**nurture**program

# Purpose

The purpose of the Nurture Program is to prepare cross-cultural ministers with the basic knowledge, character, and skills required for effective service, in the context of their sending church, so that Bethlehem Baptist Church can recognize and affirm the Holy Spirit’s calling on their lives (Acts 13:1-3), and fulfill our responsibility as their “senders” (3 John vs. 6).

# Description

We perceive there to be three key dimensions in which the future global partner needs to develop within the context of the local church. These dimensions are *knowledge*, *character*, and *skills*. Each level of the Nurture Program seeks to address these aspects of global partner growth through means of seminars, courses, books, and other resources.

# Structure

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| Gateway 1: Orientation, L1 Application, Welcome Interview | | |
| Knowledge | Character | Skills |
| ‣ *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*  ‣ *Desiring God* by John Piper (Christian worship)  ‣ *Future Grace* by John Piper (sanctification)  ‣ *Let the Nations Be Glad!* by John Piper (missions)  ‣ *Suffering for the Sake of the Body* seminar (suffering) | ‣ Membership at Bethlehem  ‣ Consistent devotional life  ‣ Regular worship service participation  ‣ Small group participation | ‣ Cross-culturally relationship component |
| Gateway 2: L2 Application, Counselor Interview, Pastoral Interview | | |
| Knowledge | Character | Skills |
| ‣ *Mining God’s Word* course (Bible study methods)  ‣ *Theological Foundations* course (systematic theology based on BBC Elder Affirmation of Faith)  ‣ *TULIP* (theology seminar)  ‣ *Sexual Complementarity* seminar (Biblical manhood and womanhood) | ‣ Accountability Partner  ‣ Interpersonal Conflict Transformation (reading)  ‣ Spiritual Conflict Transformation (reading)  ‣ Cross-cultural Conflict Transformation (reading) | ‣ Missions Fellowships  ‣ Nurture Program Retreat |
| Gateway 3: L3 Application and Global Outreach Team Interview | | |
| Knowledge | Character | Skills |
| ‣ Ministry-specific recommendations from Global Outreach Team | ‣ Maintain a life of discipleship while preparing for the field | ‣ Candidacy with a missions agency  ‣ Barnabas Team and partnership development |
| Gateway 4: Final Approval from Global Outreach Team; Commissioning as Global Partner | | |

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