

## TIPS FOR EMAILING/WRITING YOUR MISSIONARY FRIENDS...

*WHO LIVE IN SENSITIVE AREAS WHERE THE GOSPEL IS NOT WELCOME*

Emails & letters should be written keeping in mind the sensitive nature of the communities they live/work in. Many countries do not allow people to “evangelize” or tell people about Jesus. Questions such as “how many people have gotten saved?” or “how is the evangelizing going?” are not good questions.

Use abbreviations for common terms such as HS for Holy Spirit, JC for Jesus Christ, and GD or G-D for God. Another thing to keep in mind is to never make negative remarks about the people of the country the missionary is working in. For instance, never insult Islam, the ideals of the people or the government under which the person is living. There are always news stories coming from other countries which we disagree with often times. You would not want to quote these news stories and talk negatively about them. For example, you wouldn't want to mention a recent bombing and talk about how bad certain groups may be for allowing this to happen.

Be sure to keep in mind you cannot send just anything in the mail to a missionary in a sensitive area. For instance, missionaries in Islamic or communist areas should be interacted with, with tact. Remember that sending tracts, multiple crosses or multiples of anything spiritual gives the perception that the person will be handing these out in their community in order to proselytize.

### **What can you talk about?**

Feel free to tell the missionary all about YOUR faith if they have given you the ‘green light’ to do so. Speak about what God is teaching YOU and how your church is going. Feel free to tell them all about your family and/or job, and include pictures, especially of people they know. Include scripture verses if you want, as long as it doesn't pertain to “getting the people in your country saved”.

Another key thing is to ask about the missionary's health and emotional well being. “How are you doing financially/emotionally/health-wise” are good questions and ending with the phrase “we have been thinking about you frequently” lets them know you are keeping them in prayer. “We are lifting you up” is another way to let them know you are praying.

**The main thing to do is actually, write the person and keep praying for them!** Missionaries need to know that their church family back home supports them, thinks of them and prays for them. Putting together gift packs with candy and various items like that are also very much appreciated, although it is sometimes expensive to send. Keep in mind that they often cannot get much missed products such as Kool-Aid, Oreos, and other items that they will let you know about, if you ask.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BLESS THEM FINANCIALLY, MAKE CHECKS TO LEGACY AND NOTE THE MEMO SECTION WITH THEIR NAME.**

