

## ABOUT AVAIL

### Who we are and why we exist

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Mission work can be challenging, so it's no surprise that even capable and resilient people welcome timely care. And that's what we offer – practical, emotional and spiritual support to those in Christian mission, whether they are experienced or just beginning. We recognise the uniqueness of their call whilst understanding the need for them to be accountable to others.

Our experience of nearly 40 years in serving and listening to mission workers has guided us in offering the right kind of care and advice in a variety of areas such as family, health, ministry, finance – or in crises which may require emergency action. But we are careful to distinguish between help and interference, preferring to come alongside people rather than pretending we know best. We never intentionally override a person's own understanding of the Lord's will for their lives.

### What we do

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- We require mission workers to submit regular prayer requests
- We offer presentations to churches to promote awareness of mission (upon request)
- We can provide practical management of financial gifts for mission workers
- We support those wanting to serve part-time or in retirement
- We support those who wish to serve whilst in secular employment in the UK or overseas
- We are prepared to offer guidance on training for new mission workers (upon request)
- We offer advice on crisis management
- We provide pastoral support

### What we don't do

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- We don't send mission workers as we are not a sending mission
- We don't tell you what to do or set targets for you to achieve
- We don't provide finances from mission funds on a regular basis



## Core principles

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### **Principle 1:** We aim to honour and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ by seeking and doing His will.

This principle governs all that we seek to do. In seeking to honour and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ we consider unity to be essential. For the trustees, this unity is expressed in a deep commitment to and respect for each other's integrity. It goes beyond mutual assent and requires us to discover the mind of God together. His word in our hearts is vital, as is recognising the equality of each trustee. What He speaks to any of us will be considered together to ensure there is agreement and purpose in everything we do.

In following the Lord's leading we also aim that everything should be done well, whilst avoiding corporate business models or being governed by worldly principles. When necessary, we will seek the input of others more qualified than we are. We will at all costs avoid personal self-seeking or gain.

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### **Principle 2:** We want to assist churches by helping them provide practical and pastoral care in the support of mission workers.

We are pleased to recognise that many mission workers are also supported by church, family, friends and individuals and see our role as complementing this support.

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### **Principle 3:** We serve those in God's work, recognising the uniqueness of their call while seeing the need for them to be accountable to key partners.

We respect the integrity of mission workers before God and encourage them to follow His call. We aim to give every support to such a call but recognise the need for accountability. This requires submissive hearts and the development of open, loving relationships. We believe this mutual respect is a true reflection of God's heart.



## Statement of faith

- The full inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, their authority and sufficiency, as not only containing, but being in themselves the word of God; the reliability of the New Testament in its testimony to the character and authorship of the Old Testament, and the need of the teaching of the Holy Spirit to a true and spiritual understanding of the whole;

The unity of the Godhead and the divine coequality of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; the sovereignty and ability of God in creation, providence, and redemption;

- The sinfulness of human nature in consequence of the fall and the necessity for regeneration;
- The deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His real and perfect manhood, the authority of His teaching and the infallibility of all His utterances; His work of reconciliation of sinful men by His vicarious sufferings and death; His bodily resurrection and His ascension into heaven; His present priestly intercession for His people and His present function as the Baptiser with the Holy Spirit; His headship in the Church;
- Justification of the sinner solely by faith through the reconciling merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;
- The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit in conviction of sin, regeneration, conversion, and sanctification; also in ministry and worship and in the exercising of spiritual gifts through the body of believers;
- The resurrection of the body; the judgement of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ with the eternal redemption of the righteous and the eternal punishment of the wicked;
- Baptism by immersion of believers; the Lord's Supper as a commemoration of our Lord's death, but not as a sacrifice for sin, or involving any change in the substance of the bread and wine;
- The personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ for His Church.

