

# Missionary Care: Ideas for Encouraging Your Missionary



*Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are, who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.*  
III John 5-8, ESV

You've been praying for your missionaries, asking God to care for them in both general and specific instances. Now you want to find a few ways to provide practical encouragement.

The missions committee asked several of your missionaries for examples of how others have really encouraged them, both in their ministry and as people. Look over their answers, choose an idea or two, and ask the Lord for opportunities to lift the spirits of your missionaries and their families.

**Top  
encouragement!**

When you get a written update from your missionary, respond! Fewer than 10% of recipients write back to missionary updates, which can take hours to compose.

Take your missionary out to eat, have your missionary over to your house for a meal, invite your missionary to give an update on their ministry, go to your missionary's ministry event as an attendant or a volunteer.

We truly appreciate when folks join our team [financially]. It shows they believe in us and our vision for making a difference in the world and want to be involved strategically in advancing the kingdom of God around the world. But what we find most encouraging is when they remember specific things we have asked for prayer about.

...what has been most encouraging to me over the years has been visiting our supporters and partners, being welcomed and prayed for. There were several challenging times, and it was when God's people prayed in the US that something happened in the Middle East. Great break-throughs.

Hosting us in homes and being available to listen, encourage, and fellowship when we are in town. We miss our spiritual community!

Out-of-the-blue, one-time support gifts are super encouraging and a huge blessing. The random email or card encouraging me in my ministry. When we gather for a missions conference, seeing the bigger picture of what I'm a part of in regards to global missions is encouraging and motivating.

Having people reach out to our college-age kids who are in the US and be a place they could come to for Easter, Thanksgiving, etc. Having a few church kids "assigned" to help welcome the MK [missionary kid] so that the MK walking into youth group or Sunday school already has some peers befriending him and doesn't feel so alone. Then having those same kids keep up the relationship long distance via text. Having someone from the church come and visit us. It means so much to us that someone has seen and knows our reality here.

I remember as a missionary child, feeling "nameless." I struggled with that most of my life. I feel that TBC made great efforts to individualize us girls.

*...the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you - Philemon 7, ESV*



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MISSIONS: MAKING HIM KNOWN TO THE FAR & THE NEAR