

Thanks to Jason Casey for taking time to assemble these "top 10" lists regarding Forwarding Agents, those unsung heroes that take care of missionaries serving cross-culturally. Jason is a missionary serving with Team Expansion in Europe.

Top 10 Ways You Know you Have a Good Forwarding Agent

Identify with the missionary family call to that particular people, country and ministry.

Willing to travel to learn and to represent the work.

Reminds family of the need for more photos or more "field stories" to include in communiqués to supporters

Balances the books in a timely fashion.

Prays for fruit from the efforts.

Makes some of the mission arrangements for furlough.

Is a servant.

It's a husband and wife ministry – this forwarding agent thing!

Plain and simple – accuracy.

1. Basic computer know-how.

Top 10 Reasons Missionaries Don't Need Forwarding Agents:

10. Missionaries never need urgent, middle-of-the-night bank transfers.

9. Missionaries love to stuff and address two-hundred envelopes every month.

8. Missionaries can handle their own finances, thank you very much.

7. Missionaries always receive their mail overseas intact and quickly.

6. It is cheap, quick and easy to mail things from overseas.

5. It is easy to cash out-of-country personal checks overseas.

4. Foreign banks are safe, convenient and reliable.

3. It is easy to call American 800 #'s from overseas.

2. Ah, who needs accountability anyway.

1. I.R.S...what does that stand for again?

Top 10 Signs You Need a New Forwarding Agent:

10. You get a copy of your newsletter printed on a piece of newspaper.

9. You go to file a claim with your health insurance company and find out your policy has been canceled by your F.A. 'to cut down on expenses.'

8. When you turn 65, you find out your I.R.A. payments have been mailed into the N.R.A. instead.

7. Your current forwarding agent raised his 'commission' to 10% of all donations.

6. You see your F.A. picketing on TV during a news story covering a F.A. strike, demanding more benefits.

5. When you ask them to run a financial report, they ask, "How do I turn the computer on again?"

4. On their way to your mission agency's 'Forwarding Agent Training' they decided to stop at '6 Flags' instead.

3. When you call to chat, one of their children answers the phone and you hear them angrily say, “Dad, it’s that missionary guy again that’s always asking you to run errands and do favors!”
2. You read in the church bulletin that your current F.A. just got out of the hospital after having outpatient, prosthetic finger replacement surgery from all the paper cuts from stuffing envelopes year after year.
1. One day out of the blue you hear from them and get the infamous ‘we’ve decided to be missionaries.’

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