

# EMBARK

A church-based equipping ministry  
which facilitates global outreach  
through Parkway Bible Church

**Shaping Disciple Makers to serve as  
Senders or Goers**

# Global Outreach

## Our Mission

Parkway Bible Church is committed to the urgent and unfinished task of helping to make disciples of the unreached people groups of the world.

## Our Vision

1. We desire to empower Gospel driven believers to engage lost people.
2. We desire to pursue ministry multiplication to grow the body of Christ.
3. We desire to raise up the next globally-minded generation of disciples.

## Our Values

Healthy relationships

Grace oriented

Global engagement

Equipping believers

Church centric

Servant based

## Preface

### Why does Parkway believe Embark is an important step toward Global ministry?

Church-based Global Partner preparation brings a much stronger ownership to any process.

1. There is group support and supervision of the preparation process leading to higher results.
2. There is accountability for all involved because of timelines, mentoring and evaluations.
3. Embark develops a broad sense of teamwork because there are so many from the church on the same team.
4. This structure contributes to the development of better quality-control of our people and process.

For these and many other reasons, we recommend the Embark approach to ministry preparation. We believe it will not only strengthen the ministry but also honor the Head of the Church.

Therefore:

Any person or couple wanting to serve as Global Partners overseas must complete the 2 year discipleship emphasis called Embark.

Completing the Embark discipleship effort will increase the candidate's level of effectiveness for any ministry as a Goer or a Sender. At the 18<sup>th</sup> month point in Embark several members of the Embark leadership team or Global Outreach Team will assess the person or couple to determine whether they are better suited to becoming a Goer or a Sender. *If the general agreement is serving as a Sender: the role of a Mobilizer.* This could involve a variety of voluntary leadership roles within Parkway. If the general agreement is for them being sent out as a Global Partner, then the application to a mission organization is sought within months.

Applications to enter Embark can be obtained online beginning and continuing from Sunday, May 19, 2024.

# Welcome to Embark!

Dear Embark Candidate:

As we start this journey together, here are a few things to keep in mind:

1. ***Embark is designed to be self-paced, competency driven, and interactive with the Embark Leadership Group (ELG).*** That means that you, in large part, will set the pace for your progress. Our suggestion would be that you divide your efforts into 4 blocks of time, with each block being about 6 months. Realizing that situations may arise that interrupt progress it is important to keep the ELG apprised if more time is needed. We (the ELG) will be looking for the development of skills needed for effective ministry with regular communication between you and your mentors.
2. ***As you progress through the material and tasks, we would like to be kept informed.*** On pages 8 and 9 in this manual you will find a requirement sheet. Please keep track of your progress on these pages. You should quarterly communicate with your mentors to report such progress.
3. ***Embark is a tool that is flexible.*** Should you encounter problems or difficulties, please openly share such challenges with the ELG by first contacting the Director of Global Ministries. Steve Beirn can be reached at [irishbeirn@comcast.net](mailto:irishbeirn@comcast.net).

We are very much looking forward to all that God will do in and through you in the future as you walk down this pathway. You will be prayed for and supported all along the way! Remember that we are committed to **you** and not the program.

For His glory among the nations,

*The Embark Leadership Group*

Parkway Bible Church  
Pflugerville, Texas



## **Embark Outcomes**

We understand that both the local church and the mission agency have a role in the development process. A critical part of preparation to be an effective sender or goer is to establish outcomes that we want to see in the lives of everyone who participates in our program. All requirements in the program are connected to at least one of the five outcomes. This program is designated to be intentional and interconnected.

Upon completion of this program all candidates should provide clear evidence of the following outcomes:

- 1. Growing Spiritually**
- 2. Healthy Relational Skills**
- 3. Cross-Cultural Discernment**
- 4. Competency in Discipleship**
- 5. Compatible Philosophy and Doctrine**

By **Growing Spiritually** we mean: a person who engages in self-directed Bible study. We desire that this person nourish and sustain themselves in a vital relationship with God.

By **Healthy Relational Skills** we mean: understanding and applying Biblical principles for appropriate interpersonal relationships. We desire to see proper conflict resolution skills and a growing ability to live Christ-like.

By **Cross-Cultural Discernment** we mean: thoughtful interaction with another culture to build bridges of trust for friendships and ministry. We desire to become more incarnational and promote the posture of a servant.

By **Competency in Discipleship** we mean: being devoted followers of Christ, together leading people to multiply genuine life in Christ.

By **Compatible Philosophy and Doctrine** we mean: the church is the sender of global partners and the agency the facilitator of global partners. We see the candidate and global partner as much of a resource of the church as the agency, therefore, we desire collaborative decision making between the church, the agency and the candidate or global partner. We also desire to pursue a primary ministry focus (not exclusive) on the unreached peoples of the world.

## **Embark Mentor/Candidate Relationship**

Mentors are a part of the ELG. Mentors are here to assist you in your growth.

### **Responsibilities of the Mentor**

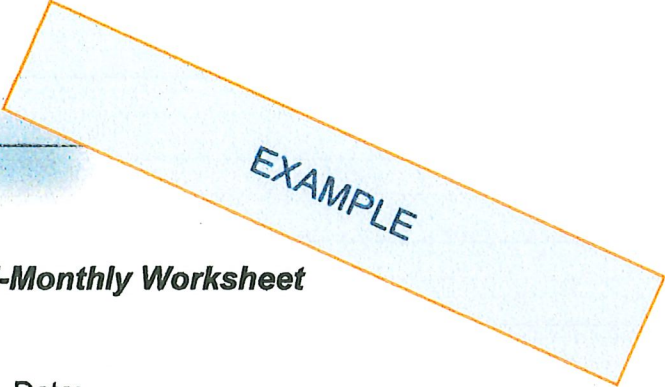
1. Meet monthly with the candidate. Review status of goals that were set.
2. Discuss the Candidate Bi-monthly work sheet every other month. See page 5.
3. Be prepared to interact with the candidate on at least one of the questions from the assigned chapter in *Confirmed to His Image by Boa*. NOTE: This interaction provides a discipleship framework and is intended to lead to meaningful spiritual discussions. The candidate selects the chapters.
4. Discuss the candidate's progress in meeting the requirements, paying special attention to goals for the coming months.
5. Share and pray together.
6. Establish meeting time, place, and chapter(s) from *Confirmed to His Image* for the next month.
7. Meet semi-annually with a designated person from the ELG. You contact the ELG to arrange this at [irishbeirn@comcast.net](mailto:irishbeirn@comcast.net).

### **Guidance for Mentors**

1. *Availability* - It is essential that the mentor make a commitment to the relationship and is available for interaction on a flexible basis.
2. *Vulnerability* - Candidates will learn the most from mentors who are willing to openly share from their life experiences. Learners respond best to models they can observe and know.
3. *Confidentiality* - Since personal matters will no doubt be shared and discussed, a high degree of personal trust is essential.
4. *Accountability* - The mentor exercises a responsibility of stewardship for the mentoring relationship with the candidate.
5. *Encouragement* - The road to global partner service can be challenging and at times overwhelming. Your positive encouragement can go a long way in helping someone to not lose heart.

### **Responsibilities of the Candidate**

1. In the initial meeting with the mentor, share your background and testimony, ministry experience and goals.
2. During subsequent meetings, share with your mentor your progress through Embark Training and future goals. (Use the *Global Partner Candidate Bi-weekly Worksheet* form as a prompt for discussion.)
3. Be prepared to select and discuss at least one question that you find most relevant in the book *Confirmed to His Image* chapter for that month.
4. Pray with and for your mentor.



**Global Partner Candidate Bi-Monthly Worksheet**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: This report is for the confidential use of the candidate and his/her mentor. It is not to be forwarded to the ELG or anyone else without the permission of the candidate. It serves as a guide for appropriate accountability.

1. Which question(s) from this month's chapter in *Conformed to His Image*, by Ken Boa do you want to discuss?  
page: \_\_\_\_\_ Question #(s) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

2. Agreed upon Boa chapter for the coming month: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Heart Check: As you reflect on your recent experience, circle three words **most** descriptive of you and cross out three words that are **least** descriptive of you.

committed serious about ministry discouraged praying regularly dependable "ho-hum" tired  
faithful submitted procrastinating prepared cooperative inconsistent loving learning  
disciplined frustrated trusting God excited focused encouraged teachable obligated

4. Comment on your time spent alone with God (time in Scripture, prayer, meditation, etc.).

5. Share prayer requests.

## *Uniquely You*

A spiritual gifts & communication style inventory

### What is *Uniquely You*?

*Uniquely You* is a tool that seeks to provide insight in two areas for the candidate:

1. What are the spiritual gifts that God has entrusted to me, and
2. What is my style of communication and interaction with others in which I will employ my spiritual gifts?

The assessment consists of a series of 128 indicators of spiritual gifts and 96 indicators of personality (DISC). The candidate uses two different forms to record responses. These responses are interpreted according to research that predicts normal patterns according to the unique mix of responses scored.

### Why is this a part of Embark?

We believe that global partners have the maximum potential to serve God effectively when they are placed in a ministry opportunity that corresponds with the gifts and abilities God has placed within that person. While not believing that such an assessment offers the last or absolute indicator of how and where God desires to use someone in His vineyard, it is believed that such self-knowledge empowers the candidate to make a far better decision under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### What is the process for taking the assessment?

- The candidate contacts the Director of Global Outreach requesting a *Uniquely You* packet. The packet contains an assessment booklet and response form. Directions for completing and scoring the assessment are included in the booklet. These should be carefully followed and can be done at the convenience of the candidate at a time and place of his/her choosing.
- Once completed, the candidate schedules an appointment with a designated person on the ELG. He or she will review the results of the assessment with the candidate.

### How are the results of the assessment used?

Once the candidate has reviewed the results of the assessment with a designated person the assessment will be complete.



## Evangelism Skills Assessment

### Philosophy

Since Parkway Bible Church believes that making disciples is, at its core, a task of evangelism. We are committed to developing and deploying global partners who are competent and willing to share their faith in a culturally relevant manner. This applies to all global partners sent by the church regardless of their specific gifts or ministry assignment.

All candidates will be required to complete the assessment described in this paper. This assessment is based on the following assumptions:

1. While recognizing that some people are spiritually gifted in evangelism, we believe that all people are called to fulfill the responsibility to be effective witnesses of the Gospel.
2. People should learn to share their faith in a manner that is compatible with their gifts, temperaments, and relational styles.
3. Skill in evangelism is learned over time as we learn from experience. While such skill is based on knowledge gained through studying, it reaches its maximum potential in actual relationships with lost people.

### Goals

1. The candidate must demonstrate a working knowledge of key truths associated with salvation.
2. The candidate should be able to demonstrate an ability to verbally communicate the Gospel.

Inability to accomplish these goals will require additional evangelism training.

### Process

1. The candidate is to be contacted by an approved assessor once sections A & B are completed. This is to arrange a time to conduct the assessment. This exercise is a part of section C found on page 9.
2. The candidate will write down, from memory, in front of the assessor, the following list of key truths with scripture references. Later this will be placed in the candidate's file. The references are to be developed by the candidate. It is important to realize that belief in these essentials can only result from the work of the Holy Spirit, who is one with the Father and Son (2 Thessalonians 2:13; Titus 3:5):
  - a. The Bible is the Word of God.
  - b. God the Father and God the Son (Jesus Christ) are one.
  - c. Everyone has sinned against God.
  - d. Sin against God must be punished.
  - e. Jesus died on the cross in our place as punishment for our sins.
  - f. Jesus rose bodily from death.
  - g. Apart from faith in Jesus there is no salvation.
3. Based upon the assessor's comments, the Embark Leadership Group will determine whether the candidate needs further evangelism training.

## Embark Outline and Directions

Take approximately 6 months to complete each section.  
Please complete each of the 4 sections in order and 1 section at a time.  
Within each section you may proceed in whatever order you like.

### Section A Assessment

1. Complete the *Uniquely You* assessment which includes the spiritual gifts profile and behavioral blend material. Allow a minimum of 1 hour 15 minutes. Secure your assessment through the church office.

When everything is complete, fill out your action plan. This should be done at another time within a week of completing all other material. Keep a copy of your action plan to periodically review it. Submit a copy of your action plan to your file in the church office.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date \_\_\_\_\_

2. Read *Ministering Cross Culturally* and write a one page report.

3. Take the basic values questionnaire found in the appendix of the book *Ministering Cross Culturally*. Show your results to your mentor and share any new insights.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date \_\_\_\_\_

4. Select one of the following podcasts to watch/listen to. These podcasts are from <https://globalmissionspodcast.com/>

#115 Developing Global Influencers in the local church

#108 Helping to finish the task- Practical ideas to engage the unreached with the Gospel

#092 Three strategies for engaging the next generation in missions.

Provide a one page report on one of these podcasts to Global Ministries email.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date \_\_\_\_\_

**Section B Spiritual Growth** (Approximately 6 months for this section)

1. Complete the Bible application assessment. Keep the length of your answers reasonable, one or two paragraphs. Use Bible references. Submit your paper to the church office for review.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date \_\_\_\_\_

2. Develop a spiritual growth plan for yourself that includes prayer, Bible reading and some scripture memory. Keep it basic and use the plan for year 2.

Optional ideas are to investigate the use of a devotional book plus potential growth plans for a spouse and children. Submit the plan to the church office. Share your thoughts about an optional idea with your mentor.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read and report on the book *Resolving Everyday Conflict*.

Write a one page report on how this material may apply to Parkway Bible Church or overseas ministry. Submit your 1 page report to the Global Ministries email.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date \_\_\_\_\_

**Section C Ministry Experience** (Approximately 6 months for this section)

1. Complete Evangelism Skills

2. Read and complete all discussion portions of *Go Mobilize*. Write a 1 page report on that book. Submit to Global Ministries email.

**Section D Assessment on Sending/Going**

1. Go through an assessment on sending/going to provide future guidance. This is done with your mentor plus several ELG people. This is accomplished by contacting the Director of Global Outreach.

2. Read the book *Winning Your Spiritual Battles* and complete 1 page book report. Submit to Global Ministries email.