

For Pastors

A Guide to Preparing the Next Generation of Servants through the *CAMP BIMI* Program.





CAMP BIMI

Finding Where You Fit in Missions

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Dear Pastor,

CAMP BIMI exists to serve the local church by helping young people discern God's calling, develop spiritual depth, and gain practical preparation for ministry. For over three decades, we have been blessed to partner with pastors who desire to see their people not only stirred for missions but prepared to go reach the world with the Gospel.

This booklet is designed to help you understand what CAMP BIMI is, how it serves your church, and how you can best encourage and support those who will attend.

Though CAMP BIMI is no replacement for Bible college or church discipleship, it is a **focused, intensive supplemental** that reinforces the Biblical authority of the local church while equipping potential missionaries and ministry workers with tested, real-world training and experience.

By the way, if you have someone attending CAMP BIMI this year, I invite you to join us for the final service of the week when we honor them with a certificate documenting what they have learned. This special time allows you, as well as friends and family, to participate and support your student while learning more about what God has done.

I hope that as you read this it will be a help to you. Once again, we are thankful for the opportunity to serve you and your church. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

In Christ for the Harvest,

Jason W. Ritchie
Pre-field Ministries Director
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What Is *CAMP BIMI*?

CAMP BIMI stands for **Basic International Missionary Intensive.** It is a ministry of **Baptist International Missions, Inc. (*BIMI*)** and is conducted on the BIMI World Missions Center campus in Harrison, Tennessee.

CAMP BIMI is a one-week, college-level experience that exposes participants to the realities of missionary life and pre-field, on field, and furlough ministry. It combines Biblical instruction, practical workshops, cultural exposure, and spiritual development in a structured learning environment. Students will see the harvest fields of the world and be challenged by guided devotionals, group prayer, and powerful preaching.

The program maintains a **high instructor-to-student ratio (approximately 1:4)** and intentionally limits enrollment to preserve personal mentorship opportunities.



Why *CAMP BIMI* Matters to Pastors

Many missionaries leave the field not because they lack passion, but because of **inadequate preparation**. They may have been called, but they never fully calculated the cost. CAMP BIMI was founded to address this reality by targeting common pressure points that lead to burnout and attrition.

For Baptist pastors, CAMP BIMI provides:

- A trusted, doctrinally aligned training environment for future servant leaders
- Exposure to veteran missionaries with decades of field experience
- Reinforcement of Biblical missions philosophy and church planting
- Practical skills that serve both foreign and home missions
- Expanded missional world view that encourages soul-consciousness

Pastors consistently report that students return with greater spiritual maturity, clearer direction, and renewed commitment to serve faithfully in their local church's soulwinning, outreach and missions programs.



Who Should Attend?

CAMP BIMI is open to couples and individuals **16 years and older** who:

- Have a clear testimony of salvation
- Are scripturally baptized
- Are actively serving in a local church
- Are seeking God's will for their life
- Provide pastoral and character references

While many attendees may sense a call to foreign missions, others attend to clarify their role in supporting missions through the local church. CAMP BIMI intentionally teaches that **not all are called to go overseas, but all are called to participate in the Great Commission.**

What Students Experience During the Week

Spiritual Emphasis

- Daily devotional studies and prayer groups
- Evening chapel services with missionary preaching
- Testimony sharing and open forums



Classroom Instruction

Students progress through a structured lecture series covering:

- The missionary call and preparation
- Biblical missions philosophy
- Cultural adaptation and language learning
- Soulwinning, discipleship, and church planting
- Ethics, stewardship, and accountability



Practical Ministry Training

Hands-on workshops include:

- Security and situational awareness
- Deaf & Sports Ministry
- Medical first aid
- Basic electrical, plumbing, and auto repair
- Emergency preparation
- Teamwork exercises



Cultural Exposure

Students participate in cultural experiences and an international banquet designed to broaden worldview and deepen compassion for unreached people groups.

Please Note: The complete program covers three tracks of training, workshops, and experiences. CB 1, 2, and 3 operate concurrently in a given week but not all training is available to every student. Though some training times overlap, students must attend three different years to complete the full program.

The Role of the Pastor Before Students Arrive

Pastoral involvement is vital before a student arrives on campus.

Pastors can help by:

- Affirming the student's suitability and preparation by completing the pastoral reference
- Encouraging consistent involvement in church ministry and outreach programs
- Praying with the student about surrender to God's will and discussing their potential calling
- Helping the student know that CAMP BIMI is only part of the preparation needed for service

Students are specifically encouraged to seek pastoral guidance and remain engaged in local church ministry prior to arrival.

Why Pastors Can Trust the *CAMP BIMI* Experience

- CAMP BIMI operates on a **structured, all-day schedule**
- Students temporarily surrender cell phones to reduce distractions
- Dress guidelines reflect BIMI standards for missionary service
- Spiritual growth, discipline, and teachability are emphasized
- Students are housed in modern, chaperoned facilities that are gender segregated

This environment allows students to focus fully on learning, reflection, and spiritual development.

After *CAMP BIMI*: Shepherding the Student Well

CAMP BIMI is often a **clarifying experience**, but never a concluding one.

Pastors are encouraged to:

- Schedule a follow-up conversation with returning students
- Help them process what they learned Biblically and practically
- Guard against emotional decision-making detached from local church counsel
- Guide next steps such as continued training, college, internships, or missions exposure

Many students come back to CAMP BIMI weeks 2 and 3 for additional training. Others may pursue ***BIMI CONNECT* missions trips** or ***BIMI SMART* internships** as a next step under pastoral guidance.

CAMP BIMI at a Glance

- **Location:** BIMI World Missions Center, Harrison, Tennessee
- **Duration:** One week (A Week / B Week options)
- **Focus:** Calling clarity, missions preparation, spiritual growth
- **Faculty:** BIMI directors and veteran missionaries

A Final Word to Pastors

CAMP BIMI exists to **strengthen**, not replace, the work of the local church. Your encouragement and involvement play a decisive role in how effectively students benefit from this training.

By sending your people prepared, prayed for, and pastorally supported, you help ensure that future missionaries and ministry workers not only hear God's call—but are equipped to serve.









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