

Formal Preparation for a Life of Ministry Abroad

Tim Jordan

1. Become and remain committed to making genuine progress in spiritual integrity and relational intimacy with God, with your family, and with your spiritual family.
2. Out of this process will grow a growing conviction in your heart of His calling and direction for your life.
3. Become and remain committed to hands on involvement in a broad spectrum of service opportunities.
4. Seek and take the opportunity to learn foreign languages. Learning any foreign language will enhance your ability to learn other languages. Network with nationals living in your area for conversational practice and cultural insights.
5. Normally, the best beginning for formal training or education is a Bible/Christian college as a starting place. This training is typically broader rather than deeper.
6. In most cases formal training should continue with seminary training, which is characteristically deeper rather than broader. You must be prepared to accurately, clearly, and practically “unpack” the whole counsel of God.
7. Taking the opportunity to involve yourself in short term and long term mission trips/internships is extremely valuable and wise. All cross cultural experience will have value for later ministry.
8. Develop and maintain relationships with veteran missionaries during the time of your preparation and beyond.

Tim is the Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Lansdale, PA. He leads the church in organizing several mission trips each year and oversees its vast missions outreach. Tim brings a pastoral perspective on missions experience and great expository preaching to the conference. Tim and his wife, Marilyn, have five children.