



**Planning Your
Mission Trip**

Step One - Team Vision

(6-8 months before the trip)

- Identify where God is sending you
(Get the location right!)
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- Set dates/locations
(Get the time-table right!)
- Promote the trip
(Get the right people on the trip!)
- Gather culture info
(Get the right information!)

Step Two-Team Pre-field Preparation (4-6 months before the trip)

- Passports, visas & paperwork (consent forms, immunizations, etc)
- Connect with local leadership about logistics (hotels, meals, travel, etc)
- Travel Arrangements (air, train, bus or boat)
- Support Prayer Team

Step Three – Ministry Team Training (1-4 months before the trip)

- Identify Mission Objectives
- Team Unity not “Uniformity”
- Team Prayer Walking Training
- Team Evangelism Training
- Team Devotional Time
- Team Cultural Training

Step Four - Team Traveling (1-4 weeks before you leave)

- Team Packing List (baggage allowance, proper dress, toiletries, etc)
- Team Travel Procedures (maps, airports, customs, immigration, etc)
- Team Safety Issues (emergency contact, documents, safety tips, etc)
- Team Last minute details

Step Five - Team Blast-Off (The Mission Experience Time)

- Teamwork - Mission trips are not vacations
- Team Meals - Drink right and eat right
- Team Attitudes
- Team Re-entry time (packing for return trip)

Step Six - The Return (Home Again)

- Team Debriefing (what to say and not to say)
- Team Presentations (How to Present a Non-Boring Mission Presentation)
- Team Challenge (Keeping the vision alive and inviting others to go on the next trip)

Mission Trip Blunders

- Don't assume that everything will go as planned
- Don't assume that everyone can hold on to their passport/airline tickets
- Don't make mistakes on custom forms
- Don't be the ugly American
- Don't build just buildings build relationships

Mission Trip Blunders Cont.

- Don't do all work and no play
- Don't focus on the project/forget about the people
- Don't follow your own agenda
- Don't go as a teacher or expert, go as a learner & servant
- Don't neglect a time of daily team worship/prayer
- Make sure you have competent translators
- Don't put sensitive information on web-site
- Don't give money/goods away without checking

Mission Trip Blunders Cont.

- Don't neglect medical insurance or security issues
- Make sure everyone has a passport before leaving
- Don't pack enough stuff for a world tour
- Don't neglect security issues
- Don't pack enough stuff for a world tour
- Don't take risky things through airport security
- Don't use the mission field to solve your own problems

Mission Trip Blunders Cont.

- Don't neglect asking for advice
- Be considerate of nationals
- Don't ignore the lessons already learned by others
- Don't make your schedule too tight for delays.
- Don't neglect debriefing and don't wait until you get home
- Don't expect your trip to change your church