



## June 2018

In previous issues of *Serve*, we have sought to allay **typical concerns about deputation**, the time devoted to raising financial and prayer support for missions ministry. Some question the validity of the deputation process altogether. Some simply feel there must be a better way to raise support besides traditional models. Others are plain scared of it; therefore, they've concluded that missions isn't for them.

Previous issues of *Serve* have examined [biblical guidance](#) for support-raising and offered a [personal testimony](#) of deputation's value. **Would you continue thinking through this issue with me by considering another helpful aspect?**

### More than fundraising

The support-raising process is more than just fundraising. It is a wonderful opportunity for ministry. Regardless of who may cross your path, deputation affords focused time for sharing what God is doing in your life in sending you out and for reminding people of God's desire to redeem people of all nations.

Think about it. Have you been affected by the testimonies of missionaries that have come to embrace God's call? Have you been stirred to live out the gospel more faithfully by stories of God's work through those who have surrendered to His leading into missionary service? I know I have, and God has used those connections to push me to His Word. I found that these missionaries' stories

are powerful because they match the heartbeat of God.



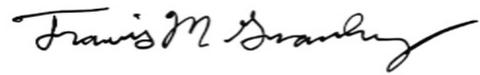
## Impacting lives

Not only do support-raising missionaries have an impact on fellow believers, but also their life's passion and focus quickly become evident to unbelievers. An individual moving by faith toward full-time gospel work has opportunities to share that journey with neighbors, former co-workers, family members, and many other unbelieving individuals. This provides a natural bridge to discuss why someone would leave their home and loved ones and go to those who have not heard. What an opportunity!

In 2 Corinthians 9, Paul encourages the Corinthians in their ministry to others. He reminds them that their obedience to God affects people. In fact, it brings others to a point of glorifying God. Here's what he says, "This service . . . is abounding through many thanksgivings to God." How so? He explains further that those on the receiving end of the Corinthians' ministry "glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ" (2 Cor 9:12-13). Your obedience affects people. Isn't deputation an ideal time for you to impact lives

as you seek to find partners in the ministry to which God is leading you?

For His name,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Travis M. Gravley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'T' and a long, sweeping underline.

[Travis Gravley](#)

Administrator for Church Relations and Enlistment

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