



## **North American Missional Collaborations: Questions for Study Groups 2021**

What do cooperation and partnership in mission look like among North Americans today? We need your input to help shape mission policy and practices! We are studying missional collaboration across all kinds of boundaries, including theological, organizational, cultural, ethnic, generational, geographical, and other differences that normally divide people. We hope to find many examples of North Americans cooperating and collaborating across boundaries, in the spirit of unity that Jesus shared with his followers.

Gather a small group of people involved in collaborative mission across boundaries, discuss the following questions, and report your results to the steering committee of the North American mission study. We will compile the feedback and report the results, along with similar studies from other parts of the world. Use your experience to shape the future of mission in North America and beyond!

Documents to guide the process, including FAQs, the names of the Executive Committee, and background information, are posted at <https://www.bu.edu/cgcm/imc/>. Email [cgcm@bu.edu](mailto:cgcm@bu.edu) for more information.

We recommend that you meet in a small group for 2 hours. Please discuss as many of the following questions as you wish.

### **A. Organizing missional collaborations**

1. Who are the stakeholders/partners in your missional collaborations? Do you have a target group? Why this mission outreach?
2. What are the values that inform your work, and how do you do it? Do you sense God leading you in this collaboration? Where did your motivation to collaborate in mission come from?

### **B. Practicing missional collaboration.**

3. Can you identify collaborative practices that have proven to be useful or important to your mission? What has worked to bring people together? What has not worked and where are the gaps?
4. How does the use of digital technologies change/shape who you see as your mission partners, those whom you serve, and the ways that you carry out your mission work?

C. Practical and theological insights from missional collaboration

5. What theological or missiological insights emerge from your mission? How has your definition of mission changed as a result of your work?

6. What are the challenges you face in your local work and ministry? How does partnership and collaboration help you address those challenges?

D. The future of missional collaboration

7. What are the most urgent issues facing Christian mission in the future?

8. What kinds of partnerships are the most promising for the future of mission? What areas of greater collaboration are needed?

E. Missional collaboration as both local and global

9. How is North American collaboration relevant to World Christianity today and in the future?

10. How are cooperative “missions from the margins” transforming the nature of North American mission?