

Example of a support letter

Dear friends and family,

Can you envision lands where cows are holy, animal sacrifices are a weekly occurrence and human cremations take place daily? I want to share with you a challenging ministry opportunity God has presented to me. During March 28 - April 10, I will be going to Bangkok and Nepal with a team from First Christian Church.

Our two-week trip will focus on Hindu and Buddhist cultures in this area of the world that is often referred to as 'the heart of darkness.' The purpose of our trip is fourfold:

- First, we will be allowing God to work in our lives through the personal enrichment that comes from this type of a mission trip.
- Second, this Prayer Journey will help us focus our individual prayers by traveling to a foreign land and praying 'on-site with insight.' We will pray for the Hindu and Buddhist people that God may open their eyes and hearts to the message of Jesus.
- Third, we will be visiting an 'unreached people group' of which less than 1% is Christian. First Christian Church has adopted the Newar people group and is assisting in bringing them the gospel. We will be working with some Newar churches to help them grow in their Christian walk.
- Fourth, we will encourage local Christians in Bangkok and Kathmandu. Our presence will bolster their spirits and support their work. We will visit many small villages in Nepal where we will develop relationships with the Christians there.

I'm excited about the opportunity and experience that lie ahead. I hope you see the value in what we will accomplish. As you can imagine, a trip like this requires financial support from a number of people. I need to raise \$3,000 by March 20th. If you can support me in a financial way, I would be very grateful. And, most importantly, I also need your prayer support. Prayer is the fuel that will allow us to be successful as we follow God's leading in ministry in these countries. Without prayer, nothing will happen.

If you would like to be part of this mission through your financial support, send a check to: [insert church address here]

Envelopes are enclosed for your convenience. Please make your check payable to First Christian Church and write "Nepal" and my name on the memo line. All contributions are tax deductible.

While money is important, it comes in a distant second to my need for your prayer support. Since prayer support is so important to the success of this mission, I would like to know if I can count on you in that area. Enclosed is a bookmark that you can put in your Bible, on your bathroom mirror, on the "fridge",

or anywhere else you will see it at least once a day. Please pray daily for the areas listed.

Because they haven't heard,
(Signed)

Sample Number Two:

Dear [name]

I have an opportunity this summer, June 2-9, to join churches around the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex and across the U.S. on a mission trip to Juarez, Mexico. On our trip we will be holding vacation Bible schools for the children of Juarez and working on different construction sites around the city. What a chance to minister to others!

I am excited about what God is going to do in my life and in other people's lives through this ministry this summer. I do, however, need your help. We will be flying to El Paso and then busing over the border to Juarez. I will need to raise around \$500 before June 2. Anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated.

Please be a part of this awesome opportunity, for I know that you too will be blessed. Thank you and God bless

In Christ,

Sample Number Three:

Dear family and friends,

I hope the New Year is treating you well. I have just begun the second semester of my junior year of nursing school at Southern University. This year has been very exciting with my involvement as Resident Advisor in one of the girls' dorms. Although I am busy, I am learning many new things from the girls on my floor, from my patients at the hospital, and from the professors on campus. Last semester was wonderful, but I am looking forward to the adventures of this New Year.

In fact, I have come across an opportunity to go on a mission trip this May. Commission unto Italy is a two-week Work and Witness trip to Catania, Italy. The opportunity I have to go on this trip hold great meaning for me. My father worked on this very site the summer before his unexpected death. My dream has been to return to the church where my father ministered. On this trip, our team will be working on the church property, doing outreach to local children, participating in church services, and helping plant a church in the city of Palermo.

In order for this trip to be possible, I am responsible to raise \$1,800 this cost includes transportation, housing, food, insurance, and project materials. Our goal

is to raise the money necessary to go to Italy through sponsorship.

If you would be willing to help sponsor me financially, I have included a self-addressed stamped envelope for your convenience. Any donations will be greatly appreciated. If you wish to donate by check, make it payable to "First Baptist Church" and I will run it through my local church so that you can claim it on your tax return. As important as the financial aspect is, I will value your prayers even more -- not only for me personally, but for our team's ministry in Catania.

This is an opportunity of a lifetime, and I feel very fortunate to be able to participate. Thank you for helping make it possible.

In Him,