






Mobilizing The Church with Medical Missions

Local Church Perspective

Introductions

- 
- **Served briefly in Russia.** (Had to come home due to medical struggles of my wife)
 - **Served as missions pastor at Liberty for 9 years.**
 - **Worked in conjunction with Medical Mission in North Africa for 9 years.**
 - **Worked in Morocco in dental work for 4 years.**
 - **Have arranged for various medical workers to be sent overseas.**



WHO IS HERE TODAY?

Presuppositions

- **Church is called to do missions**
- Matt. 28:19-20
- Acts 1:8
- Acts 13:1-3
- “It Is not the job of the IMB to do missions on behalf of Southern Baptist ...” Dr. Jerry Rankin



Presuppositions

- **The focus of our work is “panta ta ethne”**
- People Group focus .
- “... go therefore and **make disciples of all the nations...**”
- Panta ta ethne = ethnic groups




Presuppositions




- **Work from what we call a LTSE perspective.**
- Long Term Strategic Engagement
- Missions is not about a trip.
- It is about the church owning the task of reaching people.

LTSE

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- LTSE sees the church as primary in doing the missions task of making disciples.
 - The IMB is a partner.
 - Churches plant churches.
 - It takes time to make disciples.
 - Therefore we must have the long haul in mind when doing the great commission.



Mobilizing the Church for Medical Missions



Benefits to Using Medical From a Church Perspective

Benefits to Local Church

1. Great access to the people where access can be difficult.

- **Morocco Dental:**
- Quote from a local leader:
- “The government does not help us, the Muslims do not help us, only the Christians come out to help us”.



Benefits to Local Church

2. Provides access in places where medical is good.

- They can be hungry to learn new things from American practitioners.**
- Middle Eastern Hospital example.**



Benefits to Local Church

3. **Can impact your church when teams return sharing what God has done.**
 - **Shamu coming to the clinic.**
 - **Hated Christianity.**





Assessing a Churches
Ability to do Medical
Missions

BEGINNING THINGS

Beginning Assessment

1. Do I have appropriate medical people willing to go?
 - We fly a dentist from Chicago to go with us because we cannot find one locally.



Beginning Assessment

2. Do I have missionaries willing to do the pre-work?

- Huge Issue .
- Will they get government approval?
- Are they willing to handle all logistics?



Beginning Assessment

2. Missionaries continued :

- ❖ Will they be able to get the supplies?
- ❖ Transportation?



Beginning Assessment

3. Biggest Question for missionary person:

- Will they follow up ?**
- Will they go back to the village or contact people we had contact with?**



**How Do We
Mobilize the
Church to Go ?**



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go ?

1. Provide a Theological basis for going to the edge of lostness.
 - Ta ethne's live on the edge.
 - **Question I always get:** "Why do I have to go to (insert place here) when we have plenty of lost people right here"



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go ?

2. Cast vision on how medical can have earthly and well as eternal results VS simply earthly results .

- Many people, not just medical, are asking question about meaning and purpose in their lives.



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go ?

3. Show the Need.

- Many people will respond to need.



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go?

4. Take Medical professionals on a vision trip.
 - Seeing is huge.



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go?



5. Cast vision for long term engagement.
 - Develop a medical team from you church to take on a clinic or develop a relationship with national doctors.
 - Give people tasks year round in missions

How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go?

6. Mobilize your church to be a resource church.

- Supplies
- Medical professionals
- Training
- Information



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go?

7. Take other than medical professionals on medical trips .
 - They will come home and cast vision themselves.



How Do We Mobilize the Church to Go?

8. Do extensive training

- Better trained the better the experience and thus will tell others.
- Training helps people learn new things about the culture and alleviates the fear.



Ongoing Mobilization in the Church



Ongoing Mobilization

- Coming Home, Tell the story
 - Take video
 - Take pictures
 - Place pics on the web
 - Send e-mails to all ABF (SS) classes about the trip.
 - Invite people to hear about the trip.



Ongoing Mobilization

- Coming Home, Tell the story
 - Tell other churches



Ongoing Mobilization

- Invite other churches on your next trip.
- Invite individuals outside your church in your area.



Ongoing Mobilization

- Host a medical conference for missions at your church.
- Invite other churches.



Ongoing Mobilization

- Host an advocacy conference for your medical missionaries.



What About Bringing People to the USA for Medical Care?

- **Proceed with caution.**
- **Example:**
 - Are there near culture alternatives?
 - Have a plan to return to home land.

