

## How do I get ready for mission?

OK. If you've got this far, you probably have a fair idea that you want to tell people about Jesus, or help others do so somewhere where there is no church. That's an outstanding place to arrive, well done! Here are some ideas to help you prepare and also keep you faithful to that vision. Take a look at this video on youtube.

WEC asked a few missionaries what they thought, and in 4 minutes this was their response!

Some other ideas:

1. First up, make sure you share your desires with your church leaders and some friends who can support you. Start the journey early with these people who will eventually become your support team when you are 'on mission'. They can pray for you and hold you accountable.
2. Second, see if you can get experience within your church in evangelism and discipling. You can develop skills that will help you later on and also gain respect from those around you. People will see you are serious about your calling to be a missionary. You could also do a course like Perspectives or Kairos to give you a better overall understanding of mission around the world.
3. Third, doing a cross-cultural short term mission trip can be really helpful. It's great to know what you are really getting into and it may help you work out if mission is for you. You could do this in NZ. We can put you in contact with people reaching out cross culturally here. If you're keen to explore something overseas then we can link you up with one of WEC's 101 teams worldwide through our trek (short term) option for between 2 weeks and 2 years!
4. Fourth, it would be important for you to find out what training would be useful/needed to equip you (see our question on this, next up on this site). This will depend on the mission group you join, the country you go to and the ministry you do. Some countries require higher education before they grant you a visa. In some countries you have to 'tent make', as otherwise you would not be permitted to live there.
5. When choosing a training path think about how useful it will be to your ministry in the next few years. Also think about its value in the future — if you want to pursue further education down the track, will this present training help? For example, if you're thinking about a diploma, ask if it will help towards a higher level course like a degree later on. You never know what the future brings so it is good to be prepared. WEC runs a college geared especially towards cross-cultural mission; check out a video about them here and visit their website here.
6. Finally, don't delay too long with preparation. Often people spend many years getting well prepared but then lose their initial desire to be in mission, or the pressures of the world overtake them. Make that phone call now (0800 46 46 86), speak to your church leader or a mission representative and say "Hey, I think God wants me to be a missionary, can you help me get prepared?"