



5 Ways Women's Ministry Groups Can Bless the Lives of Missionaries

Leading well requires that we take time to recognize and meet the needs of others. This process requires us to be intentional in the way that we lead. Women's ministry groups have the opportunity to encourage missionaries who are serving in key cities throughout the United States.

While it does require a little bit of planning and effort, the result of communicating with and being thoughtful of missionaries is so exciting! The missionaries experience the love and support of God's family, and the women's ministry group is challenged to think beyond the walls of their church.

Here are a few ways that your women's ministry group can be a blessing to missionaries as they serve the Lord.



1. Discover fun treats. Google the city where the family is serving and research local spots that are popular. Purchase gift certificates to these places and mail the certificates as well as some fun facts about the local spots that you discovered. Let the family know that you have done your research—that you know about them and the place where they are serving.



2. An Arkansas birthday. Make a list of each family member's birthday. On the week of their birthday, send a care package with reminders from home. Avoid giving gift cards that are not useable in the area where they serve. Be creative and include things that are made in Arkansas or reminders of things that you can do in Arkansas. In your care package, be sure and let the birthday person know that people "at home" are praying for them and remembering them.



3. Communicate, communicate, communicate! Women use lots of words. Many of us like to talk, type, text, and visit. One way to put these skills to good use is by staying in touch with the missionary wife. Send her cards, emails, text messages, or social media inbox messages. If you want to include several women in the communication process, use an app that allows several women to communicate at the same time. This is a free, fun, and creative way to provide “gal time” for the missionary who is away from home and may or may not have a close set of friends. Strive to cultivate a meaningful relationship that will serve as a safe place for the wife on days that are hard and she feels alone.



4. Adopt their family. Oftentimes missionary families make tremendous sacrifices to answer God’s call. Ask the women in your church to give financially towards the pressing needs in your missionary family’s life. Sending a love offering can provide a picture of God’s love, faithfulness, and provision. Your group can give monthly, quarterly, or yearly.



5. Plan a visit. Organize a trip to serve alongside the missionaries. Nothing says, “I am with you,” like actually being with them! Involve all the women in your church in the process. Ask some to pray, ask some to give, and ask some to go. One beautiful thing about the body of Christ is how God uses each of us uniquely to accomplish His plan. A great way to take your women’s ministry on the road is by duplicating an event that you hosted for the women in your church and community for the women on the mission field.

The bottom line is this: God’s plan is big, really big! When you are looking for ways to encourage missionaries, you see how God uses His people in different ways to accomplish His perfect plan. Your group will be blessed, challenged, and changed. The missionaries will be loved, supported, and reassured. What a WIN/WIN!

Make your plan today. Get connected with missionaries, both those supported specifically by your church and with IMB and NAMB missionaries supported through the Cooperative Program by your church and thousands of others. Encourage them as they encourage others, taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people who need to hear the only lasting message of hope and peace.