

Essential Attributes of a Missionary Trainer¹
Missionary Training Consultants' Seminar
February 22-26, 1994, Pasadena, California

This report summarizes the work of the Two-Thirds World regional working groups at the WEF/MC-sponsored Missionary Training Seminar in Pasadena, California, February 22-26, 1994. This document is a composite profile of attributes of a missionary trainer's life and ministry that are key essentials leading to a successful training ministry. The majority of the groups identified each of these attributes, although the wording greatly varied among the groups.

Christian Maturity

- Maintains spiritual disciplines in personal relationship with God
- Is building an ample knowledge of the Word of God
- Is growing in obedience to God's Word
- Is characterized by the fruit of the Spirit
- Practices an effective prayer life
- Promotes a biblical relationship with the church
- Exercises good stewardship
- Gives priority to a balanced family life
- Lives a sacrificial and simple lifestyle
- Has vision and a passion for mission
- Builds accountability relationships
- Is respectful of spiritual authority
- Possesses a teachable spirit

Ministry Skills and Experience

- Has successful cross-cultural experience in ministry
- Develops effective disciple and mentor relationships
- Is able to manage people and projects with sensitivity and wisdom
- Interacts well with others in cross-cultural and diverse situations
- Has personal maturity to sustain open and honest relationships
- Enters into cooperative relationships with diverse peoples

- Demonstrates cultural sensitivity and respect

Teaching and Equipping Skills

- Is a good listener and effective communicator
- Focuses on practical and relevant course work
- Is able to teach using various techniques and resources
- Brings a wealth of practical and personal experience
- Can foster good interpersonal and team dynamics
- Accurately evaluates people and guides them to effectiveness
- Models by lifestyle what is being taught
- Motivates people to want to learn

Interdisciplinary Knowledge

- Relates theological knowledge to missiological practice, especially regarding socio-political, economic, and ethical realities
- Is familiar with local, political, and social situations and organizations
- Has prior training and experience appropriate to the institution's goals
- Keeps abreast of other missionaries and mission activities worldwide
- Has a biblical and historical grasp of the local and global church

¹ The original chart was published April 1994 in *Training for Cross-Cultural Ministry* 4(1).