

THE BOARD AND ITS MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

In a very real sense the eventual character and quality of the work done by any Mission depends very largely upon the character and quality of the missionary candidates who offer themselves to it, and to Christ through it. In order that the Holy Spirit may have full direction as to who should and who should not apply to this Board it is against the policy of this Board to approach any person to induce him or her to apply for appointment under it. The needs of the various Missions are laid before the Lord; the Board trusts Him to move upon the hearts and wills of those whom He has called to serve with this Board.

Moreover, the Board would emphasize the fact that it desires every missionary and every missionary candidate to know that it does not look upon its missionaries as employees of the Board; theirs is a much higher calling than that; and while there are necessary business arrangements between Board and Mission, the Board looks upon itself chiefly as a channel through which those who have been truly separated for the work unto which the Lord has called them, may be sent to the field and there sustained in their service of Christ.

While this is true, the Board does have certain standards in mind which it believes will honor the Lord and most rapidly win a following and build up a Church upon the field. As concerns missionary candidates in general the qualities the Board seeks in them are:

1. Evidence of having truly been "born again!" The Board wants to be completely satisfied that every missionary candidate has been cleansed from sin through "the sprinkling of the blood of Christ," I Peter 1:2, and that he or she rejoices in this great salvation. The Board would have none of its missionaries ever forget what they saw at the foot of the Cross when first they came to Christ.
2. A genuine Christian experience following regeneration, manifested not alone in a life of purity, prayer, some Bible knowledge, obedience and a desire to grow in grace; it would have its missionaries to be separated from worldliness and from unbelief and unto God; and it desires to see the genuineness of such separation confirmed by active efforts to win others to Christ and serve Him in every way possible. These qualities should have manifested themselves at home