

# Seven Ways to Pray Effectively for Missionaries

## 1. Pray for encouragement.

Missionaries often:

- ~ work among unresponsive or hostile people
- ~ have limited fellowship with others of similar beliefs
- ~ struggle with communicating due to lack of language skills
- ~ must cope with the husband traveling and being away from the wife and children
- ~ if single, are lonely

## 2. Pray for their safety.

Violence, crime and unrest can make living and traveling in foreign countries dangerous.

Some road conditions make driving dangerous.

## 3. Pray for their physical and emotional health.

They sometimes live in sub-standard living conditions, which can cause health concerns.

Stress, overwork, and insufficient rest can cause health and emotional problems.

Children sometimes suffer from physical or emotional conditions that cannot be treated as quickly or efficiently.

## 4. Pray for their relationships.

Normal struggles often become magnified when living in an unfamiliar environment and strange culture. Pressures bring strains on relationships with:

*Other missionaries* - working closely together without opportunities to “escape” can cause conflicts.

*Family* - maintaining a balance between the ministry and family time is difficult.

*Nationals* - because of culture differences and unfulfilled expectations, problems can arise between the missionary and the national believers with whom they are working.

## 5. Pray for their spiritual life.

Opportunities for spiritual growth can be limited when they attend church in another language and culture.

Adequate time for personal devotions and Bible Study may be a challenge.

Satan’s attacks are especially strong in this area.

## 6. Pray for their ministry.

Pray for boldness, for open doors, for open hearts.

Pray for the empowerment by the Holy Spirit for fruitful service.

Pray for strong, dedicated national believers, who are usually more effective in their witness to their own people. This is also important in the missionary’s absence or relocation.

## 7. Pray for the country where they serve.

Learn about the geography, climate, religious beliefs, type of government.

Pray for the political situation. Pray for the government and its leaders.

Pray for visas and favor with officials.

Pray for freedom to spread the Gospel.

