



Missionary Care Series

12 questions you can ask a missionary that will help them stay on the field

Brenda Bosch identified 12 top stressors that missionaries face on the field. You and I can help them deal with that stress by asking simple questions.

Stressor #1: Financial Pressure

Question #1: How is your support level these days?

Bonus questions:

- Do you have any specific needs that I can help supply?
- Could you use my help in raising additional support?

Stressor #2: Overwork

Question #2: Did you take a sabbath rest this week?

Bonus questions:

- When is the last time you and your family took a few days off?
- If I were to arrange for the finances, where could I send you for a vacation?

Stressor #3: Language barriers

Question #3: How is language study coming along?

Bonus questions:

- Is there a particular biblical concept that you need to learn how to communicate that I can pray about?
- What do you still need in order to be able to communicate on a heart level?

Stressor #4: Maintaining spiritual disciplines

Question #4: Have you been able to spend meaningful time in the Word this week?

Bonus questions:

- Do you read the Bible mostly for information, or for the pleasure of connecting with the Father?
- Are your prayers mostly intercession, or do you practice “listening prayer”?

Stressor #5: Cultural stress

Question #5: What about your host culture is the most difficult for you to cope with?

Bonus questions:

- What do you think God wants you to learn from your host culture?
- What would you appreciate receiving from home that would help take the edge off your culture stress?

Stressor #6: Being under-staffed

Question #6: What specifically can I ask God to supply for your staffing needs?

Bonus questions:

- Is there anything I could come do on a short-term basis?
- Could you use some tools or advice that would help you manage your limited resources more effectively?

Stressor #7: Feeling inadequate

Question #7: In what ways do you feel like you're in over your head, that I can be praying about?

Bonus questions:

- What would you need in order to be more effective in your work?
- How has God been your sufficiency during these times?

Stressor #8: Conflict with co-workers

Question #8: How are you getting along with your co-workers?

Bonus questions:

- How can I pray that God will change you in relating to your co-workers?
- What do you think God is wanting to teach you through these difficulties?

Stressor #9: Concerns about aging parents

Question #9: How is your mom/dad doing these days?

Bonus questions:

- Do you have siblings that help care for your parents?
- Is there anything I can do for your folks?

Stressor #10: Needs of children

Question #10: How are your kids doing these days?

Bonus questions:

- Do you need any educational materials that I could send?
- Could I help arrange a Skype session between your kids and their grandparents?

Stressor #11: Leadership styles

Question #11: How are things between you and your leadership these days?

Bonus questions:

- What part of your character do you think God might be working on?
- What aspects of their leadership style could you learn from and adopt?

Stressor #12: Loneliness

Question #12: How has God been reminding you of his presence lately?

Bonus questions:

- What helps you to feel connected to the rest of us?
- When can we arrange for your advocate team to connect on Skype?



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