AMELIORATE MISSIONS

Mission Readiness Starter Guide

A practical first step for people discerning cross-cultural missionary service.

Acts 13:2-3 - The church prayed, fasted and sent.

Mission readiness is more than enthusiasm

A strong sense of calling is important, but cross-cultural service also requires tested character, church affirmation, theological grounding, cultural humility, safeguarding awareness, financial readiness and resilience.

Starter self-assessment

- Calling - Can I describe why I believe God may be leading me toward mission without relying only on emotion or urgency?
- Church - Do mature local-church leaders know me well enough to affirm my character and calling?
- Character - Am I teachable, truthful, sexually and financially responsible, able to handle conflict and willing to live under accountability?
- Bible and theology - Can I explain the gospel clearly and disciple others from Scripture?
- Cross-cultural learning - Am I willing to learn language, customs, history and local power dynamics before trying to lead?
- Safeguarding - Can I recognise boundaries, abuse risks, reporting duties and the need to protect children and vulnerable adults?
- Finance - Do I understand support raising, budgeting, emergency reserves, insurance and stewardship expectations?
- Family - If married or parenting, has the calling been discerned honestly with spouse/children and their needs taken seriously?
- Health and resilience - Have I considered physical health, mental resilience, trauma exposure, rest, community and re-entry?
- Security - Am I willing to follow field-security protocols even when they limit convenience or public storytelling?

Before applying

- Speak with your pastor or ministry leader.
- Begin praying for a specific people group or region rather than only a generic desire to travel.
- Serve faithfully where you are now.
- Build a reading and learning plan around Scripture, mission history, culture and discipleship.
- Review your finances, debt, health, family responsibilities and availability honestly.

The Ameliorate pathway

Application -> Screening -> References -> Interview -> Assessment -> Training -> Approval -> Commissioning -> Deployment -> Active Missionary -> Home Assignment / Alumni.

Scripture for discernment

- Matthew 28:19-20 - the Great Commission.
- Romans 10:14-15 - the necessity of sending.
- Acts 13:1-3 - church discernment and commissioning.
- Philippians 2:1-11 - humility and the mind of Christ.
- 2 Timothy 2:2 - multiplication through faithful people.

This guide is a starting point, not an assessment decision. Formal readiness is determined through the Ameliorate Missions recruitment and formation process.