

Summit International Missionary Profile

This is the basic description of what a Summit International Missionary looks like. The following are the characteristics we are looking for in missionary candidates. Of course, we are not looking for perfect people; however, we are looking for the development of these characteristics in those we send overseas.

- **Convictions**

- **Spiritual Vitality and Maturity**

- Has a good understanding of the gospel. Knows how to explain it, but more importantly, how to apply it to everyday life.
 - Reflects solid theology and praxis of the church, community, and missions.
 - Has a history of confessing sin and shows humility in response to being made aware of sin.
 - Not wavering in the foundations of the faith (gospel, Jesus, church, Trinity, Holy Spirit).
 - The candidate's posture towards God and general behavior are not dictated by emotions.
 - Consistent with following God over time.

- **Calling**

- **Personal and Congregational Leading**

- Demonstrates a clear direction from the Spirit and Word to move overseas.
 - Has a deep sense of "ought to" about moving internationally.
 - Has clear affirmation from the local body of Christ that this is the right direction at this time.

- **Resilience**

- Has a healthy understanding that life/ministry is not easy and is going to be intensely hard in many ways.
 - Shows a pattern of embracing God on a deep level in times of suffering and fighting vigorously for joy rather than blaming God—a clear understanding that God is good even in terrible suffering.
 - Possesses an adventurous/courageous spirit that is willing to embrace the "pruning" God will do in these times of holistic, intensive ministry.
 - Has the clear "fire within" to develop mature disciples of Christ in their context and is relationally skilled to do this even amidst ongoing hardships.

- **Character**

- **Teachable and Humble**

- Demonstrates a pattern of emulating Christ in emptying himself for the sake of others.
 - Shows an understanding that as a follower of Jesus, one's own rights have now been surrendered—there is no room for any complaining and no room for entitlement.
 - The candidate realizes he does not have everything figured out. Rather, he has an attitude that wants to grow and is open to receive from others.
 - Has a clear attitude of "learning" (i.e. reading books, asking questions, being patient with the process, etc.).
 - Seeks to understand the culture in which he is working, and strives to respectfully present the gospel in the most appropriate and gracious way.

- **Flexible**

- Has a healthy understanding that ministry in any context can—and will—feel chaotic; has demonstrated the ability to thrive with constant change and transition.
 - Able to embrace the fact that ministry is not always organized.
 - Able to adjust on the fly without showing signs of severe stress, anger, or derailment.
 - Always learning and pursuing growth.
 - Able to thrive in fast-paced environments where things change, often without much notice.

- **Chemistry**
 - **Mature Relationally and Emotionally**
 - Committed to biblical community (is active church member, sees the church as God’s “plan A”; is willing to be accountable to others). Has a history of investment in community in her church or campus ministry.
 - The well-prepared candidate will have a healthy approach to dealing with problems in her past, such as sexual sin, difficult relationships, family problems, etc.
 - Has a healthy and mature self-awareness of her strengths, weaknesses, sins, emotional habits, etc.
 - Able to receive constructive feedback and able to give appropriate feedback to others in loving ways.
 - Demonstrates courage in relationships, understanding the value of healthy conflict.
 - **Active Team Player**
 - Able to be under authority and able to be held accountable by her leaders.
 - Excited about the successes of the team over her own success or reputation.
 - Willing to embrace the group decision even when it is contrary to her opinion.
 - Willing to embrace any role, no matter how mundane it is, for the success of the team.
 - For singles: content in singleness; for married couples: exhibits a healthy, gospel-centered marriage.

- **Competencies**
 - **Skilled and Faithful Disciple-Maker**
 - Has a clear understanding of what it means to be a disciple who makes disciples.
 - Affirms that the local church is God’s “plan A.”
 - Demonstrates obedience to the Great Commission in everyday contexts.
 - Assertive in relationships and a competent self-starter.