

Appendix B:

On the lighter side of things

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."

Following is a collection of articles regarding the deputation ministry. We hope that you will enjoy these somewhat humorous thoughts. 😊

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Definition of Deputation

It has been said:

"Deputation is an unknown period of time for calling, writing, and visiting an unknown number of pastors you do not know, while driving on unfamiliar roads in unbelievable conditions at unearthly hours, staying with people you have never met, and eating food you do not recognize, in order to convince unfamiliar churches to support a missionary they do not know, to go to a field where he has not been and which they have never heard of, to do a work he has not done in a language he does not know, with funds he does not have!"

The Deputation Trail

Twenty years on deputation, or at least it seemed that way; telling o'er and o'er the calling, the same slide show every day.

Sunday morning in Chicago, that evening in West Bend; Wednesday up in Moline traveling miles without end. Hearing pastor after pastor say "Our budget's chock a block. There's no way we can support you but we sure enjoyed your talk!"

As the weeks stretch into months and months into years, the candidate grows weary till he's had it to his ears.

Then the day at last comes dawning when he flies out to the field. With deputation over, his career at last is sealed. He's a brand new missionary, he's a member of the team; but he finds that his new country isn't everything it seemed.

No one told him about those roaches that intimidate his wife, and he isn't quite prepared for the national way of life. The time concept is a thing he can't relate - when the national says "six thirty," he means a quarter after eight!

The crowds that press upon him are intolerable at best, and the heat he isn't used to robs him of his rest. The people that he used to think he loved with all his heart, are suddenly the folks who seem to tear his life apart.

When he goes to church on Sunday, he doesn't even know the songs, and he thinks the nationals lack in knowing what is right from what is wrong. The local pastor's drinking wine, the deacon smokes a pipe - back home in middle USA we don't accept that type.

He must send a cheery letter to his supporters every other month, but he gets few answers from them, in most cases not even one.

Nationals calling at odd hours make demands

for many chores. They do not return the favors, but keep reaching out for more.

He can't stand the local menus, but can't buy the food he wants. His kids don't like the schooling, and they are harassed by taunts.

There doesn't seem to be a thing within this new life style like what he often dreamed of upon the deputation mile. The slide set showed the glammers, the palm trees and the beach, but it didn't show the prices so often out of reach.

So he's quickly disillusioned, and he feels it's very plain all those years on deputation have been very much in vain.

Now, the strange thing about it is that just across the street lives another missionary who thinks the country is very neat. He loves the people, he loves the work, and accepts it as it is. The gloomy side of all these things is no concern of his.

The difference that there seems to be between these fellow men is the goal at which they're looking and not where they have been.

The one who is not satisfied and finds that he is bored is focusing upon the field - the other on the Lord.

So when you're on the mission field and things look very dreary, and the trouble - seems on every hand only - makes you weary. Don't dwell upon the differences and the culture seemingly wrong, get down upon your knees - pray and ask God to give you a song.

And think of how God's only Son left heaven up above, coming to a foreign culture to bring to man God's love.

And like the instant happiness of a playful little boy, look what Jesus did for you - and finish your race with joy.

- *From Pulpit Helps, Author Unknown.*
Edited by Missionary Peter Knickerbocker

Always Adapting: Being a World Wide Missionary Wife

A missionary's wife You have called me to
be.

My oh my! What a responsibility!

We are called to carry the light
So others may have a future so bright.

As we go from place to place, Dear Lord,
We ask for your grace
To keep us in all the things we face.

So now, as we begin deputation,
Please give us, Lord, good transportation!
A van or car or truck and camper -
Keep us safe as cross-country we scamper.

When, in all we try to do,
Murphy's Law is in full view!
May we, Lord, give it all to You.

So, if in knee-deep snow we're stuck -
Get us, Lord, out of this muck!

Even when days are rainy and dreary,
And we find ourselves growing weary,
Give us Lord an attitude cheery.

The temperature is rising sky high!
My, but I think we're going to die!
The air conditioner is broke!
We're having a heat stroke!
Ah-a-a-a, but the Lord sends a cool breeze,
And puts all our bodies at ease.

As we're traveling down the road
(Which seems to be our permanent abode!)
These sounds come floating from the back
Where we have all the children stacked.

"Are we there yet? We would like to know!
We're sleepy and tired and Hey Dad -
We've got to go!!!"

Oh, and Mom - by the way -
Do we have to do school today?"
All these things the kids will say!

Every week in a different church -
How this thought puts my heart in a lurch!
Will they raise their hands and shout,
Jump the pew and run about?
Or will they be all formal and dry,
And never shed a tear and cry?

It matters not what others do,
Just let me, Lord, worship You.

The church may put us in a motel fine
That's oh so comfortable with peace of
mind!

Or it could be that we are in a dump
Where all the beds are full of lumps.
Wherever it is, Lord, give us rest
That we may be ready to do our best.

Content, Paul says, in whatever state we be
Whether that state is in Maine or Tennessee!

All these changes I will face
With only God's marvelous, amazing grace.
Has it been worth all the trials we've faced,
As we have traveled from place to place?

All these things we count but loss
That we, at last, can present the cross
To the young, the old, the lost and dying,
To those who sit by the wayside crying;
Boys and girls, men and women,
Who must know God's love so freely given.

Oh! What a wonderful, joyous life!
Being a World Wide Missionary's Wife!

- by Mrs. Reva Trenton,
Mother of Kim O'Malley

Ten Commandments for Missionaries

- I.* Thou shalt read Headquarter Happenings.
- II.* Thou shalt comply with all deadlines given in Headquarter Happenings.
- III.* Thou shalt keep the mission office informed of any information that changes, such as your address, email, etc. This includes if you take an overseas trip, or come home to the U.S. for furlough. Thereby the office will be assisted in providing accurate information when contacted by churches or pastors, thus preventing the embarrassment of not knowing what our missionaries are doing.
- IV.* Thou shalt keep thy support estimate up to date as needed to reflect any changes in your family, ministry, or exchange rates.
- V.* Thou shalt send prayer letters on a regular basis, and have the mission office on your mailing list. If the mission office mails your prayer letter for you, thou shalt be responsible for updating the addresses on your mailing list.
- VI.* Thou shalt have a power of attorney for both spouses on file in the mission office, as we cannot conduct any business for you without it. Thou shalt be aware that credit card companies will not talk to us concerning your statements, even if we do have your power of attorney.
- VII.* Thou shalt fill out and submit financial reports on time, or be liable to the IRS for the entire amount of your income.
- VIII.* Thou shalt keep the office informed of any bills that you wish us to pay on your behalf, and let us know if any of your account information changes.
- IX.* Thou shalt read and be responsible for all information in Headquarter Happenings.
- X.* Thou shalt call with any questions you may have. If your questions involve tax issues, thou shalt consult with your personal tax preparer in an attempt to resolve the issue prior to contacting the office, as we are not qualified tax experts.

Deputation University: Teaching Things You Wish They Taught You In Bible College!

A brief description of classes offered to assist you in your preparations for beginning deputation!

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

ADVIL 101

How to effectively use Advil - the every pain reliever - to alleviate backaches resulting from long hours in the car.

CALENDAR READING 101

Recognizing due dates of your financial reports and other forms that must be submitted to the office in order for them to most efficiently handle the business side of your ministry.

WHITE OUT 101

How to "fix" monthly reports without needing to rewrite the entire report.

EAR PLUGS 101

For more than just drowning out "Are We There Yet?"

ADVIL 201

The effective use of Advil after forgetting to use your earplugs to drown out "Are We There Yet?"

MAP READING SKILLS 101

How to choose the right person to help you navigate across the country. (Those who would consider themselves to be "Directionally Challenged" either need this class or need to avoid trying to read the map!)

MAP READING SKILLS 201

Recognizing that MO and MD are different states in very different locations of the country.

TRASH DISPOSAL 101

How to keep your vehicle clean while you are basically living out of it for weeks (months?) at a time.

ADVIL 301

Using Advil after hauling your display and equipment to and from the car for the ___ time.

GPS SYSTEMS 101

How to deal with the discovery that the Pastor doesn't always really know how to give directions to the church from where you "were".

GPS SYSTEMS 201

Dealing with the discovery that Mapquest is NOT always your friend!

HUMOR AND THE NEED FOR IT 101

How to laugh at yourself and the circumstances which you cannot change!

SUITCASE PACKING 101

How to pack a suitcase, and then repack and have everything fit for the repack.

LOADING YOUR VEHICLE 101

How to effectively load your vehicle. Covers the best methods for proper distribution of weight throughout your vehicle, as well as how to maintain organization so that you can easily find everything you had to bring with you. (Except the kitchen sink, which you forgot at home!)

LOADING YOUR VEHICLE 201

How to effectively re-load your vehicle. Covers the best methods for relearning your packing system to accommodate all of the extra items you have accumulated along the way since the last time you were home.

PROPHET CHAMBERS 101

Though often very comfy, there may be times when you will need to pray that you will fall asleep QUICKLY.

ADVIL 401

The effective use of Advil on those mornings after you slept on the oldest or lumpiest mattress still being used. (Use the Advil quickly, before you begin considering the idea that the floor would be more comfortable the next night!)

RESTAURANT RATING 101

How to choose a restaurant by the most important characteristics or qualities, including the following: Speed; Easy access off of and then back onto the interstate; Play area to get rid of extra energy - This is intended for children but?; Trash Cans in the parking lot for Trash Disposal (See class on this subject!)

GASOLINAPHOBIA AND HOW TO COMBAT IT 101

How to deal with the constant need for and the high cost of fuel.

LETTER WRITING 101

How to effectively write prayer letters. Includes balancing your reporting of the difficulties you have faced with the blessings God has provided.

LETTER WRITING 201

How to update your mailing list, and ensure that the office and all of your supporting churches are receiving your prayer letters.

LETTER WRITING 301

How to tactfully indicate your financial needs without sounding like you are always asking for money, but also so that you are fairly representing to your supporters what your needs are. “Ye have not because ye ask not.”

FINANCIAL JUGGLING 101

How to learn to live off of your love offerings, even when they may not be large enough to get you to your next meeting. Includes how to tactfully educate your supporters on the financial life of missionaries on deputation. Such as: Not being able to cash the check they gave you in AZ, as your bank is located in VA.

MISSIONARY CLOSETS 101

Just because they tell you to “Take all you want” does not mean you have to take it all. Refer to the class on Loading Your Vehicle 201.

TIME MANAGEMENT 101

Includes how to read your watch to determine what time you should end your presentation when the pastor tells you that you have five minutes.

TIME MANAGEMENT 201

How to determine the length of your presentation when the pastor tells you to “Take all the time you need.” HINT: He does *not* mean you can take an hour and a half for an introduction before showing your slide presentation, which includes everything you just said in your introduction.

STAYING IN HOMES 101

They may say “Make yourself at home,” but they really don’t mean it.

STAYING IN HOMES 201

How to be an entertaining guest until the wee hours, even when you wish you could just go to bed.

ADVIL 501

The effective use of Advil after forgetting to use your earplugs when sleeping in a home across the hall from a heavy sleeper. Or in the same bedroom as the baby.

MEALS 101

How to convince your 5 year old that ketchup makes *everything* taste better - even Oreos.

MEALS 201

How to survive when the tenth church in a row feeds you their 'special meal' - Lasagna.

MEALS 301

How to spot the casserole that your host made, so you can comment on how - interesting - it was that evening when you get back to their home.

CHILDCARE 101

How to explain to your 2 year old that church nursery workers aren't out to get them.

CHILDCARE 201

Teaching your 3 year old how to behave in church. In other words, how to be polite and not to run in the church building.

CHILDCARE 301

How to raise your children, allowing them to be children without acting like children. Great for the times when church members just don't understand that they are not adults in small bodies.

ADVIL 601

The effective use of Advil for times when your children have been acting like children.

PRESENTATION DEVELOPMENT 101

How to create an interesting presentation that will be remembered. *HINT:* People will fall asleep if your presentation consists of "This is a picture of __; this is a picture of __; this is a picture of __...."

PRESENTATION DEVELOPMENT 201

How to insert text into your presentation, remembering that you must never underestimate the power of eyesight. If your presentation contains text, it must be large enough and remain on the screen long enough to actually be read in order for it to be effective.

PRESENTATION DEVELOPMENT 301

How to record the script of your presentation and time it to your pictures. This eliminates problems

that are caused by reading or reciting your script, such as: Being too tired from your recent travels to remember what you are supposed to say; Rambling on and on about any one picture because you can't get the next one to come up; Forgetting to mention important information (your name, testimony, calling, field, etc...) because you say it so often on deputation.

CHURCH EXTREMES 101

How to recognize that all are not created equal, while at the same time keeping your sanity and sanctity in place as you explain this fact to your children. Also includes how to deal with differences you will see in dress, music, and ministries.

CHURCH EXTREMES 201

How to explain to your 3rd grader that you might not agree with everything that you hear in every church that you visit.

SCHEDULING MEETINGS 101

Recognizing that pastors are busy people too, and returning the call of a missionary they do not know does not take priority over dealing with unexpected circumstances in their own church family. Persistence and patience are often the key to dealing with this issue.

SCHEDULING MEETINGS 201

Recognizing that a pastor may not give you a meeting because he knows his church is not financially able to support each of the 50 missionaries who have called this week asking to schedule a meeting. He probably does not have a personal vendetta against you. Don't allow discouragement to cause you to give up calling - the next call might be a yes, but you won't know until you place it.

SCHEDULING MEETINGS 301

How to coordinate your Calendar Reading skills with your Map Reading skills, so that you do not schedule your family to be in Michigan on Sunday morning and Florida on Sunday evening, only to realize that your home church in Ohio is having Missions Conference starting Monday evening.

ADVIL 701

The effective use of Advil after you have driven from Michigan to Florida and back to Ohio, all within a 2 day time period. *NOTE: This class is not required if you have successfully completed the course Scheduling Meetings 301.*

GRADUATE COURSES

PATIENCE BUILDING 501

“Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross... For consider him that endured . . . lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds” - Hebrews 12:1-3

FAITH BUILDING 501

“And the apostles said unto the Lord, increase our faith.” - Luke 17:5

STRENGTH BUILDING 501

“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.” - Psalm 27:14

ASSURANCE BUILDING 501

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” - Romans 8:28

COMMITMENT BUILDING 501

“For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.” - II Timothy 1:12

CONFIDENCE BUILDING 501

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:” - Philippians 1:6

TRUST BUILDING 501

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.” - Proverbs 3:5-6

PERSUASION BUILDING 501

“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” - Romans 8:38-39

PERSEVERANCE BUILDING 501

“Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; . . . be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” - Revelation 2:10