

## MISSIONAL MAP "HOW-TO" GUIDE

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The missional map was created to help any missionally-minded group of people identify, pray for, and begin to engage a group of people who are not yet following Christ. It is not meant to be a planning tool, but a starting place for mission. It is best used when a "team" (missionally-minded group) has a coach, has clearly identified their Kingdom vision, is regularly working on a plan for mission, and is being equipped for the work (in essence, The Five Things.)

The term "map" is used to give someone the sense of seeing the whole on one page. The "whole" they get to see is themselves, a team, going after a specified group of people that God has led them to engage for a certain period of time.

A missional team is not restricted to identify and engage only 20 people. However, most missional efforts lose effectiveness as the target is often too large and ambiguous. Hence, there are twenty slots to list the people that God is calling a missional team to pursue.

It should be expected however, that God would lead people across a team's path that were not initially on a their map; that's a great thing!

**First:** Have the missional team you are on and/ or coaching,;; write their names in the team slot. (Everyone fills out their own writing down all the same names.) Spend some time praying as a group for one another and that God would lead the team to the mission He has for them.

**Second:** Use the questions on the left side to aid in identifying the people group that God is sending the missional team to engage. This process may take an hour or a few days dependent upon the group and how God leads you. Encourage everyone to take notes from the discussion.

**Third:** After identifying the group that God is sending the missional team to, have each person give the names of the people that God has laid on their heart. You may not be able to list everyone's names the first time. Also, it is unlikely that one person will know everyone on the list, but the point is that we pray for our teammates' friends and hopefully get to know them over time.

Fourth: Determine the date that the team will begin to intentionally engage this group of people and the date when as the team they will end the effort. This is a very important step as it is biblically modeled and it creates urgency and incentive. (Suggested time: 1-3 years.) Sketch a plan on how the missional team will go about the missional enterprise (e.g. strategic plan lite). The plan will need to be regularly revisited and modified as necessary and as the Lord leads. Coaching is needed here.

Finally: Use the continuum to chart the progress of each person on the list as they journey towards Christ. As you observe a person take the next step, write in the date by their name, and praise God that they are a step closer to following Jesus! (Of course it is possible for a person to backtrack; keep praying for them.) The continuum of course does not end here, but on this map, there is no room to display 'the continuum of maturity in Christ'.

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## THE POSTMODERN SOJOURNER'S CONTINUUM DEFINITIONS

 $Trust\,Me/Us$ " signifies that this person genuinely trusts one of us as a friend and is willing to engage and be engaged.

"Growing Curiosity" indicates that this person is opening their eyes and mind to the possibility of some-thing beyond themselves and their worldview. They may ask a few spiritual questions here. Don't pounce prematurely. Ask them questions in return.

"Open to change" means this person is indicating that they would be willing to change their mind, habits, beliefs, attitudes, etc. They may not change anything, but you will see them ascent to the possibility of some changes.

"Seeking God" indicates that this person is looking into what Christ and His message of the Kingdom offers. They will be engaging with you on biblical discussions. Key idea: The conversation is not one-sided.

"Following Jesus" signifies that they have entered the Kingdom, received Jesus, made a decision, or whatever terminology best suits you. At this stage, you need to bring them into your missional community/ team and continue the investment towards their maturity. They need to "go on mission" with you right away.

**A word of warning:** Do not allow people you are journeying to Christ to ever see your missional map. We do not want people to ever feel like a "target" or a "project."

Each person on the missional team should fill out and keep their own missional map for the sake of continuity in missional agreement and so that they can regularly pray for the list of people they have identified. Encourage each person to keep this in their Bible, on their bedstand, or wherever they may be reminded to pray daily for this group of people and their teammates.

This tool, like others, is imperfect, incomplete, insufficient, and in flux, so expect future modifications and please feel free to give your input to <a href="mailto:ESS@uscm.org.">ESS@uscm.org.</a> We appreciate the help!