

**The “Why” behind obedience issues in Africa West Area
From Ghana Kumasi Mission Tour with Elder Klebingat
September 14-16, 2022**

- 1) Disobedient Missionary are still able to baptize so they do not feel that being disobedient is really that big of a deal
- 2) Missionaries compare themselves to other missionaries and believe they are better than the others, so they are okay because others are more disobedient than they.
- 3) Missionaries do not understand that it is better to be the Lord’s poor than Satan’s rich.
- 4) Being a returned missionary is a highly coveted title, so the moment a missionary arrives they are focused on going home with the title.
- 5) People are afraid of being called a “snitch”
- 6) Missionaries worry that their needs will not be met and so they take things into their own hands (they do not trust their Mission Leaders). The fear their mission leaders will not let them do what they want to do, so they take it upon themselves.
- 7) Trying too hard to have the mission president as a friend?
- 8) If everyone loved each other, the problems would all be solved. Therefore, the missionaries do not love each other.
- 9) Missionaries want to do their own thing. They are unwilling to submit their wills.
- 10) Missionaries who love the Savior, but their minds are not focused on the work. Distractions such as social media cause them to not be fully committed to their purpose.
- 11) Some missionaries go with negative peer pressure.
- 12) After a zone conference or interview the missionary does not really sustain the mission president and decides “I will do what I want”.
- 13) Families at home expects gifts when a missionary returns.
- 14) A missionary wants to build their own reputation and be looked as “good” by other missionaries. They look more to their peers than they do to their Savior.
- 15) Missionaries mock those who are trying to do the right thing because the righteous missionaries remind them of their own unworthiness, and it is hard to take.
- 16) Missionaries create divides between countries, tribes, race, etc. to elevate themselves.
- 17) Unrighteous dominion by more senior companions to less-senior companions. Could reflect their culture, their family organization, their parents, etc.
- 18) Missionaries come with a lot of problems. They have a lack of love to help each other.
- 19) Missionaries need help on how to be better missionaries so they can fulfill their missionary purpose.
- 20) Missionaries become disobedient because they don’t want to be called hypocrites by missionaries who are less obedient, so they drop their standards to “fit in”.
- 21) Some missionaries come with low spiritual maturity and do not have the desire to spiritually mature.
- 22) Some missionaries change to be liked by their companion from a specific country. This is often a negative peer pressure issue rather than a positive peer pressure issue, although it does seem to work both ways.