

LIFE on MISSION (LoM)

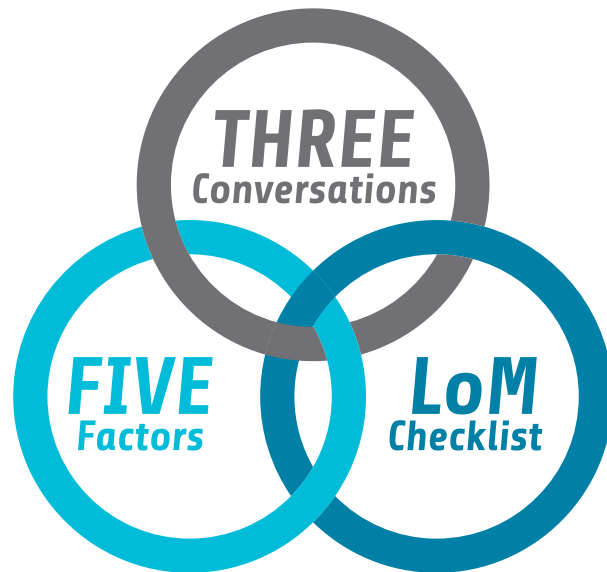
“By this is My Father glorified that you bear much fruit and that you prove to be My disciples... You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain.”

John 15:8, 16

Sending is not simply one conversation or a series of steps as students prepare to return home. What is home after all? As global citizens, international students come from the world and go back into the world. Bridges International desires 100% SENT: where every Christian student in our ministry is committed to living a life on mission.

LIFE on MISSION are elements that are meant to be woven throughout the discipleship process. The circles represent three things:

1. The **Three Conversations** are ongoing conversations with your disciples.
2. The **Five Factors** are the critical elements for life on mission that students must own throughout each transition.
3. The **LoM Check-list** helps you gauge if they are prepared to contextualize their faith.



THREE CONVERSATIONS

- 1 **Willingness to Surrender:** The process of surrender begins long before a student transitions home or graduates. The student experiences the reality of surrender as soon as he or she starts asking questions like: Is it time to speak up in class? Is God asking me to share my story with a lost friend? Does God want me to start a Bible Study? Each student has to get to a point where he or she is willing to say: “Lord, I’ll go as your ambassador wherever you send me.”

Action Step: Take the Pledge

The Pledge

Lord Jesus, I surrender to You, and in the power of Your Spirit, I will...

GO where You want me to GO

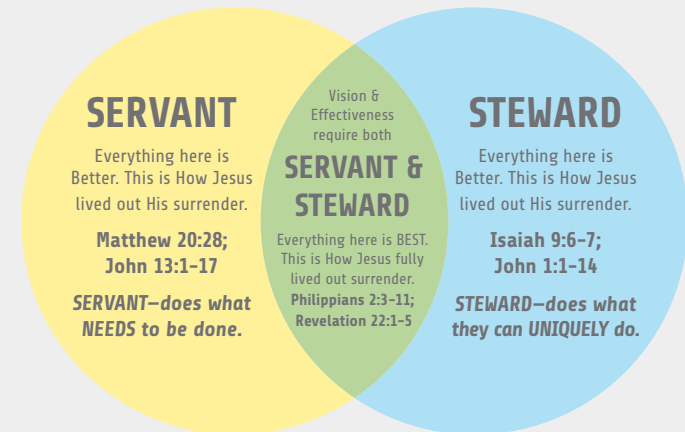
DO what You want me DO

SAY what You want me to SAY

GIVE what You want me to GIVE

- 2 **Willingness to Be Intentional:** Effectiveness requires both stewardship (the long-term process of surrender to God’s good ways) and a servant-heart (doing what needs to be done). Continual teaching on the Spirit-filled life equips students to experience Christ’s transforming power as well as discover how it translates to whole life stewardship.

Action Step: Explore the *Playing Field of Surrender* resource



- 3 **Willingness to Lead by Faith:** Students must lead by example and practice. One of the best ways to prepare internationals to be SENT is to grow them as practiced leaders now. Leaders persevere and act in uncertain and hostile environments. A challenge to lead can often come before students think they are ready. This requires more faith for them and for you, and gives opportunities to trust the Lord, be trusted and coached by you, and experience grace in both success and failure.

Action Step: Challenge students to lead a Discovery Bible group, Discipleship group, and be part of the Vision Team on campus

FIVE FACTORS

1 KINGDOM VISION: Know where you are headed Ex. 3:1-12*

Being a part of a Christian movement helps shape the vision you have for fulfilling the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Kingdom vision is seeing how you best fit into God's big plan which then influences your decisions and choices now and in the years to come. What you're learning now about reaching others, building them in their faith, and sending them to do the same is laying the foundation for a lifetime of fruitfulness. So as you take inventory today, what would it look like for you to live out your kingdom vision?

1. What passions and gifts do you have? How do you see yourself using those to glorify God and serve others? Do you have a burden for a specific area on campus or group of people in your community?
2. What would it look like for you to live out the Great Commission and the Great Commandment in light of your gifts and ministry experience?
3. The context you're a part of shapes and reinforces your kingdom vision. Is there a movement, church, or organization you can connect with that is already pursuing your vision?
4. Write a short statement communicating what you believe God is calling you to do next.

2 TEAM: A Great Vision Needs a Great Team Ecc. 4:9-12

Without a compelling community, few people can persevere for long. Ecclesiastes 4 says, "It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work...and if one falls down, the other helps." Join with others who are surrendered to Jesus and share a similar kingdom vision. Live missionally with your friends—gather people to pray, plan, encourage one another and live out that vision together.

1. Is there a team in your movement or church that is already pursuing your vision? Could you join them?
2. If not, who do you know that is surrendered to Jesus and shares a similar kingdom vision?
3. Think of at least two friends you can ask to join with you to live out your calling.
4. When can you connect with your team to pray, plan and begin living intentionally on mission?

3 PLAN: A Great Vision Needs a Great Plan Gen. 6:9-22

You need a plan with simple, doable steps that will help you begin to implement your God-given vision. It doesn't have to be elaborate. Plan with the end in mind. Having a plan is all about being intentional and taking steps toward your kingdom vision.

1. As your team meets with God, what specific steps of faith is He asking you to take?
2. What are your first three steps to bring about your vision for God's kingdom in and through your life?

4 ONGOING Equipping: Education Doesn't End with Graduation Eph. 4:11-16; Matt. 25:14-30

Successful people are always growing and developing. Effective organizations are always adapting. Championship teams are always improving. Ongoing equipping is anything you need in order to help you live out your kingdom vision. This can include further education, skills, tools, training and resources. These things will help you in your journey of walking with God and serving Him for a lifetime.

1. Ask yourself regularly, "What areas of my life need to be developed to better fulfill my calling?"
2. What could you read to help equip you for your kingdom work? Are there any conferences or other training that will also help?
3. Now, what three things will you do to better equip yourself to live out your kingdom vision?

5 COACH: All 'Greats' Have a Coach 2 Tim. 3:10-14

Scripture stresses the importance of gaining wisdom from others. (Prov. 16:16) We can never underestimate the blessing of another who has gone before us and learned a thing or two along the way. A coach is just that person: someone to answer your questions, help you and your team when you are stuck, and encourage you when the going gets tough.

1. Who is already doing what you have a vision for and what can you learn from them?
2. Is there someone who can mentor you and help you accomplish your vision? Who would that be?

*PODS #8 is also designed to help prepare students for a Life on Mission. Use the (PODS/Discovery) Connect-Read-Discover-Obey

LoM CHECKLIST

Lives as Self-Feeder

- Reads Bible regularly and has a Bible study plan
- Prays regularly
- Has completed PODS
- Connects regularly with a faith community

Practices Contextualized Faith

- Aware of and connected to language specific evangelism & growth resources
- Able to pray in their own language
- Owns and reads Bible in their own language
- Able to share their faith in their own language
- Knows and is connected to believers from their home country/language

Engaged in Cultural Adjustment Process

- Registered with Sending Pad or equivalent
- Working on Sending Handbook
- Engages with other sent ones in coaching groups or roundtable format

Aware of Key Church & Culture Issues

- Dealing with parents/family expectations
- Understands basic theology
- Aware of practical persecution issues
- Understands servant leadership, authority, and humility