

MISSIONARY PREPARATION

(With Emphasis On Asia)

A World Evangelism Correspondence Course

By
J. C. Choate

SCHOOL OF ASIAN EVANGELISM
C-42 Greater Kailash 1
New Delhi 48, India

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this course to Bro. Ira Y. Rice, Jr., who spent a number of years in Singapore and during that time worked untiringly to promote Asian Evangelism, as well as evangelism around the world. He has done much to stir the whole church to the point of not only being aware of the need for taking the gospel to every creature under heaven, but of moving many to actually go, and moving many many individuals and congregations to begin to help support those who would go.

Bro. Rice and I have corresponded over a number of years. Our paths have crossed several times in different parts of the world like Montgomery, Alabama, Dallas, Texas, Tupelo, Mississippi, Knoxville, Tennessee, Karachi, Pakistan, Colombo, Ceylon, and Singapore. I have always counted it an honor to be associated with him in the greatest work in all the world.

Ira, wherever you may be, may God bless you, Vada, and the family and give you many more years of service to the Lord, and of reaching that most important goal that we have been working toward all of these years.

INTRODUCTION

For some years now I have seen the need for a School of World Evangelism. I would like to establish such a school to train men and women for the specific task of taking the gospel to other parts of the world. No doubt this would have already been done had it not been for the fact that I have been busy myself in working in other countries.

Being away from the States, and not being able to put such a school into operation, then it occurred to me that the next best thing I could do would be to prepare a correspondence course to work through. Of course I have no way of knowing just how well it will be received, but I would think that any man desiring to go to a mission field would be interested in studying it. I would hope and pray therefore that it will be a great success.

If this course is accepted and found helpful, then there will be others to follow. I would like to see courses worked up to deal with the individual countries around the world. I would also like to see courses prepared that will deal with mission work in general, methods, principles, and the many other aspects of it. I am confident that if this can be done it will prove to be very profitable not only to those who desire to go, but also to better inform brethren at home as to what is involved.

I personally feel that if we are to evangelize the world we are going to have to educate the church on the needs and the means of doing the job. With education, the job can be speeded up since there will be more to go, and more to send; and then with the proper training and guidance those who do go will be able to do a better and more effective work.

Inasmuch as my family and I have spent the last several years in Pakistan, Ceylon, and India, much of that which I have written is based on experience gained here. This doesn't necessarily mean that a great deal of this information does not apply to the rest of Asia, and many other parts of the world, but naturally it would not in every instance.

In spite of the fact that this material was written with these three countries in mind, I am hopeful that it will help to introduce you to Asia in general. I am anxious for you to know as much about it as possible and thus to be inspired and encouraged to come.

I don't want you to be deceived. I have tried to picture things as they are. But don't feel that it is all bad by any means. Don't be scared or afraid to come. Don't be discouraged. You'll find, along with the bad, much more that is good. After you come, you'll be so glad you did. You'll wonder why you didn't come earlier. At least this is the way I felt, and I believe you will feel the same.

What I have said is not law. Others may disagree and they are free to do so. Especially would this be true of methods and various other points of opinion. However, I feel that I have seen mission work in its various aspects about as well as most any other man, and I believe that I have certain insights that perhaps some others do not have in that I have had the opportunity to travel extensively in the interest of mission work, and I have tried to write on this basis with all of the facts in mind, with the desire to help those who might be interested in coming. At least, in all sincerity, this is my prayer.

I have great respect and appreciation for every one of my missionary brethren. I believe they have done a great job as a whole. I believe that a greater job can be done in the future on the basis of the work done so far and the experience that has been gained therefrom. Now if we can just pass on to you what we have learned and try to pre-

pare you for the work that is before you, then you will be much better prepared to do your work than we were.

The material I have presented is rather brief and in simple form. The questions and suggested home work are not intended just to give you something to do, but rather to help you become involved as much as possible with missionary work and the workers themselves. I think if your heart is really in this study that you will find this to be a very helpful aspect of it.

This entire effort is to help you. I have taken precious time to prepare the material. I pray that you who read and study this will end up where I am—in the field itself. I wish I could help you more, but this is all I can do at the present time. Maybe for others in the future more can be done. Yes, maybe some day there will be a SCHOOL OF WORLD EVANGELISM. Now we will confine it to correspondence work through the SCHOOL OF ASIAN EVANGELISM.

J. C. CHOATE, Missionary to
Pakistan, Ceylon, and India

C-42 Greater Kailash 1
New Delhi 48, India
December 16, 1968

INSTRUCTIONS

Just here I want to give you some instructions pertaining to this course. I hope you will try to follow them so you will get more from it and that your instructor can more efficiently deal with your lessons.

1. Read the course several times. You will want to get the material well in mind. Remember it is designed to help you.
2. Take one lesson at a time and thoroughly answer every question. Then carry out the special instructions concerning the various projects. After you have done this, send it to me for grading (if possible, by air mail to India). If you prefer, you can work up the entire course before sending any lessons for grading.
3. Be sure to write plainly and always give your name and address, along with the registration number that will be given to you.
4. Take as long as you need, but don't take too long—Delay might cause you to eventually lose interest and never complete the course.
5. Feel free to correspond with me concerning any point. If you have questions, send them in. I will be here to help you, advise you, and encourage you in any way possible. I may be your instructor but I will be your friend also.
6. Upon completing the course satisfactorily, your grade will be sent to you, along with a diploma for the course.
7. If you desire other such courses, please let it be known. We hope to print others in the future.

8. If you have friends that would like to take this course, send their names and addresses. However, obtain their permission first.
9. Send all correspondence to this address:

School of Asian Evangelism
C-42 Greater Kailash 1
New Delhi 48, India

or to the permanent address (after May 1, 1969):

School of Asian Evangelism
Winona, Mississippi 38967
U.S.A.

As we correspond, if there are additional rules and regulations, I will pass them on to you. We are not trying to make the course difficult, but we do want you to be informed, benefitted, and inspired to act upon those things that you learn.

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GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name
2. Address
-
3. Country
4. Age
5. Sex
6. Marriage Status.....
7. Children and ages.....
8. Education particulars.....
9. Health
10. Parents living.....
11. Wife's or Husband's parents.....
12. How long have you been a Christian?.....
13. Are you an active Christian?.....
14. In what ways do you participate in church work?.....
-

15. Have you won any souls to Christ?.....
16. If so, how many?.....
17. Have you done any preaching?.....
18. Would you like to be a preacher?.....
19. If a woman, would you like to be a preacher's wife?
.....
20. Have you heard much about mission work?.....
.....
21. Have you met any missionaries?.....
22. If so, could you list their names?.....
23. Are you interested in mission work?.....
24. Have you done any mission work in your States?.....
.....
25. Have you done any mission work in other States?.....
.....
26. Have you been outside the United States?.....
27. Where have you been?.....
28. When did you go?.....
29. What did you do?.....

30. Would you like to do some foreign mission work?.....
.....
31. Where would you like to go?.....
32. When would you like to go?.....
33. What country would you like to work in?.....
34. Have you studied a foreign language?.....
35. Which language or languages?.....
36. Do you like to travel?.....
37. Why are you interested in doing foreign mission
work?
38. Have you done any personal work?.....
39. Do you find it difficult to adjust?.....
40. Have you ever moved around very much?.....
41. Have you lived away from your parents and relatives
for any long period of time?.....
42. Did you find it difficult to do?.....
43. List the places that you have worked and the dates.
.....
44. How would you feel about working with other races?
.....

45. Are you able to work with others?.....
46. How well do you know the Bible?.....
47. How would you go about answering false teaching?
.....
48. Are you tired of working with your brethren at home?
.....
49. Do you find it difficult to work under Elders?.....
50. How would you rate your temper?.....
51. Are you able to demonstrate a great deal of patience?
.....
52. Are you able to handle money wisely?.....
53. Do you like to write letters?.....
54. Do you pay your debts?.....
55. Have you ever written any for the gospel papers?.....
.....
56. Do you know of a congregation that would sponsor
you in a foreign work?.....
57. Would you be able to find a congregation to sponsor
you? ,

58. How much do you know about Asia?.....
59. Do you have a passport?.....
60. Have you ever made a study of other religions?.....
.....
61. Were you ever taught anything about mission work?
.....
62. When did you first become interested in mission
work?
63. Why did you become interested in it?.....
64. What is your feeling toward missionaries?.....
.....
65. What is your feeling toward missionaries?.....
66. Do you correspond with any of them?.....
67. Do you help others with mission work?.....
.....
68. How long do you plan to spend in the field?.....
.....
69. How soon can you go?.....
70. Does your family share your feelings concerning a
willingness to go?.....

LESSON ONE

THE CHALLENGE

1. The Great Commission

The very fact that you are even remotely interested in mission work would suggest that you are aware of the existence of the Great Commission. This, then, is the challenge. It is the Lord's challenge to you and to me and for all of his people everywhere. It is personal, but involves the whole church, as well as the whole world.

The words of our Lord sound forth again and again:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

(Matthew 28:19, 20).

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

(Mark 16:15, 16).

These are not just words, just more words, just anyone's words. They are different, mighty, powerful, and frightening. They are the words of Jesus, spoken to his disciples of yesterday and today, involving the whole earth. Here the great Captain of our faith gives us our marching orders. As soldiers of Christ we must hear the charge and go forth with the message of salvation. Our goal must be our families, friends, loved ones, neighbors, those of our country, and those of other countries. We must not stop, we cannot stop, until we have carried out the command.

The words of Jesus are simple, plain, and given with authority. The plan is to go to every creature, every creature of every nation, and to every creature of every nation of the whole world. No one can misunderstand this. He may not obey it, but he cannot misunderstand it.

The gospel is the message that is to be taken. It is the good news that Jesus died, was buried, and resurrected, assuring one and all of salvation and the hope of eternal life. In carrying forth the good news, the commands of the gospel are to be declared so that the hearer might know how to take advantage of all the Lord has to offer. Those who believe and obey will be saved, but those who fail to believe will be lost. The duty of the Christian is to deliver the message. The acceptance or rejection of the message is left to the hearer.

Now what does the great commission mean to you? When you read it, is it just a matter of reading so many words? Have you ever really taken it to heart and considered all of its many implications?

What are you doing about it now? What are you going to do about it? Think of the souls that are involved—yours and all of those that need your help. Remember though, the great commission begins with you, and that is where we are beginning this course—with you. This is *your* challenge. If you want to be saved and want others to be saved then you will accept it and do something about it. It will take faith, courage, love, zeal, determination and all of the Christian qualities within you, but you can meet it, and you can succeed. If you will do your best, God will do the rest. On the other hand, if you aren't interested in your soul and the souls of others—if you are lazy and full of cowardice—if you are without love and concern for others then you will fail like so many others, and in such an event, may God have mercy upon your soul and the souls of all of those you failed.

Involved in the challenge of the great commission are other things. We shall consider some of them.

2. The Value of Souls

The world is human and physical to the majority of the people. That is all. They see only the material, the earthly, and the carnal. Therefore, most emphasis is placed upon the things of this life and that which is to be found in this world. Man lives, strives, and dies for these things. He may not be rich, but he wants to be rich. He may be poverty stricken, but he is seeking material gain. This is the broad way that Jesus spoke of in Matthew 7:13,14. It is a vain life, an empty life, a wasted life. It is materialism, and more often results in atheism.

While the majority of the people of the world are so entangled, many of those who claim to be Christians have also been swept away by the sin of coveteousness. They have forgotten their most important and valuable possession—the soul.

To the true Christian, every man has a soul. This means that he has a spirit, a soul, an inner being. This spiritual man lives now and will live forever. It makes every man rich. It gives every person an incentive to live, and to die.

Jesus said, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26). How many really understand what Jesus is saying here? One could gain the whole world, but if he lost his soul then he would have lost everything. How sad to think of the masses of people that sell their souls for a few earthly gains and pleasures, but only to be lost for all eternity. I am sure that if each of us could grasp the real meaning of the value of the soul, it would change all of us for better. I am sure if we could but fully comprehend what the Lord is saying that we would not forget this so soon.

What does your soul mean to you? How can you love the souls of others if you don't love your own soul? Once we come to see the value of the soul, then we'll do more to try to save the souls of others. Then we'll carry the gospel to the world.

3. The Urgency of Reaching the Lost

How easy it is to excuse ourselves and to excuse the church from doing the job that the Lord gave us to do. We have done very little during the past one hundred years to evangelize our own country, not to mention the rest of the world. I say we have done little in view of the fact of what we might have done and what we could have done. Oh it just breaks our hearts if we are concerned at all about reaching the lost. We have been idle, when we should have been working. We have been selfish, when we should have been giving the world the gospel. We have been camping on the banks of do-nothing when we should have been marching. We have been afraid when we should have been courageous. We have been losing when we should have been gaining. And on and on we could go with contrast after contrast to show our failures, our weaknesses, and our dilemma.

One of our main problems has been that we have not felt an urgency for reaching the lost. But why? Perhaps we have never comprehended fully ourselves what it means to be lost. Since we feel that we are saved, we cannot picture others being lost. And even if we think of them at all, we do so as though there is plenty of time left to reach them. So we reason, "Why get excited?" "Why hurry?" But to people who are lost, and with no promise of tomorrow, there is no time to waste. They cannot afford to wait. They may not be living tomorrow, next week, next month, or ten years from now. They have only *today*, and we must feel the urgency of reaching them *today*.

Unless members of the church become much more concerned about their souls and the souls of others in the immediate future, we will not be able to evangelize this world in our own generation. We keep telling ourselves that we are going to do this, but we are no doubt fooling ourselves. We are certainly not acting like we are going to evangelize the world in the next hundred years. The same old indifference and complacency, that have held us back from the beginning, are still among us. My point is that we must throw this off and replace it with the desire to get on with the work that is before us.

So many members of the church have been so isolated for so long that they have never been able to look beyond their own immediate community, and perhaps the gospel has been preached there pretty well to the extent that all have heard. It is hard for them to imagine others in other communities, states, and countries that have not heard. This lack of knowledge and awareness keeps them on the road of a snail's pace. But those of us who have come out of the shell—and have broken open the door of millions and millions of lost people—we can see their needs, and their desperate conditions, and we know full well the need of spreading the gospel among them NOW, not tomorrow.

No doubt you have read in the gospel papers from time to time, as others have, of pleas for workers. I have written many such appeals myself. But how many respond? Not many. Only once in a while does one come forth. Why not more? There is no feeling of urgency. All is well in Zion. Oh, my friend, how the church needs to be awakened, and put on the alert, and given its marching orders to go forth today with the message of salvation! So much depends on it. Souls are starving to death for the gospel that we have never taken to them. Countries are going without the gospel because we fail to take it to them. The devil's workers go unchallenged and therefore build up citadels of power at our expense. The world remains lost and the church

remains weak because of our unconcern. Isn't that pathetic? Let's change it. Let's get up and go to work. How I wish I could go to a dozen more places, a hundred more places, and preach the gospel. Do you share my feeling? Will you help? Will you go? We are praying that you will.

4. Excuses

When such preaching is done, when the pressure is felt, if there is any response at all, so often it amounts to no more than putting forth enough energy to make an excuse. While one finds a way out with one excuse, another finds the way of escape with another, and so on. At least those who make such excuses are deceived into thinking that they have found a way around this great responsibility.

An excuse, is but a polite way of saying, "I don't want to go," "I had rather not go", or "I won't go." It involves refusing to accept responsibility, rebelling against the Lord, and doing that which one prefers to do. It has nothing to do with having a reason for one's actions.

The excuses offered are as varied as the individuals that offer them. The person offering them is either too old or too young, not educated enough or his education demands that he remain at home and use his talents, or that he must think about the education of his family. There are those who claim that they *can't*, but it is more likely that they *won't*. They can't find support or perhaps they don't want support for such a work. They claim to be in bad health, don't know the language, can't get a visa, or some member of the family doesn't want to go. But whether it is one of these excuses, or some other, it is all the same: it is just an excuse. Those who want to go, go. Those who do not want to go, do not go.

Excuse-making is childlike, shows cowardice, a lack of respect for the Lord and his word, and a failure to love the souls of men. When are we going to grow up to recognize that we have a job to do and it is better to just go on and

do it? Those who do so find it is not so difficult after all, and they find joy, happiness, and peace in their work.

Whatever you do, don't be guilty of making excuse. If you just won't go, then tell the truth, but don't make excuse. But I would pray that you will be brave and be a real man or woman: go ahead and obey the Lord and go. You'll be glad you did.

5. Why You Should Go

Among the many things that we might talk about at this time, the main things that come to your mind would be the reasons why you should go. For instance, you might be interested in knowing why you should go when many others, perhaps older and more qualified, refuse to go. Well, just remember that each Christian has a responsibility. Some accept that responsibility but the majority do not. But you cannot risk the salvation of your soul on what others do or do not do. Neither can souls be saved if you follow those who are not putting forth any effort to save the souls of others. So there are many reasons why you should go, why you must go.

First, the Lord saved you and you should be grateful enough to want to share the gospel with others. If you fail to, how can you be saved eternally?

Second, the Lord has commanded you to go. You must do so if you are going to be obedient to him.

Third, the souls of others are dependent on you for salvation. If you fail to go, you have failed them.

Fourth, the world needs you. You represent the light, the truth, the hope the world needs. If you refuse to go, who will go?

Of course, the reasons are numerous. But regardless of the reasons that might be listed, the question remains: Will you go? Then, go. NOW.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON ONE

1. Learn Matthew 28:19,20 and Mark 16:15,16 by memory and then write them.....
2. Tell what the Great Commission means to you personally
3. With whom does the Great Commission begin?.....
.....
4. What will it take in order for you to have a part in taking the gospel to others?.....
5. Explain what a soul is worth to you.....
6. Memorize Matthew 16:26 and write it.....
7. Why is it so urgent that the gospel be preached to the whole world now?.....
8. Do you honestly believe that we will evangelize the world in our own generation?.....
9. List some reasons why we should be able to do so.
.....
10. List some reasons why we haven't to date.....
.....
11. Why is it that so few are interested in world evangelism?

12. Give some of the excuses that brethren use for not going
13. Why do you feel that you should go to the mission field?

Special Instructions:

1. Write a paper on a specific experience that you have had, either in doing some personal work or in conducting a mission meeting.
2. Tell someone personally, or a group, why you would like to do foreign mission work and then write a paper on their reaction.
3. Either write a missionary in the field or talk to a former one about mission work, and write a paper on it.
4. Read two articles on mission work from some gospel paper and write on them.....
5. Read a book on mission work and give a book report on it.....

LESSON TWO

THE MISSIONARY

1. Age

A Christian is a Christian regardless of his age. As a Christian he has certain responsibilities to discharge. This includes preaching and teaching the gospel to others. While one's age might not be too important while he is at home, or in his own country, it could be a very important factor in considering foreign work.

I am not going to set a specific age limit here, but I think it should be understood that one should be old enough to be mature mentally and spiritually, to have gotten his education out of the way, to perhaps have a family, and to have had sufficient experience at home so as to be qualified to go. I would think that the ideal age would be the latter twenties and the early thirties.

Going to a foreign land when one is too young can present a number of problems. Hinderances will be a lack of maturing, lack of experience, and perhaps education. Although one may have a great deal of zeal, once one arrives on the field, the problems might discourage an unseasoned worker. On the other hand, one should not wait too long about going. One can finally allow his age to become an excuse for not going. Even if he goes, because he is already set in his ways and less likely to be willing to change attitudes, his problems can be enormous.

Someone has said that regardless of age, one is needed if he will go. This is true in a sense. Yet, give some thought to that which has already been said.

2. Education

If one is going to be a missionary, he needs a good general education. Don't fool yourself into thinking otherwise. In the field you have to be a little of everything. There is just hardly any knowledge that you may have gained that you will not find useful.

There are always exceptions to every rule. There have been cases, and will no doubt be other cases, of individuals who went even without a formal education and did a great job. I have known of cases in which certain men came without having any degrees, but accomplished marvelous things. While on the subject of exceptions, let me add that there have been those, and probably will be others, who came with a good educational background but who made a flop on the field and returned home as failures.

But in spite of the foregoing, my advice to you would be that you get a good education. It would be even better if you knew in advance that you would be going to the mission field, and then you could take the proper course of study that would better prepare you for your job. In getting your schooling, you should get a good background in Bible, and study the history, geography, religion, etc., of the country to which you are going. While studying, take all the courses you can on Christian Evidences. Perhaps you can also study the language of your chosen field of work.

My advice would be to get your M.A. before going, provided you are at all interested in continuing that far with your education. So many do not do this. Then they end up feeling that there is something lacking and are never quite happy until they return home and take the time to get it. I think it would be time saved, and would assure greater peace of mind, and perhaps better work, to get all of your education out of the way before going. Of course there might be advantages to the other route, but my advice has been stated. I know the Lord blessed me

with the opportunity to complete my planned education before entering the field and I think I have been more content and better prepared to work because of it.

One will find that in Asia, as well as most anywhere in the world these days, a good educational background will pay off with opportunities both to serve in various influential capacities and in gaining the respect of the local people.

3. Family

One's family is very important. Especially is this true in going to the mission field. There are no doubt places for the single man or woman, but as a whole a person will probably be happier and will do a better work if he has a family.

Don't just think about yourself, but think of your family too. Think of their qualifications, their needs, and their welfare on the field.

Be sure that you are with your family and the family is with you. That is, be sure that they want to go, that they share the same feeling for the lost, that they have the same zeal, and that they will be co-workers. Don't take them against their wishes. If you do, they will be miserable and you'll not be happy and therefore you will not be able to do the work that needs to be done.

What should the size of the family be? I don't know. Naturally the larger the family then the more support will be needed, the more the trip to and from the field will cost, but more workers will be in the field too. I have known couples to go, or families with only one or two children, or families consisting of six to eight children or more.

Probably it would be more ideal for a small family to go, but I wouldn't want to say that that is the law even if I were in the position to do so.

4. Health

In the Lord's church we don't have a missionary society that lays down the law for workers, and so it is up to the individual members and the congregations that would sponsor them to work things out. It would be assumed that a sick man, physically or spiritually, would not be making plans to go to a foreign field. Yet, there have been cases in which this has happened, and the men actually went. These cases, in the knowledge that I have of them, ended in disaster. So that is why I am urging you, and all who might be interested in going, to be sure that you and your family are physically fit to go. I would also urge those congregations interested in sending workers to be sure that they send people who are well and able to do the work that they are being sent to do.

One must be in the best of health if he is going to a foreign field because he will be called on to use all of the energies of his body to do the work that is before him. If he is conscientious at all he will find himself working harder than he ever worked before. This will include long hours, travel, preaching and teaching in all kinds of conditions and situations. If one has a picnic in mind then he will be sadly mistaken, provided as I said, he is conscientious about his work.

One should be strong not only physically, but mentally as well. The mission field is no place for the mentally weak or unbalanced. There are many pressures there and the work load is heavy. Therefore with weak nerves one can easily have a mental breakdown. Neither is the mission field any place for a crank.

5. Spirituality

The missionary and his family should be strong physically, but also must be strong spiritually. The worldly type is not needed. Those who would engage in questionable

things are not wanted. And those who would always be setting a bad example are to be frowned upon. Rather, families are needed who believe in prayer and Bible study, who are concerned about their souls and the souls of others, who love people and want to see them saved. This does not mean that the family cannot enjoy life, laugh and joke, have recreation, etc. But it just means that in all things they should be Christian.

The local people will certainly be disappointed if the missionary family stays in a squabble all the time or if two missionary families are always fussing and fighting among themselves because of shallow Christianity. Much is at stake.

6. Experience

How can one possibly hope to accomplish much in a foreign field if he has never accomplished anything at home? Such is to say that one should not wait to preach until he has gone to the other side of the world. He should not wait to win souls until he has arrived in a far away place. He should begin to do these things, and many others, while he is still at home. Then after he has become seasoned and has proven himself, he is ready to go. One cannot be successful away from home if he is not successful at home. One cannot love souls of foreigners if he does not love the souls of his own people.

I remember that my family and I spent a number of years working at home, and even in the mission field specifically, to prepare ourselves for what we hoped to do. I am sure that with that experience we became seasoned, settled, and more mature in what to do and how to do it.

So many want to rush ahead and try to do a man's work when they have not become men yet. They want to bypass all of the preparatory stage, but it is altogether necessary. If they stubbornly rush on into it, then they will learn too late their mistake.

There are plenty of opportunities at home to gain experience. There are millions of people there that have never obeyed the Lord. There is a lot of mission work there that needs to be done. Talk about opportunities—they are there. Not just one here and there, but by the dozens. Look for them, find them, take advantage of them, and they will prepare you for work in those areas where you are needed even more.

Work in a foreign country is not easy. Therefore you need all of the background experience and training possible to cope with the problems, challenges, and opportunities. Don't pass over this too lightly. Also, don't rationalize that in the United States no one is interested in religion, while the rest of the world is begging for the truth. In a very few countries masses accept it readily, but in the majority the people are not at all aware of their need to be saved, and conversions are made one at a time after long hours of teaching.

7. Able to Win Souls

The purpose of going to a foreign land to do missionary work is to win souls. The church cannot be established, and all of the other work done, unless souls are won. How are you going to do it? This is a good question, but a better question is, have you won any souls at home? Are you a soul winner? This must of necessity be one of the qualifications for becoming a missionary.

8. A Worker

A lot of people are lazy. This is true of some preachers. But if you are going to be a missionary then you are going to have to be a worker. When you arrive in a foreign land you are going to find yourself in a situation where you will have to do everything. This will be true at least in the beginning, especially if you go into a new area. You'll have

to find a place to live, and make all of the other arrangements that are involved for living in a place. You'll have to get out and make arrangements for the advertising, do the visiting, do the preaching and teaching. Besides these there will be hundreds of other things to do. It is no place for a lazy person.

9. Leadership Ability

Another qualification that a missionary must have is that of leadership ability. He must not only have the ability to lead men to the truth, but also to lead them on in Christian growth and development. If an individual has no such ability then he will not be the man to send. Think of the apostles and various workers of the New Testament. They succeeded because they had the truth and could lead the people to accept it and then give them the proper guidance needed to live the Christian life.

10. Love for People

To be a missionary one must be in love with the world. He must love people. He must be concerned about them, have a desire to help them, and even be willing to die for them. One cannot work with a group of people, and have much influence on them for good, if he does not have this love. The people will detect the feeling of superiority, the lack of genuine love for them. They can tell if the missionary is hypocritical toward them.

How can an individual think of going to a far away land to work with a people that he does not even love? I am sure that this has happened, but it would be better for such mistakes not to be repeated.

Do you love people? If not, don't think about going to anyone to try to help them. Rather, someone needs to come to you to convert you and show you what it means to have a love for the lost.

11. Able to Make Decisions

There will be many decisions to make. Much will depend on the outcome. You will have to decide to go or not to go. Where will you go? When will you go? How will you go? Where will you settle? How will you begin? Will you hire preachers or not? Will you build a meeting house or not? How long will you stay? Oh, there will be so many decisions to be made. So you'll have to have the ability to consider the facts, weigh the pros and cons, and to try to make a good decision each time. One that does not have this ability will not work out on the mission field.

12. Dependable

You are going to do a job. You have many brethren back home counting on you. Many souls in the field are involved. Much will depend on your stability. Will you stick it out? Will you see it through regardless of the joy or disappointment that you may experience?

This will be no time to be wishy-washy. This will be no place for keeping everyone guessing. You will need to have a program and then stick to it.

13. Honest

To be a faithful Christian, you must be honest. How much more is this necessary if you are going to be a missionary. In this work you will be involved with a number of people. They will have to trust you to be honest with money, in reports, in the work you are doing. Always conduct yourself in such a way so as to never lose their confidence. Once that confidence is gone, you are finished.

Be honest with your brethren when it comes to money matters. This is always a touchy spot, but it can be dealt with in such a way that there will never be a question about it. Try to tell the brethren the facts about your work. Give them the good and the bad alike. Don't blow it up as

though every thing is rosy when it is not. Brethren like to hear of the progress being made but they are sure to become suspicious when everything is going too well.

Be honest with those you are dealing with in the field. Don't try to deceive them but just tell them how things are.

Above all, be honest with God.

14. Able to Adjust

Can you adjust easily to new situations and surroundings? If you are going to go into some other area with the gospel then you will find that this is a must. Especially is this true when you enter a foreign field. There will be many adjustments to make. The people, the food, the language, the clothes, strange customs and traditions, different religions, etc. If you find that you have difficulty in adjusting, this is something you need to take into consideration now.

Most people who want to can adjust. It is just a matter of making up one's mind and then doing it. Once one does this, he finds it is not so bad after all. Homesickness, and many other problems, disappear more rapidly when this is the case.

15. Patient

Do you know the meaning of patience? You may think you do, but you'll find the real meaning of it when you go to countries like those in Asia. Everything is so slow. There is so much red tape. Yes, it will take a lot of waiting, a lot of longsuffering, a lot of patience. You won't be able to get everything done in a day. Life is slow. There is the idea that there is always tomorrow, and most of those that you will deal with had rather for you to wait till then to do what you want to get done. And in most cases, whether you like it or not, you'll have to wait until tomorrow to get

it done. It really tests one's patience then when once again you are told, "Come back tomorrow."

If you don't have much patience with people, then you had better begin to work on this one because it is a must for a missionary.

16. Know How to Use Money

It takes money in mission work, as in everything else. The only problem is that there is just never enough of it to do all that needs to be done. This means that you will need to know how to stretch it, and put first things first. This means that you'll have to know how to use money so you can get the most out of it.

The mission field is no place to throw money around and to squander it foolishly. Money can also be misused by putting it on things that are not needed or by putting it on things that will spoil the local people.

One must not only know how to use money in relation to the Lord's work, but also in relation to his own personal life. If one lives too luxuriously, it will do more to hurt the cause than to help it. I am sure that one can go to the extreme in having too much but also may go to the extreme by not having enough. The ideal thing is to strike the happy medium.

17. Zealous

To be a good worker for the Lord then you are going to have to be zealous. You will have to take the initiative. You are the one that must be aggressive. If you'll have this kind of spirit then it will do wonders for the work. Of course it should be based on a knowledge of God's word and the present needs as they pertain to a local situation.

There are many many other qualifications that could be listed, but these are enough to show you that it is one thing to say that you will be a missionary and it is another thing

to become one. Most members of the church, though, can meet these qualifications with some effort. Those who really want to succeed can. Perhaps this is another determining factor that is involved in these matters.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON TWO

1. About how old should one be before he enters a foreign field?.....
Give the pros and cons of one's age.
2. Why would it be necessary for one to have a good education before he goes to the field?.....
.....
3. Who do you feel would be more effective in mission work? One who is married or single? Why?.....
.....
4. Why would one's health be so important?.....
.....
5. What should be one's qualifications spiritually?.....
.....
6. Why must one be successful at home before going to a foreign field?.....
.....

7. What are some of the other qualifications for being a missionary?.....
.....

Special Instructions

1. Tell what it means to be a missionary.
2. What is your personal feeling toward missionaries?
3. What is the work of a missionary?
4. Why is it that some people belittle missionaries and talk about them being on a holiday in a foreign country?
5. Tell why you would like to be a missionary.
6. Write to some missionaries or talk to some that you may have opportunity to meet, and ask them why they are missionaries. Write their answers.
7. Do you feel that one should have certain qualifications before going to the mission field? Explain
8. Make a list of qualifications that you feel one should have.
9. Interview some of the preachers in your area and find out how they feel about this.
10. Talk to two older preachers and ask them why they have never done any foreign mission work. Write down their answers.
11. Tell what you and others can do at home to speed up world evangelism.

LESSON THREE

THE PREPARATION

1. Plans

If you haven't made any plans for the mission field, then make some. Make them *now*. If you ever expect to go, you will have to have a beginning point. By thinking ahead, laying a foundation, planning in detail your every move, even over a period of years, you will find that it will be much easier to carry out your plans.

Read and study the mission efforts in various parts of the world, try to visit and talk with former missionaries that may be in your area, or those who may be passing through. Write to various missionaries about the work, suggestions, etc. All of this will help you to better formulate your plans.

Based on your studies, findings, and needs, now begin to make some decisions as to where to go, when you will go, how long you will stay, etc.

Finally, work your plans. You can make some of the finest plans in the world, but they are worthless unless you put them to work. By going ahead with your schedule, you will find that it has been worthwhile.

People who do things without prior thought and consideration are the ones who usually fail. Take for example the great politicians or leaders in any field. They spend a lot of time in deciding what to do. Then once their plans are formulated, they begin to put them into operation. That is why they are successful.

Don't decide to spend a number of years in a country because you got carried away by what someone said on one particular occasion. Don't jump into a thing without knowing what you are getting into. As stated, give a lot of

thought to it, weigh the pros and cons, and make sure that you are doing the wise thing. Then proceed.

2. The Field

To do mission work in a foreign land means that you must choose a field. Many questions should be considered so as to help you choose the right one. For instance: Where do you want to go? Why do you want to go? When can you go? Are you needed there more than in other places? Are others there? Will you be beginning a new work? Can you get a visa? What is the population? What is their religion or religions? What about the weather? How does your family feel about this place? Will you be able to encourage your brethren to send you there? What if you are unable to get in? Do you have an alternate country in mind?

Remember, much depends on the field that you choose. You will be planning to work there for the next several years, in all probability. You will want to work where you and your family can be happy. Therefore try to choose a place where you will feel needed, a place where you can be happy, and a place where you can do a good work.

Don't be deceived. Regardless of the field that you choose, it will not be home. There will be problems and there will be disappointments. But you must decide where you are going and then go there to make the best of it. With the proper attitude you can adjust to it. Never forget the reason for going and never lose the desire for being there.

3. Sponsor

Before you can go you will have to find a good congregation to sponsor you. This just means that you will need a congregation to work with and to be responsible for your support and your work. Many countries require this before

they will even allow you to come. They don't want to let just anyone come, to find eventually that they are broke, and then for the country to have to send the family home at its own expense. As far as the country itself is concerned, it is just trying to guard against such an embarrassing situation, and of course, its financial loss.

The ideal thing would be for a congregation to approach you about the possibility of their sending you. But as ideal as this may be, it usually doesn't turn out this way, although more and more congregations are beginning to take the initiative in this type of work. This is encouraging indeed. But unless you are one of the fortunate ones you will simply have to get out and find a congregation to sponsor you.

Again the ideal thing would be to approach your home congregation, or the congregation for which you may be preaching, or some congregation for which you may have worked, to send you. Many brethren are able to find such a congregation to send them. However, this is not always the case. So you may be among that number that will have to look to some other congregation to send you.

You may have to approach a number of congregations before you finally find one that will send you. Most any congregation *could* serve as a sponsor, but not all are willing to do so. That is why you will have to keep searching until you find the one that will. Just don't give up.

When you visit a congregation to talk to the church and Elders about sending you, know what your plans are, be sincere, try to convince them of their responsibility and your need, and of the need of the country to which you desire to go. Don't be ugly and don't try to force the brethren to accept you. All you can do is to put the case before them and then pray for a favorable decision.

If they should decide to sponsor you then meet with them and discuss what you will expect of each other. Try

to have a good relationship. Make plans together. Understand each other. Work your plans.

4. Support

Perhaps the sponsoring congregation can supply the full amount of support. If so this will save a lot of precious time and money. If they are unable, then you will simply have to get out and raise the remainder of the support. This will require you to visit enough congregations to assure the necessary support. You will find that some will respond and some will not. But be thankful for any amount given. Sooner or later the full amount will be raised and you can get on with your plans to go. This is a good trial of your faith and is a blessing in disguise.

How much support will you be receiving? This will depend on you, your brethren, and your needs. Remember, though, that while you will not have some expenses that brethren back home may have, there will be many other expenses that you will have that they do not have. Of course some of this will come under your work fund.

I think it would be possible to go with too little support, but I don't know of anyone that has gone necessarily with too much. I can't understand how brethren can feel that preachers and workers at home should be awarded huge salaries when they refuse to go, but that the missionary should live on practically nothing because he has chosen to go to a foreign field to preach the gospel. I think the missionary should be supported just as well as those at home. If anyone should be receiving more, then it ought to be those who are willing to go to far away places. Just because a family is willing to sacrifice shouldn't mean that they should be forced to sacrifice everything.

Then there is a work fund to think about. This will be in addition to the salary, to take care of expenses such as travel, house rent, schooling for children, rent for a place for the church to meet, tracts to be printed, Bible Corres-

pendence Courses, postage, advertisements, and all of the many other expenses that will have to be paid. This counts up but is very necessary. It would seem a little foolish to go to all of the expense of sending a family to a foreign land for three or four years and then leave them sitting there with their hands tied, having no funds to do the things that need to be done.

5. Passport

While all of this is going on, you will need to obtain a Passport from Washington, D.C. or some other Federal Office in the United States. To do this, you will have to go to a city where there is a Federal Court Office and ask for application forms. Fill them out properly, turn them in with the necessary pictures, birth certificate, and fee, and in about two weeks you should receive your Passport.

There will be no need of you putting forth an effort to get a visa or to take steps to leave the U.S.A. until you have your Passport. So apply for one now if you think you will be needing it any time soon.

6. Visas

Before you can enter many of the countries of the world, it is necessary for you to have an official visa from the particular country to which you want to go. That means that before you go too far with your plans you should find out about the kind of visas that are given and then you should proceed to get one.

Most countries of the world have their embassies in Washington, D. C., from which you can get your visa. Some of these countries have consulates in other major cities in the U.S., but it would probably be better to direct your request for application forms to the embassy of that country in Washington, D. C. In some cases it might be all right to let a tourist firm handle this for you. However,

since it involves work, and for a long period of time, it would probably be better for you to handle it.

If there are workers already in the country to which you intend to go, you should be in correspondence with them concerning the proper steps to take. If you are going to a country where the church does not exist, then you might correspond with brethren from the general area. They may be able to give you valuable pointers to help you to avoid making *serious* mistakes.

Now proceed by writing to the Embassy of the particular country and ask for the necessary papers for you and your family to fill out. When you get the papers be very careful as to how you fill them out. Be careful with the wording of each statement, especially if they have a dislike for missionaries, or if they have difficult terms for entering. The slightest error could be disastrous.

If the government of that country has a distaste for mission work, you will want to be very particular concerning the wording of the purpose of your going. You will certainly not want to use the term missionary. It might be that you can enter on the basis of doing educational work. On the other hand, your choice may be a country where such a title might prove to be helpful for certain reasons.

After filling the papers out properly (usually two or three sets for each one holding a passport) then supply the necessary pictures and return the forms to the Embassy. Don't expect your visas back immediately even though they may finally be passed. It might take several weeks or months. Sometime it helps to call the Embassy from time to time to enquire about the visas.

Should your visas be granted, you will be able to proceed with other matters. Should they be denied, then depending on the reason given, you might want to apply again and give new wording to the questions or to give a different purpose for going. Sometimes little things can make a big difference.

Of course there are a number of ways of entering a particular country. Aside from going to do mission work, one may go as a school teacher with an American School, to go on business, as a student, journalist, to go to visit friends, to go as a tourist, etc. This may not be ideal, but there are more ways than one.

My family and I set out to go to India. Our visas were denied more than one time. We ended up in going to Pakistan, later to Ceylon, and now we are in New Delhi, India. We are here now on tourist visas, and for only six months, but we are here. Also, even though we were not able to come originally, our Canadian brethren found that they could come to India, and several have done that. So I believe the Lord's will has been done.

Don't feel defeated if you are told that you can't go to a certain country. Just keep trying and sooner or later you will make it if you will be really determined to go. In the mean time, if you so desire, choose an alternate country. Go ahead and do a good work there. In time you might prefer to continue with that country, or you might continue to keep your eye on the country that denied you entrance, with the hope of eventually getting in. Just try to do the Lord's will, and the Lord will bless your efforts and the gospel will be preached in another part of the world. In the end many souls will be saved.

7. Shots

Get started as soon as possible on your shots. These are very necessary inasmuch as many countries will not allow you to enter without a health card showing that you have been vaccinated for certain diseases. You will therefore need to get injections for Yellow Fever, Cholera, Small Pox, etc. Even if you could leave the United States without these, you couldn't return without them. The vaccinations are especially necessary in Asia, Africa and South America.

Taking all of the shots can cover several weeks so you need to begin early to get them out of the way for yourself and for each member of your family who may be going. Then you will need to keep your health card up to date after you leave home. This is for your welfare and that of others as well.

8. Pictures

Aside from the pictures that you needed for your Passport and for obtaining your Visa, you will need to have a good supply of additional passport pictures on hand for your travel outside the USA. Many countries require two or three pictures when applying for a visa. The country you settle in may require additional pictures when registering with the police. Remember to keep a supply with you, and also have a supply of your wife and children. They should be identical to those appearing in your passports.

9. Gather Needs

In making preparation to go, you need to be trying to determine the various things that you will need to take with you. Try to find out as much about your chosen country as possible. If brethren are already there, write them for advice. This will include the things that you will want for your personal needs, and the things you will need for your work.

Don't wait until the last minute to do this. Begin well in advance of your departure. Remember in addition to gathering the things up, which will take time and will cost money, you'll have to have them boxed and shipped.

Perhaps you can get some help in some of this Especially by letting the church know your needs for books and other supplies, maybe most of them can be given free of charge. Even though they may have been used they can still be put to good use in your future work.

10. Settle Things at Home

Among the many other things that will have to be done before your departure, you will have to settle things at home. If children are involved you will want to remain at home until they have completed their school year. With parents involved with both husband and wife, they will have to be visited and there will need to be an understanding on their part, if possible, of what you are trying to do. If you have work, it will have to be terminated. If you have a home, then it will have to be sold, rented, or left with someone in charge of it. If you have debts, they need to be settled, if at all possible, before your departure.

There may be things to sell, things to store, etc. Many of these things will require time and you will have to allow for that in your plans.

Leaving home for two to four years is not like going on a short trip, to return in a few days or a few weeks. When leaving on this kind of trip you can't be running back every few days, or even months, to take care of something. If it is to be taken care of, it must be done *before* you leave.

Apart from these things, there needs to be some understanding with your folks and relatives as to what will be done in case of emergencies, deaths, etc. Most families who go have an understanding that they will not be returning, because of the great distance and expense involved, until their time is up. All of this must be fully considered and understood before departure. Otherwise, serious problems could develop.

11. Think of Family Needs

During your preparation, let the family stay with the parents and relatives as much as possible. Also think ahead of their needs on the trip, and of their needs while abroad. This would be especially true of the place you live, schooling for the children, etc.

Should you be going into an area where there is not a good American School, or a good local school, it may be necessary to use Correspondence Courses. In such a case you might want to write Calvert School, Tuscany Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21210 for some information concerning the courses they have available. But in all probability you will be able to put your children in the local school of the country in which you will be working.

12. Know the Country

Since you have now chosen a country, try to learn as much about it as you can. Study its history, geography, religions, customs and traditions. Know something about the way the people dress, the way they make a living, the kind of food they eat, and so on. The more you know about the country, and the people that you will be working with, the better off you will be when you arrive.

Know something about the language or languages of the country. It may be possible for you to even study some before going. In spite of the fact that it may have other languages, there will no doubt be a percentage of the people who will know English. This will be both a blessing and a curse. It will be a blessing in that you will feel more at home and can get around better. On the other hand, since some English will be spoken, it will cause you to feel that you can make it without knowing the local language. But before you go, try to become familiar with their language and then be determined to go and learn it. You'll be far ahead of those who do otherwise.

Some of this information may be gotten from school work, especially if you are taking a course in mission work. You may also get some of this information from former missionaries or those who are already on the field. But you can also get books from your local library or bookstore, or from your college, that will deal with these various subjects. As stated before, learn everything you can about the country. Try to

get the facts instead of rumors and hearsays. True information will also help you to keep from forming false ideas and conclusions and will better prepare you to face matters as they are. You will know what to expect, how to approach the work, and how to proceed with it.

13. What to Take

This is a very difficult section because it is not easy to give advice. I have tried it in the past, only to end up with those that I advised having hard feelings toward me in some cases. It is hard to give advice as to what to take because different people look at different things in different ways. What one thinks is necessary may not seem essential at all to another. And, especially in developing countries, things may change drastically between the time the advice was given and the time the family arrives. Anyway, I am going to try to advise you on some of these things, at the risk of being accused of giving poor advice.

Keep in mind that my advice will be given with countries like Pakistan, Ceylon, and India in mind. This information may be, or may not be, true of other Asian countries. But by and large, many of them are the same.

Either plan to have a car sent or to have the money to buy one once you arrive in the country you have in mind. If you plan to send a car, it should be a small car or something like a Volkswagen Micro Bus. This is suggested since gas or Petrol is usually very expensive in Asia. Furthermore, most roads are not good and parts are hard to get. This means that a small car is more desirable. If you plan to send a car then also count on paying from 100 to 350 per cent duty on it at the port of entry. If you plan to obtain a car in the country itself, be prepared to pay a high price, even if you are able to get one at all. Beware of second hand cars. They are usually expensive and worn out. If you come without a car, you will either have to walk, ride crowded buses, or use rickshaws (three-wheel

motor scooter) and taxis. My family and I have used buses and taxis in Colombo and New Delhi and find that it is possible to get by with them, but I wouldn't necessarily recommend them. Rather, I would recommend that you have a car. You will save lots of time and that is the thing that is important these days.

You will find that most electrical things in Asia are very expensive. Usually they are several times higher than they would be at home. For instance, a friend of mine bought a second hand refrigerator for six hundred dollars. With this knowledge, my family and I had one shipped. It cost only \$200 and after using it for more than four years we sold it for more than \$300. My advice then would be that you should ship the electrical appliances you are going to need. If you don't, you may be sorry.

That means you will probably want to take such things as a refrigerator, electric stove (or gas stove since it might be more economical), washing machine, and iron. These things may seem to be luxuries to the local people but to you they will be necessities. They will not only be useful to you but will save world's of time. For their use, take along two or three transformers.

Take a good radio. It should be a medium size transistor that operates on both batteries and electric current. It should also be three or four bands. Besides the local programs, some of which will be in English, you'll be able to pick up Voice of America, BBC, etc.

Take a tape recorder with plenty of good taped music. Be sure the music is what you like because you'll be hearing it a lot. Also include some tapes for the children. They'll enjoy this.

Take a good camera or two with plenty of film. Film in Asia often runs several times higher than it does in the States, unless you are at places like Singapore and Hong Kong, which are free ports.

Take an American Express Credit Card. This can be

used to buy air tickets and many other things. Also take along a good supply of Traveler's Cheques to begin with. You'll have to use them from now on for the most part.

There may be some medicines that you will want to take along. These would include special medicines that you feel you might need over the next three or four years. Many of the countries in Asia, though, have a good variety of medicines at low prices.

You may also want to take along a good supply of clothes, shoes, etc. This would depend on your chosen country. The same would apply to any foods that you might send.

For the church you will want to send a communion set, song books, and as many books as possible for a library. You may also want to send a mimeograph machine and don't forget your typewriter.

But before you go too far with these things, I think just to be on the safe side you should correspond with someone in that area as to what to bring. If there are no brethren there, maybe you can get this information from the American Embassy.

Try to gather together all of the things you need, but don't over do it. Keep in mind that it will cost money to have it shipped and then on the other side you will probably have to pay some duty on it. You will be allowed so much duty-free, but on the balance you will have to pay duty. On all of your electrical things, as well as most other items, it is usually required that they be at least a year old to be brought in duty free. At least this is what we found in Pakistan.

Don't send any furniture or anything else that may be available at a reasonable price in the country of your destination. Send only the things that you feel you will need, and that you feel will be cheaper to send than to purchase there, or things that you will not be able to get there.

You may want to send books for the children, especially special school books that might not be available there. You may also want to send certain toys for the children, since toys are very expensive in many Asian countries.

In the things that you send, try not to go to the extreme. Don't feel that you'll have to take everything that you have since there will be nothing available outside the United States. At the same time, don't reason that you can get by without sending anything. I think you could go to the extreme in either direction.

Go, but go prepared. You'll be glad you did.

14. The Trip Over

You have a choice of flying or going by ship. The majority choose to go by air. This is usually quicker and easier. One advantage to travelling by ship would be being able to take your extra baggage with you without costing as much. If you fly, remember that each passenger will be allowed only 44 pounds. That means that you will have to pack only those things that you will just have to have on the way over and when you get there, since it will probably take a few weeks for your box to arrive. If you were able to get your box off early enough then it may be waiting for you on your arrival. Of course it will still take time to get it cleared through the customs.

Some brethren like to fly directly to the country in which they will be working. They fear that if they stop along the way they will be accused of just going for the trip. While it would be possible to over do it, nevertheless, I would strongly encourage any family to stop a few times on the way over. By visiting with brethren along the way, getting a picture of various works, seeing what it is like in different countries, one will be better prepared to enter the country of his destination and will be able to more quickly adjust to the new as a result of the experiences gained on

the way over. To go directly to the field will present too great a shock and will make it more difficult to adjust.

So my advice would be to visit some on the way over. You may not be going just for the trip, but it will be a trip over nevertheless and you might as well take full advantage of it. If you don't you are the great loser.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON THREE

1. What are some reasons for planning to do mission work?
2. Tell why one should choose a field as early as possible.
3. What is a sponsor?.....
4. Where would one ideally get his support?.....
5. Give the steps for getting a passport.....
6. What is a visa?.....
7. What steps should be taken to get a visa?.....
8. What if the visa is denied?.....
9. List some of the necessary shots that one must have to go into other countries.....

10. When should you begin to gather your things to go?

11. Tell some of the things that must be settled before
 leaving home.....
12. What should one know about the country to which
 he is going?.....
13. Make a list of things that one should take.....

14. What should one do on his trip over?.....

Special Instructions

1. Tell of your plans for the mission field.
2. Write a paper on the country in which you are plan-
 ning to work. If you have not chosen a country, then
 pick out a country and do some research on it and
 write a paper on it.
3. Give the responsibilities of a sponsoring congregation
 to the missionary.
4. Give the responsibilities of the missionary to the spon-
 soring congregation.
5. Where would you go to find a sponsoring congre-
 gation?
6. Does the congregation you preach for, or worship
 with, sponsor anyone in the mission field? If so, write
 a paper on it. If not, tell why it does not.

LESSON FOUR

THE ASIAN CONTINENT

To most Americans, Asia is so far away. It is the mysterious East. It represents population explosions, poverty, and undevelopment. It is a place of false religions, Communism, and war. In spite of all of these things, Asia is real. It is living. Much depends on the course that it takes. It is growing, going forward, and making progress.

1. Population

One of the most amazing things about Asia is its population. With nearly two billion people, the majority of its problems stem from this alone. Many of its areas are the most densely populated anywhere in the world. There are more people and more people—more people than you ever dreamed existed.

Being so thickly populated, this creates housing problems, food shortage, and general unrest. Jobs are scarce, salaries are low, and families are large. Education is still for the children of the better-to-do people.

It is hard to believe, but China alone has 700 million people. India follows with 520 million. Then there are Pakistan and Indonesia with more than 115 million each. These figures do not include all of the other countries of Asia, which alone has more people than the rest of the world put together.

Because of this great mass of people, this is reason enough to emphasize Asia's need of the gospel. While some has been done, the hem of the garment has hardly been touched. So much more needs to be done and so much

depends on what we do in the next few years. Asia needs the gospel. This is her hope for survival—her only hope.

2. Geography

Asia stretches all the way from the Mediterranean to Japan, from Russia and China on the north to Indonesia and other islands in the south. It is a huge place. Even India itself is so large that it is spoken of as the sub-continent. Having so many people, so many resources, and being so big, Asia might be thought of as the sleeping giant.

Many of the great cities, rivers, deserts, and mountains of the world are in Asia. It consists of 34 nations, is mostly made up of undeveloped countries, depends heavily on agriculture, and is slowly and gradually becoming more industrial with the help of western countries.

3. History

Dating back to the earliest of times, it is the cradle of civilization, and is rich in history. Many of its countries have numerous old buildings, archaeological findings, etc., to attest to their ancient past.

It would be most interesting to study the individual history of each country, as well as the over-all history of Asia. While many of them are as old as time, some are comparatively new as far as their independence is concerned.

Another interesting thing to do would be to study the influence that other countries have had on Asian people during those times that they were dominated by foreign powers.

4. The People Today

For the most part, Asia has been asleep through the centuries. Only since the second world war have some of the countries begun to awaken from their deep slumber.

Some, like Japan, have made great stride. Ports like Hong Kong and Singapore do a thriving business. All of the countries are trading to a greater extent and are consequently making progress.

Many of these nations are opening up more and more. They are becoming more conscious of the rest of the world, and the world is becoming more conscious of them. Because of the past, what they have to offer by the way of sights and pleasure, Asia has become a great center of tourism.

The people are becoming better educated, getting more and better hospitals, are taking a greater interest in their way of life and are, therefore, striving to raise their standards in every area. This is commendable and encouraging.

People in the West are still shocked at the many things they see in Asia, especially in certain countries. They are touched with pity on the one hand, but driven away by the filth on the other. Asians are very hospitable and friendly. They know how to smile and make you happy. Foreigners who come to live among them are greatly impressed. They come to appreciate them and to love them. And there is something about Asia that gets to you and always makes you want to return.

Physically, the people are short and small. Many of them are of the Aryan stock.

5. The Culture

There are many different cultures in Asia. Each country and even each area may have its own individual culture. Some of them may be similar, yet they are different. It is very interesting to study their way of life. It is most interesting to observe how they eat, how they dress, how they live, how they work, etc.

To the Westerner, they do many things the hard way. The Westerner also wonders why the Asian does many things the way he does. This may even bring both laughter and

criticism from those who do not understand their ways. But once one takes the time to study why a certain thing is done a certain way, he will probably find that there is a good reason for it. This is also amazing.

I have noticed that in each country there are many unique things that stand out in contrast to other countries. For instance, each country has its own unique types of transportation. All may have the motor rickshaw, but each has its own type of rickshaw. Another example is boats. I have observed them in several countries and they are always different in their appearance, due to the specific local needs.

I personally love Asia, and I think most anyone would. Of course there are many bad things about it, but this could be said about any area of the world, including our own. There are good things too, but above all, the opportunity is here to try to help it to be better.

6. The Language

Actually, there are hundreds of languages in Asia, with some individual countries having two or three hundred separate dialects. This can be discouraging, but one encouraging thing is that some English is spoken most everywhere, and that makes it possible for one to get around without too much difficulty.

7. The Religion

There are not as many religions as there are languages, but still several religions are represented. In addition to the major religions, each one is divided into many sects.

Religions found in Asia include Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Jainism, Buddhism, Shintoism, Confuciousism, Judaism, and Zoroastrianism. Of course there are still many Animists.

Another unusual thing is that all of these major religions had their beginning in Asia. This indicates that the people are deeply religious. The very backwardness of some

countries can be traced to the teachings of the dominant false religion.

India herself has seen four religions rise in her boundaries. These are Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. Of course Christianity began in Jerusalem, Islam had its origin in Arabia, and Zoroastrianism got its start in Iran.

Much of the grandeur of the past in the way of beautiful buildings and temples was based on different religions. It is simply amazing as to what has been built and done in the name of devotion to gods.

While Christianity has had some influence on Asia in the last hundred years, nevertheless the other religions continue to flourish. But those of the other religions, especially among the younger people, are gradually turning away from their religion. Many of these are seeking information about Christianity. This presents a golden opportunity to preach the gospel of Christ in this part of the world.

Asia needs religion but it needs the pure religion of Christ. This and this alone will change its destiny.

8. Open Countries

We are calling those countries "open" if they are having the gospel preached in them at the present time. They include Turkey, Lebanon, Israel, Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, South Vietnam, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Okinawa, Philippines, Korea and Japan. A number of these have been opened during the last 10 years, which shows the progress that has been made. Not only have these countries been opened up with the gospel, but all of them are reporting great progress being made in spreading the truth.

Besides the gospel being preached, several schools have been begun, some radio broadcasts have gone on the air, Bible correspondence work has met with great success, and other methods have been used to reach the masses. The great cry is for more help. There are still many large cities

in these countries where the gospel needs to be preached.

Most countries have experienced a good response to the gospel. India has led in this with more than 26,000 becoming Christians within the space of approximately four years. Most of these are to be found in South India.

The church is growing in Asia with more and more being converted, new congregations being begun, and with the gospel spreading into new areas. As the local people grow in knowledge and maturity, the church should have a much greater growth.

9. Closed Countries

We will list the closed countries as being those in which the gospel is not being preached at the present time, although some of these are not closed in the sense that it is impossible to enter with the gospel. They are closed because we simply haven't gone in. This is to our shame. These countries include Russia, China, Cyprus, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Yeman, Saudi Arabia, Aden, Kuwait, Bahrain, and other Arabian States, Iran, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim, Burma, Maldives, Cambodia, North Vietnam, Laos, Macau, North Korea, and Mongolia.

Now some of these may have the gospel preached in them in the sense that there are some Christians of American or other nationality stationed there with a job, government, etc., and are conducting worship services. Also the gospel may be preached in some of these lands by means of Bible Correspondence Courses or through other methods. There may even be national Christians in places like Iran and Russia who may have been there through the years, but that we are not aware of at this time except through certain reports that we have had of them. For the most part, and as far as the gospel being preached in these areas by workers going in for that purpose, they are without the gospel and are closed.

Some of these countries like Iran may definitely be entered

at the present time. Others may be entered with a little work and by using the right approach. Some of them may be entered by those other than Americans. For sure there is some way to get the gospel in to them if we will look for that way.

I have just about been convinced of the fact that there is no country really closed to the gospel. The door is open for someone or some method. It is just a matter of us finding the door and going in. The Lord said go, and we should allow nothing to stop us from carrying out his command.

The saddest thing of all is for doors to be open and for us not to go through them. Sometimes we like to think that certain countries are closed and then that relieves us of any responsibility to them. At least, we think so. Let us make up our minds right now that we will not rest until all of these countries have had the gospel. Someone is needed right now for Iran. Who will go? Will you go? I pray you will. But what about Laos, Cambodia, etc.? Many are needed for these and other countries. Many are also needed for those countries where the gospel has already been preached in a limited way.

10. What Is Being Done

As we have seen, something is being done in spite of the fact that it is little in comparison to what needs to be done. It is a wonderful, thrilling, and inspiring work.

I just wish it were possible for you to be a part of it awhile. If you could only see what is being done, and what *could* be done, it would so move you and stimulate you that you would not rest until you could become a part of it yourself.

11. The Needs

The need for Asia right now is to continue with the job until all of Asia has heard the gospel. This was done once and it needs to be done again.

We need more to become more interested in Asia, inter-

ested to the point that they will actually come and help with the work.

Here in Asia itself we need to try to do more to evangelize the countries we are already in, and we need to continue to work to open up those that seem closed. We need more preaching and teaching to spread the good news among the masses. We need to be sowing down these countries with tracts, magazines, and Bible Correspondence Courses. We just can't do enough of this type of work and we should never underestimate the power of the printed page. We need more congregations springing up here, there, and everywhere. We need schools or colleges for each country. Oh yes, there are many needs, but above all, we need YOU. We need your interest, your prayers, your support, but greater still, we need for you to come to help us. You just must come to Asia. You must come now.

12. The Joy

I can't begin to tell you how much I have enjoyed my work in Asia. I can't begin to tell you the joy that my family and I have experienced here. There is nothing to compare it with. I wouldn't take anything for it. I feel that this is where we are needed. Although we have worked hard, and given much of ourselves, we have been given much more in return. Sure we have had problems, but problems are to solve and not to gripe about. We have had to give up certain things, but we are the stronger for it. We have been away from home, but have made a new home. We have been away from our friends, but now have new friends. We have missed the church at home, but have established it here. We see things differently now. We see our place in the church and in the world. We have a different view of the church—not just local and isolated but we have a world view of the church now. We feel that we have been where we were needed. We are the better for it and pray that souls will be saved because of it.

I believe that you would come to feel the same way, to have the same joy, and be able to say the same things if you will only come. Above all, the Lord will bless you if you will.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON FOUR

1. Where is Asia located in relation to the rest of the World?.....
2. Why is Asia so important today?.....
.....
3. List the countries of Asia.
4. Why is her culture so important?.....
.....
5. What are some of the major languages?.....
.....
6. Name the world's living religions in Asia and their beginning places.
.....
7. List the countries where the gospel has been preached in Asia.....
.....

8. List the countries where there are no workers.....
.....
9. What are some of the needs in Asia?.....
.....

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write a paper on Asia.
2. List some sources from which you can get information on Asia.
3. Name the country in Asia in which you feel you would most like to work. Go to the Library and find books written on this country, and use the encyclopedias in particular to gather all the information you can about it and write a paper on it.
4. Tell something of the language, or languages, that may be found in that country.
5. Tell something of the religion, or religions, that may be found in that country.
6. Write a missionary in that country, or in a neighbouring country for information about that country, and give a report on it.
7. Do you personally believe that it is possible for the gospel to be taken to every country in Asia? Why? How? If not, why not?
8. What do you feel is the greatest need today in mission work?

LESSON FIVE

THE ARRIVAL

1. The Entry

You have landed at last in the country that you have been dreaming about, thinking about, talking about, and working to get to. It is a time for rejoicing and you are so excited about all that is in store for you. At the same time, you are probably scared. You are in a foreign land. Not only are you in a foreign land, but you will be staying and trying to make a home and start a work. So many things will be different. But just calm down. Remember that you are not the first one to enter a country like this and you'll not be the last. Others have succeeded and so can you. Besides, the people will be people just like you!

You are in the country, and yet you are not. As you and your family depart from the plane, you are directed to the airport terminal where you will have to check through customs so you will be officially in the country. Others will be doing the same so all you have to do is to fall in line. If you have any problem you can always ask for some assistance from the person who is usually on hand to take care of arriving passengers.

No doubt you were given a paper on the plane to fill out before arriving. If you did not receive such papers, you will be given them at this point. First, you may have to turn in a declaration form to show how much foreign currency you are bringing into the country. Not all countries in Asia have this procedure, but several do. Next you will present your Health Card. Then you will proceed to the next desk in order that your Passport may be checked and your visa stamped. If you are required to check with the police within a certain

period of time, you will be notified at this time just when you should do so.

As you go through all of this, be sure to ask about a form on which to declare your unaccompanied baggage. You'll probably be asked about this, but if not, be *sure* to enquire yourself. If you do not officially declare it as you enter, you may have problems later on.

Once all of the formalities are out of the way, you must go to the baggage counter and check your luggage through. The one who inspects your baggage may have you to open a bag or two but in all probability, since you are a foreigner, it will not be required of you. Rather, he will simply ask you to tell him what you have. You should explain that you have only your personal things and then he will check you through. Now you are officially in the country.

2. Exchange

At first opportunity get some money exchanged. That is, change some dollars or traveller's cheques into the local currency. There will be a bank in the airport most likely and they will tell you the rate of exchange, etc. Keep this in mind. It may seem a little strange to begin with but it won't be long until you will have no more trouble with the local money than you do with dollars and cents.

3. Tipping

As soon as you get ready to pick up your suitcases there will probably be one, two, or three to rush up to get your bags. They will want to take them to a bus, taxi, or wherever you direct them. Of course they are all looking for a tip. More than likely, regardless of what you give them, they won't be happy. But keep the amount small, regardless.

4. A place to stay

If there are other workers in the city, or in some nearby city, they will probably be on hand to meet you. This will

be very helpful. They'll also probably have you to stay with them until you can find a place to live. They will help with this too, more than likely.

If you are arriving in this country as the first workers, then you will be on your own. In such a case you'll probably want to take the airlines bus or taxi into the city and then check into a hotel.

5. Finding a Place to Live

The first thing you will want to do is find a place to live. If there are English newspapers, you'll want to put an ad in the classified section for a house. You might want to just get out and begin to look. If there are places for rent they will more than likely have up a sign that reads: TOLET. You may think there are a lot of toilets there until you realize that the sign is not toilet but to-let, which means that the owner is simply notifying the public that his house is for rent.

Will you be looking for a house-meeting house combination, or just a house? It will depend on you, what is available, what you can pay, etc. My family and I always liked to have the church meet in our home. Some would not like this, but we did. We wanted to have the people coming and we wanted to be right in the middle of everything.

What kind of house will you want? I wouldn't advise you to rent one too expensive, but neither would I advise you to rent one that is completely inadequate. In other words, don't try to go to the extreme in either direction. You will probably be able to find a medium price range and this will be better.

Where will you want to live? Again, I would advise you to rent a place in a nice area, but again not going to the extreme in either direction. You will want a place where you and your family will be happy, and you'll want a house that you will enjoy living in. Furthermore, you will want in an area where you can reach the local people, and where

they can get to you. Most of them will have to walk to your place or ride a bus to it. On the kind of salaries they make few will be able to come by taxi or in their own car, so it is very important to be located in a place convenient to public transportation.

If you are fortunate you may find the place you want in a few days or a week. But don't be in too big a hurry and just take the first place you come across.

You may be asked to pay some rent in advance. This is typical in the East. Then they will take that and complete the house if it is a new one, or repair it if it is an old one, but have a clear understanding with the landlord as to who is responsible for what, put it down in writing, and get receipts for what you pay down, etc. He'll probably have a contract for you to sign, but don't get tied up for too long a period of time. Neither pay the full amount, if there is some advance, until he has done what he has promised to do. Once all the money is turned over to him you might as well forget about him doing anything more, that is, if he is average.

6. Moving In

At last you are ready to move in. But what about your furniture and all of the other things you will need? Well, you may have to do like we did. When we moved in we had only a bed, a basket for a table, and a gas stove. We had to go out immediately and buy dishes and other necessities. We also had to rent a refrigerator until ours could arrive. We visited the furniture market and placed an order for the various things we would need for the house. Advance had to be put down and the furniture wouldn't be delivered until about three weeks later. Ready-made furniture was just too expensive to consider.

It took time for us to get the things we needed for the house, and of course a number of things were added as time went by. But, little by little, everything fell into place and

we were soon fully at home with all of the necessities to live normal lives and to do what needed to be done.

7. Beginning the Work

Naturally you came to work for the Lord and you are anxious to begin. But this takes time too. Don't be in too great a hurry or you may make many mistakes.

You may want to begin by having some calling cards printed. Then as you go over the city gathering up the things you need, you can give the people you meet your calling card and invite them to come to worship with you. As the next few weeks go by you will get to know more and more people, and some will promise to attend. But don't be disappointed if they don't come.

Begin to conduct worship the first Sunday you are there. If there is no one present but just you and your family, then go ahead with your worship services. Perhaps after a Sunday or two there will be some who will begin to attend.

After you have chairs, a pulpit stand, have erected a sign, etc., you may want to run some ads in the papers (if ads are accepted) to let the local people know that the church of Christ now is in the city. It may be that you will have some foreigners living in the city that may be members of the church. If so, they may want to attend. Don't be discouraged, though, if they are not faithful. Some of the local people may be attracted by the ad and may begin to attend.

Another way of making contacts is to begin to advertise a Bible Correspondence Course. This usually brings in a number of names and addresses. By giving them a special invitation from time to time to attend worship, some of them may begin to do so. You can always visit them and study privately with them too.

As time passes, the work will grow. You'll probably soon have one or two ready for baptism. Then you may have opportunity to go to different homes or localities to preach and teach God's word. So you are on the way.

8. Things to Expect

A. In all probability, on entering you will have to register with the police. That means that any time you want to leave the city, you will have to check out. Be sure to keep this in mind.

B. You'll have to check out the possibility of having to pay income tax. It might be well to go to the American Embassy, or Consulate, and ask for information about this.

C. When your box arrives, don't expect to be able to go down and pick it up. It will take two or three weeks to get it through customs. You might be able to get it through without having to pay any duty, but you probably won't.

D. Even though you have always heard how poor the people are in Asia, you'll find prices to be high, much higher in many cases, than things are back home. Some things will be cheaper, but by and large you'll find it more expensive to live here.

E. There will be so many people. They'll be everywhere all the time. In many of the countries of Asia you'll notice that most of the people on the streets are men. Women just don't get out like the men do. This is mainly because of religion and tradition through the years, and transportation problems, but gradually they are getting away from it. Some of the ladies in Muslim countries will be wearing veils.

F. Because there are so many people, and they don't have the facilities that we have always been accustomed to, and because they have done this through the ages, you may see men squatting here and there to use the "bathroom." No one seems to pay any attention to it, and after awhile you'll not notice it like you did.

G. You'll have to watch the water. In many cases it will not be purified. Even at home it will be necessary to boil all that you drink. This will be a bother for awhile but then will become a part of daily life. Boil it for twenty minutes, let it cool, put it in the refrigerator, and it will soon be ready to drink and for other uses.

H. Likewise, you'll have to disinfect all of your vegetables and fruits. If you do not, you will have serious problems with dysentery and perhaps other diseases. To disinfect these things, wash them first in soapy water, rinse them, and then put them into a pan of water along with a few drops of iodine, and let them soak for twenty minutes, rinsing afterwards in boiled water.

I. There will probably be many schools, but most of them are private and are operated to make money instead of giving an education to the students. There may be government schools and some good private schools, including some foreign ones. There are usually some mission schools on hand, and they are more than likely the better ones. If there are enough Americans living in the area, there may be an American School, and the British may have a school. But you'll just have to investigate the situation and find out where you would like to send your children. Denominational missionaries often send their children off to boarding schools, but personally, I never did think I would like to do this.

J. Hospitals may be scarce, especially good ones. Sometimes there is a mission hospital in the city with some foreigners on the staff. If not, there will be a good hospital or two to go to in case of sickness. Check with the American Embassy for recommendations.

K. Transportation is usually poor. There are buses, but they are often overcrowded. Taxis are convenient and not too expensive. Some countries like Pakistan and India have motor rickshaws. They are cheap transportation, but very rough. Most people walk. Those who can afford it in going to other cities go by train or plane. You'll be fortunate if you have had a car shipped in, or if you can buy one within the country. But be careful. In most of the Asian countries you will drive on the left-hand-side and will declare that there are no rules of safe driving at all; there is a great deal of danger involved since the roads are so rough, with so many people walking in the streets, and there is every kind of

contraption coming at you, or trying to pass you, that you can imagine. These include people, motorcycles, rickshaws, horse-pulled carts, donkey carts, bullock carts, camel carts, bicycles, scooters, cars, buses, and herds of farm animals.

L. Poverty will be seen on every hand. Living conditions will be such that you never dreamed of seeing. Filth, the lack of sanitation, smells, sights, etc., will be indescribable.

9. Culture Shock

Because of all the foregoing things, you may experience great shock in your new home. However, if you studied the country properly, visited some countries on the way over, and you have come to realize that people are people but don't always do everything the same way, then you have probably been curious and fascinated, but not really shocked. Just always try to be calm and try to take everything in stride, reasoning that it is possible to see most anything. If you will think of it like this then I am sure you will do fine.

10. Religion

In much of Asia you'll find the people practicing Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, etc. You'll soon become acquainted with their mosques and temples, as well as their customs and traditions.

You'll also notice that probably a number of denominations are on hand, as well as the Catholic church, to keep you company and to make you feel at home. In many instances they have beat you to the field by one hundred years or more. This will cause you to wonder why the church has been so slow in getting there. You may also have to answer questions like this from the people: "If you are the Lord's church, why have you been so long about coming?"

11. Patience

In Asia it takes time to get things done. More than likely you will be told to come back the next day when you go out

to try to get some little something done. This can be frustrating but after you hear it hundreds of times you kindly begin to get used to it. You may think you know the meaning of patience now, but you'll understand its meaning a lot more before you leave this part of the world.

12. Religious Beggars

When you move into a new area to begin a new work, more than likely the first ones to contact you will be those who want to size you up to see what they can get out of you. They will be the ones who will have nothing to lose but all to gain by the new contact. Watch out and don't be taken in by them.

13. Language Study

Will you learn the local language? You may think that you can get along with English, or with translation, but this is not the better way. It would be far more effective if you would enter a regular language school for about six months or a year. The ideal thing would be to do this before you get involved in the local work, for if you don't, you'll get so involved that you won't have time to study the language. Also, if you try to get by with a tutor, you'll end up in paying out a lot of money, spending a lot of time, and then finally dropping the whole thing without ever learning the language.

If you'll go ahead and learn the language, although it may be difficult and trying, you'll be far ahead. You'll have the respect of the local people, and will be able to talk with them in their own language. How much better that will be and you will be able to do a much greater work and accomplish so much more than you could otherwise. Take the time to learn the language. You'll be sorry if you don't.

14. Loads of Work

You'll always have loads of work to do, more than you can ever get done. There you will work like you never worked

before, harder than you ever did before. You'll resent all of those remarks you heard in years gone by about the missionary being on a holiday. But you know what you are doing whether anyone else does or not, and you are proud to be where you are and to have the opportunity of doing what you can to spread the truth.

Watch yourself and don't over do it. Take some time out for the family each week. Don't forget your spiritual life too. Workers often get so concerned about the souls of others that they neglect their own. Work, but don't over-work. This is one place where you can work yourself to death before you realize the danger to your health.

15. Beggars

In Asia, and especially in certain of the countries, begging is a profession. It is a way of life. There will be beggars coming by your house. When you go out you will be confronted with them. Everywhere you go you will find them, with their hands out, not just one now and then, but all the time. Of course you won't be able to give something to every one of them. If you did you would soon be broke yourself. So you will have to decide for yourself who you will help, how often, and how much.

16. Shopping

You'll not find many super markets or shopping centers in Asia. Rather, you will find bazaars, hundreds and hundreds of small shops selling everything that you can imagine. These are often colourful and very interesting.

The markets may be somewhat raw in some areas. Often there is a large central market in the city, with smaller ones in the various residential sections. Vegetables, fruits, meats, and dry goods are displayed for the shopper. With the filth, smells, and sights that are all around, this can be quite sickening to some, especially when buying in the meat section. The meat is brought in daily and is cut up according

to the demand. There is no refrigeration so the best time to get it is early in the morning. In Muslim countries it is not possible to get pork. In a Hindu country like India it is not always easy to get beef, although it is possible.

The markets and bazaars are gradually modernizing but it will be some time yet before they are like the ones to which we are accustomed in the States. But the encouraging thing is that a beginning has been made. A few shops in the areas where foreigners live now have refrigeration and display cases for their meats.

17. Bargaining

Some shops will have up a sign "Fixed Prices", but most of them are open for bargaining. And unless you learn the art of bargaining, you will end up paying considerably more than you should for the things that you buy. But you'll learn, and it won't take long either. You'll go to one shop, price an item and get the shopkeeper down as far as you can, and then go on to another shop and do the same with the same item. You may have to return to the first shop to get the best price. After awhile you learn what the going prices are on various things and it will be easier. Of course all of this takes time but it is part of it. Don't be embarrassed by bargaining—it is usually expected, and those who readily pay the price asked are taken for fools.

18. Servants

Asia is known for its servants and the better-to-do families may have a dozen. There is a cook; a bearer to serve the table, wash dishes and to dust. There is one to do the washing and ironing, a nurse to see after the children, a sweeper, a night watchman, and a driver, and a gardener. All of this can add up to two or three hundred dollars a month, but I don't know of any missionaries who can or would afford so many servants underfoot.

A cook should cost around forty to fifty dollars a month. A

general servant to take care of dusting, dishes, etc., will cost around twenty dollars a month, and a sweeper is usually about five dollars a month.

If a housewife values her time and is going to help with the work to any great extent, she may want a servant or two to help with the essentials around the house. In Asia it is not thought of as a luxury, but a necessity. Even servants have servants. Of course one could go to the extreme and this would be bad, so I would recommend moderation.

19. Example

The example you set will be very important. In other words, try not to be extravagant in your way of life. Don't be wasteful. Watch your conduct.

Try to avoid having misunderstandings with the local people that become public arguments, creating a scene.

Be honest, show understanding, have some patience, and be of help where you can.

If there are other workers on hand, certainly don't let your differences be made known to the local people. They will think that it is strange for Christians to come to them to teach them a better way of life and then to openly argue and to differ with one another. Some of them will try to play you against each other to their own advantage, so guard against falling for this.

20. Americanizing

You have gone to preach the gospel and to spread Christianity. You have not gone to make Americans out of the people. Remember that. On the other hand, just because you are in a foreign country, don't criticize your country and belittle it around others. This would be a poor example of patriotism, and many Easterners need lessons in this field.

At the same time, don't just find fault with the country you are in. Don't belittle the people in general and criticize the way they do things. Try rather to find something good

to say. This will make them appreciate you more and you will be more effective in your work.

21. Sacrificing

You probably won't have to sacrifice as much as your folks, and others back home, think you will. One of the biggest sacrifices will be that of being away from loved ones and all of the good things you liked and enjoyed back home. Even at that, you will be able to have your own kind of food. As a family you will have one another, etc. In spite of that, you will probably have to do without certain things, and you will find yourself stronger for having have done it. For instance, I have known wives that had to do without washing machines, and had to use the old kerosene burners for cooking, but they made it fine. Don't be such a weakling that you think you can't live unless you have everything just like you had it back at home.

22. Foreigners

As far as you may be concerned, you will be living among foreigners. As far as they are concerned, you will be the foreigner. You should remember that. You will be a guest in their country. Also remember that you can begin to speak their language, eat their food, and dress like them, but you will still be a foreigner and you always will be even if you should spend the rest of your life among them. As far as I am concerned I don't feel that it is necessary to dress like them, to eat their food all the time, or to live under the conditions that they do in order to have an effective work among them. As I said, you will be a foreigner, and regardless of what you do you will remain that in their eyes. Realize that you are a foreigner always watched, and try to do the very best you can under the circumstances.

23. Hospitality

Asian people are known for their hospitality. When one visits in a home he will most certainly be offered tea or

coffee. Sometimes a Coke or some other soft drink will be substituted, but usually hot tea is the refreshment. In the better homes there is not much question as to the cleanliness, etc., but out in the villages that is another matter. Even there I would suggest that you accept their hospitality by taking the cup of tea as difficult as that may be. It will make them feel better, and you will have a better opportunity to influence them for good.

There may be times also that you will be invited to eat with the local people. Accept their hospitality as far as possible.

24. Eating Out

While you may eat in various homes to accept the hospitality of the local people, and you may also go to the better restaurants, I wouldn't advise you to eat at the open cafes and food stalls. In these the main item for sale is germs. Sanitation is an unknown thing so often. The glasses, plates, etc., are simply rinsed off in dirty water and put on the shelf again. Flies swarm all over the place much of the year. Those who handle the food do not look exactly like the kind of people that you would want to serve you.

25. Nudity

You'll find Asia to be a land of extremes. On the one hand you'll see women covered from head to toe. On the other, you'll see nudity on display everywhere. This is most common among young children, and especially the little boys. Someone said that they wear their birthday suits from the waist down. Others describe it as going barefooted up to their waist.

26. Loaning Money

My advice to you would be, not to loan money, and I mention this because you will be asked for money many

times in all probability. If you loan money you will always be the loser. The individual who borrowed it will shun you if he can't pay because he will assume that you are looking for your money, and if he is not planning to repay you, he will shun you for sure. In either case, you have lost a friend, and you have lost your money. The best policy is not to loan money under any circumstances. If you feel that you must let someone have some money, make it as a gift, but not as a loan.

27. Respecting Customs and Traditions

As far as possible, try to respect the local customs and traditions. For instance, in a number of countries the ladies wear a veil or covering during worship. For their sake, I would advise the ladies to do likewise.

28. Avoid Politics

Whatever you do, don't get involved in local politics. Don't take sides and refuse to give opinions when asked.

29. Rich Americans

You are not rich, and you know that you are not rich, but all Americans are considered to be rich because they come from a wealthy country. You'll be reminded of this quite often and you'll have to pay more because of it. It is one of the crosses you'll just have to bear.

30. Soul-searching

While here you will do more soul-searching than you have ever done in your life. You will search your heart again and again as to why you came, if you are the one for the job, if you are doing the kind of job that needs to be done, if you are spending the money wisely, and a thousand other things. What a responsibility you'll feel resting upon your shoulders! Yet, you'll count it such a blessing

to be here and you'll pray again and again for the Lord to bless you and your family and to guide you in his providence that you made to the right thing.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON FIVE

1. Tell what happens when one arrives in a foreign land.
.....
2. What does "exchange" mean?.....
.....
3. How would one go about finding a place to live permanently?.....
4. Give the first steps for beginning a work.....
.....
5. List some things that one should expect.....
.....
6. What is culture shock?.....
.....
7. How should one react to the local religions?.....
.....
8. Should one try to learn the local language? Why? When?
9. List some of the responsibilities the missionary will have.

10. What does it mean to Americanize?.....
.....
11. How should one feel toward his own country?.....
.....
12. What sacrifices may be necessary?.....
.....
13. How should one respond to hospitality?.....
.....
14. Should one ever loan money?.....
.....

Special Instructions

1. Do you have any fears of living in a foreign land? If so, what are they?
2. Where do you think one should live? In the country or in the city?
3. With whom do you think one should work? The poor or the educated people?
4. How do you think one should live? Among the rich, the poor, or middle-class? Give reasons.
5. How do you feel one should react to persecution?
6. To what extent should the missionary sacrifice to get the gospel to the local people?
7. How long do you feel one should stay?
8. Make a study of the religion of the country to which you hope to go, and give a report on it.
9. Review the work in Asia and write a paper on what is being done.

LESSON SIX

THE WORK

1. Communications

Communications are very important. They are important both to the sponsor and to the one on the field, for it is vital that the worker keep all who are involved informed as to what is taking place.

You will want to send a monthly newsletter back to your sponsor to be printed, distributed among all of those who are helping with the support, and all who may have a special interest in your work. This newsletter should be a report on the work for the past month and should include a financial report. The report, in my estimation, should not be one-sided, telling only the rosy side of the work. Rather it should tell both the good and the bad, explaining the problems and presenting the opportunities. It should be informative, interesting, and inspiring. This will go a long way in keeping the work before the brethren so that they will continue to be interested and anxious to have a part.

Your newsletter also may be used as a means of asking for specific help such as prayers, further financial assistance, literature, etc. Unless you let the brethren know your needs, they won't know.

Also it would be in the interest of your work to try to write your sponsor each week. This should be only a note to keep them up to date as to what is happening. If there are special problems, decisions to be made, etc., you will have to go into them in greater detail. A close working relationship will mean a great deal to you and to them.

I would also suggest that you correspond with your folks, loved ones and friends concerning the work as you have

opportunity. These are opportunities to tell of the challenges, the needs, and the progress. Their interest will grow and in turn they will pass the information on to others.

You'll probably get questionnaires to be filled out on the work you are doing. They will be sent by brethren who are studying mission work in college or who may have some special need for compiling information on mission work. It will take some time to comply with their request, but can be a means of enlarging interest in the subject. No avenue of enlightening the brotherhood should be overlooked.

Write news reports and special articles for the various papers concerning the work. Some brethren will accuse you of trying to get attention, of seeking glory, etc., but it won't hurt your work to let people know about it. This may induce others to come, or to help in a financial way. It may also be a great source of encouragement to brethren all over the world. Certainly there will be those who will want to know what you are doing and unless they read of such reports through the papers they may never know about it.

Correspond and associate with brethren in the country in which you are working, and in neighboring countries. It is foolish to sit by yourself, being jealous of the other fellow and his work, when you need to be in contact with one another, encouraging each other, and working together to further the cause of Christ in the area.

Try to attend the mission workshops if it is at all possible. It will give you an opportunity to tell others of your work and you will have opportunity to hear of other work being done in Asia, and to exchange ideas and solutions for mutual problems. In this way you can encourage one another. Too long in a given locality, isolated and cut off from other workers, is not good. Just to get out of the country and to attend such a workshop will be a big boost to you and your work. You'll return more determined than

ever to do more and to get the job done. It will do wonders for you. Presently there are two mission workshops conducted in Asia each year. One is the Asian Mission Workshop usually conducted in South-East Asia and the other is the Middle-East Mission Workshop conducted in the Holy Land area. Both are very good and well worth the time and money to attend. Try to go at least once a year.

2. Methods

Methods have to do with the way the work is done. Many have their ideas as to what methods will work and what methods will not work. But give close attention to the things that I am going to say here.

What will work in one part of the world will not necessarily work in another part. Effective methods vary from country to country, and sometimes even from city to city. It is almost impossible to lay down a law and bind it upon everyone. If you believe a certain method is better, then use it and demonstrate to everyone how it works. No doubt there will be others to follow. But when you preach a method, and that only, it causes resentment.

Various ones around the world have gone into areas and practically told others how the work should be done. They have gone so far as to condemn the methods already in practice, giving instructions to discard them and replace them with the ones they are suggesting. Sometimes brethren will sit at home in America and try to tell brethren on the other side of the world what will work and what will not work in the field. This is ridiculous.

No doubt there are some bad methods and some good ones. But who can say which is which? Even if a method is bad for your area it might not be bad for another area. The best thing we can do is to be aware of the various methods and strive to choose the ones that will best suit the area in which we are working.

Sometimes we can learn from the denominational people, but we shouldn't go crazy over their methods. What will work with them will not necessarily work for us. They have different types of organization, different goals, etc., and after many long years of work they are still "missions" in most places. Furthermore, I get sick of brethren running around with a denominational mission book in their hands, trying to force its conclusions on us. I also get sick of brethren who are constantly quoting from these denominational people. It just doesn't fit. Why not use as our example the methods Paul and the other Christians found effective?

Remember that it is easy to condemn the other fellow. Sometimes this is done without foundation. We pick on him because he is doing something and we are not. He has gone and we haven't. He is putting forth an effort but we are not, so we condemn him. What a shame.

Now let us consider some various methods:

A. Pulpit Preaching

Naturally all preachers who go to the mission field are going to preach. This is good in Asia because people have a high regard generally for foreigners and will sit and listen to what he has to say. They are not as time-conscious and therefore will sit for long periods of time to hear God's word preached.

Preaching is possible not only in the cities, but also in the villages. Arrangements can be made almost any time for a service most anywhere. There are always people everywhere and there is usually no problem getting a crowd together. One, therefore, can preach as often as he desires.

To whom will you preach? Will you preach to the better class of people or the poor village type? Will you preach to the educated or the uneducated or both?

B. Meetings

This is another form of preaching, and a very effective one. I have always placed a great deal of emphasis on meetings and wherever I have gone I have tried to have as many as possible. I either conduct the meetings myself or have visiting preachers to come to do this preaching. Sometimes local preachers may be used and foreign brethren passing through stop for a meeting. The local people respond to this and we always made a number of new contacts as a result, and usually baptize several.

Some of my fellow missionaries feel that they are the only ones who can preach in their area. I think they are mistaken. I likewise feel that such preachers are making a big mistake when they fail to cooperate with each other to have exchange meetings, etc. Perhaps there is some jealousy here.

C. Filmstrips

The people of Asia go in for filmstrips in a big way. Usually if you want to get a good crowd together most anywhere you go, just arrange to show a series of filmstrips. Of course in the villages you may have no current, so a battery operated projector will be needed.

We have conducted several filmstrip meetings in Pakistan and Ceylon and have always gotten good results. Brethren in India have preached to thousands and thousands through this medium.

D. Bible Correspondence Courses

Bible courses are very popular. By putting a few ads in the paper, you can always get a number of requests by return mail. Over a short period of time hundreds and thousands can be enrolled.

While the English courses are very popular, the local language courses are even more popular. Of course this

involves having them translated from English to the local language and then having someone to grade the courses. But it pays off and I would commend it highly.

Most brethren use a correspondence course that consists of a dozen, two dozen, or thirty lessons. We have tried this, but have begun the practice of putting out a series of one lesson courses on a variety of subjects. A certificate is offered on the completion of each course. It works this way: The courses are advertised. A request comes in for the first course. It is sent. If the individual does not return it, then it has not broken a set of lessons. He also has gotten a good tract. Perhaps others will see it and want to take the course. If he does return the course, then it is graded and returned to him with a certificate and the second course. If he doesn't continue then he has at least had one course. But more than likely he will continue with the third and fourth courses, etc. Sooner or later he is bound to learn the truth. This system has been very effective for us and we think it is superior to the other method.

E. Tracts

Wherever I have gone I have noticed that Oral Roberts tracts are there. Also T. L. Osboron's tracts are there. Usually Billy Graham's tracts are there. Countries are literally sowed down with these. But what do we do? We print a thousand or two thousand of tracts and put out some and feel that we have done a good job. What a shame! Asia is at a point where literature can be very effective. It may not always be this way. We need to act now and we need to print millions and millions of copies and then sow down the continent with them. We need to do this in English and the local languages as well. We need to do this not just from time to time, but we need to *keep* Asia sowed down with the gospel. If this could be done for several years it would result in hundreds and thousands and

even millions being won to Christ. Oh, how we need to take advantage of this golden opportunity. To me it is one of the great opportunities of all time.

F. Magazines

Another effective way of spreading the gospel is through the means of good gospel magazines. You'll have no trouble in building up a mailing list. They need to be printed in the major languages of the area.

G. Classes

Children's classes, Women's classes, Adult classes, etc., are all good. These may be conducted on Sunday or any day of the week. They are also good in village work where the local people can participate.

H. Schools

Schools of different kinds are desirable. We have had Vacation Bible Schools and training schools, with good results. The brethren in India have gone into many different localities and conducted month-long schools in an attempt to give the people in that general area some Bible teaching and training so they can better carry on their work.

I. Colleges

Several colleges have been established in Asia. A number of these have only been preacher training schools or schools to teach the Bible and Bible related subjects. These are not registered with the governments in the different countries where they are located. They carry no recognized credit, but they are very helpful. Some of them include Karachi Christian College, Lanka Christian College, New Delhi Bible College (these three have mainly dealt with Bible

Correspondence work), Four Seas College of Bible and Missions, and Middle East Bible Training School. Ibaraki Christian College is on a larger scale and is recognized. Mawlai Christian School is also recognised as a grammar school. Other preacher training schools in India include Assam Bible College and Madras School of Preaching. Baguio Christian College and Korea Christian College are two of the better known schools.

I personally feel that we have no business sending Asian Christians to America for a Christian education. One of the main reasons for this is because we have hardly gotten back any of those that have been sent, and even if they returned they practically have to come as foreign missionaries. Then in the second place, the economies of Asia and America are too far apart for such a procedure to be successful. My suggestion would be that if they are going to be sent anywhere, they should be sent to the Christian Schools and Colleges of Asia. Better still, keep them at home and educate them there. If there are no schools, then they will just have to study with the local preacher and try to prepare themselves accordingly. Perhaps in time enough schools and colleges can be established so as to take care of such needs.

J. Personal Work

Personal work is always good anywhere. Most of those converted in Asia are converted through personal contact. People here just do not respond much to public preaching. They do not answer the invitation as we see people do in the States.

As far as going from house to house is concerned, I think this is good, but not for the foreigner to do. I think in this case it would be better for the local people to "knock the doors." For the foreigner to do this could cause resentment on the part of the local people.

K. *Newspaper Advertising*

I am a great believer in advertising. You must let the people know who you are, where you are, and what you teach, if you are going to reach them. You can do a lot of this through the newspapers, both in English and in the local language, provided the newspapers will take such ads.

Advertise your Bible Correspondence work through the newspapers. Advertise your worship services, your meetings, etc., through them. If you will continue to do this, you will create an image for the church, and when the people think of a church they will think of the church of Christ.

If the newspapers will permit it, insert some teaching ads. If the people won't come to you to be taught, then go to them. Through the newspapers you can reach hundreds and thousands of people that you could not reach otherwise.

In Karachi, Pakistan we did a great deal of advertising. From time to time we ran a series of teaching ads. But for getting results, we found Colombo, Ceylon to be almost unbelievable. We ran ads concerning our services, meetings, etc., and then we ran weekly teaching ads in several papers and also ran a Bible Correspondence Course through one of them. As a result almost one hundred per cent of the people who attended our meetings were first contacted through the newspaper. All of those converted were either directly or indirectly, first contacted through such efforts. While we did a great deal of this work, we just need to do more.

Here in New Delhi, India we are busy now placing ads in the various papers, and this is going to pay great dividends in the future.

This is a wonderful opportunity in many cities of numerous countries, but for the most part we are not taking advantage of them. Sure, ads cost money but we are not over here to sit and do nothing in order to say that we are

saving money. I am afraid we have been saving money too long, only to lose souls and to lose the world to Satan and his forces.

L. Advertising

There are also other kinds of advertising. Don't be afraid to put up a sign to let the people know where the church meets. If possible use a large billboard somewhere in the city to advertise the church and its services.

In Asia many of the Cinemas (Movie Theatres) run slides prior to the pictures, to advertise various places of business, etc. While in Karachi we had a Cinemascope slide worked up on the church and I approached one of the major theatres about running it. I thought at first the manager would reject it, but in the end he not only accepted it but agreed to run it a month free of charge. So the slide was shown before each picture and at intermission time, three times a day, usually to four or five hundred people each time. That meant that a lot of people saw our slide. As to how much good it did, I do not know, but it simply presented us with another opportunity to get the church before the people. I thought that it was unique for a country like Pakistan, and I do not know of any other religious group that ever did anything like that.

I would like to suggest that you advertise the Lord's church and the work in every way possible.

M. Radio

Most of the countries in Asia have radio but not to the extent that we have it in America. Even though they have stations, that doesn't help us much since the majority of them are government controlled and for various reasons do not allow religious broadcasts. Even when they do on special occasions the broadcasts are usually conducted by those

of the dominant religions or by the churches that are well established.

There are some countries that will permit radio preaching. The Philippines, Taiwan, the Maldives, perhaps Japan, etc. Some of these countries have high-powered stations and it is possible for broadcasts to be beamed to some of these other countries. Besides a few isolated local programs, the Herald of Truth and World Radio have had programs on in the Philippines, Vietnam, and the Maldives that I know of, but there may be others.

In countries like Indonesia, it would be possible to set up a radio station to broadcast the gospel.

Perhaps in the years to come there will be greater opportunity to preach the gospel in this part of the world by means of radio. Certainly radio is very popular here and would present a real challenge.

N. Village Work

There are many great cities in Asia where the gospel has been preached. Many others have had no preaching. But within reach of most cities are many many villages. If one didn't find it wise to move to a village to work, he could still have many opportunities to preach the gospel in the villages by going out to them from times to time. There is a great need here, but there are also great problems connected with it.

At least in the villages that I know about, and within the experiences that I have had, it is difficult to say what the solution is in regard to the villages. The people are just like children in their mentality. They are often tribal and factious. It is difficult to get them together and to keep them meeting over a period of time. They have to be gathered up and seem to always look to you for everything. They *can* be taught and converted though, and will certainly have to be dealt with if we ever evangelize these countries.

O. *Hospitals*

I am for people being helped but I doubt if it would be in our interest in Asia to build hospitals. Of the ones I have seen, it would appear to me that it would be a greater hindrance than a-help, as far as reaching the people is concerned.

As far as visiting the hospitals already here, and helping in various ways, I am sure a good work could be done. It is never out of place to visit the sick and to help them.

P. *Helping the Poor*

Asia presents a real problem when it comes to the poor. There are so many poor people and there are so many calls for help. The only way I know to deal with it would be for the church to try to determine who is worthy of help, and help according to the means that are available. A long-range program of homes for orphans, the aged, and the destitute could be greatly beneficial, but those receiving the help would have to be carefully checked and screened.

Q. *Group Evangelism*

Naturally you would like to have as much help as possible in any given area, but I personally feel that it would be better for workers to spread out. I can't see that I am accomplishing a lot if I end up preaching to several American preachers on Sunday morning. I feel that even if a number are going to work in a given area, they would be better off if each one went out to some different locality to preach on Sunday. Of course there are pros and cons on this, as on most everything else, but this is just something to think about.

R. *Campaigns*

Have a campaign. This has been the popular thing to do in recent years. Well, there are a number of places in Asia

where a campaign would be good. Perhaps in some areas it would do more damage than good because of the religious feeling in the area, but I think it would be great to have a group of workers to come into certain of these countries to teach and preach the gospel. I think it would result in much being done in regard to the local work and workers, and I think it would help the visiting workers to see the needs and opportunities and perhaps to instill in their hearts a desire to return for a longer period of time. I say, let's have more of them.

S. Wife's Work

The wife can do a great deal of good through children's classes and teaching the ladies of the congregations. She can also do a lot through her hospitality and other good works. Certainly the church will not really get on the move in any area until the women take an interest and get involved in the work

T. Children's Work

The preacher's children can have a good influence on the other children of the community and in their school work. Special care should be taken that they not leave a harmful impression on people by their behaviour.

U. Hiring Preachers

My advice would be to keep preachers off of direct support from America. This usually creates far more problems than it solves. I know some would disagree with me here, but "by their fruit ye shall know them." Often when an Asian develops direct contact with an American in the U.S., he soon arranges to go there, and eventually builds up financial support to the point that he is a small "ruler" when he returns to Asia with all of his wealth. Or if he does not go, he makes pitiful pleas that are answered in abundance

by unknowing Christians, and much money is put to wrong use.

It is only natural for the missionary to want to have some help from the local people. Since you would like to have full time help, and to have a local worker, it will be tempting to hire a local man. But watch out! If you are not careful you may get a hireling.

When you begin a work in a new area you will probably come across more than one preacher that is anxious to be converted. Actually, in most probability he just wants to change jobs and if you don't hire him he won't be around long. I have seen it happen a number of times.

The ideal thing would be to allow the local congregation to grow to the extent that the local members can support their own preacher. Then it is their work and their preacher. He will come nearer turning out to be what he should be if they hire him and support him. If he doesn't measure up then they can handle that too.

If you feel that you just much have some help then find out what would be a reasonable salary and hire a man on the basis that he will help in the office with translation, etc. If you hire him as a preacher for the local congregation then this will create problems.

These methods, and many others, may be used in the Lord's work. Just try to be wise and choose the ones that will most likely fit your local situation. I have always been one to experiment, and I have tried numerous things. What worked, I used again and again. If a thing didn't work then I discarded it and tried something else. This might be worthwhile to keep in mind in relation to your work.

3. Problems

I certainly don't want to discourage you but you'll have some problems on the field. I am going to mention some, and you may have others. As a matter of fact, you may have problems that I have never dreamed of before. Never-

theless, it will help in your preparation if you are aware of some of the things that you may be faced with.

A. Health

Health might be a problem for you and your family, but probably not. Just try to stay well. Watch what you eat and drink and be sure to keep up with your cholera injections and other shots. If you need a doctor, medicine, etc., take advantage of what is available, and use good sense in guarding your health.

B. Recreation

You will need to take some time off each week to be with your family. Too much work will not be good for you, your family, and the work itself. It would be advisable to take one day off each week and use it for relaxation and recreation. You might want to go out for a picnic, take a short trip, go to a museum, go to the zoo, etc. Or you might just want to stay at home and rest.

C. Getting Materials

Getting the necessary materials for teaching, books for a library, etc., can be slow and discouraging. Of course you'll just have to learn to get along without many of the things you were accustomed to back home. In time brethren at home will send you some of them, if you'll let them know your needs.

D. Finding Good Hearts

Especially to begin with, since you will probably have various ones to come who are merely out for what they can get, you will begin to wonder what you can do to locate some people with good hearts. But in time, little by little, you will begin to find sincere people. Just don't become

discouraged and give up. The first weeks and months are the hardest.

E. Materialism

It always seemed to me that the majority of the people in Asia, although they are poor, have but one thing on their minds and that is material things. I don't think I have ever found materialism anywhere like I have here. But in spite of that, we must realize that much of it is a result of their background. Then, too, the denominational missionaries came into many of these places and helped the people materially to the point that they began to conclude that this was what missionary work was all about. That is why it seems that they are always wanting the missionary to help them find a job, to educate their children, to help them with their hospital expenses, to give them food and clothing, etc. But this is not our mission. Our mission is to preach the gospel to them and instill the principles of Christ in them so that these principles may work in their lives and gradually begin to bless them materially as well as spiritually. So a lot of teaching must be done, and it must be kept up until the lesson is gotten across.

F. Getting Members to Give

Like everywhere else, Asians have a problem when it comes to giving. It seems that most of them want to give, but what they give doesn't amount to much. Many of them feel that others should give to them, instead of them having to give. So you'll have a great challenge here.

G. Not being able to believe the people

Many Asians have grown up in a society where lying and deceit are a part of life. It is therefore difficult to find people that you can really trust. When you invite people to attend worship, they'll declare sincerely that they will come, when

they know in their hearts that they are not planning to attend. This can be frustrating. But you get to the point where you always listen to promises with a strong mental reservation.

This problem crops up in nearly every phase of dealing with people. Again, they must be taught what it means to be truthful and to be trustworthy.

H. Reaching those of other Religions

In our dealings, we have found the Muslim to be the most difficult to reach. I think Buddhists would be next, and then the Hindu. But all of these people seem to be restless and have a craving for Christianity. There are worlds of opportunities to teach them, and especially is this true among the college-age young people.

In connection with this, one of the problems is that of finding materials to deal with their arguments. Some Christian evidences are helpful, but much more research and writing needs to be done on these various religions.

I. Burial places and Marriages

In Pakistan and India especially I have been asked many times about a burial place and performing marriage ceremonies. If people leave the established denominations, they have the problem of having a place to bury the dead, since graveyards are owned by the various religious groups. If one is not a member of a particular group, he cannot be buried in their cemetery. The body can lie out unburied for all they care. The solution in Karachi was that we paid so much money a year to have access to a particular cemetery to bury the members in case anyone should die.

The second concern is if they leave a particular established denomination to become members of the church of Christ, they want to know if there will be anyone who can perform their marriage ceremonies.

Of course with our background, these things sound foolish and childish, but to them they are very real problems since marriages and deaths are the two most important events of life. I always tell them that we will not allow any of them to go unburied and that we will see to it that those who want to get married are married. So far the problem has been one of unnecessary worry on the part of the local people.

J. *A building*

To begin with we always conducted worship in our home or in someone else's home. But what should be done later on? Should we continue to rent or should we buy some property and try to build? So far I have not bought any property and I have not put up any meeting houses. I don't know whether this is to my credit or not, but it has just never worked out otherwise.

While it may be wise to buy property and build, I have always felt that if we build for the local people before they are ready, perhaps we will be doing them a disfavor. Also, if we owned property and a house, we would feel a need for guarding it lest it fell into the wrong hands. It would be far better if the local people could be brought to the point of taking care of their own needs.

K. *Hiring preachers*

This problem always comes up sooner or later. Will you hire someone? Who will you hire? How many will you hire? How much support will you give them? Just wait until you begin to deal with some of these questions. You have never known problems until you get involved with people concerning work and support. They can worry the life out of you. Many will cry on your shoulder, tell all kind of tales, want raises, criticize others to build themselves up, cheat,

and do everything imaginable. You should do a lot of serious thinking before you get involved in all of this.

I have often felt that surely we must some way some how find good and honest hearts and plant within them the love of the Lord to the extent that they will be willing to make their own living at secular work, but preach and teach the gospel as they have opportunity. I think this was pretty well the kind of people we found in Ceylon and it was a wonderful experience. Maybe there are other countries where this kind of discipline can be instilled into the lives and hearts of the people. Let us pray that we can find more and more like this all over Asia. Look for this kind of people and instill these aims in them, as a part of their Christian development.

We don't always help matters by giving men support. So often this is just the beginning of our woes.

L. *Translators*

Those who do not know the local language have to rely on translators, if they are going to try to teach those who do not understand the English language. This presents problems all of its own. For instance, who will serve as your translator? If you use someone, a salary will probably be involved. What about his background? Does he have a Bible knowledge? Will he do a good job in translating or will he teach untruths? Strangely enough, most translators are unable to get very far in mis-translating a word or a series of statements, for there will usually be someone present who understands both languages and he will tell on the translator. Also, the preacher may have learned enough key words to tell what the translator is doing.

The best remedy to all of this is for the preacher to learn the local language. He would be wise to enter a language school and seriously study the language until he has mastered it. He will be glad that he did.

M. Keeping the Members Faithful

While many of the people we dealt with had either a Muslim background or a denominational background, they didn't know the meaning of faithfulness as we understand it. Yet in their own way they thought they were faithful, and it seemed to me that with their background, the amount of teaching they had, and with their surroundings being what they were, that they were as faithful, or more so, than our brethren back in America. Bro. J. C. Bailey has said the same about the brethren in South India.

I think many times that we expect far too much of our foreign brethren—but look at us in the western part of the world. According to the background that we have had, the opportunities, etc., we should be more critical of ourselves. We are no doubt doing less for the Lord than our foreign counterparts. That is hard to believe, but true nevertheless.

N. Lack of Zeal

People with a Muslim background usually are fatalistic in their outlook on life. They reason that "what will be will be." Therefore it is hard to stir up any zeal and enthusiasm in many of them. There are exceptions to this, as with most everything else, but somehow we must plant the fire of enthusiasm in more of them.

We found the people of Ceylon to be more zealous. This would be true of many other countries in Asia as well.

O. Americans

You will be blessed on the one hand if you find some American Christians there to worship with you. They can help in many ways and provide much needed opportunities for fellowship. On the other hand, unless they are faithful and try to understand the situation then they can be a greater hindrance than a blessing. For example, they need to understand the purpose of your presence there. You are

not there primarily to work with Americans but to establish the church among local people. While you will want to help your American brethren, still your first duty will be to convert the local people and to help them grow. This will require a lot of basic first-principle type teaching, that more mature Christians may find boring if their attitude is not right. Try to make them understand your aims, and the needs of the local people.

Don't misunderstand though, there are probably many other problems that you will have to face, but with every problem you'll find a solution. Besides, wherever you live in this world you will have problems. They may be different, but they will still be problems and they will need to be solved. We just have to be mindful of some of them and try to be prepared for them so we can be on guard against them.

4. Goals

Have some goals in mind when you go into the field. If you will, you will come nearer succeeding because you will have something to work toward.

A. To help fulfill the Great Commission

You'll be going to obey the Lord and to preach the gospel that souls may be saved. Don't forget this.

B. To open another country, or to help spread the truth in it

You may be going into a new country with the gospel, or you may be going to help further evangelize one. In either case you'll have a great responsibility before you. You must not fail.

C. To establish the Lord's church

You will be doing this by preaching the pure gospel, converting local people, that the church might exist right there

for the first time. This is a very satisfying goal to work toward.

D. To convert at least one a month

Naturally you'll want to convert as many as possible, but if you can just convert one a month this will be a tremendous boost to you.

E. To help the church to grow spiritually through a planned teaching program

The members will be taught and encouraged to begin to take a public part. They will learn to wait on the Lord's table, lead in prayers, lead the singing, preach, etc., and to make Christianity their way of life.

F. To spread the gospel in the area

This will be done by preaching the gospel by word of mouth, but also through Bible correspondence work, tracts, magazines, newspaper teaching, etc. Preach through the City, in nearby villages and towns, and perhaps occasionally in the larger cities over the country. If the seed can just be planted, then it may result eventually in the whole area, and even the whole country, in being evangelized. Have faith and do all you can. All things are possible with God.

G. To work yourself out of a job

Your intention is not to build up a work that you can remain with, but to help the church grow to the point that it will eventually be able to continue without your help. Even after you leave, someone else may be needed to help with the work, but the goal is still to build the church so that it can do without foreign assistance.

H. *Teach the local people to evangelize their country*

The foreigner can never evangelize the country in which he is working. He can plant the cause of Christ and help in many ways, but if the job is ever fully done it must be done by the local people. That is the ultimate goal.

I. *Other goals*

You might be going to replace someone and his family. If so, don't feel that you have to destroy his work in order to have your own work. Rather, your job will be to continue to build on the foundation already laid.

You may be going to start a school or to work with literature. These could certainly take all of your time and would be a great work.

You may be going to work with others. If so, learn to have a good relationship. Much will depend on this.

Regardless of why you are going, you will have a work to do, and the important thing is to do it as quickly and efficiently as possible.

5. **Fruits**

If you do your job well, there will be many fruits of your labor to follow. Just to know that you did the Lord's will, that the gospel was preached, that souls were saved, that the church was established, that the work spread, etc., will bring lasting satisfaction to you. You have the further satisfaction of knowing that if you had not gone, the people would not have heard the gospel and that the church would not have been established, but you were able to change all of that. Just to know the church has been established in yet another country can be worth everything, and the opportunity of working with other nationalities and helping other people will come to mean a lot to you. You'll have the opportunity, too, to see the providence of God at work and to get a view of the universal church.

You will experience joy and happiness that you never knew existed. You will feel sorry for all of those at home who have not experienced what you have. You will be so thankful that you came.

These will be some of the fruits of your labor.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON SIX

1. Why are communications so important?.....
.....
2. What is the purpose of a newsletter?.....
.....
3. Should one attend mission workshops? Why?.....
.....
4. List some methods for spreading the gospel.....
.....
5. Will a thing work all over the world just because it works in one area? Why not?.....
.....
6. What are some of the better known and most used methods in spreading the gospel?.....
.....

7. List some schools or colleges to be found in Asia.....
.....
8. Where do Asians need to be educated? Why?.....
.....
9. What are some of the problems of hiring preachers
in Asia?.....
10. Tell of the general problems that one will face.....
.....
11. What should be one's goals in the mission field?.....
.....
12. What are the fruits that follow?.....
.....

Special Instructions

1. Do you feel that there is enough communication in mission work? Do you feel that there is enough communication between missionaries and their sponsors? Do you feel that there is enough being written? Is the church being adequately informed? Write a paper on this.
2. How often do you hear a sermon on mission work? Tell when you heard the last one and give a brief outline of it.

3. Is there any classroom teaching on mission work? Would you advise some? Would you advise more?
4. What could be done at home to inform brethren more of what is being done and the needs and to create a greater desire to do more?
5. In your correspondence with different missionaries or in talking with missionaries that you may come in contact with, ask them what methods they use. List them.
6. Based on what you have heard and learned, do you feel that it would be better to educate foreign converts in Christian Colleges in America or to educate them in Asia? Why?
7. How do the brethren with whom you are associated feel about supporting foreign preachers with American money?
8. Do you feel that we should build meeting houses in foreign lands or should we leave that to the brethren of those lands?
9. Give a report on a recent campaign. Do you feel that they are profitable?
10. If you were a missionary, what would be your goals?

LESSON SEVEN

THE MACEDONIAN CALL

1. The World is the Field

Jesus taught that "the field is the world." (Matthew 13:38). Although he came into one area of the world, in reality he had come to the whole world. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

Christ died for the sins of the world that individuals everywhere might be saved. He commanded the apostles to take the gospel into all the world. That was almost two thousand years ago but the world is still the field. It is a great field. The world is so small in so many ways, and it seems to be shrinking day by day. At the same time, it is so large, broad, and vast. There are over 140 individual nations. Some of these are small, but some contain millions and millions of people. There are also all of the hundreds and thousands of islands, many of which we have never heard in all our lives.

This big old world is lost and in sin. It is without God and hope. It is so full of evil, and there are so many wars and problems. The only hope for it is to take the gospel to it. What little has been done, and continues to be done, no doubt is the thing that keeps the world standing. The Lord is longsuffering, but how long he will continue to wait, we do not know.

As the church, and as individual Christians, we have such a big task before us. It is almost frightening to think about for it seems too big a task. And yet the Lord gave it to us, knowing that we could do it. And we *can* if we will. With

all of our freedom, wealth, and opportunities, there is no reason why we should not evangelize the world in the next few years, this year, or any year. Surely if we are converted we will want to convert others. If we are not interested in taking the gospel of Christ to others, even to the whole world, then we do not have the spirit of Christ within us.

Since the field is the world, then there should be no problem as to where to work. We can even stay at home if that is where we are needed most of all. But what is going to happen to the rest of the world if all of us stay at home? I am sure that if we will be honest with ourselves we will admit that we would be worth more to the world outside of our own country.

I would like to encourage all of us to be aware of the world and its needs, and that as the Lord's people we rise up and go somewhere to preach the gospel. Personally, I am not going to feel bad toward you if you go to Europe, Australia, South America, etc. The gospel is needed in all of those areas too. The main thing is to go. But if you are interested in going to a continent where a large portion of the world's population is located, and where there are countless opportunities to preach and to do good, then I would point you to Asia.

2. The Harvest is Plenteous

The Lord said one time to his disciples, "The harvest truly is great." (Luke 10:2). This can be said of the whole world today, but especially of Asia. That is, there are so many people here to win for the Lord, and many of them would obey the Lord if we could just get the gospel to them. Oh, it breaks our hearts to see the fields white unto harvest but to know that that harvest is not being brought in. For example, in India millions and millions are ready for the gospel right now. Other countries could be won to Christ too. The people are waiting for the gospel. They are seeking for the truth. They are hungry for literature

and teaching. How little we are doing in comparison to what needs to be done! Think of what the church *might* be in Asia!

3. The Laborers are Few

While Jesus taught that the harvest was great, he also taught that the laborers are few. (Luke 10:2). How true this is in our own time! And as the Lord taught his disciples to pray for more workers, we constantly breathe the same prayer.

How we need more workers around the world, and especially in Asia. The ones that are already here are working day and night to take advantage of the many opportunities that are here, but they can't do all that needs to be done. They need help and they need it now. If you could somehow, somehow be made to realize how much you are needed, I am sure you would waste little time in making arrangements to come. And if you came then you would find it hard to understand why others aren't coming. We just must find a means of getting more brethren interested in going out to work for the Lord.

4. How Shall they Hear?

The Apostle Paul asked a question that we need to seriously consider at this time. His question was: "And how shall they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14). Have you ever seriously considered this question? Did you realize that there must be someone to preach the gospel in order for souls to hear it, believe it, and obey it to be saved? Did you know that many many souls will be lost on the day of judgment simply because you failed to go to preach to those who were without the gospel? In America you may reason in general that the people will hear the gospel whether you preach or not. But what about all of the other places in the world where there are no

preachers, and where people are illiterate and must depend on oral teaching to learn the truth? Don't you really feel that the Lord would have you to go to do your part in preaching the gospel that they might hear it?

I personally don't see how you could read such verses without doing something about them. I don't see how it is possible for you to remain at home and hear the gospel over and over when you need to be out preaching the gospel to others. I don't see how you can be content to remain at home and preach and preach to those who have heard it enough to preach it themselves, when there are millions and millions of people that have never heard it the first time.

There are just not enough preachers to go around. That means that unless you help get the gospel to others that there are going to be a lot of people who will never hear the gospel. You can offer all kinds of excuses and you can convince yourself that you are doing the right thing to remain where you are, but try explaining that to the people you failed to reach on the day of judgment. Then what will the Lord say when you failed to do what he asked you to do?

Think on these things, but better still, act on them.

5. Except They be Sent

Not only does the preacher have a great responsibility to go, brethren at home have an equally great responsibility to send. Paul asked, "And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" (Romans 10:15). There are many church members that could be giving more to make it possible for workers to go into different parts of the world with the gospel, but they don't. There are many many congregations that could be sending preachers to all parts of the world with the gospel, but they don't. Such brethren stand condemned before God.

Brethren spend money on everything in this world. They have plenty for the things they want and they heap upon themselves every kind of luxury, but they don't have any money for the Lord's gospel to be taken to others. How sad. Such people are as lost as those to whom they refuse to send the gospel. They are to be pitied even more because they should know better.

There are congregations that have money for all kinds of buildings, air-conditioners, salaries galore, and everything you can imagine, but they don't have any money available to put on mission work, and they are certainly not interested in sponsoring anyone. May God have mercy upon these congregations. They are in such darkness and despair. How the Lord must be pained by such treatment. What hypocrisy.

Thank God for the brethren who *will* give and those who *will* send. They are numerous, and more and more are beginning to take an interest and to have a part. Let us pray that our brethren, individually and collectively, can be converted to the point where the whole church will become active in this work. If all would do a little then it wouldn't be burdensome on anyone and the job would be done.

My advice to my brethren would be this: Think seriously, and weigh the consequences, before you turn anyone away that would want to take the gospel to others—think of the souls your action may be condemning to hell. Think seriously, and be sure that you truly *can't*, before you say that you *will not* sponsor or send a family out with the gospel. The responsibility is great, but it is a wonderful opportunity to serve the Lord and humanity.

If you are looking for someone to send you, don't give up. Keep working at it and you will succeed. There are still a lot of brethren who love the Lord and who will do all they can to share the gospel with others if they are challenged to do so.

6. Individual Responsibility

All of this is to say that we have individual responsibility. Whether we are at home, or in a foreign land, we have our own responsibility and that responsibility cannot be pushed off on someone else. Neither can we relieve ourselves of it by doing enough to soothe our conscience. It is there to cope with and will continue to be there until the job has been completed.

What we are seeing in the church today, I fear, is just enough mission work, just enough giving and sending, to attempt to soothe the conscience and to say that we have done *some* of this work. Although some good is done, as far as the Lord is concerned we might as well do nothing if we are not going to do all that we can. When will we learn this lesson? We can't do just enough to say that we are doing *something*, and then close our eyes to all of the rest that needs to be done. We haven't fulfilled our obligation to the Lord and to the souls of men when we do only a little when we could be doing so much more. The Lord will not accept our gift in this case. We are saying, like Ananias and Sapphira, that we are giving all when we know, and the Lord knows, that we are not.

But I especially want to say to you that God has spoken to you through his word, even as he has spoken to me, and he has commanded both of us to go. It is personal. I have tried to do so. *Have* you? *Will* you? *When* will you? God needs you *now*. He wants you to feel that you have a responsibility, and you do have. I pray that you will go.

7. Come Over to Help Us

I want to give you a very personal invitation, and that is, "Come over and help us." Yes, we need your help. If you can't come personally, you can come through your prayers, support, letters, interest, etc. But we are praying that you can come in person.

I have often wondered what it would take to get brethren back home to respond to our needs. I think that the church is going to have to be educated, and somehow made aware of the great needs that exist before it does much. Christians are going to have to be converted and have a love for the Lord and the souls of men. Then I am sure they will respond.

If you are aware of the needs over here, and if you are a real Christian and you love God and the souls of men, then I believe you will want to come, and you will try to come, and you will come. I know that you can no doubt think of dozens of excuses and means and ways of getting around this, but what I said still goes. If that be true, then there will be no excuses.

Please come.

8. The Decision is Yours

If the Lord is not able to move you to come, then I can't make you come. I am not going to try to force you to come or to pressure you to come. But I do want you to come. You need to be here and you would be happy that you came if you should do so. But the decision is yours. You must want to come.

On the basis of these studies, and your knowledge of the needs that exist, and your knowledge of the Lord's teaching on these matters, I pray that you will be able to make a wise decision. If you will only put God first in your life, he will bless you beyond imagination. Remember that all things work together for good to them who love the Lord.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LESSON SEVEN

1. What is the field?.....
2. In what sense is the harvest great?.....
.....

3. Who are the laborers?.....
4. Why is the preacher so important?.....
.....
5. Why is it necessary that a preacher be sent?.....
.....
6. Why is it that more congregations are not sending?
.....
7. Who has the responsibility of World Evangelism?
.....
8. Will you come over to help us?.....

Special Instructions

1. Why is it so important that we evangelize the world today?
2. Discuss Jesus as a Missionary.
3. Write an article on Paul as a Missionary.
4. Why is there a preacher-shortage today? Give your reasons.
5. In what way can all Christians have a part in missionary work?

6. Why do you feel that you must do some mission work?
7. Tell of your plans for the future.
8. Take a poll of the congregations in your area and see how many are giving some support to foreign mission work, how many are sponsoring a man in the field, and so on.
9. Take a poll among the preachers and see how many have been, how many are going, and how many are not planning to go.
10. Take a poll among the church members and see how many are for doing more mission work.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Choose the most ideal solution.

1. Who would be more ideal for the mission field?
 - a. A single man.
 - b. A single woman.
 - c. A family.
 2. Mark the ideal age:
 - a. In twenties.
 - b. In thirties.
 - c. In forties.
 3. On arrival in the field:
 - a. Find fault.
 - b. Try to Americanize.
 - c. Preach the gospel.
 4. Concerning workers:
 - a. Encourage local men to preach.
 - b. Put them on support.
 - c. Encourage congregations in America to assume their support.
 5. Amount of support for workers:
 - a. Pay them as little as possible.
 - b. Pay them according to local economy.
 - c. Pay them according to American economy.
 6. Building meeting houses:
 - a. Build it for them.
 - b. Let them build their own.
 - c. Do without.
 7. Helping Christians with their education:
 - a. Train them on the spot.
 - b. Send them to denominational schools in the field.
 - c. Send them to America for a Christian education.
-

