

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

260 Continental Drive, Lewisville, Texas 75067
(214) 488-2555 ♦ www.IC-World.org



Project Application Packet

Steps of Faith

Thank you for your interest in our upcoming evangelistic church-to-church project! We are excited about how God is working in your life. Being involved in the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world is an awesome experience.

This packet has been designed to guide you through the process in small faith building steps. To begin, we've put together five simple, initial "Steps of Faith." By taking these small steps you embark on a journey that will change your life. Each of these steps is equally important and needs to be completed as soon as possible. The "Steps of Faith" are:

- **Complete & Submit the Participant Information Form**
- **Make a Deposit**
- **Secure a Valid Passport**
- **Complete the Personal Testimony Form**
- **Enlist your Prayer Partners**

A pastor who has led his church to participate in many church-to-church projects made this statement, "I have yet to see anyone take these steps and then not go..."

Anyone can take these simple steps of faith. The surprising fact is that many Christians have not gone simply because they delayed in taking small steps of faith. Soon, Satan made the opportunity appear to be one huge, complex leap instead of small, simple steps.

Remember the day when you publicly acknowledged Jesus Christ as your Savior? You knew that God wanted you to go forward and the only way to the front of the auditorium was to step out and walk. Remember that first step? It was difficult, but once you had taken it, God made each succeeding step easier. The same rule applies today. Take a small, simple step of faith toward going and discover how God makes each step easier.

Our past experience shows of those who will step out on faith and will complete these "Steps of Faith" better than 90% go on the project. Of those who do not go after completing each step, money is very seldom the issue.

The following section will guide you through the "Steps of Faith." This information will help you in completing the necessary documents and meeting the project requirements. Please contact the project coordinator or office with any questions you may have.

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION: The form will need to be returned as soon as God speaks to you about going on a project. The information page also requires a recent photo; it can be a passport photo or just a snap shot. This helps our coordinators be able to put a face with your name and also helps us find you in the airport during travel. Once approved, your name will be added to our database and you will begin receiving regular correspondence and information from us regarding the project.

MAKE A DEPOSIT: For many, the most difficult step of faith to take is making a deposit. We suggest a \$100 deposit; however, if you cannot make a \$100 deposit, send whatever you can, even if it is only \$10. By making a deposit, you are saying to God and man, "I am going." You can send it directly to IC or you can make your deposit through your local church. The church in turn will send the deposit as soon as possible to International Commission.

If you are a typical participant, you do not know how God will provide the balance of your project cost. Matthew 6:21 says, "Where your treasure is there your heart will be also." When you invest some of your treasures you are showing God your heart is in this. Then God begins to open the floodgates of blessings.

You will need to fulfill your financial obligation prior to project departure. If you desire, you can send monthly contributions or as often as you like; we encourage you to send in gifts as soon as God gives them. One-half of the project cost is due 60 days prior to the departure so we can purchase your airline ticket. Remaining balance is due 30 days before departure unless other arrangements have been made.

Gifts made directly to International Commission will be receipted as tax deductible. Because gifts are tax deductible they are non-refundable. Gifts can be transferred to another participant or project, your church or another 501c3 charitable organization.

"Where God calls, God has a plan. If He truly wants you to be a part of this project then He has a plan to provide the funds and work out the details."

PASSPORT: To go as a project participant, you must have a passport. The process is simple and must be completed according to government instructions. It does take time and you need to begin today. If you have any problems, please call the IC office for help. We have provided guidelines for U.S. citizens.

U.S. passport applications and instructions can be downloaded at www.travel.state.gov. If you do not have Internet access please contact the IC project coordinator to receive a paper application sent to you by U.S. mail.

If you already have a passport, it must be valid for at least 6 months from the date you return. If less than 6 months of validity remain on your passport from the date of your return, please renew your passport today.

If your passport is expired or you don't have the required 6 months remaining and if your most recent passport was issued less than 15 years ago and you were over 16 years old at the time of your issuance, you may be eligible to use Form DS-82 (mail-in application) to renew your passport. Information regarding renewal of a U.S. passport is also available at www.travel.state.gov

What to Submit with Passport Applications

1. PROOF OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP- a certified copy of your Birth Certificate
2. PROOF OF INDENTITY- a driver's license or other photo ID
3. TWO RECENT COLOR PASSPORT PHOTOS
4. FEES - as explained in the instructions on the passport application form

Where to Submit Passport Applications

Completed applications **MUST** be submitted in person, with above requirements, at a Federal or State Court House, most Post Offices or at a Passport Agency. Check with your local Court House for information on where to submit the completed application.

Additional information can be obtained at the National Passport Information Center (NPIC) toll-free at 1-877-487-2778 (TDD: 1-888-874-7793) or by e-mail at NPIC@state.gov. Customer Service Representatives are available M-F, 8AM-8PM EST (excluding federal holidays). Automated information is available 24/7. If you have other questions regarding your passport application contact your IC Project Coordinator or the IC office in Lewisville, Texas.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY: This is your primary witnessing tool. Use the attached guidelines to help write your testimony that will tell of your personal salvation experience as well as sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We will have your testimony translated into the foreign language and put into print as a witnessing tract. The tract also includes the plan of salvation, a sample sinner's prayer, and a decision card.

PRAYER PARTNER COMMITMENT CARDS: The key to a successful project is prayer! You need prayer warriors committed to praying for you daily before and during the project. Pray and ask God whom He would have you ask to be your prayer partners. These partners should be extremely committed to prayer and involvement in God's work through this evangelistic project. We also suggest that you share your calling to go on this project with your pastor and church family so they also can begin praying for you. Prayer partner information (name, address, email address) may also be emailed to your project coordinator instead of using the attached form.

TRAINING AND PREPARATION: As you take these "Steps of Faith," IC staff will be there to help you along the way. You will receive training in a variety of ways: letter correspondence, email, telephone and conference calls, printed materials, and possibly even face-to-face meetings in your area. You will learn about the host country's culture and customs, what to pack, how to use the witnessing tools, and how God can best use you. Your faith will continue to grow in anticipation of what God is going to do.

Remember that the devil does not want you to do this. He will do everything he can to discourage and frighten you in an effort to keep you from going and sharing the gospel. Second Timothy 1:7 says, "*For God did not give us a spirit of fear and timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.*" Satan is the one who gives you fear and timidity! Don't let the devil scare you or tempt you to procrastinate and put off taking your steps.

Get started today! "The journey of a lifetime begins with the first step!"

Checklist of Items to be returned to the office of International Commission:

1. Participant Information with photo attached
2. Deposit
3. Personal Testimony
4. Prayer Partners Cards

Mail completed forms to: International Commission
260 West Continental Drive
Lewisville, TX 75067

or email to: Testimony@IC-World.org

Covenant Agreement

Our church-to-church partnership is a team effort between all involved. It is our desire that each area understands the responsibility of others involved and their responsibility in the process; therefore we make this covenant.

IC Responsibilities

1. Promote the concept of intercultural church-to-church evangelism
2. Conduct preparation retreat with host churches
3. Train and prepare all participants
4. Provide witnessing tools
5. Coordinate food, lodging and travel plans
6. Provide training in the social, cultural and religious customs of the host country
7. Commit to overseeing the general operations of the project and to attempt to handle all problems brought to our attention

HOST CHURCH Responsibilities

1. Attend the preparation retreat
2. Implement Operation Andrew and plan visitation
3. Provide church members to work with witnessing teams
4. Provide daily witnessing opportunities with the lost and keep the team busy
5. Commit to do follow up and discipleship with the new converts

PARTICIPANT Responsibilities

1. Complete the steps of faith in a timely manner
2. Take responsibility for full payment of project cost
3. Make spiritual preparations
4. Conduct myself in a Christ-like manner at all times
5. Agree to come under the leadership of IC and its staff; commit to following the social, cultural and religious customs of the host churches and to adhere to the guidance given by IC.

All agree to...

1. Treat everyone with love and respect
2. Understand this is God's agenda and His plans
3. Give God the Glory!

Participant Information Form

Please mail this form to:

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

260 Continental Drive
Lewisville, TX 75067
(214) 488-2555

Attach a recent
photo here

(Passport Photo
not required)

Or [Email to Testimony@IC-World.Org](mailto:Testimony@IC-World.Org)

Project Country _____

Date of Project: _________

1st Time Participant Returning IC Volunteer (Testimony: on file I will update)

General Information:

Full name as on passport: Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Preferred Name for name tag _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Home Phone _____ Work or Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

I wish to depart from _____ in _____
(Airport Name) (City, State)

Occupation _____ Company _____ Title _____

Marital Status _____ Spouse's Name _____

Passport Information: (if applying for a passport forward this information to us when available)

Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____

Emergency Contact: (Do not list someone who will be traveling with you)

Name and Relationship _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Home Church Information: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church Phone _____ Pastor's Name _____

Church Service: Please mark the boxes that describe your service.

Staff Senior Pastor D.O.M. Evangelist

Minister of: Music Education Youth Other _____

Ordained Minister: Yes No

Teacher Adult Youth Children Preschool Other _____

Other Lay Preacher Deacon Usher Committee Member

Music Ability: Soloist Duets Ensemble Choir

List instruments that you play _____

Language Ability: Do you speak the language of the host country? Yes No

If so, please indicate your level of language proficiency.

- I would be comfortable:
- Preaching in the host country language
 - Interpreting preaching
 - Interpreting evangelistic visits
 - Casual conversation

Other languages
you speak:

- _____
- _____

Pastoral Endorsement: (Please have a pastoral staff member of your church sign below.)

I recommend that this applicant represent Jesus Christ and our church on the mission field with International Commission to do church-to-church partnership evangelism.

Pastor's Name _____ Pastor's phone _____

Pastor's Signature _____

Pastor's email address _____

Testimony of Salvation and Call to Go: Tell us briefly about your salvation experience:

Tell us briefly about your call and/or desire to serve in this evangelism project: _____

Previous Mission Experience (other than IC Projects): List Country (ies), dates and type of work (evangelism, construction, medical, etc.) _____

General Condition of Health: Excellent Good Fair Poor

List any medical conditions that we need to be aware of or require special care; chronic diseases, drug allergies and prescription drugs you take. Attach a separate sheet if necessary.

Applicant Release: I understand and agree that International Commission and any of its employees, officers, staff, coordinators, board, or other representatives assume no responsibility for the loss of property, damage to the same, personal harm, illness, or loss of life, that may occur during the execution of this volunteer mission project; and I, for myself, my heirs, executor, administrators, distributes, and assigns, in consideration of my admission to volunteer service and other good and valuable considerations, do hereby absolve said International Commission and its employees, officers, staff, coordinators, board, and other representatives, and hold them harmless from any claim or demand which I or they might conceivably assert upon the basis of the foregoing.

I understand that I will be under the policies of International Commission and my project coordinator and/or IC staff. I agree to abide by the "*Participant Responsibilities*" as stated in the Covenant Agreement. I agree to abstain from the use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and any other behavior that would hinder Christian ministry. I understand that the breach of this contract will be cause for dismissal from the volunteer project and return home at my own expense.

I understand that foreign travel involves health and safety risks. I understand that it is my sole responsibility to gather whatever information I need in order to assess the risk involved in any travel, stay or other activity related to an International Commission project.

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Personal Testimony

Your personal testimony is the most important tool you have as a Christian. In past projects, thousands have come to know Christ through the sharing of participants' written testimonies. Writing your personal testimony is a challenge that will require prayer for it to be as effective as you and the Lord would desire.

International Commission has been leading evangelistic mission work around the world since 1974. During the early years of IC's ministry, the personal testimony was developed as an effective witnessing tool. Over the years, changes have been made, but the testimony form continues to be useful in leading people to the Lord. The personal testimony, when used with IC's question and answer "plan of salvation," has worked in every culture. You will learn how to effectively use the testimony form to witness during your preparation and orientation training.

On the opposite side of this page is a suggested outline. We invite you to use this format. There are two topics that require some explanation. The first is the greeting and purpose of visit. The greeting can be used to express your joy and excitement of being in their country. Also, you might include that you have come at the invitation of local Christians and explain the purpose of your visit.

The second area of explanation is the invitation. At the close of your testimony, you need to invite the readers to turn the page where they can respond to some questions. You might consider, "Please turn the page to learn more about God's love for you."

Your testimony must be less than 400 words in length. Due to size restrictions in printing, any testimony over 400 words will be edited at the discretion of the IC administrative team. If you have email, we prefer that you email your testimony to us as an attachment in any Word document. In the subject line please indicate the project you are going to participate in (country and year) and email it to Testimony@IC-World.org. You can also type it out and send it to us by fax or mail. If it is handwritten it must not be longer than the furnished form. Please save a copy for your file.

Other Suggestions for Writing Your Testimony

- In writing your testimony, share your experience with Christ in a warm, personal, "non-technical" way. When quoting scripture, please include the scripture reference (e.g., "Jesus wept" John 11:35.)
- Relate your experience and the sharing of Scripture as if that person has never heard the name of Jesus or the plan of salvation.
- Be positive, enthusiastic, and joyful. Share the positive benefits of your Christian life. Do not dwell on those times you failed God.
- Avoid religious terms that are commonly used in religious or church life. Many people you witness to have never read the Bible or visited a church. Try to use simple language that can be understood by everyone.
- Avoid stating specifics when writing your testimony, since it will be used for future projects. For example, it is better to state, "I am delighted to be in your country." Also state, "I am married and have three children." If you state the number of years you have been married and the ages of your children, this will change in the years to come. The IC administrative team will edit these items to be more generic in nature.

Complete your Personal Testimony using the suggested outline on the reverse page.

If possible, email your testimony to testimony@ic-world.org or mail it to our headquarters in Lewisville, Texas.

Personal Testimony

Please keep your testimony UNDER 400 words. Please email your completed testimony to testimony@ic-world.org; type (double-spaced) or neatly print and mail to the IC office.

(Introduction—name, city and state of residence) _____

(Greeting and purpose of visit) _____

(My life before following Christ) _____

(How I realized I was lost) _____

(How I became a Christian with the gospel message or Scripture) _____

(What being a Christian means to me in my day-to-day life) _____

(Invitation) _____

Prayer Partner Commitment Card



Accepting this divine privilege of prayer,
I am committed to faithful and fervent prayer
on a daily basis for _____ who is
participating in the _____ project.

*Finally, brothers,
pray for us that
the message of the
Lord may spread
rapidly and be
honored, just as it
was with you.
~2 Thes 3:1*

Name _____
Address _____
City, State and Zip _____
E-mail Address _____

Return Prayer Partner Cards to:

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION
260 Continental Drive
Lewisville, TX 75067



Prayer Partner Commitment Card



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