

# Four Questions

## 1. Why do mission?

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19, NRSV) and “... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8, NRSV).

We are each called to share the message of God’s love and the grace of Jesus Christ. In both Matthew’s Gospel and the Book of Acts Jesus directs his disciples to continue his mission. The entire Christian faith hinges on sharing this Good News of the Gospel and compels our mission involvement.

## 2. Why do international mission?

Theologically, we believe that all mission is God’s mission. We describe mission in the singular, and so, we reach across boundaries because that’s what Jesus did: overcome all human divisions. Jesus brought good news to the poor, ate with sinners and tax collectors, healed Gentiles, and included outcasts. All are welcome! When Jesus asked, “Who are my brothers and my mother?” he created a new definition of family. This new definition includes everyone. So we follow the Great Commission, not content with serving just in “Jerusalem,” where people look and talk and think like us, but committing to entangle our lives with our sisters and brothers to the ends of the earth.

## 3. Why support a mission co-worker?

Mission co-workers serve at the invitation of our global partners. Global partners trust the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to send them our very best, and so they extend an invitation requesting a mission co-worker to help them address critical ministry needs of poverty alleviation, evangelism, and reconciliation. Mission co-workers make a long-term commitment to their places of ministry, and they welcome the support and involvement of Presbyterians in the United States. Mission co-workers serve as a bridge as they interpret language and culture, both for us and our global partners. Mission co-workers help us understand issues of ministry across boundaries, and they incarnate Christ’s love by giving mission a personal face. They inspire us through their example and their stories, which widens our understanding of God’s great work in the world, and helps us fulfill Christ’s Great Commission.

## 4. Why do international mission through the Presbyterian Church?

- We’re good at it! Since 1837, Presbyterians have established global relationships and partnerships. Our experiences and trusting friendships has created a network in over 70 countries. When you visit a Presbyterian mission site you will hear someone say “My mother’s life was saved in a Presbyterian hospital,” or “My father learned to read in a Presbyterian school,” or “My grandparents heard the gospel from a Presbyterian mission co-worker!” We are faithful in maintaining and expanding our historic relationships, building new ones, and in our support of mission co-workers.
- Presbyterians do mission in partnership. That means that mission is not something that we do “to them” but an adventure of collaboration and walking alongside our partner churches. Remember the tsunami that hit Indonesia a few years ago? Aid given through the PC(USA) went through small, Protestant congregations, and served as a witness of God’s love in the largest Muslim nation on earth. When you support international mission through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and World Mission, you not only help people in need but you help empower—and grow—our partner churches, as well.
- Our presence around the world is made possible only with your support. Your gift makes all the difference! Presbyterian World Mission spreads the Gospel of Jesus Christ to as many places as you support. Your direct support of mission co-workers makes this work possible.