

A. **Becoming a Trainer who Touches Nations for God**

To whom should you teach this lesson? To trainers and trainers-to-be! That is, this lesson is geared toward the teacher who already has enough successful teaching experience that he can now begin to train others how to teach.

A.1 **How can you prepare your heart?**

Teaching materials to have ready for presenting these ideas: A large heart or a heart shaped puppet. If no paper is available, draw a huge heart on a chalkboard on with a stick on the ground, or fashion a heart of woven raffia.

- Be asking God to accomplish in you and through you all that He desires through your involvement in international training
- Ask God, ‘Is there anything in me that could hinder what You want to do?’
- Ask yourself, “What strengths has God worked in me that could HELP?” and, “What weaknesses do I recognize in myself that could HINDER this work?”
- Recognize and deal with these sins: A complaining spirit, a rebellious or unsubmitted spirit, a critical spirit, a judgmental spirit, a proud spirit
- Open your heart to the nations. Read & surf the net with nations & people groups in mind.
- Before each trip, research & devour all the information you can on the country & people group to which you will minister.
- Make a special effort to meet/entertain/develop friendships with internationals in your area.

A.2 **How can you get to know God and His book more & more?**

Teaching materials to have ready for presenting these ideas: A Bible, perhaps a well-worn personal copy. Hug it to yourself and handle it with love, care and respect to show how highly you value it.

- Steadfastly & regularly doing SOMETHING for a personal time with God, even if only a little
- Trying new approaches, new studies

- MEDITATING on God’s Word has many advantages. (Chewing it like a cow chews her cud.)
- Stay connected to the body.
- Pray throughout the day.
- Always be blessing and trying to encourage others.

A.3 How can you build a strong support team for prayer, support, encouragement, accountability?

An activity to introduce the ideas of this section: Divide the trainers into two teams and play “Red Rover” briefly. Afterwards point out that if we are to resist the enemy’s attacks or successfully assault his strongholds, we need the strength of a team. We need to support one another.

- Need support at many levels.
- God isn’t looking for Lone Rangers, yet even he needed a Tonto. (You are not Spider Man, Bat Man or Wonder Woman).
- Begin with spouse & family
- Then pastor & church, other groups
- Communicate clearly & frequently
- Ask. Share the blessing!
- Show thankfulness.

A.4 How can you develop humility, flexibility, a servant’s heart?

Activity to introduce the ideas of this section: Invite the Red Rover teams back. Secretly tell one that when the other team sends someone to their side, they should all drop hands. Some should start arguing. Others should start loudly declaring that they are the best. Others should walk back and forth moaning that there's no way they can win. Discuss the results.

Teaching materials to have ready for presenting these ideas:

- What does it matter who is in charge?
- You can’t even begin to envision the situations & challenges you will face in international training. Eat rubber—stay flexible
- You’ll live through it. Make it work.

- Don't become dependent on technology, gadgets & supplies. Be more creative. Find a way out of problems.
- Who are the groups and individuals you are there to serve? Pastors? Teachers? Trainers? Heads of departments? People who have a vision to start a children's ministry from scratch? Missionaries?
- Give some thought ahead of time to how you will serve each group—in each situation. Continue to give thought to it every day.

A.5 How can you develop long term stability?

Activity to introduce this section: Tell the story of the tortoise and the hare in a race. The hare was naturally much faster, but he was so overconfident that he did not try hard to win the race. The tortoise was very slow, but he kept on plodding along and refused to give up. The tortoise won the race while the fast hare was napping. There is nothing that can substitute for long term stability—just keeping on keeping on. The Bible calls it being faithful.

- Anticipate change.
- Recognize that God may change your circumstances for His purposes.
- Life, like the weather, has its seasons.
- Anticipate times of testing.
- Anticipate discomfort. **COMFORT IS NOT A SIGN OF WHETHER YOU ARE IN GOD'S WILL.**
- Get up quickly after a fall.
- Don't let your devotional life slip.
- Don't play Lone Ranger.
- Be quick to say, "I'm sorry," and mean it.
- Keep in mind the end. Don't get hung up on the means.
- Remember—It's not about me; It's all about Him.
- Read missionary biographies & watch videos of the same.
- Ask God to enable you to be faithful for what He has in mind for you.

A.6 How can you most effectively use these training materials?

Activity to introduce the ideas of this section: Have everyone hold his manual in the air. Then ask several of them to pray, dedicating their books to God as well as all they will learn, and asking Him to show them how to use it most effectively.

- Skim it, become familiar with its contents
- Read/study the parts that “draw” you.
- Mark it up—use stickies. Highlight.
- Add ideas of your own.
- Work through the answers gradually.
- Add/substitute your own examples.
- Collect/add other ideas that you find helpful.
- Always take time for practice & evaluation during training.
- Don’t rush the training. You don’t have to do it all, & certainly not in one day!
- Look for opportunities to apply some of the things you have been learning.

End the session by gathering in small groups to pray for one another. Share problem areas with one another if you wish.

Another great activity is to place a large map of Africa or the world on the floor. Let those who desire to do so come one at a time and stand or kneel on the map while the others in the group pray for him by name, asking God to make them a trainer that touches nations for God.