



### | Small groups >

These allow the missionary to share at a deeper level, answer specific questions and pray with the group about their ministry. You may like to hold a special meal with interested people who will pray regularly for them.



### | Youth groups >

Arrange for your link missionary to meet with young people.



### | Parish houseparty >

Invite your link missionary to attend the church's houseparty – not necessarily as a speaker. This is a great opportunity for building relationships.



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# caring <sup>4</sup> your link missionary on home assignment



## ➤ What is Home Assignment all about?

Most missionaries spend about three years in their location followed by six months in Australia. It's a time for refreshment and for renewing ties with friends, family and supporters. It can also be quite a demanding time as they re-adjust to their home culture, follow an irregular routine and travel long distances to visit their supporters.





## | What can you do? |

You can help care for your link missionary while they are on Home Assignment, especially if they are staying in the area.

## | Pray |

That they will:

- > Adjust without too much pain
- > Have opportunities to share about their ministry
- > Enjoy good times with families and friends
- > Have stability in family life despite their changing program
- > Be refreshed

## | Help them to settle in |

Coming back to Australia can be a bit of a culture shock, especially if they have been in a very different context.

## | Help set up their house >

Arrange a welcome home box of basics for the pantry and help to set up their home with furniture. Help them with their shopping.

## | Lend them a car >

## | Help settle their kids at school >

For missionary kids it can be hard when changing schools, being 'on show' when visiting churches, coping with a different culture and making new friends. Ask your link missionary if they need any help settling their children into the local schools. Do they need help with stationery or uniforms? Your own children or others from church could help to make them feel welcome. Take the kids out to the zoo or somewhere special for a treat.



## | Help them to feel at home |

## | Visit them >

## | Invite them to join a home group >

Keep in mind that they may not always be able to attend regularly. Invite their kids to Sunday school or youth group. Help them to participate as ordinary members of the congregation.

## | Offer to babysit >

## | Get their friends together >

Perhaps you could offer to host an open house at your place so their friends and supporters can meet up with them. You may like to take care of the hospitality, allowing the missionaries to talk with people.

## | Offer a holiday house >

Perhaps you know someone who has a holiday house so your link missionaries can get away for a break at a reasonable cost.

## | Make the most of their visit to your church |

Arrange with CMS for your link missionary to spend a week visiting your church, sharing about their ministry in a variety of meetings. Ask your link missionary for ideas.

## | Sunday services >

Your missionary may preach, speak about their ministry or be interviewed in the Sunday meetings. A separate informal meeting after the service for supporters will be a great opportunity to talk and ask questions in more detail.

