

# Seven Steps to Giving a Missions Presentation

By Norm Howell, Partnership Missions Specialist, MBC

After going on a mission trip it is imperative that the team prepare a report to give to their churches. In Acts 14:27 the Apostle Paul, after finishing his first mission trip, went back to the church and gave them a report.

*Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.*

Mission services and conferences ought to be the most exciting worship times our churches ever experience! It should be the time when we can “**celebrate**” what God is doing in our community, in our state, in our nation and around the world. Unfortunately in the past 28 years of my ministry, I have attended many boring mission presentations.

**KEY GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT: “DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.”**

As a young pastor in the early 1980’s, I was excited about our church having a missionary come and speak to us. I challenged our members “To come expecting God to move in our hearts!” I will never forget that Sunday morning service when our missionary finally arrived and started speaking. BORING does not even come close to what our church experienced that morning. It was ABSOLUTELY LIFELESS. There is nothing worse that will keep people from coming to a mission conference than experiencing a BORING mission speaker. On Sunday night, we had about 15 people show up to hear the missionary for the second time. After that, I could not get our people to come and listen to a missionary again. That missionary had BORED-THEM-STIFF and they never forgot it. It took years to overcome that BAD EXPERIENCE.

Below are seven practical steps that any mission team can do to help make their mission presentation exciting & challenging as they present it to their church.

- Make your Presentation Visual

We live in a media world. People spend very little time reading so you must consider your audience when giving a mission presentation. Select good pictures or video clips that really tell the story of what you were doing while on the mission trip. Make it action packed and exciting! If it is, it will touch the hearts of people and challenge them to become more involved in mission work. If it is not a media production, a good power point presentation can be very effective. Just be careful to not overdo it and make it too long time wise. **DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.**

- **Make Your Presentation of Good Quality**

People select DVD/videos to watch that are of good quality. Mediocrity will turn people away. Make it interesting, fascinating, and compelling. This may take you a little longer to prepare or you may have to hire someone to help edit and put it together for you. If you plan on putting together a good presentation before you go on the trip, you can make arrangements ahead of time with someone to help with the editing and production of your presentation. **DO NOT BORE PEOPLE WITH MISSION PRESENTATIONS!**

- **Make Your Presentation Message Clear**

Be intentional about what your mission trip was all about. Tell the mission message over and over in just a little different way each time. When people leave the service, they must know what your mission and focus was all about. They need to be challenged to give to help on future mission trips. They need to be challenged to go on the next trip. They need to be challenged to evangelize the lost. **DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.**

- **Make Your Presentation Honest, Practical and Relevant**

Be truthful and honest. Do not touch up the work to make it more exciting. Unfortunately, many of our church members have seen “fakes” in the ministry. Tell it like it was and don’t exaggerate the facts. Do not inflate your decision numbers or try to make your church people think that you “suffered & sacrificed” beyond measure. Be humble and honest. If you make it look too difficult and dangerous, it will not be relevant for your audience. Many people will never want to go because they think they could never do what you say

you did and experienced. Telling it like it was will give you credibility with your church members and also prepare the way for them to go with you in the future. **DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.**

- **Make Your Presentation Personal and Invite Others to Join You**

Your goal should be to challenge others through your presentation to know Christ better and to follow in obedience to “HIS” Commands. People like to be included and usually want to be involved. Tell them how they can go with you on the next mission trip! Tell them how they can be involved in the mission work of your church. Do not use guilt or shame techniques. Give some testimonies about how God helped to raise funds so you could go on the trip. Give testimonies about how God provided for you while on the trip. Through your presentation, lift-up the “Name of the Lord” as your great Provider and Protector. **DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.**

- **Make Your Presentation Within the Allotted Time Frame**

If you go over, you may never be asked to come back to that church again. If you are the pastor, you might cause your people to avoid coming the next time because you had a long presentation. Be time conscience and sensitive to the audience. Do not bore people with pictures of people that are really not important to the overall presentation. Be time conscience and relevant to your audience. If people want to know more, set up a time when you could go to their home or Sunday School Class and share in more detail. **DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.**

- **Make Your presentation Evangelistic**

End the service with a strong but short evangelistic message and invitation. Invite people to come to be saved! Invite people to follow Christ in discipleship! Invite people to be “fishers of men.” Invite people to go with you on the next Mission trip. **DO NOT BORE YOUR AUDIENCE.**

