

Interview Outline: Mission President

Call and Orientation

1. Looking back, how were you prepared for your call?
2. Describe the reaction of your family to your call.
3. Describe the events and your feelings from the time of your call until you arrived at the mission, including the new mission presidents' seminar.

Mission Background

1. Describe the following about your mission:
 - a. Mission boundaries.
 - b. People: number of members, language and literacy, education, socio-economic level, and so on.
 - c. Missionaries: locals, North Americans, sisters, couples; their strengths and weaknesses.
 - d. What do you know about the beginning of the Church in this mission?
 - i. Who were some of the pioneers?
 - ii. What stories have you heard about the beginning of the Church here?
2. Describe the religiosity of the people, and what doctrines were easiest and hardest to accept.
3. Describe any legal or governmental restraints on missionary work.
4. Describe the profile of converts: language and literacy, education, socio-economic level, and so on.
5. What was the public image of the Church in your mission? Were there strong anti-Mormon influences?
6. What do missionaries and Church leaders need to know about this country – its history and culture – to better understand the people?

Mission President's Perspective

1. Role of administrator
 - a. Describe your feelings about the state of the mission and your responsibility when you arrived.
 - b. What did you emphasize with missionaries and members?
 - c. How were you able to use the talents of senior couples, sister missionaries, and elders?
 - d. What were your main administrative challenges and successes?
2. Missionary work
 - a. Describe the impact of *Preach My Gospel* or prior proselytizing approaches.
 - b. What types of missionary work did your missionaries participate in (tracting, street boards and contacting, and so on)? What methods were most effective?
 - c. How did you minister to the missionaries?
 - d. How did the people respond to the Book of Mormon?
 - e. What kinds of challenges were there with local missionaries working with missionaries from other parts of the world?
 - f. What role did the temple play in motivating the converts?

3. Member work
 - a. Discuss your experiences in creating new districts.
 - b. Discuss the opening of cities or areas (or closing of cities or areas).
 - c. How did you use your counselors? What were their names, and how did you select them?
 - d. Discuss your interaction with local stake and district presidents in the balanced efforts of missionary and member work.
 - e. Talk about local leadership and training of local leaders.
4. Discuss your experience in some of the following categories:
 - a. General Authority mission tours.
 - b. Humanitarian projects and missionary service hours.
 - c. Perpetual Education Fund.
 - d. Seminaries and institutes.
 - e. Physical facilities.
 - f. Temple recommend interviews.

Conclusion

1. Talk about your contact and relationship with Church leaders, including the Area Presidency and Area Seventies.
2. Describe how you saw the hand of the Lord establishing the Church in _____.
3. What steps need to be taken for the Church to progress here?
4. Are there any other spiritual experiences that you'd like to relate? Pioneer stories? What other lessons did you learn on your mission?

Perspective of Mission President's Wife

1. Describe the impact of this calling on your family.
2. Discuss the role of the mission president's wife.
3. Describe your interaction with the missionaries.
4. Describe your interaction with the local Church members.
5. What did you learn on your mission?
6. How would you feel about ending with your testimony?