

Caring Well for Your Missionaries

(including those who are responsible for others' Member Care)

- key component—for them to know they are loved and remembered
- pray regularly for worker on the field and on their home ministry assignment (HMA); keep up with their prayer requests & follow up on them; (see suggestions on reverse page)
- listen, Listen, LISTEN!
- rejoice & weep with them while they're on the field and on HMA; don't respond with "I don't know what to say" which focuses on you instead of them; yet don't be silent as it feels like a turning away
- ask "how may I help" before they arrive for HMA; be in tune with those needs whether it be housing, furnishings, car, kids' schools, arranging dr./dentist appts, etc; be creative about how needs can be met
- be sensitive about saying "welcome home", especially to kids who've lived mostly overseas
- provide basic staple items for fridge and pantry to get started (you'd be amazed how many expired items are given!)
- help locate appropriate resources needed in parenting, marriage issues & things such as learning disabilities on HMA/field; share sermons, books, etc that have helped you
- invite them into your family life for a home-cooked meal & include them in social activities, as well as small groups, bible studies, book clubs, gym, etc.
- lend a helping hand—babysitting, dishes, food, laundry, cleaning, yard work
- ask them for an Amazon Christmas wish list (or for things needed 1st time to field); give gift cards for Amazon, Walmart, restaurants, gas, movie theatre, etc when they arrive for HMA
- help fund retreats, conferences, books, summer camp for kids while on HMA
- donate air miles so their college/adult kids can visit or so worker can visit family
- adopt college MKs whose parents are far away—prayer, goody boxes, holiday invitations, holiday/summer accommodation, help getting driving license
- welcome a high school MK into your home for a summer to experience life in the US as a teenager before moving there after high school, especially if you have believing teens of the same sex; help teen get driving license
- arrange a video call with small group from your church or with just yourself; keep up with how they're doing & their prayer requests; phone or text them to check in with them
- pray, Pray PRAY! (see reverse for suggestions)

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Praying for Your Missionaries

(The most common prayers for missionaries are probably for health and safety. However, most missionaries would probably not put these at the top of our list.)

- diligence in God's Word and faithfulness in prayer
- protection from the evil one; standing firm in midst of temptation
- strong marriages and close-knit families
- children to be godly and well-adjusted, to love the host culture and to have godly input in their lives from people outside their families
- representing Jesus in such a way that others may be drawn to Him
- wisdom in daily use of time; discernment for member care workers
- energy, patience and stamina for the long-haul
- godly perseverance and encouragement, especially in adverse circumstances
- growing daily more like Jesus; encouraging teaching from the Word from whatever sources possible on each particular field—worship service, Bible studies, helpful books/talks, podcasts, etc.
- aptitude for local language and cultural sensitivity
- good friendships within host culture; ability to maintain a close friendship in home country
- heart friends with whom to share burdens and joys; friends who initiate communication and not leave it up to them
- true Christian community among team, national co-workers and local church
- comfort in being separated from friends and family, especially children and grandchildren
- joy in the Lord and in the ministry
- faithful and sacrificial prayer and financial supporters; adequate financial support
- open doors for the Gospel and a fruitful harvest
- finishing well whether that be to move to another field or for retirement

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