missions. When did you sense God leading you in this direction? How has He confirmed it?

2. What: Explain the Mission

Share the biblical basis for missions and the urgency of reaching Unreached People Groups (UPGs). A great place to start is:

“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’” Romans 10:14-15

Talk about the UPGs you’re working with. Give specific examples of why this work matters and why there is a need to reach this population.

3. Where: Describe the Location

Explain where you are going and why that location is strategic. Paint a picture of life in that region. What is the culture like? What is the spiritual climate?

Describe the types of ministry involved—like teaching English, working in a community center, or offering relief support. Ask your future coworkers or team leaders to describe what your daily work will involve.

4. When: Talk about Timing

Share your timeline for leaving. Mention whether this is a short term or long term commitment (and be specific about what that means). Even if your assignment is long term, explain that it’s broken up into terms like 2 or 5 years.

Also mention how often your organization suggests you come home to visit family and friends and continue to raise support.

Be honest if anything is still uncertain and share what steps remain before your departure.

5. Why: Clarify the Bigger Picture

Share what kind of work you’ll be doing and the impact you hope to have. Talk about any visit you’ve made to the field or the team you’ll be joining.

If you’re launching something new, describe what you hope to start and what specific need sparked the idea.

6. How: Invite People to Partner

Talk about the biblical model of partnership. **Philippians 4:15-18 is a great example. “Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.”**

Emphasize that missions is not a solo effort—God uses the whole body of Christ to accomplish the Great Commission.

The Great Commission were Jesus's final words before ascending into heaven after his resurrection. He gave his disciples the command to make disciples around the world.

**“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...”
Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)**

Let people know clearly that you are asking them to consider supporting you financially. Be specific. Share your monthly or annual goal.

Offer a range of suggested giving levels that match their stage of life. For example, young professionals might be able to give \$50–\$100 per month. Dual income families with older children may be able to give \$150–\$300 per month.

Share Stories That Inspire

Stories make your mission memorable. People won't remember all the facts—but they'll remember a story that moves them.

Think about 2 or 3 brief but compelling stories from your past ministry experiences. Maybe a story from a short term trip, a personal connection with someone from the people group, or a moment where God made your calling clear.

Share stories that reflect your passion for the mission and help others feel emotionally and spiritually drawn in.

Putting It Together

After compiling all of the information above, divide it up and pick out the parts that feel the most effective.

You may want to consider typing up your presentation and having both a trusted person and an AI summary tool review it. Your mission coach will likely want to review it too.

TIP: Remove specific information from anything you paste into an AI tool. You can use brackets to denote locations and names that you will later change.

Decide whether you want to create a digital presentation or have a physical copy that you can bring to a meeting. Either one can be effective, but it depends on your level of comfort with using technology for presentations.

Use Canva, Google Slides, or PowerPoint to create a slideshow presentation (also known as a pitch deck). Include a visual on each slide (a photo or very short video), along with a few bullet points to help guide your sharing about that particular topic.

Your presentation could be as little as 5 slides, but should be no more than 10. Include only the most important information in order to keep your presentation short and to the point.

If you are presenting via a laptop, make sure you have simple, but eye catching animations to transition from one slide to another. Nothing crazy, but something to make it visually appealing.

If you want to present with a physical book, use your slideshow to create the presentation and print out color copies on high quality presentation grade paper (but not cardstock). Office supply stores usually offer presentation grade printing at a reasonable rate. Once your presentation slides are printed, you can put them into a binder inside page protectors.

Practice until It Feels Natural

We cannot say this enough: Practice your presentation out loud—a lot.

- Practice in front of a mirror
- Practice with a friend or mentor who will give honest feedback
- Practice with someone who isn't familiar with missions and ask them:
 - What parts do you find unclear?
 - What would you like to learn more about?
 - What aspects stand out to you?

If you plan to meet with potential supporters over video, practice using your online platform. Get comfortable sharing your screen, switching slides, and speaking naturally on camera.

Focus on Being Clear and Concise

Don't stress about being perfect. Be clear, passionate, and authentic.

The truth is, people will only take away a few key points from your presentation. And usually, people remember the stories! Make sure you share your stories as clearly and succinctly as possible!

This is your opportunity to invite people into what God is doing—and that starts with telling the story God is writing through your life.

Chapter 8: Partnering with Your Church: How to Begin Strong

One of the first and most important meetings you should schedule is with your sending church—or with a mission board if your church has one. These conversations lay the foundation for a fruitful and lasting partnership with the church community that has shaped and supported your spiritual growth.

This step can feel intimidating, but it's really about inviting your church into what God is already doing. You're not asking for favors—you're offering them a chance to participate in God's global mission alongside you.

Here's a breakdown of the steps to take to make the most of this important meeting:

Step 1: Set Up the Meeting

Start with a simple and respectful email to your pastor, missions committee chair, or church leadership team. Let them know about your upcoming ministry opportunity and that you'd like to schedule a time to share more.

Include a few brief details—your location of service, timeline for your departure, and the sending organization you'll be working with. Feel free to include the link to your mission organization so the recipient can read up on it!

If you don't hear back after a few days, follow up with a phone call. Be kind, clear, and persistent. They may have overlooked your message because it got buried in their inbox.

Step 2: Share Your Vision

Once you've scheduled a meeting, treat it like any other "Ask" presentation.

- Be prepared by verbally practicing what you will say ahead of time
- Bring printed materials or a digital slide deck including visuals if possible
- Use the storytelling structure from the last chapter (who, what, where, when, why, how) to walk through your vision

Step 3: Make Your First Ask

At the end of the meeting, provide a clear and specific call to action for your pastor or missions committee. Don't leave things vague.

Ask for 2 things:

1. Church Support

Request financial support from the church at a monthly level. Depending on the size and resources of the church, this might range from \$300 to \$1000 per month.

Be clear and confident about your financial goals and how this support fits into your overall budget.

2. Permission to Approach Individuals

Ask if you can reach out to individuals in the congregation for 1 on 1 partnership meetings. Many churches welcome this, but some may have specific guidelines or want to help you coordinate those conversations.

Wrapping Up Your Presentation

Make it easy for them to give right away. Leave them with a tangible way to follow up with you—such as a printed handout with a QR code or follow up via email with a link so they can start giving immediately.

Step 4: Follow up Promptly

After the meeting, always send a thank you note. Write a handwritten card to make a big impact. A thoughtful email works too—especially if you include next steps or links they requested.

Follow up again within a day or two. A brief phone call, text, or email will help keep the relationship strong and the conversation moving forward.

Ask if they've had a chance to sign up to give. Offer to answer any lingering questions about the process.

Step 5: Stay Connected

Ongoing communication with your church is just as important as your initial ask. Make sure your pastor or missions contact gets regular updates about your ministry—especially the fruit of what God is doing.

Be generous with your gratitude. Emphasize that your church's support is not just financial—it's spiritual, emotional, and missional. Your church is on your team with you! Their involvement helps bring the Gospel to people who might otherwise never hear it.

When you frame the relationship this way, you invite your church to step into their own calling as senders—essential partners in reaching the nations.

Chapter 9: The Meeting That Matters

Once you've shared your vision with your church and received their blessing, it's time to move to the next step—reaching out to your personal network.

You will receive much of your support through these 1 on 1 meetings. They also create space for meaningful, relational conversations for people to personally capture the vision of your ministry.

You might feel intimidated at first, but this part of the process gets easier with practice. You are not pressuring people—you are inviting them to join something God is doing.

Here's your step by step breakdown of meetings with your contacts:

Step 1: Reach Out to Your Contacts

Use the contact list you built in the earlier stage of this process. Send a simple message by text, email, or even make a phone call to ask each person if they would be open to meeting with you.

Here's what to include:

- **Remind them who you are** - Establish your connection clearly. (Example: "Hi Emily, it's Jen from MomCo...")
- **Briefly explain your vision** - Keep it short. Just a sentence or two. Save the full explanation for the meeting.
- **Let them know why you're reaching out** - Say that you are setting up short meetings to share about your ministry and give people the opportunity to become financial and prayer supporters.
- **Be honest about your intentions** - Clearly mention that you will be asking for financial support during the meeting. This builds trust and prevents any "gotcha" moments.
- **Offer times to meet** - Make it easy for them to say yes. Suggest 2 or 3 specific windows of time you could meet and let them pick which one works for them.
- **Take a moment to thank them** - Express gratitude for their time and openness. Show that you're excited to meet with them!

Sample Message about Meeting

Here's a sample message you can adapt with your specific information to set up meetings with your contacts.

"Hi James! This is Mike from Bible study. I hope you're doing well!

I'm reaching out because I'm preparing to move to New York City for long term ministry, and I'm currently building a team of financial and prayer partners.

I'd love the chance to meet with you to share more and see if you'd be interested in supporting the work.

Would you be open to meeting sometime in the next week or two? I'm available [insert times].

Thanks so much for considering!"

Remember, because this is a meeting to ask for financial support, you absolutely need to use the phrase "financial support" or "becoming a financial supporter." This simple courtesy will help avoid any confusion about the nature of the meeting and help them be prepared that money will be discussed.

Step 2: Prioritize 1 on 1 Meetings

As much as possible, meet with individuals or couples one at a time.

People tend to feel more personally connected—and more likely to give—when they hear the vision directly from you in a setting where they can ask questions and process without distraction.

Larger group gatherings can serve a purpose, but often people in groups assume someone else will give and do not feel the same urgency or ownership as a personal meeting.

If you speak at group functions, like a Bible study or small group, use those times to share very briefly about your mission and let people know that you are scheduling 1 on 1 meetings to share more.

Step 3: Present Your Vision and Make the Ask

When you meet with your contact, start by engaging them in conversation and getting to know them better. Really listen and show them you are interested in them.

Pray and ask God to help you connect threads from their personal story to your story. Highlight similar themes and encourage them in how God is working similarly in both your lives. Bringing up these points of connection can open doors for partnership!

Make sure you are set up to give your presentation. Generally, you will be presenting a slideshow on a laptop, but you may have a physical copy of a presentation to work with.

Go through your presentation clearly and slowly. Ask for questions if they seem confused.

The end of your presentation should include a clear call to action (CTA) that invites them to say either "Yes" or "No" to financially supporting your ministry. Then give them a tangible follow up, whether it's a business or post card with a QR code or a follow up email with your giving link.

For each contact you meet with, take time to pray before the meeting. Pray and consider specifically what amount (or range) you might ask the individual or couple for.

It may feel unnatural to ask for a specific amount, but unless you make your need known, people might not know what an appropriate monthly or annual donation could be.

If you are unsure what amount could be appropriate for a specific person, chat with your mission coach or representative from your missions organization. They have experience in fundraising and can help give you wisdom about specific situations.

The Transition to the Ask

Briefly explain your overall budget and that you are looking for financial supporters to partner with you in making this work possible.

And here's the part where you need to rely on the Holy Spirit...and be bold!

Directly ask the person or couple you are meeting with this question:

Would you be willing to financially support me at \$___ per month? (Give the specific amount or range that you prayed about. That could be \$75 per month or a range like \$100-\$200 per month.)

Wait patiently for a minute while they think it over. Give them time to answer. Answer any questions they may have.

If they say they are unable to give monthly, be prepared to suggest a yearly gift. (Some people count on annual bonuses or tax refunds that make it easier for them to give annually.)

If their answer is "Yes," give them the information necessary to start giving right away. That could be a brochure and giving slip from your mission organization, or even a 1 page document that you create yourself with a QR code linking them directly to the website for giving.

If their answer is "No," be gracious and follow up. If they seem hesitant to make a long term financial commitment, tell them: "I understand that it takes a lot to make an ongoing financial commitment. Would it be helpful if I leave you with some materials to read through and pray about, and I can follow up with you for 2 weeks?"

If they say they are not able to financially support at this time, again, extend grace and understanding. Ask them if it's okay if you follow up with them next year to see if they are in a better position to partner. Many people will say "Yes" to this.

Also, be sure to ask if you can send them your newsletter with updates and prayer requests! They may not be able to give, but they may be able to support you through prayer.

Remember to ask them their preferred communication channel. Don't assume. You might be surprised what some people prefer, whether it's:

- Phone call

- Email
- Text

Before You Go

Whatever the answer you were given, be kind and gracious. Thank the person for their time and interest in meeting with you. Offer to pray for them and their family, and bless them as you go.

The Most Important Things to Remember

Be honest throughout every interaction. Communicate your financial needs clearly and invite them to partner with you by asking for a specific amount or range of financial gift.

Remember, your role is to invite, not to pressure. Trust the Holy Spirit to move hearts towards your cause.

At the same time, do not hesitate to make a specific ask. People often appreciate when you give them a clear opportunity to be part of something meaningful.

By faithfully setting up meetings, sharing your vision, and following up well, you're doing more than fundraising. You're building a ministry team—people who will walk with you, pray for you, and make your work possible.

Chapter 10: The Ministry of Gratitude

People love being part of exciting new things and they like to feel they are making a difference in the world.

By asking your contacts to partner with you in ministry, you have already blessed them with an opportunity to take part in something positive and bigger than themselves.

Freely express gratitude to everyone who you meet with, whether or not they chose to offer regular financial support. Your attitude of thankfulness and appreciation goes a long way!

After each support meeting, always follow up. Send a thank you note as soon as possible. A quick handwritten card or a thoughtful email can go a long way in showing gratitude and strengthening the relationship.

Follow up again within a day or two to check in. Use their preferred communication channel that you asked about during your meeting. Ask if they had any questions about what you shared.

In this conversation, confirm their decision. If they expressed interest in giving, make sure they know how to do it. Include the giving link again if they need it.

At the mention of finances, reiterate your appreciation. Money can be a sensitive subject, but because they are willing to give, let them know how important it is to you.

Tell them how grateful you are for their time, their prayers, and their consideration.

Ongoing Supporter Care

Expressing thanks for a financial commitment is just the first step to caring for your supporters. Once someone has chosen to partner with you as a financial donor, make sure you stay connected to them!

When you are on the field, a monthly email update to your supporters will go a long way in helping them feel like a true partner in your ministry. Some workers send emails more often with:

- Specific prayer requests for the week
- Celebrations of milestones like baptisms and professions of faith
- Offering to pray for partner's prayer requests

You may find it effective to send a personalized text or even a short video to each supporter individually to let them know how much you appreciate them every 3 - 12 months

Before you come home on home assignment or at the end of your short term mission, bring each supporter a little souvenir from your city or country of ministry. Supporters feel grateful when you acknowledge them and might even keep your token around as a reminder to pray for you!

Chapter 11: The Mid Race Check In

After your first 10 meetings, take a breath—and take stock. This is the perfect time to stop and assess how things are going.

Check In Questions

Ask yourself questions like:

- What obstacles am I running into?
- How easy or difficult has it been to get people to agree to a meeting?
- Are people unclear on what I'm asking for?
- Do I need to rework my presentation in any way?

Talk it out with your spouse, a coach, or trusted friend. Brainstorm solutions together. You don't have to figure this all out on your own.

Remember, no one gets everything right the first time. Ministry fundraising is both an art and a skill. You are learning, and God is shaping you in the process.

Stay open to feedback. If something feels confusing or people aren't responding the way you hoped, adjust. You want to communicate clearly and lead with both humility and boldness.

Fundraising is not one size fits all. Be willing to pivot if your story, visual, or ask isn't connecting with people.

Troubleshooting

Here are a few common issues new fundraisers face when raising support.

If People Are Meeting, But Not Giving

Check how clear your ask is. Are you being specific? Are you explaining exactly what you need and how they can be part of it?

Sometimes people say "Yes" but forget to follow up by mailing in the commitment card or signing up for online giving. A gentle reminder via text or email can be effective to help them follow through.

If People Keep Putting You Off to Meet

Ask for a concrete follow up time. Try something like, "Would it be helpful if I reached back out in 2 weeks?" Alternatively, you can suggest a video call if meeting in person seems tricky.

If You're Feeling Discouraged

Don't isolate. Call a teammate, a coach, or a mentor. Ask for prayer. Be honest about what you're feeling.

This is not the time to tough it out on your own. Rely on your friends and prayer partners to help encourage and pray for you!

Spiritual Difficulties

Speaking of discouragement, maybe the issues you're having aren't due to the practical issues above. Maybe you're finding that your discouragement stems from spiritual struggles.

Assess where your heart is, as well as your posture to God in this moment.

Are you feeling afraid? Bitter? Spiritually distant?

It's very relatable to feel confused if you felt like some people would give to you, but didn't. Bring that discouragement to the Lord and be honest about it.

Continue to prioritize your time with the Lord and pour out your struggles and doubts to Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue to guide you and depend on Him for everything in this fundraising process.

Give Yourself a Pep Talk...and Talk to God!

Be encouraged: Fundraising for ministry is hard work—but you're doing it!

You're in the hardest part of fundraising. Just keep going—God is with you in this and He is never leaving you!

Here are some verses to remind you of God's faithfulness as you press on:

“Consider it pure joy... whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete.” James 1:2-4

“We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame...” Romans 5:3-5

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Hebrews 12:1-2

You're not just raising money—you're growing in faith, perseverance, and trust!

You are walking a journey of financial support, and God will meet you in every step.

Chapter 12: Go Time: Fundraising for Short Term Missions + Internships

Raising funds for a short term mission trip closely mirrors the process for long term missions, though some key differences still exist.

Short term trips and internships usually require a shorter fundraising process because they need less funding upfront. Short term participants and interns typically need to raise support in a shorter time frame.

What Counts as Short Term?

Short term mission work usually includes any trip lasting 2 months or less. These types of trips may include:

- 1 week trips
- Summer trips (anywhere from 2 to 12 weeks)
- Internships

Even if your trip is brief, your impact can be lasting. You are stepping into God's global story and inviting others to help send you!

Step By Step Guide to Fundraising for a Short Term Mission or Internship

Fundraising for a short term mission trip uses the same basic principles as fundraising for long term missions. You still need to gather your contacts. You still need to clearly communicate your vision. But with less time, you need to move with more focus and urgency.

Here's the basic process to help you fundraise well for a short term trip or internship.

Step 1: Compile Your Contacts

Start by building your contact list. (Re read the previous chapter "Everyone You Know Matters.")

The main difference here, though, is that you will want to prioritize getting contacts's physical mailing addresses along with emails and phone numbers.

Short term fundraising often leans heavily on traditional support letters sent through the mail. People can easily miss emails, but if you send a physical letter to their home, they are more likely to take notice.

You can often find people's mailing addresses through school or church directories, an internet search, or your Christmas card list. If you or anyone in your family has recently gotten married you can ask for their address book. (If you don't have a list, ask your parents. They might not have information for all of your contacts, but they might have more than you think!)

Step 2: Write Your Vision

You may only be going for a few weeks, but your purpose still matters. Take the time to write out your vision:

- Where are you going?
- Why are you going?
- What will you be doing while you're there?

Refer to the previous chapter "Tell the Story, Share the Vision" for tips on sharing a detailed story while still being concise.

Once you've written that down, you'll use it to create a short support letter and a simple presentation. Let people know why this opportunity matters to you and how they can be part of it.

See the next chapter for a short term support letter template that you can customize!

Step 3: Talk to Your Pastor

Before sending anything out, speak with your church leadership first. Let them know where you're going and what your goals are. Ask for their blessing and support.

Refer to the "Partnering With Your Church" chapter for more information on how to share with your pastor or missions committee, as well as how to ask for specific resources.

Even if the church cannot give financially, they may pray for you, write a reference, or allow you to share your vision with the church community.

Step 4: Send a Support Letter

Once you've gathered addresses and finalized your letter, mail physical copies of a support letter to your contacts.

If possible, include:

- Instructions for how to give
- A giving link or QR code
- A return envelope (if needed for checks)

After mailing the letter, follow up with a digital version.

Email your contacts the same message. (Send an email to yourself but be sure to BCC your contacts so that you don't spam people and inadvertently give out other people's email addresses.)

Make sure you clearly present the option for online giving. Make it easy to access via QR code or simple web address.

Reminders about Security

Depending on the security of your location and the team you are working with, be careful to not share identifiable details online. And don't put anything into an email that you wouldn't want posted on a website page.

Most work emails are subject to being public property and can be made public record upon request.

Ask your sending agency what their specific recommendations are. Some organizations will want you to change the names of locations (to protect the privacy of their ministry location). Take your cues from them.

Step 5: Use Social Media Wisely

Social media can help you spread the word, but it shouldn't be your main strategy. Think of it as a reminder tool.

In the last four weeks of your fundraising, post updates to your socials.

You can include things like:

- Fundraising progress ("I'm 60% funded for this trip!") using eye catching visuals!
- Prayer requests for the trip
- Direct links for giving online

Convey your excitement for the trip, but don't be a broken record. You shouldn't need to post more than 2-3 times per week about your upcoming mission trip, especially when it involves asks for financial support.

In your social posts, be personal and be grateful for people who are supporting you. A short video talking about your upcoming trip could be helpful to express the vision.

Another way to promote your trip via social media is to share or re post social posts from the mission organization you will be working with. These videos and posts usually deliver high quality content and are very informative. They will go a long way to help potential donors have a clear idea of what your trip will entail.

Your Mission Matters

Even though you are going for a short time, know that every opportunity counts! Your trip gives you a chance to serve others, share the Gospel, and grow in your own walk with Christ.

Invite others to join you in that work by giving and praying.

Remember, you are not asking for a handout. You are offering people an opportunity to be part of sharing the Gospel with the nations!

If God is calling you to long term missions, you are setting the foundation now to have a robust partner team in the future.

Chapter 13: Short Term Letters That Move People: A How to Guide

A strong support letter can open the door for meaningful partnerships. It invites others to be part of what God is doing and gives them a tangible way to get involved.

You may only have a few weeks or months to fundraise for your short term trip. Writing a clear and personal letter will help you connect with potential supporters and raise what you need on time.

What Makes a Good Support Letter?

Your support letter should be:

- **Personal** - Write with warmth and sincerity. Share from your heart.
- **Clear** - Explain what you are doing, why it matters, and how they can help.
- **Inviting** - Give them the opportunity to join your mission in a real, practical way.

Once you understand the key qualities of an effective letter, use this simple outline to help you write your own.

Use This Simple Outline

Each part of your letter plays an important role in helping people connect with your mission and decide how they want to get involved. Check out this easy to use guide to structure your letter.

1. Greeting and Personal Update

Begin with a warm greeting. Mention something personal or current to help your letter feel relational.

2. What You're Doing and Why

Share where you're going and what you'll be doing. Explain why this trip matters to you and how it fits into God's bigger mission. You can adapt some content from your mission organization's website or social media.

3. How Much You Need and When You Need It

Be specific about your fundraising goal. Let them know how much you need and the deadline to raise it.

4. How They Can Give

Tell them exactly how to give. Include a direct link with step by step instructions and a QR code if possible.

If your agency has a URL like agencyname.org/give, be sure to tell your partners what parameters to select on the form, such as your account name and/or number.

5. A Heartfelt Thank You

End with genuine gratitude. Whether they give or not, you want to thank them for reading and supporting you in other ways like prayer or encouragement.

Sample Short Term Support Letter

Here's an example support letter you can adapt to fit your trip. When you are using printed letters, it helps to handwrite your contact's name in the greeting, as well as sign your own name at the end. You can leave these spaces blank in a printed newsletter so you can hand write names as necessary. This gives a personal touch!

Subject Line (for email): Join Me in [Location] This Summer

Hey [Name],

I'm excited to share that I'm heading to [place] this summer on a short term mission trip with [organization]! Our team will be serving through [brief description of your work: example – teaching English, helping with youth programs, and street evangelism].

This trip is a big step of faith for me. I believe God will use it to grow my heart for the nations and allow me to serve others with love and humility.

I'm raising **\$2,000 by June 1** to cover travel, training, and ministry expenses.

Would you consider giving **\$50, \$100, or any amount** God puts on your heart?

You can give online at [donation link] or via mail using the response slip enclosed.

If you give online, be sure to select my account under project name "Name + ##".

Your support will help bring the Gospel to people who may have never heard it before. I'm so thankful for your friendship and encouragement as I follow where God is leading me.

Thanks for being part of this with me!

[Your Name]

[Phone number or email if applicable]

Include a recent picture for a personal touch.

Final Tips

Here are some best practices for missions support letters. Let these tips guide your editing process.

- **Keep it short and skimmable** - Aim for 1 page, 1 printed side only (or a few short paragraphs in an email).
- **Use a good visual** - To grab attention, put in a photo of yourself or the location you'll be serving.
- **Use plain language** - Watch out for "Christianese"! Have a friend read over your letter to make sure it is clear to readers and doesn't generate more questions.
- **Include an optional stamped envelope** - If you are including response cards from your missions agency, you may consider also including a self addressed stamped envelope for your contact to mail back to your agency as well. Some people will be more likely to give if this envelope is included (it eliminates the extra step of searching for a stamp to mail a check!). If you think your contact is highly likely to give online, however, you can skip this step.
- **Follow up** - A week after you send your letters, check in by email or personal text asking your contacts if they received the letter. Don't skip this step! This helps establish personal contact and makes it more likely that your contact will support you.
- **Send a thank you message** - If someone gives to your mission, thank them right away. Don't wait until after you've gone on your trip (although you can certainly thank them again when you return!).

Most of all, remember this: You are not just asking for money. You are inviting people to invest in the kingdom of God!

Chapter 14: Faithful and Fully Funded

We started this book by calling you to courage, and now we want to remind you to keep walking courageously.

Trust that God is faithful. He will provide for what He has called you to do, but it won't always be easy.

You have to be willing to do the work necessary, and then let the Holy Spirit do the rest.

Fundraising for ministry is not a side task. It is ministry. When you invite others to support you, you are giving them a chance to be part of God's mission to reach the nations. And that is deeply biblical.

Here are the big takeaways we hope you gain from reading this eBook:

Remember: The Biblical Basis for Fundraising

Throughout Scripture, we see God provide for the work of ministry through the generosity of others.

When Jesus sent out the disciples, He instructed them to rely on others for support.

“Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.” Luke 10:7

Paul wrote to the Philippians, thanking them for partnering with him financially in the work of the Gospel.

“Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only.” Philippians 4:15

These examples, and many more, show that it is good and biblical to invite others to give toward ministry.

You are not begging. You are extending an invitation. When someone gives to your ministry, they become a partner in the spiritual fruit that comes from it.

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” Philippians 1:3-5

Remember: The Power of Asking Individuals Directly for Support

Many people feel hesitant to ask others for money. But personal asks are often the most effective and meaningful. When you meet 1 on 1 or send a thoughtful message, you show someone they matter. You invite them to hear what God is doing and to choose to be part of it.

People do not give to causes. They give to people. You. They give because of relationship, trust, and shared vision.

You may hear “No.”

You may get ghosted.

But you will also hear “Yes!”

On this journey, you will experience the joy of someone catching your vision and saying, “I’m in.”

And when you do, you’ll remember that God moves hearts.

Remember: Keep Persevering!

Raising support is hard work. It stretches your faith and teaches humility, perseverance, and trust.

But you are not doing this alone. God goes before you. He surrounds you. He provides what you need, when you need it.

If you ever feel stuck or discouraged, go back to the truth of God’s Word. Spend some time slowly meditating on these Scriptures and ask the Lord for the faith to believe He will provide.

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19

“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

“He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.” 1 Thessalonians 5:24

You are in the hardest part of fundraising right now. But this is also the part where God proves His faithfulness again and again!

Keep showing up. Keep reaching out. Keep trusting.

And when you start seeing names pop up as supporters, when you see your account grow, when someone says “Yes” to Jesus because of your obedience—you will know it was all worth it.

So say it out loud, even now:

“I trust God will provide. I will be faithful. I will not give up.”

God is with you and will give you the strength you need.

Let's keep going—all the way to fully funded!

Your Next Steps: Find Your Fit

We believe the Great Commission can be fulfilled in this generation—and we want you to be part of it!

“Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.’” Matthew 28:16-20

Our Mission

International Project equips believers to evangelize, disciple, and plant churches among Unreached People Groups (UPGs) dispersed outside their homelands. We focus on urban centers in North America, Europe, and Central Asia where large numbers of unreached migrants now live.

You will see that many of our short term opportunities are offered in New York City. That's because New York City is a strategic location. People from over 50 UPGs live here! In NYC, you will encounter many people who have never even heard about Jesus!

We are passionate about multiplying healthy disciples and churches among the unreached. And we have multiple entry points where you can join the mission.

Whether you're just exploring missions, wondering if God is calling you to the nations, or preparing to go long term, there is a place for you. Check out these opportunities we have available for you!

Short Term Opportunities

Seed Week: 1 Week in New York City (for Adults 18+)

Seed Week is a 1 week mission trip designed to immerse you in Gospel centered ministry among UPGs in New York City. You'll receive hands on training in cross cultural evangelism, then go into neighborhoods to engage people from Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist backgrounds with the Gospel.

This trip is perfect for individuals, church groups, or college groups who want to learn, serve, and grow in their evangelism skills. You'll spend the week praying, learning, sharing your faith, and helping long term missionaries connect with people of peace who may one day start Discovery Bible Studies or churches.

Expect to be stretched. Expect to be inspired. Expect to be changed!

Mission Trips for Adults

Timothy Ambition: 1 Week in New York City (for High School Students)

Timothy Ambition is a 1 week missions experience specifically for high school students. It's designed to spark a fire in young believers to share the Gospel with the nations.

Students will learn about God's heart for the unreached and receive practical tools for evangelism. Then they'll go into diverse NYC neighborhoods to put that training into action. They'll leave empowered to continue engaging in spiritual conversations in their schools, cities, and circles of influence back home.

Mission Trips for Teens

Rome Service Trip: 2-3 Weeks in Rome, Italy (for Adults 18+)

The Rome Service Trip is a 2 to 3 week opportunity for college students and other adults to experience hands on evangelism and serve UPGs in one of the world's most historic and strategic cities.

You will join our long term team to share the Gospel with migrants, refugees, and international students—many of whom are from unreached communities in the 10/40 Window.

Expect deep spiritual growth, bold Gospel proclamation, and humble service. You will take part in daily spiritual rhythms, learn from seasoned missionaries, and engage people with the hope of Christ.

Europe Mission Trips

Missions Internships

Summer Internship: 2 Months in New York City

Our Summer Internship is an intensive program for college students and young adults who want to grow in cross cultural ministry and church planting. Over 8 weeks, you'll live in New York City and join a team committed to bold evangelism, prayer, service, and learning.

You'll engage UPGs with the Gospel, learn from experienced missionaries, and contribute to real ministry. You'll also help run Seed Weeks short term trips and serve alongside our long term teams.

Expect early morning prayer meetings, long days of ministry, deep conversations, and unforgettable growth. You'll walk away with stronger faith, valuable ministry experience, and a clearer vision of what long term missions could look like.

Scholarships may be available. We consider non summer internships on a case by case basis.

Summer Internships

Europe Internship: 2 Months in Rome, Italy

Rome is a global gateway where refugees and migrants from the world's largest UPGs arrive in search of hope. This 2 month internship places you at the heart of that movement, offering hands on experience in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting among communities from the 10/40 Window.

You'll serve at a local migrant center, build relationships through daily outreach, and share the Gospel in one of Europe's most strategic cities. Training is practical and movement based, equipping you with tools to start Discovery Bible Studies and identify persons of peace.

Rather than being classroom heavy, the internship emphasizes "just in time" training—equipping you with biblical principles and then sending you out to apply them immediately in real life ministry.

Experienced missionaries and Muslim background believers will mentor you throughout the journey, helping you grow spiritually, adjust cross culturally, and gain a clearer sense of God's calling on your life.

Europe Internships

Business As Mission (BAM) Internship: 2 Months in New York City

Use your talents in the marketplace to serve the nations through business and ministry!

Our BAM Internship is an intensive program for college students and young adults and gives you hands on experience in business operations, community outreach, and Gospel ministry among UPGs. It runs alongside the normal summer internship and runs for 8 weeks in New York City.

You'll work at the Salaam Center, our thrift store and community hub, where you'll build relationships, receive practical training, and engage in cross cultural evangelism and discipleship.

This internship is for you if you want to use your talents for God's glory, explore your calling, and make a lasting impact in the lives of those who have never heard the Gospel.

BAM Internships

Equip Missionary Training Program: 10 Months in New York City

Train here. Be prepared to go anywhere!

Equip is our flagship missionary training program. It's a 10 month immersive experience where you'll learn how to evangelize, disciple, and plant reproducible churches among UPGs. And you'll do it all in one of the most diverse cities in the world—New York City!

Why New York? NYC is a fast paced, diverse and spiritually open environment. You will learn principles for cross cultural evangelism and be able to put them into practice immediately with all the UPGs around you!

We believe experience is the best teacher. That's why Equip uses a “just in time” training model—as soon as you learn a church planting principle, you practice it on the field.

You'll develop a team ministry plan, participate in Discovery Bible Studies, and learn to engage in spiritual conversations naturally with people from many different cultures.

This is your chance to get trained by experienced missionaries who have spent decades on the field. You will receive personal mentoring and coaching throughout the process.

Equip will give you the experience and clarity you need about your future in missions.

Equip Missionary Training

Long Term Opportunities

Missionary Roles

If God has placed a call to missions on your heart, consider planting your life in New York City, Dallas, Rome, or Central Asia for the sake of the unreached!

As a long term missionary, you will engage in cross cultural outreach, build relationships, and lead Discovery Bible Studies that help people encounter Jesus through His Word. Through these strategies, we see churches planted among people dispersed outside their homelands.

Whether you feel drawn to a specific UPG or want to explore different groups, we will work with you to shape a ministry that fits your calling.

Missionary Jobs

Bi Vocational Missions

Bi vocational missionaries live with a clear purpose: to share the Gospel intentionally while working a regular job. Whether stateside or overseas, they see themselves first and foremost as missionaries who use their God given skills and professions to gain access to communities and build authentic relationships. It's a calling that blends everyday life with eternal impact.

This model is especially powerful in places where traditional missionaries can't go. In closed countries, bi vocational missionaries can enter with legitimate work, then use that platform to make disciples and plant churches. At home, tentmakers reach UPGs who've migrated to US cities—engaging in daily missions through hospitality, conversation, and consistent presence.

With training, coaching, and a team of like minded believers, you don't have to pursue this calling alone. International Project equips bi vocational missionaries to thrive in both their work and witness—whether you're a teacher, tech professional, artist, or entrepreneur. Plus, you'll get to serve on a team with other like minded workers.

If God is stirring your heart for the nations, this could be your path to join Him in what He's doing around the world.

Bi Vocational Roles

Support Roles

Not all missionaries serve on the front lines. We also offer long term opportunities in essential behind the scenes roles.

You will join a growing network of workers committed to sharing Jesus with unreached people—and planting the kind of churches that multiply.

Check out our current openings for fundraised support roles here.

Support Roles

Let's Stay Connected

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

We'd love to help you find the right opportunity. If any of these programs interest you, reach out to us at go@InternationalProject.org.

We're here to support you as you pursue God's call to reach the nations.

We believe in what God is doing—and we believe He wants to do it through your obedience to His call!

Appendix: Resources for Further Reading

We hope you have found this fundraising guide to be a helpful tool on your support raising journey. If you would like to learn more about fundraising, here is a list of the top 5 fundraising books we love!

By using these links, you will help support the ministry of International Project to share the Gospel with UPGs around the world!

Our Favorite Books for Missions Fundraising

- [“The God Ask” by Steve Shadrach](#) - Offers the boldest approach for making “The Ask.” Includes troubleshooting for a variety of scenarios.
- [“Funding Your Ministry” by Scott Morton](#) - Gives a well rounded approach to fundraising. Remains a classic in helping missionaries raise support!
- [“The Spirituality of Fundraising” by Henri Nouwen](#) - Provides further insights into the Biblical significance of and foundation for raising funds for ministry.
- [“People Raising” by William P Dillon](#) - Suggests helpful information for connecting with your contacts and inspiring them to give to your mission.
- [“Friend Raising” by Betty Barnett](#) - Recommends methods similar to “People Raising.” Focuses on maintaining strong connections with partners.

All commissions earned go back to mobilizing our workers to spread the Gospel. It doesn't change your price, but it supports our ministry!