

Mission Education—Resource Overview

People sometimes misunderstand the purpose behind Mission Priority One. They think of it as “just another award to put in the drawer.” It is better to think of it as a reminder for keeping the four objectives foremost in your church’s mind.

The mission education point of Mission Priority One is the following:

The church participated* in each of the four education categories that follow:

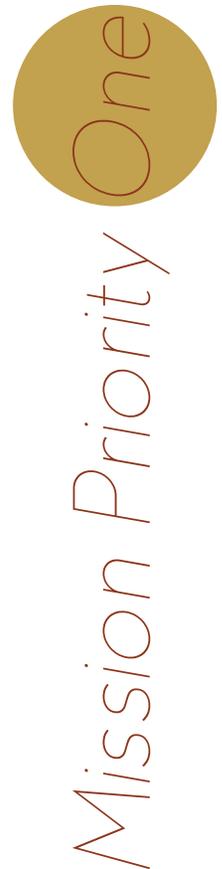
- a. NMI missions books/tapes/CDs
- b. Missions service projects and/or hands-on missions activities.
- c. Missions speakers
- d. Multimedia missions resources and/or missions publications/communications

* “Participate” is defined as involvement in one or more activities in each category.

Each of these may be accomplished by the following:

- Make **NMI missions books/tapes/CDs** available to the congregation. Report the number of books read or heard.
- Participate in **mission service projects** (such as Work & Witness, Youth in Mission, Youthserve, NCM centers, community projects, etc.) and/or **hands-on**
- **missions activities** (Crisis Care Kits, School Pal-Paks, relief shipments, missionary care packages, etc.). For more information, go to the NMI Web site
- (www.nazarenemissions.org).
- Schedule one or more services with a **mission speaker** (local, zone/area, district, and/or regional events; faith promise) and/or provide interaction with a missions speaker (district teen/children’s camps, missions events, district NMI convention, missions workshops, etc.).
- Use **multimedia mission resources** (such as Global Mission DVD, Nazarene Media Library, missions Web sites, videos, Nazarene Communications Network News, etc.), and/or utilize **missions publications and communications** (such as, adult mission education, youth mission education, children’s mission education, and/or International Mission Education Journal, Mission Connection, Global Glimpses, Engage magazine, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries magazine, Holiness Today, missionaries’ newsletters, regional newsletters, etc.).

Please understand that by your church participating in one or two ministries under each point you will have fulfilled the mission education point of Mission Priority One.



Living Mission

The adult mission education curriculum focuses on the broader issues of our day—often the very issues that missionaries face daily. Living Mission lessons and CAUSES provide an opportunity for a pastor and NMI leaders to disciple their people toward active involvement in mission.



How Living Mission can be used—congregational and small group settings for mission education presentations; synopses of the information may be used for “Mission Moments.”

The benefits—issue-driven; media-rich to attract young adults who may be unfamiliar with missions; *Living Mission AME Classic* for those who cannot or prefer not to use media; people learn as a community, discussing the issues; opportunities for involvement through the CAUSES; Web site that provides updated material throughout the year.

Youth Resource

This resource helps youth to develop a lifestyle of mission awareness and service. Mission causes encourage youth in local churches to connect with specific hands-on projects around the world.

How Living Mission can be used—in a youth group setting

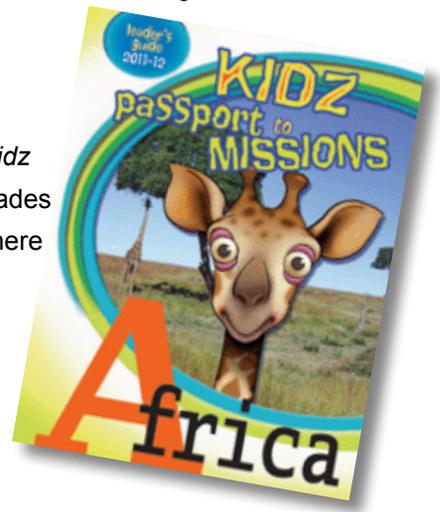
The benefits—age-appropriate material and activities that will draw students toward learning about and supporting missions through prayer, giving, and going

Kidz Passport to Missions

Children learn about global missions through 12 lessons each year in *Kidz Passport to Missions*. This is a five-year regional curriculum designed for grades 1-6, providing a snapshot view of missionaries and nationals in countries where the Church of the Nazarene has ministry.

How Kidz Passport to Missions can be used—in a children’s mission group setting; Children’s Church; Wednesday evening.

The benefits—age-appropriate material and activities that will draw children toward learning about and supporting missions through prayer, giving, and going.



International Mission Education Journal (IMEJ)

This resource, based on adult and children’s resources, is available in Spanish, Portuguese, French, Thai, and English. It is designed for congregations outside the United States and Canada Region and for non-English-speaking congregations in the United States and Canada Region. The *IMEJ* in languages other than English can be accessed free on the NMI Web site (www.nazarenemissions.org) and through district and regional leaders.

How IMEJ can be used—adult section—youth, small group, and congregational setting; “Mission Moments”; children’s section—children’s mission group setting; Children’s Church; Wednesday evening.

The benefits—age-appropriate material and activities that will draw children toward learning about and supporting missions through prayer, giving, and going.

NMI Mission Books

The books are foundational, having been a part of the mission education program since 1926. There are sets of books for adults, youth, and children. These provide in-depth views of the Church of the Nazarene globally, sometimes focusing on missionaries and other times zeroing in on indigenous leaders in the denomination.

How NMI Missions Books can be used—individually, reading at your own pace; some churches have used them as a book study for a particular topic.

The benefits—gives a detailed picture, in comparison to the “umbrella-focus” of Living Mission; this is where people learn about missionaries’ background.



Engage Magazine

Engage magazine (www.engagemagazine.com) is a mission publication of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene and serves as a global gathering place for Nazarenes to celebrate and share with each other how God is involving them in His mission for the world. For subscribers to its electronic newsletter, Engage will send the newsletter with the latest headlines and links to stories via e-mail no more than twice a month. To sign up, visit the Church of the Nazarene’s [subscription](#) page.

How Engage magazine it can be used—individual, small group, and congregational settings; many articles include questions regarding the topic of the article that could be used as mission education lessons when extras are needed; synopses of the information may be used for “Mission Moments.”

The benefits—up-to-date information that can stand alone educationally or that could update information acquired from other resources; gives details in the life of a missionary and in the various world areas; provides inspiration in first-hand accounts.

Stories DVD

The Stories DVD features segments about the lives and work of missionaries as, well as stories of lives transformed by Christ through the work of the Church of the Nazarene. Go to www.nazarene.org/stories to sign up to receive either an email when new videos are available or to receive a DVD in the mail..

How Global Mission DVD can be used—individual, small group, and congregational settings, if the technology is available. Short segments may be used for “Mission Moments,” and longer ones may be used as sermon illustrations or to enhance a mission education presentation.

The benefits—segments allow people to literally “see” missions happening; audiovisual component adds to the learning experience.

Prayer Mobilization Line

The Prayer Mobilization Line (PML) is a weekly publication focusing on the prayer needs and praise reports for the global ministries of the Church of the Nazarene and its missionaries. Anyone can subscribe to receive the free PML via e-mail on our [subscription](#) page. Printable versions of the current and archived issues of PML are also available on the NMI Web site ([Click HERE](#)).

The mission books and *Living Mission* are written months (and sometime years) ahead of publication and distribution, so while the stories are important, they may not reflect the most current needs of the missionary or ministry.



How PML can be used—individual, small group, and congregational settings. Provide praises and requests for newsletters, bulletins, Sunday School classes, worship, mission services, etc.

The benefits—requests and praises help people understand the victories and challenges of the global Church of the Nazarene; give up-to-date information about missionaries, ministries, and world areas in which the Church of the Nazarene has a presence.

PML is on Facebook. This allows urgent requests of missionaries, Nazarene ministries, and the church in general to be posted immediately so the church can pray effectively

Mission Connection

Mission Connection is the monthly NMI periodical that is an idea exchange for NMI leaders for promoting missions (and especially NMI emphases). To sign up, visit the Church of the Nazarene’s [subscription](#) page.

How Mission Connection can be used—to promote missions within your church in a variety of formats (drama sketches, e-newsletter blurbs, bulletin inserts, displays, etc.) for a variety of settings (congregational, small group, etc.).

The benefits—provides information on NMI ministries on a regular basis.

Nazarene Media Library

The Nazarene Media Library (www.nazarenemedialibrary.org) is a great place to find resources—audio, documents, images, and videos. Enter a topic into the search window and see what is available. The advanced search allows users to name the type of resource desired or a specific region. There are also multilingual items. You do not have to join to view the videos or listen to the audio files; however, to download them, you will need to be a member (no cost).

How Nazarene Media Library can be used—individual, small group, and congregational settings, if the technology is available. Short segments may be used for “Mission Moments,” and longer ones may be used as sermon illustrations or to enhance a mission education presentation. Plus, the print pieces may be used in newsletters or to promote special events or offerings.



The benefits—a variety of resources in one place.

NMI Web Site

The NMI Web site (www.nazarenemissions.org) is a great place to look for all things that are Nazarene missions in nature. Information about any of the NMI emphases are throughout the Web site. For those associated with one of our four objectives—praying, discipling (especially for children and youth), giving, and educating, they will be under those tabs toward the top or on the banners on the home page.

How the NMI Web site can be used—individual information, small group and congregational mission presentations; leadership development; promotional ideas.

The benefits—a variety of resources in one place.

Mission Speakers

There is nothing more powerful than a report from one who has been there. “NMI recommends that every church schedule a missionary speaker each year. Districts should schedule one or more missionary tours each year, according to the size and needs of the district” (2013-2017 *NMI Handbook and Constitution*). Having a missionary speak in your church or having several small churches combine efforts to host a missionary is ideal; however, other speakers who speak on missions, such as a retired missionary, a Work & Witness team member, or the district NMI president, will also suffice.

How mission speakers can be used—small group, congregational, combined, and district services; picnics or receptions in which the speaker talks briefly about missions are also fun and creative ways to get a mission speaker in front of your people; have mission speakers for all age levels.

The benefits—a first-hand account directly from the mission field.