



“I’m looking for a mission agency.”

A mission agency can make or break a missionary. Recently I talked with a missionary who was left “hung out to dry” by his American office. I cannot explain how discouraged this missionary was, not by what he was facing on the field but by what he was facing back in the US. Thankfully, they are now with a good organization, and it has made all the difference. Before you sign on with any agency, consider the following:

Full-Service Agency or a Clearinghouse?

The difference is like going to an ATM versus going into the bank or using their app. A clearinghouse will do accounting and maybe a few other services, but here are a few things that may not be included:

- Help with raising support—your agency can either help or hinder your ability to raise support. Choose one that is well known, respected by churches, and holding a good reputation.
- Medical insurance—some policies offer only US coverage, and some limit how much medication you can receive or take to the foreign field. Does your agency offer a health insurance policy, or are you responsible to find your own?
- Retirement funding—is there a provision for your retirement, and where is it invested? Do you own the account or does your agency own it?
- Evacuation insurance—in case of a medical emergency, death, or civil war on the field, is there insurance to cover your evacuation?



Structure and Focus

Find out why the agency was founded and how they are structured to accomplish the Great Commission. Some are specialized for a particular occupation: construction, medical missions, and more. Some combine multiple fields but have their focus on church planting. Find a mission that fits your gifts and ultimate goal.

Some are structured for strong oversight and administration. While this may help in some areas, it often leads to high missionary service fees and limited freedom for the missionary. Fees can run as high as 10 percent, which adds to the cost of doing missions. Find an agency that is missionary driven, rather than administration driven.

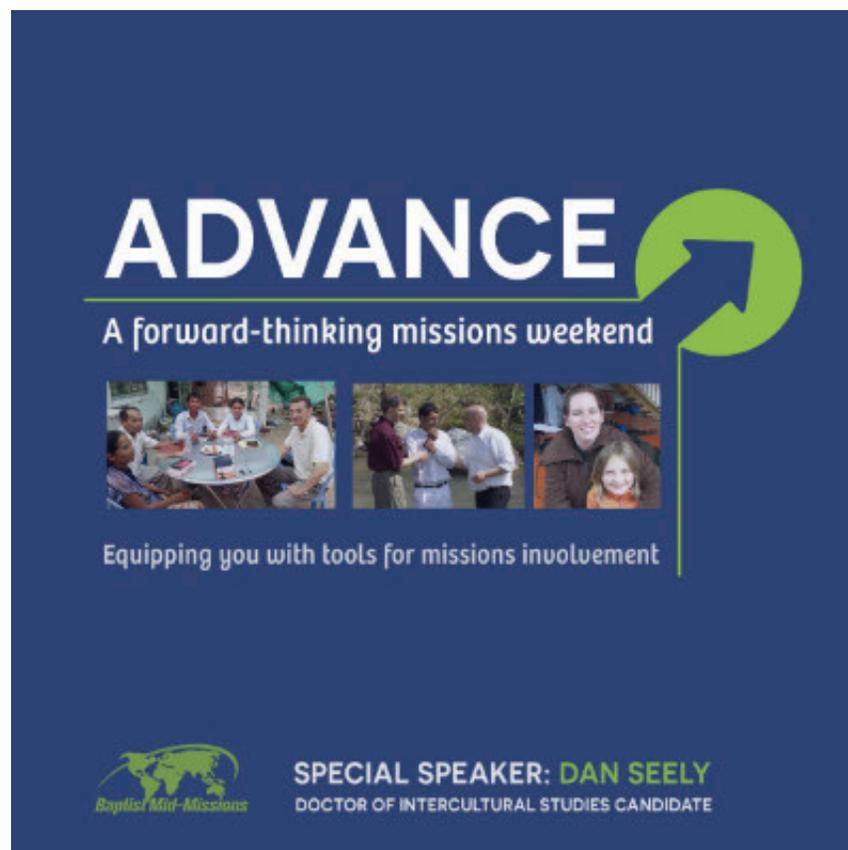
Doctrine and Co-laborers

It is vitally important to find an agency you can agree with doctrinally.

- If they are wrong on the gospel, it doesn't matter what else they do right. Along with the agency will come a host of co-workers. Make sure you can agree with them in doctrine and ministry philosophy.
- Field Teams—Does your agency already have a presence on your field? Having a team makes for a much easier transition.
- Government representation—it is amazing how much paperwork is involved in visa, residency permits, etc. If your agency is registered and well known on the field, the transition will go much smoother.

Baptist Mid-Missions has been on the mission field since 1920— missionary founded, church-planting focused, and service oriented. They may not be for everyone, but they might be a great fit for you. Give us a call if we can help answer your questions when looking for a mission agency. Call 440-826-3930 and ask for Travis or email him at tgravley@bmm.org or by replying to this email.

This piece was written by BMM Special Representative and Missionary to Jamaica, Cletis Titus.



Baptist Mid-Missions is hosting a free [Advance Weekend](#) seminar September 7-8 to help equip you with tools for missions involvement. Keynote speaker Dan Seely, a Doctor of Intercultural Studies candidate who serves as a BMM missionary in Cameroon, will share about cultural vantage points and their impact on missions. We hope to see you in Cleveland! Click the link above to RSVP.



Copyright © 2018 Baptist Mid-Missions, All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because at some point you opted in.

Our mailing address is:

Baptist Mid-Missions
PO Box 308011
Cleveland, OH 44130

[Add us to your address book](#)

tgravley@bmm.org • www.bmm.org • [Opportunities](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

MailChimp.