

GUIDELINES FOR ORGANIZING A FULL-SCALE LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR TENT MISSION

DISCIPLER'S PREPARATION

1. The following guidelines are to help you organise a full-scale tent mission that includes both practical expressions of Father's love for the community [e.g. litter picking, repainting the bus shelter et.al.] and the preaching the gospel of salvation [e.g. in a specially erected tent in a prominent place or using a local church or community building].
2. This type of event takes months – even a whole year - to organise and may also include outside help as believers from across your network come to join you for a short period of time. The extent of practical preparations and training for this is enormous but worth all the effort.

Please see the Love Your Neighbour Outreach/Mission Resources section on the resources sub-section of the My Community page on the New Beginnings website for lots of useful forms, pro-formas for volunteers, follow up and pre-mission training sessions as well and ideas of the kind of things you may need to think and pray through as well as organise.

Once you know the full extent of the team involved you will need to consider drawing up rotas in the following areas: catering [cooking, clearing and washing up], meetings [meet and greet, prayer counsellors, worship etc.], first aiders, Prayer House team and refreshments etc.

3. Consider the answers to the following questions:
 - a. Which part of your town or village is to be your focus?
 - b. What is Father asking you to do? What do you sense is on His heart for that particular community?
 - c. Will the outreach be ongoing for a 'season' or for a shorter but more intense period of time?
 - d. What are your objectives?
 - e. How big is your local team? Will you need outside help? If so, then prayerfully consider how well you know these people? Will they share your objectives or want to do things their own way? You need to be wise in order to preserve the unity of the Spirit because if the enemy can gain a foothold in the team, then he will. Pray about whether you should approach them. If 'yes' then do it as early as possible.

- f. If the mission is to be for more than two days then seriously consider enlisting additional help from other New Beginnings groups or trusted mission partners that are fairly local to you. If you extend the numbers you will need to ensure that anyone else is fully briefed not only with all the practical arrangements but also in the manner and spirit of this mission. It is advisable to gather such people together beforehand and overview the training outlined in group sessions 11 -13 with them in one short meeting.
- g. If you live in a scattered rural community then you may need to ask some or all of the additional questions?
 - i. Which specific town or village is to be your focus?
 - ii. Do you need to arrange overnight accommodation for any group member[s]?
 - iii. How are you going to get there? Do you need to organise extra drivers to assist?
- h. You will need a local mission base from where the team go out and return to; where they can eat and shelter from bad weather. Can you identify this? This might be someone's living room or a community hall. Is there someone local who would partner with you in this way?
- i. What about meals? Will the group fast, buy food or have food provided for them? It is probably unrealistic to expect 100% of participants to fast. So, if food is to be provided then this will need organizing. Can you identify who will do this? Where will meals be served and eaten?
- j. An altar of worship will need to be established at the local mission base. Think about how you are going to do this. Is there anyone willing to lead worship for the team? Can you do it? Will you use instruments, I-Tunes, CDs or an iPod? Will you project words or manage without? If you decide to use words you will need someone to take responsibility for bringing one or more of the following items: word handouts, projection screen, DPU, CDs, amplifier, microphone[s] and relevant cable[s], PowerPoint slides, extension cable.
- k. If the group is large enough then consider dividing it into two smaller groups. The one large group will function in two distinct ways during the outreach: there will be one Prayer Team located at the mission base and one or more Street Team[s].
 - i. Each Street Team will comprise no more than three people at any one time and the group structure may well change over the outreach period, especially if it is planned to go on for more than 24 hours. Be aware that a shy person may be tempted to stay hidden in the prayer room whilst a blossoming evangelist may be reluctant to stay away from the 'action'. Therefore, encourage everyone to take a turn at serving on both teams.
 - ii. The Prayer Team who remain at base will be responsible to pray and pass on any specific pictures, scriptures or leading to the Street Team[s].

- iii. You need to think through how you are going to do this so that nothing Father gives gets overlooked or lost.
 - iv. The group discipler should take total responsibility to provide oversight for either the Prayer Team or the Street Team for the whole length of the outreach. The apprentice should take responsibility for the other team[s]. For continuity, the oversight of the teams should remain constant.
- I. Are you going to leave a card, tract or scripture portion with those you pray with? Whatever you decide you will need to organise the design, printing or collection of the materials. Someone in the team needs to be made responsible for them.
 - i. How are you going to provide the following:
 - i. Initial follow up?
 - ii. Ongoing discipleship training? You should prayerfully be planning for the next group of new believers to do Just the Beginning and Part One of New Beginnings.
4. If you have not yet done the first prayer walk around the mission area then prepare the group to do so this very soon. Use the outline and briefing notes from week 14.
 5. If your outreach/mission is to be really blessed and the enemy's activity kept to a minimum, it may be advisable to gather a group of people committed to pray for the event for a long period of time beforehand. There is an example of a pre-mission prayer booklet on the Community Resources sub-section of the My Community page on the New Beginnings website <https://newbeginningsdiscipleship.com/community/leaders-guide-useful-extras/>. This can be downloaded and adapted for your situation.
 6. Work systematically through the following checklist. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Use the headings as prompts of things and areas to consider or as a checklist of arrangements already made. If there are areas where you still need to set arrangements in place then make notes to remind yourself to do it.
 7. Once all your arrangements are in place, use the notes below to present a team briefing. If there are lots of things for people to remember then consider producing a handout.

PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS CHECKLIST

Accommodation: is everything organised? Is there anyone you need to phone or go and see?

1.

2.

3.

Transport: does everyone know who they are travelling with? Is there anyone you need to contact?

1.

2.

3.

Local base: do you have the key? If not, what arrangements have been made for collection? What time was the heating being put on? How are you going to pay for this? What about locking up at night? Is the toilet clean? Do you need to buy toilet paper? Do you need to bring tea-towels or a dish cloth?

1.

2.

3.

Arrival: make sure you are the first one there in order to meet, greet and reassure the team as they arrive. Who will put the kettle on? Have you got tea[s]/coffee/milk/biscuits/cake?

1.

2.

3.

Food: do any team members have special dietary requirements? If so, ensure those doing the catering know. Who will be responsible for laying tables, clearing away, washing up and sweeping up? Do you need to draw up a rota for the team or will this be done by partners? Where can left-over food be kept safely?

1.

2.

3.

Worship: encourage the worship leader to be on site to test his/her equipment and set up well before the team start to arrive. The enemy often seems to interfere with equipment [interference, bulbs blowing, earth trips, etc.]. If the setting up is left to the last minute, the start of the first session will be delayed. If this happens, simply abandon the high-tech machinery and use your voices. **This altar of worship is more important than anything else** so please make sure that once the 'flame' is lit it is not allowed to go out; even if this means using an iPod on 24/7 repeat mode.

1.

2.

3.

Materials: have you got enough? What contingency plan have you got in place should they run out? Who will be responsible for this?

1.

2.

3.

Mission Partners: give these people responsibilities. They are experienced 'old hands' able to set an example of service and commitment to the New Beginnings group. If you are not pleased with the example someone sets, talk to them about it.

1.

2.

3.

Is there anything else?

1.

2.

3.

4.

NOTES
