



GLOBAL GOSPEL ACTION
SHARING JESUS - CHANGING THE WORLD

www.gga.global



≈ **REACHING BRAZIL** ≈
MISSION TRIP MANUAL

February 2017

***“Jesus Christ is the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever” Hebrews
13:8***

Global Gospel Action

www.globalgospelaction.org

7807 East 76th Street

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133

US Phone: 918 894 6870 / Brazil Phone: +55 84 8732 2333

Email: rubenscunha@rcem.org

WWW.GGA.GLOBAL

Summary

BEFORE THE TRIP	3
1. The Purpose of a Mission Trip.....	3
2. Spiritual Preparation	4
3. Trip Preparation and Packing List: One suitcase limit!	4
4. Dress Code	6
DURING THE TRIP.....	7
5. Ministry Opportunities	7
Schools.....	7
Neighborhoods	8
Church Ministry.....	9
Villages.....	9
Prison.....	9
Soul-Winning Seminar	9
Women’s Conference.....	10
Leaders in Action Conference	10
Entrepreneurs Conference	10
Salvation and Healing Crusade	11
6. Typical Campaign Schedule:.....	11
7. People and Church Culture in Brazil.....	12
AFTER THE TRIP.....	13
8. Debriefing questions	13

BEFORE THE TRIP

1. The Purpose of a Mission Trip

It is very important that all participants have a clear understanding of the purpose of a mission trip. Romantic ideas about distant lands or the desire for adventure are not the best motivations to take part in an outreach in a foreigner nation. Here is an outline of the main purposes of a mission trip:

1. To win souls for Jesus

First and foremost, the purpose of the mission trip is to lead people to Christ. We go because we love Him and obey His command to proclaim the Good News of salvation in all corners of the world (Matthew 28:19). Our vision is that **EVERY SINGLE PERSON IN THE TARGETED CITY SHOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE CHRIST**. And we work very hard for that.

2. To help the local churches

Very often, we find that local believers are discouraged and lacking in vigor to win their communities for Christ. The presence of a team of missionaries will encourage and strengthen our brothers and sisters and renew their zeal for Christ and for evangelism. All our conferences and messages to the local churches are directed to waken the churches to the urgent task of soul-winning.

3. Personal spiritual Growth

Those participating in a mission trip will have experiences with God and His Word that they would not have simply by staying home and attending church. As we go, we are empowered by His Holy Spirit to be effective witnesses for Christ (Acts 1:8). Remember: **if you get involved with world evangelism, the Holy Spirit will get involved with you!**

4. World missions' mobilization

When someone goes out to the mission field, many friends and relatives become part of the project and have their focus directed to world missions. Upon the return of the short-term missionaries, their testimonies and stories will strengthen the faith of believers at home.

The short-term mission trip with our ministry will help promote and support a large evangelistic outreach in which thousands will have the opportunity to receive Christ as Lord and Savior.

2. Spiritual Preparation

It is vital that the team members are prepared spiritually for the trip. We must remember that we are doing spiritual battle in favor of those that don't know Jesus yet. Don't be so focused on the details and arrangements of the trip that you neglect this important aspect.

- **Prayer**

Take time to pray every day in preparation for the trip. Select 5 to 10 people that will be praying for you during the trip.

- **Consider your Christian testimony**

Remember, during the trip we will represent the Gospel of Jesus Christ. During the entire trip, we must demonstrate a good testimony and an exemplary Christian lifestyle.

- **Servant attitude**

A mission trip will always have plenty of needs for people to serve in many different ways. Please remember that Jesus gave the greatest example, becoming a servant for us all (Romans 15:8; Philippians 2:7). Instead of expecting good service, expect to serve God and people.

- **Flexibility**

The Brazilian culture is extremely relational and spontaneous. It is very difficult to schedule appointments in advance and people are usually late for most meetings. Because of the nature of the culture and the poor infra-structure of the country, sudden changes in the schedule are normal and will most likely take place during the trip.

A positive and flexible attitude will keep a good mood in the team and help overcome any challenges that may take place.

3. Trip Preparation and Packing List: One suitcase limit!

Each team member should carry only **one** bag. This requirement will facilitate the transportation of the bags during the mission trip and reduce costs in transportation as the size of the rental vehicles will need to take the luggage into consideration. If you absolutely must take more than one bag, please inform our ministry personnel in advance.

- **Documents**

- ✓ All team members will need a valid passport and a visa for Brazil (**VERY IMPORTANT**).
- ✓ Please pack a copy of your passport in your suitcase. Copy the page that has your Brazilian Visa as well.
- ✓ Make one additional copy and give it to our ministry personnel.

- **Health Care**

- ✓ Check immunization schedules, updates or recommendations for Brazil.
- ✓ When traveling to any nation in the developing world, it is wise to get immunizations against Yellow Fever, Tetanus and Hepatitis B.
- ✓ Purchase travel health insurance for the length of your trip (**VERY IMPORTANT**).
- ✓ Bring a first aid kit or medication you may need to use.
- ✓ If you use prescription medication, please bring your prescriptions in case you need them.
- ✓ Bug spray.
- ✓ The schedule of activities for the mission trip will be intense and may require long walks under hot weather conditions, please make sure you are in good physical condition to take part in all activities.

- **Miscellaneous Items**

- ✓ Shampoo, Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, washcloth.
- ✓ Sun Screen, Sunglasses, Chapstick & After-Sun Lotion.
- ✓ Water Bottle.
- ✓ Snacks (granola bars, crackers, etc... just in case you don't like every meal).
- ✓ Prepare tags for the team luggage.
- ✓ You will need a 220v-110v converter for most cities in Brazil. Please check with our ministry team if the city you will visit will require a converter.
- ✓ You will need a plug adaptor. Duty Free stores usually carry international plug adaptors.

- **Travel Clothes**

- ✓ Shorts & T-shirts are fine.
- ✓ You will be on airplanes & in airports for a long time, so dress comfortably, but avoid clothes like pajama pants, slippers, etc...

- **Shoes**

- ✓ Bring closed toed shoes. We may visit poverty afflicted areas, which are more susceptible to germs. Closed toed shoes will help you protect your health.
- ✓ Bring comfortable walking shoes as there will be a LOT of walking. Chacos may be acceptable depending on the terrain in the targeted city.
- ✓ You may bring sandals/flip-flops, but don't plan on wearing them during the day.

- **Shorts**

- ✓ For cultural reasons, don't wear shorts in the hotel or during the outreaches. It is ok to wear them while flying to & from Brazil.

- **Swimsuits**

- ✓ Men: trunks.
- ✓ Women: no bikinis, bring a modest one-piece or tankini.

4. Dress Code

Several Christian denominations in Brazil are very conservative regarding their dress code. We need to be careful not to offend the very people we are trying to serve. **Think modesty and discretion.**

- **Men Dress Code:**

- ✓ Bring 4-5 pairs of Khaki's with several nice collared shirts (button up or polo), this is primarily what you will wear in Brazil.
- ✓ Bring a couple pairs of jeans and nice t-shirts. You may wear them during the day.
- ✓ You may bring shorts/t-shirts for around the hotel & in your day off.
- ✓ Please bring at least one shirt and tie, for the Sunday church service. If you will be speaking in a church you may have to wear a tie or even a suit.
- ✓ If you are going to speak at any of the conferences, you may have to wear a suit.

- **Women Dress Code:**

- ✓ Bring 5-7 dresses or long skirts (3 inches below the knee).
- ✓ Bring modest tops with your skirts, no sleeveless shirts or tanktops.
- ✓ Nothing too short or too tight.
- ✓ Your middle should be covered at all times even when arms are extended above your head
DO NOT BRING: spaghetti straps, razorbacks, running shorts, soffeas, etc.
- ✓ You might also bring a couple pairs of pants/capris for around the hotel.
- ✓ So that we do not offend some of the conservative Brazilian Christians that we will be working with please **DO NOT:**
 - Plan on wearing pants to the crusade or to any of the activities, pants are acceptable only if you wear formal attire such as a suit.
 - Wear excessive make-up or jewelry.
 - Wear shorts in public while in the targeted city, this includes during meals at the hotel.

DURING THE TRIP

5. Ministry Opportunities

Each mission trip is different and some options listed below may not be available at your specific trip.

Schools

We may be able to visit schools and minister to students of all age groups. Most schools we visit are in poor areas, marked by violence, substance abuse, broken homes, teenage pregnancy and other social issues. Our approach is to ask the School Principals to stop all classes so we can share Christ and bring a word of encouragement to the students. Typically, the theme of our visits to the schools is “**How to succeed in life**”. 2 or 3 persons will speak for 10 minutes (5 min message/5 min interpretation) and the last one will make an altar call. If you will speak at a school, here is an example of a 3 points short message you could use:

HOW TO SUCCEED IN LIFE

1. Never Give UP

- Most people that fail did so because they didn't persevere: don't quit school, push through the hard times (use a short story if appropriate).

2. Choose the right friends

- Your friends can help you grow or ruin your life
- They can help you, encourage you or they can lead you to alcohol, drugs, etc...
- Are you selecting your friends? (use a short story if appropriate).

3. Make wise choices

- You will be faced with many choices in life: always do the right thing
- Use a short story if appropriate
- The best choice you could make is to follow Jesus (present the Gospel)

Conclusion: I will give you the opportunity to make the most intelligent choice in your life: choose to follow Jesus and make Him the Lord of your life!

Please feel free to change the suggested message as the Holy Spirit guides you. Your personal testimony and selected Bible verses will greatly enrich your message.

Please remember that the time will be allotted by the School Principal and there may be stances in which we will have very short time and must adapt to existing opportunities.

Neighborhoods

Door to door evangelism is an efficient way of spreading the Good News of the Gospel in Brazil. Going door to door will also give the team the opportunity to come in close contact with a different culture and social reality. If funds are available, we will also donate food and Bibles to the homes we visit.

When going door to door our main goal is to share Jesus, however, because of the cultural and religious context, most people will say they know Jesus. So the best approach is to tell them shortly about the salvation plan and ask if they have given their lives to Christ and received complete forgiveness of their sins. Here is an example of what you could say:

-Good morning, we are visiting the neighborhood to pray and bless people. May I pray for you?

(Most people will say yes)

-Before I pray for you, let me tell you about Jesus

(Then make at least one of the following questions)

- *Have you ever given your life to Jesus?*
- *Have you ever asked Jesus to forgive your sins and give you eternal life?*
- *If you died today, where would you be? Heaven or Hell?*

(If after these questions, there is openness to the Gospel, make a short Gospel presentation such as:)

-Jesus is the Son of God that came to earth and lived among us (Jo 3:16). He only did good things; he healed the sick, blessed the poor and never committed sin (At 10:38). Then, he died on a cross and suffered in our place to pay the price for our sins (Romans 3:23). We deserve God's punishment, but He took our place. Even though He died on that cross, he rose again on the 3rd day and is alive now and forever (Hb 13:8). If you trust Him and give your life to Him, your sins will be forgiven and you will have eternal life. Would you like to do that now?

*Useful scriptures: John 3:16, Acts 10:38, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:13

(Then pray with them to receive Jesus and pray for their needs – believe for miracles)

After they commit their lives to Jesus, tell them to 1)Read a Bible, 2)Pray every day, 3)Go to a church.

Church Ministry

There may be opportunities to speak at local churches. These opportunities will depend on invitations from local churches and the availability of interpreters. The main services for churches in Brazil usually take place on Sunday evenings.

Please let our ministry personnel know if you would be willing to speak at a local church.

If you are invited to speak at a local church, you will have about 40 minutes (20 min message/20 min interpretation). Your message should focus on encouraging and motivating the church to win souls for Jesus and take care of them. Brazilians will expect an altar call and prayer for the people at the end of the service.

Villages

There are thousands of unreached villages in NE Brazil. Our team is working to locate and map villages around the targeted city so they can be reached with the Good News of the Gospel.

At the villages, we use the same approach that is used at the neighborhoods and may hold a mini-crusade in addition.

Prison

If the targeted city has a local prison and we are able to obtain a permit for an outreach, we bring the Good News of Salvation and tell the prisoners of the true freedom Jesus can bring them. During these outreaches, if funds are available, we may pass out "care packages" with a New Testament, Soap, Toothpaste and Toilet Paper.

What can be done varies from prison to prison. Usually we are given a few minutes to speak at an existing service. If you are willing to speak at a prison, please inform our ministry personnel. The message should always be evangelistic in nature.

Soul-Winning Seminar

The seminar happens during the week of the crusade and is directed to train volunteers for the crusade and prepare local Christians for evangelism and follow up initiatives. At the seminars, Christians are challenged to become soul winners for Christ and make a difference in their community. We also need to remind the local Christians that they have a responsibility to take care of those that will make a decision for Christ during the crusade events.

Up to 2 persons will speak each night for 3 nights. Each person will have 40 minutes (20 min message/20 min interpretation). The last person should make an altar call and pray.

Women's Conference

The Women's Conference takes place on Sunday after the crusade. Up to 2 women may speak. Each person will have 30 minutes (15 min message/15 min interpretation). The last person should make an altar call and pray for the women.

As for the content for the messages, each speaker can be led by the Holy Spirit to speak whatever God puts in her heart. Personal testimonies or stories greatly help to connect to the public. If suggestions for messages are necessary, here are a few links with good messages and inspiring Bible teachings:

1. Joyce Meyer Ministries (Joyce Meyer)

<http://www.joycemeyer.org/BroadcastHome.aspx#Radio>

2. Desiring God ministries (John Piper)

<http://www.desiringgod.org/all-resources/by-topic/women>

3. Grace to You (John McArthur)

<http://www.gty.org/resources/sermon-series/152/gods-high-calling-for-women>

Leaders in Action Conference

This conference is directed to Pastors and other Christian leaders. The goal is to minister to them on a leadership level, bringing comfort, motivation and encouragement with the ultimate goal of building soul-winning focused churches that will lead people to Christ and take care of them.

Up to 2 persons may speak at this conference; each person will have 40 minutes (20 min message/20 min interpretation).

Entrepreneurs Conference

Business people are among the least reached people groups in Brazil. Through this conference we reach out to the local business community and provide entrepreneurs the opportunity to receive Christ. Our goal is to impact every level of society through the crusade events.

Typically we will serve a dinner or a *Hors d'oeuvre* buffet at a business location and invite members of the business community to participate. The idea is to provide inspiring and encouraging business advice and at the same time win souls. At the conference, one or two persons may speak, 30 minutes each (15 min message/15 min interpretation).

If you are willing to speak at the Entrepreneurs Conference, please inform our personnel and prepare your message in a way that it will finish with the presentation of the Gospel and an invitation for people to commit their lives to Jesus. After your invitation for people to receive Christ, invite them to bow their heads and pray with you where they are.

Salvation and Healing Crusade

The preparations and outreaches will build up to the salvation and healing crusade. In these crusades, a simple Gospel message is shared, the people are called to repentance of their dead works and prayer is offered for those that make a decision to follow Christ. After that, a mass prayer is offered for the sick and Jesus confirms the message with signs and wonders. It is common that in these crusades the blind receive sight, the deaf hear and the lame walk. Many are also delivered from the oppression of demonic spirits. Ev. Rubens Cunha will speak at the crusade and the opportunities for ministry are the following:

Prayer for the sick: During the prayer for the sick, you are welcome to walk among the crowd laying hands and praying for people.

Prayer for deliverance: During the prayer for deliverance, you are welcome to pray for people like during the prayer for healing. Always pray with your eyes open and be prepared to minister deliverance to demon possessed persons.

*Never go into the crowd alone, always have an interpreter and another team member with you.

6. Typical Campaign Schedule:

Day	Day of Week	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
1	SUN	Sunday School Service	Rest	Sunday Service
2	MON	School Outreach	Rest	SOUL-WINNING SEMINAR
3	TUE	School Outreach	Rest	SOUL-WINNING SEMINAR
4	WED	School Outreach	Rest	SOUL-WINNING SEMINAR
5	THU	School Outreach	Rest	Volunteers practice
6	FRI	Neighborhood Outreach	Rest	CRUSADE
7	SAT	LEADERS IN ACTION CONFERENCE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE	Rest	CRUSADE
8	SUN	Rest	WOMEN'S CONFERENCE	Sunday Service

7. People and Church Culture in Brazil

The Brazilian people are friendly, hospitable and very festive. Brazilian Portuguese is the language spoken by nearly 100% of the population. The Brazilian people are formed by a mixture of races and ethnicities that result in rich diversity.

The culture is very relational and people tend to prefer oral over written communication. Since it is a group culture, it is important not to do anything to embarrass a Brazilian. Criticizing an individual in front of his peer group is considered offensive and rude.

Church culture is also very diverse. The church services are usually a loud and joyful celebration. However, just like in other parts of the world, there are different denominations with different approaches to worship style, dressing code and theology.

Because of our non-denominational approach, we strive to respect the differences in the Body of Christ and work hard to make sure we are not offending local brothers and sisters in Christ.

Here are a few items to consider for the mission trip:

1. It is usual in Brazil to greet a person of the opposite sex with a kiss, however in order to avoid misunderstandings, we suggest that you simply greet with a firm handshake.
2. When praying for persons of the opposite sex, only lay hands on top of peoples' heads or their shoulders.
3. Always stay with your team. If you absolutely need to do something away from the team, inform our personnel and don't go by yourself. This is for your own safety.
4. Many Pentecostal denominations are very conservative in their dressing code. **Please respect the DRESS CODE.**
5. Most denominations in rural Brazil are strongly opposed to charismatic manifestations such as being slain in the spirit, dancing in worship or prophetic painting. Please refrain from such approaches during ministry.
6. Avoid displaying jewelry and expensive electronics. This is for your own safety.
7. Smoking or drinking alcohol is unacceptable for most Christians in Brazil.
8. Don't give your personal email, facebook info, WhatsApp, phone number or address to anyone you meet during the outreaches. Doing that may result in unwanted soliciting in the future.

9. Use your rest time to pray and journal about your experiences. The memories of a mission trip will be treasured for a life time and may serve as inspiration for future generations.

AFTER THE TRIP

8. Debriefing questions

After the trip, it is important to connect with team members to learn from their experiences. This is especially important if you plan other mission trips. The sooner the members connect the best.

If possible, arrange a meeting where people can celebrate the trip and share their experiences.

It is also through this debriefing process that some outstanding testimonies that weren't yet known will be shared.

Here are some suggestions of questions for debriefing:

- ✓ What assumptions or perceptions have changed after the trip?
- ✓ What encounter or experience was the most significant for you? Why?
- ✓ What thoughts about "back home" you had during the trip?
- ✓ What did you learn about God during this trip?
- ✓ How did God speak to you during the trip?
- ✓ What do you anticipate will change in your life after the trip?
- ✓ What were the highlights of your trip?
- ✓ What frustrations or concerns did you experience before, during or after the trip?

Please contact our team if you have any questions or suggestions.

We strive to do the best we can to reach as many people as possible for Jesus in our generation. All help to fulfill this goal is welcome!

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)
