

DEVELOPING FINANCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS

OUTLINE

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INTRODUCTION

The church worldwide is not a profit making organization and therefore it will nearly always be dependent upon the financial leftovers of other people. Educationally speaking there are only three ways of financial support: member's tithes & offerings, sponsors or government support. This last one is not open for consideration.

As provincial superintendent or mother church pastor you need to consider your Financial Assistant or evangelist as an equal partner from the beginning. Therefore it follows that you will need to develop a support system similar to the type of support base that you have.

Here are some ideas that may be helpful in this area.

1. **Personal tent-making**

- Stop secular work completely
- Seek other high-paying job
- Do private work on contract
- Try high-paying seasonal work
- Work part-time **using** your talents or special skills for a high-skilled pay level
- Use talents of others—organize extra work for them with a bonus for you or work as a team with them
- Create a team of private helpers to maintain garden, provide gasoline, other food, clothes or direct financial help

2. **Sponsors**

- Provincial Superintendents and Mother church leaders must solicit a few sponsors themselves, then assist their new worker in this area since he has no experience yet.

- Find a cooperative that has excess money and likes to help in spiritual ventures
- Have a native mission organization provide partial assistance
- Their own local „sending” church should recognize their gifts and ministry and participate in making them spiritually successful by contributing financially
- The church receiving his ministry should participate with regular contributions

3. Foreign aid

- It needs to be well organized and usually takes a long time before results show
- Contact the Ukrainian Diaspora: both personal, individual contacts and at large
- Missions residing in Ukraine ; there are many foreign missions which have access to money but no real plan of ministry: planting churches, training church leaders for a small monthly fee may appeal to them
- Private foreigners: there are hundreds of visitors, saved and unsaved, that want to help and make a financial contribution to good active willing people they have met
- There are many products that could be obtained and sold with little investment of either time or money; there could possibly be large financial remunerations for a minimum involvement

4. Build a team of assistants

Students will not be able to develop such a support system on their own. They will need your help. You will need to teach them how to make the following presentations about their wives and families as well as their ministries and churches.

- How to write prayer letters
- Making a prayer card
- How to write articles about their ministry
- How to make small photo albums
- How to make an audio CD presentation
- How to make a Video dvd presentation

They will need special lectures detailing how to set up a system of financial and prayer partners.

5. Mother Church Participation

Provide the privilege for your church to become a “Mother Church.” It is easy to do!

There are great possibilities for your church to become a very important church in the province.

Here are a few ideas to help your church have church planting priorities and to become a ‘Mother Church’. These ideas provide for love, motivation and practical involvement of all church members.

Once a year each church member:

- Brings one pail of potatoes
- Brings one pail of coal
- Brings one cabbage
- Brings 10 carrots
- Brings one chicken
- Brings one dozen eggs

Monthly each church member donates about 100 grievna.

6. Providing New Buildings for Small Village Churches – almost free

- Local Railroad ties provided totally free. Rachishinsk in Amursk province already did it.
- Monthly a Key church sends a building team for 4 days
- During the month the local believers prepare the building for the next team
- 5 different churches do this each month during the summer.
- In 5 years you can have 5 brand new beautiful modern churches in small villages.
- The new church should be blue and have lots of gold to identify with the Orthodox church.

There are 20 million Muslims, you don’t want to identify with them.

-Outside on the fence should be 3 big mottos; 10 commandments, Apostles Creed, Lord’s Prayer.

- What will be the benefits of those who come to participate for 4 days.
 - they have cars
 - they have tools
 - they have expertise
 - they can bring some materials

- they can bring food and wives to cook
 - they can bring a financial offering
 - they receive vision for involvement at home.
 - they receive blessing – it's more blessed to give
 - they receive knowledge to use their skills at home
 - they will be motivated to pray for these churches
- they will receive a vision to do it again next year – it can become a standard

7. Preach on giving and set an example

- pray – listen – and obey
- do not ask
- look to God for the privilege to give
- Share benefits and testimonies

8. Faith Promise Giving

- It is giving what you don't have
- Pass out a form only to those who desire to participate
- make sure there is no pressure
- No names should be put on the Promise Form only the amount
- A week later collect promises
- One church is already collecting 10.000 rubles (2700 Grn) a month above their tithe.
- One church of 190 members gives 52.000 rubles monthly to support 10 Church Planters. They give this above their support for all their local church needs.

SAMPLES of Provision – by Faith – trusting God for miracles

1. Use new New Life for Churches budgets as sample.
2. Xabarovsk – 40% of budget is allocated for education; 20% is for Leadership Mentoring.
 - In Liepetsk – a farmer donated a whole truckload of potatoes.
 - In Altaisky Krai – a Jewish farmer donates all the flour that is needed for an orphanage
 - In altaisky Krai – New Life people were specially blessed because of extra giving.
 - o These blessings were so obvious that others are also requesting to give – info from Vasily Kopotyn.
3. Part-time work

P.S. Pavel Svetlov from Amursk worked 1½ hour weekly as trumpet player in the army and receives a half month's salary.

4. One missionary in Krasnoyarsk worked as security officer in a retirement store. All he had to do was open and close the metal door daily. The windows were secured already. He lived next door, received a full salary and special vacation privileges at

southern resorts. There was only one believer in that whole area, a lady and she was in charge of this retirement place and thus his boss.

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