

## **Planning a Short Term Mission Trip**

**Know your mission: Our mission is laid out for us in Matthew 28:18-20**

**All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.**

**Our command/commission is to go and make disciples of all nations.**

### **Prepare your Trip**

#### **1. Identifying a location to serve**

Pray about where God would have you serve. Reach out to pastors and missionaries to see if they would like to have a missions team. Most do, but some see it as too much work.

#### **2. Talk to the Missionary about what to plan**

When planning a short term trip, it is important to get the missionary/pastor involved in planning from the beginning. We want our trips to be driven by what is needed on the field, not what we think we can do for them.

- What things can we assist with in your ministry that will open doors for you?
- What size team is best? We don't want to get so many people that it is a burden.
- Let the missionary help your budget. Each country handles teams differently
- ALWAYS plan to pay for the missionary and his family when you eat out, etc. Most do not eat out on a regular basis, so this will be a big expense for them. Plan to cover their cost in your budget.

#### **3. Budget**

Your budget needs to include: airfare, hotels, meals, transportation, gas, and ministry supplies.

### **Prepare Your Team**

#### **1. Team building**

Start inviting people to join your team.

## 2. Fundraising

There are many ways to raise funds for trips and people will support you if they know you are going. **This responsibility should not be a part of your church budget.** I say that because very few churches can afford to send a mission team out of the country. Start fundraisers early and keep them going until everyone is fully funded.

Ideas:

- Send letters to ask people to partner with you.
- Ask churches if you can speak for a love offering to your trip.
- Babysit
- make crafts
- yard work
- food: people always eat.

## 3. Logistics

- Airline tickets - We use City Express Travel, both Simeon and Tim are amazing - 1-800-678-5340
- Have the local pastor/missionary to book your rooms for you.
- Have local pastor/missionary reserve transportation

## 4. Training

Training is so very important.

- We have a security training that is available for you. Let me know if you are interested.
- Cultural training. Don't assume people will know the cultural differences.
- Go over every expectation with your team. There can never be too much training.

## Prepare Yourself

### 1. Prepare your heart

- It is so important, probably the most important part of your mission trip - be prepared.
- Study your Bible
- Pray about this trip
- Ask others to join you in praying with you and for you.

## Other opportunities to serve:

BMMI, VSM, Shoeboxes