



## Why a Mission Board?

Much has been said about the pros and cons of a mission board. Since mission boards are not mentioned in the Bible, some think they are unscriptural. The terms “trinity” and “Sunday School” never appear in the Bible either, but one is a doctrine taught in the Bible and the other is an organization used by local churches in their teaching and evangelism ministries. Are they wrong because they do not appear by name in Scripture?

The most ardent local church advocates would have little disagreement with the makeup of International Baptist Missions (IBM) because the voting board is composed of the deacons of Tri-City Baptist Church, and they in turn elect the members of the nationwide cooperating board. Any authority or supervision exercised by IBM is delegated by the local church when they financially support a missionary approved by the IBM board. We have no authority because we exist as a separate entity but only exercise delegated authority from local churches.

Many pastors, missionaries, and local churches have reported great advantages and blessings in using a qualified board. In the final analysis a mission board such as International Baptist Missions is a service agency instituted to help local churches carry out the Great Commission. Our only reason for existence is to help local churches evangelize and plant independent Baptist churches around the world.

## International Baptist Missions

Dr. Michael D. Sproul, President  
Dr. Dave Sproul, General Director  
Pastor Larry Ball, Associate Director

### Cooperating Board

Pastor Richard Callahan - Archdale, North Carolina  
Pastor Rick Cross - Longmount, Colorado  
Dr. Bruce Hamilton - Fairbanks, Alaska  
Dr. David Innes - San Francisco, California  
Dr. Doug Jackson - Saginaw, Michigan  
Dr. Daryl Jeffers - Clymer, Pennsylvania  
Dr. Bob Jones III - Greenville, South Carolina  
Dr. Tim Jordan - Lansdale, Pennsylvania  
Dr. Bennie Moran - Morgantown, West Virginia  
Dr. Tom Nieman - Kent, Washington  
Dr. R.B. Ouellette - Bridgeport, Michigan  
Dr. Kevin Schaal - Glendale, Arizona  
Dr. Bradley M. Smith - Schaumburg, Illinois  
Dr. Staley Sorrell - Warren, Michigan  
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# International Baptist Missions



### International Baptist Missions

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## Applicant Evaluation Process

A mission board with years of experience is properly qualified to investigate, question, evaluate, examine records, and analyze medical reports of missionary applicants in an objective manner.

## In-Service Training

A qualified board has the expertise to give in-service training to all missionary appointees. Such training is invaluable.

## Missions Knowledge and Experience

Most mission boards possess experience, knowledge, expertise, and know-how in missions which the average missionary, pastor, or local church does not have. Many pastors have never visited a foreign field and have only limited knowledge of complex mission problems. Their normal duties do not require them to study missions in depth.

## Missionary/Church Liaison

A board provides the proper liaison between the missionary and his supporting churches. Many items of business are conducted daily by the mission board office to maintain a smooth working relationship between supporting churches and the missionary on the field.

## Added Credibility

A board gives credibility to the individual missionary. The good name of the board and its cooperating members add Christian recognition and weight to his

calling. The missionary is not a "lone ranger" going to a foreign country to do his own thing but is part of a duly orchestrated plan to carry out the Great Commission.

## Financial Services

A mission board provides a trusted place for the collection of all monies and the proper disbursement of the same.

- Supporting churches can know that all monies are carefully collected and that proper accounting methods are being used.
- Supporting churches know the monies will be disbursed judiciously and that some kind of supervisory capacity will be exercised to see that funds are spent properly on the field.

## Mission boards possess experience and knowledge in missions which the average missionary or local church does not have.

- The financial records of the mission board along with the proper required financial accounting by the missionary to the home office will give ethical respectability in an area fraught with many temptations and questionable practices.
- The good name and reputation of the missionary is carefully protected. An honest missionary is never distressed with the proper accountability of funds.

## Recognition by Foreign Governments

Mission boards are recognized internationally by foreign governments and can, therefore, deal with the difficult problems of visas, customs, etc.

## Guidance and Encouragement

A mission board can provide guidance, supervision, and encouragement for all home and foreign personnel. Regular trips to the various fields by duly authorized personnel are standard procedure and very necessary.

## Time to Maintain Requirements

A mission board has the time to maintain all needed requirements for missionary personnel. A pastor and his local church seldom have the time needed to properly maintain all areas of missionary endeavor when they attempt to do the work of a mission board.

## Attention to Legal Matters

Legal matters such as incorporation, owning of property, taxes at home or abroad can often be best handled by an internationally recognized organization.

## Deputation and Furlough Assistance

Mission boards are equipped to train and provide valuable input in all matters related to deputation and furlough.

## Added Accountability

Pastors and local churches sense a Scriptural need for missionaries to be accountable. While retaining the ultimate authority, pastors delegate the responsibility of their missionaries to a trusted mission board by the act of financially supporting missionaries approved by the board.

Missionaries are thus held accountable by their supporting churches through the delegated auspices of a trusted mission board.

