

# THE SUMMIT CHURCH

## MID-TERM TRAINING

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us, Selah  
that your way may be known on earth,  
your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth. Selah

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.

God shall bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Psalm 67

## Table of Contents

Vision, Strategy, Priorities

Learn to Be with Jesus

Learn to Serve One Another

Learn to Serve the Nations

## Vision

### **Our vision as an International Missions Team at the Summit is**

\_\_\_\_\_ . At the end of Jesus' time on earth, he commissions his disciples by saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold (rest in this), I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28

At the Summit, we believe that the local church is God's plan A for making disciples of all nations. Disciple-making is done primarily by members of a local church and in the context of the local church. Therefore, we view missions primarily through the lens of church planting.

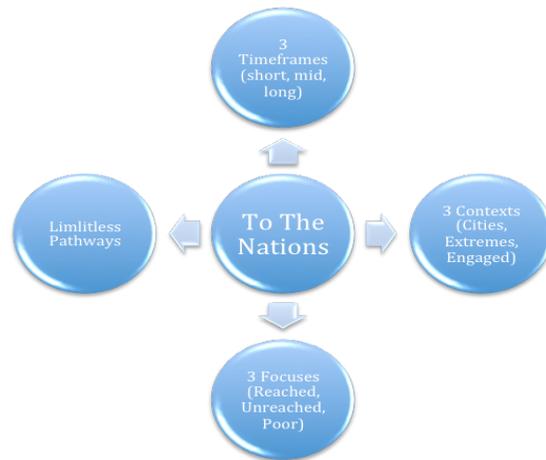
## Strategy

How are we going to plant 1000 churches by 2050? Through a strategy. Our strategy as an international missions team is simple: we want to \_\_\_\_\_  
The Summit Church to the \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Mobilize The Summit Church...



...To the Nations...



...To Plant Churches...

...For the Glory of God.

Plumblines- helpful phrases that describe and drive us in the vision and strategy:

- The Gospel is at the Center of\_\_\_\_\_.
- The Local Church is\_\_\_\_\_.
- People are the\_\_\_\_\_, not Projects.
- We\_\_\_\_\_our Best.

## Learn to Be with Jesus

Mark 3:13-15

John 15:1-11

## Challenges You Will Face:

1. Frustration at the \_\_\_\_\_ environment

2. Frustration at the \_\_\_\_\_ environment

3. \_\_\_\_\_ time with God

4. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ and Loneliness

## Attitudes to Cultivate:

1. Thankfulness and \_\_\_\_\_

2. Expectation

3. Perseverance

4. Service

What can you do right now to prepare yourself?

1. Check \_\_\_\_\_

2. Build the \_\_\_\_\_

3. Practice \_\_\_\_\_

4. Pray

## Learn to Serve One Another

\_\_\_\_\_ "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God."

\_\_\_\_\_ "We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers."

\_\_\_\_\_ "By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother."

\_\_\_\_\_ "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

\_\_\_\_\_ "Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother abides in the light."

The Counter-Intuitive Problem:

### How to Be a Good Teammate

"With all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." -Ephesians 4:2-3

1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ to one another

2. Keep open \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ together

4. Be a \_\_\_\_\_

5. Assume your \_\_\_\_\_ are intelligent and have the best of intentions.

6. Be a good \_\_\_\_\_

7. Be a learner

8. Cultivate \_\_\_\_\_ and trust

9. Respect the different gifts and make up of your team

10. Maintain a passionate love for Jesus and a vibrant devotional life

11. Strive to resolve conflict in a \_\_\_\_\_

Expectations:

1. Lower your expectations

2. Be flexible

3. Check your motives

4. Be prepared as much as possible

5.Prepare for culture shock

6.Expect difficulty and challenge to be a reality

7.Recognize that you are only one piece of the larger picture

## Learn to Serve the Nations

Moving overseas bring all kinds of challenges for daily living as well as strategic ministry. It is very helpful to know what these challenges are and how to face them in a healthy way. In this discussion, we'll discuss culture and how to navigate it. Differences in culture can have a great effect on a missionary (culture shock) and it mandates that missionaries minister in a way that makes sense in any given context (contextualization).

Foundational Truths:

Definitions:

- Broad: "A set of shared practices, attitudes, values, and beliefs which are rooted in common understandings of the 'big questions' –where life comes from, what life means, and who we are." – Tim Keller
- Simple:

Culture and the Bible

- God created humanity with the ability to create culture
- Cultural Mandate: Genesis 1:26-28 (Original Great Commission)
- Culture and Babel: Genesis 11:1-9
- Culture and the People of Israel: Genesis 12:1-3

### 3 Key Truths about the Gospel and Culture

1. All culture is fallen and deeply affected by sin
2. The gospel transforms and transcends all cultures
3. The gospel, not our culture, shapes how we understand the world around us.

Culture Shock: A sense of confusion and uncertainty sometimes with feelings of anxiety that may affect people exposed to an alien culture or environment without adequate preparation.

### 4 Stages

1. Honeymoon Stage
2. Frustration Stage
3. Adjustment Stage
4. Acceptance Stage

### Contextualization

Biblical Foundation:  
1 Corinthians 9:19-23

## Definition

Contextualization = to communicate in word and deed and to establish the church in ways that make sense to people within their local cultural context, presenting Christianity in such a way that it meets people's deepest needs and penetrates their world-view, thus allowing them to follow Christ and remain within their own culture.

## Principles of Contextualization

1. Remember that culture is a good thing
2. Begin by analyzing your own culture
3. Learn to exegete your culture
4. Don't wait until you understand the culture to start sharing the gospel
5. Remember that the best missiologists are in the harvest.

## Accountability and Final Things

As a Mid-Term team member, sent out as an ambassador of Christ, you are expected to conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called (Ephesians 4:1). Agreeing to be sent out under the authority and leadership of The Summit Church, means that you are agreeing to adhere to the guidelines listed in the Mid-Term Covenant as well as continued accountability to the church, to your field leadership, and your supporters.

You are primarily accountable to the authority of the elders at The Summit Church.

- Check-in 1 time per month at [summitrdu.com/midtermcheckin](http://summitrdu.com/midtermcheckin)
- Skype 1-2 times when on the field

You are directly accountable to your field partner for daily life and ministry.

You are accountable to your sending agency for operations and logistics.

## Mid-Term Guidelines

Summit Missions has designed certain standards and policies to accomplish the goals of Mid-Term Missions. The standards are not necessarily policy for all environments, but are deemed necessary for this assignment.

1. We are committed to providing an environment of safety and protection.
  - No foolish behavior that puts your and/or others' safety at risk
  - For safety, participants should always seek the advice and counsel of the field partner before being out at night. Generally participants should never be out at night alone.
  - No going to clubs or bars unless instructed to do so by your field partners for strategic ministry.
  - Dress appropriately for the communities you are living & serving in (i.e. sunbathing, jogging, etc.)
  - No firearms of any kind including airsoft, paintball, BB guns, etc.
2. We are committed to maintaining a high standard of morals as a Christian testimony in our environments.
  - Honor the Lord with your appearance through cleanliness and modesty.
  - Always abide by all mandated dress codes specified by field partners.
  - No men in the women's bedrooms and vice versa. You may be in the community rooms together.
  - No tobacco, alcohol, or drug use is allowed. Infractions may result in dismissal the assignment.
  - No immoral activity.
  - Practice wisdom, prudence, and holiness with your entertainment choices (movies, internet, etc).
3. We are committed to maintaining a high level of credibility and excellence with field partners, their cities, and The Summit Church.
  - Prioritize cleanliness in your living environments at all times.
  - We expect you to be on time to all meetings & events each day.
  - Submit to the desires and instructions of the field partner even if they are contrary to what you would expect or think – you are there to serve, not be served.
  - Display an attitude of submission and respect towards all leaders and authorities.
4. We are committed to creating an environment to best accomplish the goals of Mid-Term assignments.
  - No unapproved trips or absences. Any travel outside of the your city must be approved by your team leader and the

Mid-Term Director.

- All project activities are required functions and should be attended on time. You need the approval of your team leader to miss a meeting or event.
- No leaving the project before it is officially over. The Mid-Term Director must approve exceptions.
- Be considerate of others at all times. Keep quiet hours in apartments; be respectful, etc.
- No dating during your assignment... If you already have a significant other, great! But, we require your interactions to be group minded and respectful of your assignment community.

Dismissal note: The Mid-Term Director reserves the right to dismiss a participant from the project if deemed necessary for the health of the participant and/or for the overall health of the project. If a participant is dismissed, he/she will be sent home at his/her own expense.

## Mid-Term Covenant

(Please Read & Initial. In doing so, you agree to abide by the Mid-Term Guidelines & Covenant)

### Devotion

- \_\_\_\_\_ I commit to make knowing and obeying Jesus everyday my highest priority (Mk. 3:14).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will spend daily time with Jesus through the Bible and prayer in order to pursue my own spiritual growth and to pray for those I will serve (Matt. 4:4, 1 Tim. 2:1).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I commit to following Jesus through all difficulties this semester. I will endure knowing that he is working for my good in all things (Heb. 12:1-11).

### Character

- \_\_\_\_\_ I will strive to bring Glory to the Lord Jesus Christ in all I do and will maintain the highest standards of Christian character. To be a faithful witness to Christ, I will keep my character above reproach (1 Cor. 10:31, Phil. 2:14-15).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will maintain the highest level of purity and agree to abstain from all sexual sin including pornography (1 Cor. 6:12-20).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will be flexible, teachable, and humble throughout the semester.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I agree to have a servant's attitude at all times. The needs and priorities of those I serve are more important than my own (Mk. 10:42-45).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will steward my body well and make wise choices in my exercise, eating and sleeping habits (Matt. 25:14-30)

### Community

- \_\_\_\_\_ I will display Christian love and respect to all people, even if they are different than me (Lk. 10:29-37).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will put the preferences of my roommates before my own and will seek their wellbeing in our living environment. I will respect my roommates by keeping my living space and common rooms clean (Phil. 2:4).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will strive to foster the unity and health of my team. I will be an encourager (Phil. 1:27).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will not gossip or slander against others. If I have been wronged, I will seek reconciliation directly with those involved. I will get help from others until the conflict is not resolved (Matt. 18:15-17).

### Authority

- \_\_\_\_\_ I will submit to and respect those who have been given authority over me at all times (Phil. 2:5-11).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will strive to maintain the unity of the project by supporting my leaders and their decisions. I will address any issues I have with their leadership in a Christ-like manner (Heb. 13:17).

- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I act in a way that is dishonoring to the name of Jesus and do not submit to the leadership my field partner and of The Summit Church at any time during my assignment, I could be dismissed from the program at my own expense.

Miscellaneous

- \_\_\_\_\_ I will be accountable to my supporters and Summit by sending a monthly newsletter and participating in monthly check-ins and regular Skype calls.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that excessive use of the Internet, email, phone, text messaging, and social media may be discouraged and limited during my assignment. I agree to monitor myself, and resist activity that keeps my focus from my ministry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have honestly disclosed any spiritual, emotional, mental, or medical issues/history that could affect my participation in this program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Final Things

1. Be accountable to your supporters
  - a. Thanks You Notes: Need to go out before you leave!
  - b. Monthly Newsletters
    - i. Be brief
    - ii. Be compelling
    - iii. Always Use BCC: so there isn't a big list of addresses at the top
    - iv. Pictures are important but don't overdo it
    - v. Give Specific Next Steps/Requests
    - vi. Consider using mail-chimp or similar service
  - c. Social Media
    - i. Be aware of security
    - ii. Perception is reality
2. Be proactive with your time
  - a. Scheduling: Setting your schedules when there is no structure can be difficult; so be prepared to be very proactive.
  - b. Reading/Journaling: As you've heard today, you must feed yourself and take initiative!
3. Medical Issues
  - a. Be honest and upfront about any medical issues: you should inform field personnel before arriving or as soon as arriving of any sort of medications that you take on a regular basis or any other medical related issue that could become problematic.
4. Current Struggles
  - a. Be honest and upfront about current or history of challenges or struggles - Battles with depression, anxiety or panic attacks, pornography, etc. You should not be coming to the field without first sharing these struggles with someone who will hold you accountable regularly and field personnel should also be notified of any historic or current struggles.
5. When you return:
  - a. Debriefing when you get back. Other counseling services will be available to you as needed.
6. Security
  - a. STS - SIMPLE TRUE STATEMENT. You should be talking with your field partner about what this should be for you.

- b. Your Field Partner is the expert on all security matters, and you should be proactive about asking him/her about all matters of security.

## 7. Finances

- a. If you are going through Hands On or an outside organization, your finances will be mostly handled for you; however, you are still expected to abide by any and all guidelines given to you and represent The Summit Church with the utmost honor. (i.e. Please do not ask your field partners to buy things for you; turn in receipts and reports on time and with excellence, etc.)
- b. If you are NOT going through and outside program, we will cover everything you need to know about your finances at another time depending on your needs and situation.

## Homework and Next Steps

Please complete the following no later than 2 weeks before you leave and notify Amanda at [aspringer@summitrdu.com](mailto:aspringer@summitrdu.com)

1. Communicate with Field Partners: Set up a time to skype and talk with your field partner to get more acquainted and ask any questions you have. Ask if there is anything you can bring them.
2. Prayer Support: Recruit at least 10 people who will regularly pray for you while you are gone and inform them you will notify them at least 1x per month about how you are doing and what they can be praying for.
3. Research your City: Spend at least 1 hour researching common facts about your city.

### *Questions About Your City:*

1. How many years has your country been a country? How many people live in the city where you are going?
2. What are the main religions of the people in your country? What percentage of people adheres to these religions?
3. What are the main languages in the country where you are going? In the city where you are going? How do you say "hello" in the main language in your city?
4. What are the top five professions of the people in your city?
5. What are the main ethnicities represented in your country? In your city?
6. What is public transportation like in your city?
7. What is the food like in your city?
8. What type of racism is present in your city?
9. What are the top 5 recreational activities of the people in your city?
10. What type of government runs your country and city?
11. What are the top five historical events that have shaped the landscape of your country?
12. What is education like in your country?
13. How do men and women interact with one another in your city?
14. What types of actions are extremely offensive and should be avoided by visitors?

4. Read: *The Dangerous Duty of Delight*. Write 1 short paragraph about what you enjoyed/learned.
5. Email Flight Info: Send flight info to Amanda and notify once landed for orientation and then in final destination.