

APPLICATION FOR LONG TERM MISSIONS SUPPORT

Black Rock Church
3685 Black Rock Turnpike • Fairfield, CT 06432 • (203) 255-3401

note: If married, both husband and wife need to fill out separate forms. For duplicate information, such as financial information, only one member of couple need provide information. Please use back of sheet for additional space, if needed. Please type or print neatly.

Date _____

PERSONAL DATA

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Name: | Date of Birth: |
| Address: | Phone: |
| | E-mail: |
| Married: _____ Single: _____ | If married, how long? |

If divorced, please explain circumstances on separate page.

Names and birthdates of dependents

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Have you or a member or your immediate family ever been convicted of a felony? Yes _____ No _____

Have you completed the BRC Child Protection Screening? Yes _____ No _____

MISSION AGENCY/ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION

Name and address of Mission Agency/Organization:

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Contact name: | Phone: |
|---------------|--------|

Denomination, if any:

State your present relationship to this agency: ___ Candidate Other _____

State when you expect to be on the field: Month: _____ Year _____

If support is approved, indicate below how check should be made out for proper credit.

Payable to:

Memo notation, if needed:

Account name:

MISSIONS MINISTRY INFORMATION

Where do you expect to serve?

Previous experience/training relative to this area:

Correspondence address in your field (if known):

E-mail:

Phone:

Correspondence instructions or restrictions:

Briefly describe the type of ministry you anticipate and the people to whom you will minister (use separate page for additional space if necessary):

Are you considering this missions responsibility a life work? Yes _____ No _____ Explain:

Are any of the following applicable to you? Explain.

Physical disability

Financial debt (please list all major, ongoing debts)

Parental opposition

Social habits which could lessen the effectiveness of your ministry

Hesitancy to work with or under national church leaders

Briefly explain your conversion experience and missionary call.

What is (are) your spiritual gift(s)?

Briefly describe how this spiritual gift contributes to your field responsibility:

List past ministry experiences, how they confirmed your spiritual gift, and how these experiences contributed to your preparation for your missions responsibility:

Have you ever led someone to accept Christ as Savior? No ____ Few ____ Many ____

Have you ever conducted follow-up activity with a new Christian? No ____ Few ____ Many ____

What is your practice in personal prayer and Bible study?

Current church membership:

Years of membership:

Churches where you have attended / been involved

| Name of Church | Years Attended | Reason for Leaving |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND**Education beyond high school**

| Name of school(s) | Years attended | Graduated? | Degree/Certificate |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|--------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Other special training

| Type | Years attended | Graduation or Certificate |
|------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Last three employment experiences

| Employer | Type of work | Dates | Reason for Termination |
|----------|--------------|-------|------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Briefly describe contribution employment has made to prepare you for missions service:

Books you have read in the last 12 months:

Periodicals you read regularly:

Foreign languages studied:

Verbal proficiency _____ Writing proficiency _____ Reading proficiency _____

Travel

| Country visited | Date | Purpose |
|-----------------|------|---------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

REFERENCES

| Name | Phone / E-mail |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Pastor or spiritual mentor: | |
| Professional colleague or teacher: | |
| Friend: | |

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

State your required annual support: \$ _____

Does your mission require you to raise your support in full? Yes _____ No _____

If not, what percentage are you responsible for raising? _____% or \$ _____ per year

**PLEASE ATTACH A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF ALL MONTHLY EXPENSES
AS CALCULATED BY YOUR SENDING AGENCY.**

Breakdown of monthly support

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Salary: \$ _____ | Agency overhead: \$ _____ | Medical/dental benefits: \$ _____ |
| Ministry expenses: \$ _____ | Retirement: \$ _____ | Outgoing one-time: \$ _____ |

Anticipated annual support or support now received from churches other than Black Rock: \$ _____

Anticipated annual support or support now received from individuals: \$ _____

Do you have other financial responsibilities such as student loans in addition to monthly support? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please provide further details.

I hereby make application for financial support from Black Rock Church, Fairfield, Connecticut.

- I have read the Articles of Faith and fully agree with its contents with no reservations (page 6)
- I have read and signed the Lifestyle Statement (pages 7-8)
- If accepted, I agree to abide by BRC Missionary Covenant (page 9)
- If accepted, I agree to abide by BRC Mission Handbook Policy 5.2.1 which reads:
 “The BRC-supported missionary may not actively solicit financial support from established groups in the church such as Adult Fellowship, small group, or other specific ministries. This does not, however, prohibit the sharing of information on support needs in newsletters, circulated to the missionary’s general mailing list, nor does it prohibit the personal seeking of support from individuals in the congregation.”

Signature

Date

Black Rock Statements of Faith

Black Rock Church

About the Bible

- We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21).

About the Trinity

- We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; John 14:10, 13, 16, 17, 26; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

About Jesus Christ: His Person

- We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true man (Matthew 1:18, 23; Luke 1:35; John 17:11, 21).

About Human Beings

- We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but also that spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature; and, in the case of those who reach moral responsibility, become sinners in thought, word, and deed (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7; Jeremiah 17:9; Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 3:23; 5:12; Ephesians 2:3).

About Jesus Christ: His Work

- We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood (Isaiah 53:6; John 3:16; Romans 5:9, 12; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 21; 1 Peter 2:24).
- We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven, and in His present life for us there as High Priest and Advocate (Luke 24:6; Acts 1:9; Hebrews 4:14; 10:12).

About Salvation

- We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit, and thereby, become children of God (John 1:12-13; 3:3; 1 Peter 1:23).

About Eternal Life

- We believe that those who have been born again have everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but are passed from death unto life; and that the Lord Jesus Christ gives unto them eternal life and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of God's hand (John 5:24; 10:28-29).

About the Second Coming

- We believe in "that blessed hope," the personal return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Revelation 1:7)

About Eternity

- We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the lost. (Matthew 25:46; John 3:36; 5:28-29; Revelation 20:12, 15).

Christ-follower's Lifestyle Statement

Black Rock Church

A Good Tree Produces Good Fruit

The Bible teaches that when it comes to following Jesus, talk can be cheap. In fact, Jesus taught that some who CLAIM to be His followers are fooling themselves. He went on to encourage His church to discern between good-tree-people and bad-tree-people through the practice of examining the "fruit" of their lifestyles over time (see, Matthew 7:15-23).

While becoming a Christ-follower begins with a Belief-commitment (which is summarized in our Church's Doctrinal Statement), a genuine belief-commitment in Christ will result in an accompanying behavior-commitment that Jesus calls "good fruit". This Lifestyle Statement attempts to answer the question: "What does Good Fruit look like?"

What Does "Good Fruit" LOOK Like?

The Apostle Paul picks up Jesus' reference to "good fruit" and describes the Christ-follower's lifestyle in 9 qualities he calls the "fruit of the Spirit (see, Galatians 5:22-23). Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Faithfulness, Goodness, Gentleness and Self-control; these 9 qualities are not the result of religious-effort, they are the visible-effects of the Holy Spirit indwelling a Christ-follower. These 9 qualities reflect God's perfect personality and are the identifying marks of His child:

Christ-followers display LOVE by:

- Seeking to encourage, serve and give generously to others
- Resisting all forms of hatred, prejudice, and bigotry

Christ-followers display JOY by:

- Enjoying God and other meaningful relationships
- Reflecting a spirit of gratitude and positivity
- Resisting all forms of legalism, hypocrisy and selfishness

Christ-followers display PEACE by:

- Making life choices that reflect a reliance on God rather than fear
- Resolving conflict with others, and seeking to bring harmony where there is disagreement
- Not holding grudges or bitterness against others, but showing an eagerness to give and receive forgiveness

Christ-followers display PATIENCE by:

- A readiness to trust God in a way that eliminates an angry spirit
- Refraining from a complaining or critical attitude

Christ-followers display KINDNESS by:

- Seeking to build-up others through helpful speech and action
- Not being rude, vulgar or unnecessarily offensive
- Not engaging in malicious gossip, slander or other speech intended to be hurtful

Christ-followers display FAITHFULNESS by:

- Active commitment to the Body of Christ at Black Rock including participation in regular worship and giving
- A transparency regarding personal failures that seeks help with sin-struggles
- Parenting that strives to meet the material, emotional and spiritual needs of pre-adult children
- Loving one's spouse and fulfilling vows made within a Biblically-defined marriage (between one man and one woman)

Christ-followers display GOODNESS by:

- Making life choices that reflect a reliance on God rather than fear
- Seeking justice for the oppressed and help for the needy
- Refusing dishonesty, greed or a love of money
- Refraining from all activities that are illegal or specifically condemned in Scripture
- Avoiding immodesty in dress, speech or behavior

Christ-followers display GENTLENESS by:

- Exercising power, position and authority with humility and goodwill
- Maintaining a teachable spirit that avoids a judgmental spirit against the failures of others
- Resisting all forms of violence and refusing to participate in any form of physical, verbal, emotional or sexual abuse

Christ-followers display SELF-CONTROL by:

- Making life choices that reflect a reliance on God rather than fear
- Keeping free from addictions to drugs, gambling, or other destructive habits
- Not drinking to drunkenness or otherwise abusing alcohol
- Committing to reserve all sexual activity to the context of a Biblically-defined marriage (thus refusing cohabitation, fornication, adultery and homosexuality)

Christ-followers commit to Growing in Fruitfulness over time

The Holy Spirit indwells believers to help them grow in fruitfulness over time. Even as believers grow in Christ-likeness, at the same time, they continue to fall short in each of these 9 “good fruit” areas. Signing this Statement is not a promise to be perfect. Signing this Statement is agreeing to the Biblical standard toward which all Christ-followers desire to grow under the power of the Holy Spirit.

As you find yourself struggling with lifestyle issues mentioned or not mentioned in this statement, please reach out for the resources of forgiveness, strength and spiritual growth available in Christ and His Body at Black Rock.

I hereby agree, to the best of my ability, to abide by the principles stated in the Black Rock Church Christ-Follower’s Lifestyle Statement.

Print Name

Signature

MM DD YYYY

Black Rock Church Missions Covenant

We believe that we are mutually responsible before God to honor our commitments to one another while obeying the Great Commission. This covenant serves to clarify and unify our work for the Kingdom.

Black Rock Church has these responsibilities toward you, our missionary:

- To uphold you and your family in prayer.
- To make your ministry and prayer requests known in our church through the weekly prayer list, Community Group talk sheets, the missions display, and annual missions conferences.
- To faithfully support you financially each month and to consider any special financial needs for your ministry, personal needs or emergencies as we are able by God's provision.
- To care for personal, emotional, and spiritual needs as we are able through correspondence and field visits by the Pastor of Global Missions.
- To offer you practical assistance during home service as we are able.

You, our missionary, have these responsibilities toward Black Rock Church:

- To maintain an active ministry as represented to and supported by the Board of Missions.
- To correspond with the Board of Missions at least quarterly. We prefer that you send us your monthly prayer letter or communicate at least monthly through E-mail.
- To submit an annual report of ministry progress and financial statistics to the Board of Missions by January for consideration in budget development.
- To visit with the Board of Missions and spend time with Black Rock families during home service. We expect you to visit us at least once every four years, preferably during either our Fall Festival or Annual Missions Conference.
- To forward all requests for funding to the Board of Missions.
- To advise the Board of Missions of agency and/or field location changes, changes in marital status, new family members, or major changes in ministry emphasis.
- To faithfully contact your Black Rock prayer partners and keep them apprised of current prayer request.

Please note:

- If you return to the U.S. to work in the home office or in a U.S. assignment, Black Rock's Board of Missions may elect not to continue financial support as we are committed to having a majority of our missionaries serve overseas.
- All new career missionaries undergo an evaluation at the end of their first term to determine continuation of Black Rock support.

By God's grace and with His help, we covenant to honor these commitments to one another.

Missionary's Signature _____

Date _____

Spouse's Signature _____

Date _____

BOM Chairman's Signature _____

Date _____

Pastor of Global Missions' Signature _____

Date _____

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." Matt. 24:14