



# ADOPT A UP<sup>3</sup>G

## Church Partnership with an Unreached People Group

Global Teams has a Holy Spirit inspired goal of engaging 40 new unreached people, populations or places by the end of 2023. This vision addresses new unreached people groups without disciple-makers in their midst, many without a Bible in their language, some in incredibly remote areas and others in places that are hostile to the Gospel. Yet we are compelled to go.

This challenge is too big for a single field partner, a single mission agency or a single church. So, what if we do it together? We join together from the beginning: from discernment to calling to seed planting to harvest to multiplication? The task is still formidable but Ecclesiastes 4:12 tells us: “A cord of three strands is not easily broken.”

We are looking for churches that will adopt one of these people groups and become a part of a team that is pioneering that work:

- field partners going to live with the people group
- the church that has adopted the people group
- the agency supporting the work

The goal is all of us working and praying together as a cord of three strands to reach that people group.

### The Importance of Partnership

In Global Teams, we study the book of Philippians to see what partnership looks like. As Paul writes from the frontlines, he is overwhelmed with thankfulness for this church, for these unnamed men and women, who are serving such a vital role. Even though they were far away, they were “with” Paul as he went to people groups and places that had not yet heard the hope of Jesus. When he encountered hardships, disappointments and even violence, this church brought him strength, encouragement, and empowerment so that he was able to keep going.

***“In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now”*** (Philippians 4:1-5).

This type of partnership is our goal.



## What does adopting a UP<sup>3</sup>G involve?

We are looking for church partners who will commit to adopting a people group for five years. Depending on the people group and where it is located, it could include some of the following components:

- **RESEARCH:** the people group, lifestyle, religious culture, region, history, and current government. Are there are other ministries working there? What are feasible platforms for engagement? What is required for visa access? Where are the closest people groups with established believers, etc.?
- **PRAYER:** Pray as individuals, as groups, as a church and with field partners going to serve there.
- **SENDING:** Actively looking for field partners in your church, your area and in your networks of relationships. Teaching and sharing about missions on a regular basis so disciples may discern a call to go. Share information about unreached people groups with your church.
- **ENGAGING:** Communicate on a regular basis with field partners working among this people group. Share their updates and videos on a regular basis. Share field partners' updates with the church so they are able to pray for the ministry work. Share what the Lord reveals to you with your field partners. Ask your field partners to share with you what the Lord has been showing them as they have prayed for you. Problem-solve with your field partners as they encounter difficult situations and barriers. Do the same Discovery Bible Study that your adopted people group is doing.
- **GOING:** Send a small group to visit the area, to learn, to discern and to prayer walk. Once field partners are there, send a small group to build relationships with them and encourage them. Be a part of vocational/technical training that might be helpful in this people group as a movement develops. Send individuals or a small group to provide coaching/insight for projects/initiatives. Take a group to be part of Discovery Bible Studies, perhaps developing leadership (when it is appropriate and safe to do so). Send a short-term team (if it is beneficial and requested by the field partners) for specific projects/needs/events.
- **GIVING:** As a church, make this people group a regular part of your budget. Provide ways for individuals to give additional support to this people group. Have a focused giving event every year for your church that includes ways for children and youth to give to this people group. Give time during your service, space in your newsletters, places on your website for updates on your people group.

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