

Teamwork

Teams

"Teams" are two or more people who must coordinate their activities to accomplish a common goal. **Teams** are a way of organizing people to support inter-dependence and cooperation that requires close coordination among the team members. **Team** performance includes both the outputs produced by the group or team as a whole, as well as the contribution of individual team members to the success of the team.

Teamwork

- A successful leader has to be innovative. If your not one step ahead of the crowd, you'll soon be a step behind. [Tom Landry, Former coach of the Dallas Cowboys]
- The achievements of an organization are the result of the combined efforts of each individual. [Vince Lombardi]
- They said you have to use your first best player, but I found out you win with the five that fit together best. [Red Auerbach]
- The main ingredient of stardom is the rest of the team. [John Wooden]
- One man working with you is worth a dozen men working for you. [Herman M. Koelliker]

Attitudes, Behaviors & Characteristics

Essential qualities of effective team members are:

- A Christ-centered life
- Commitment to the mission work of the church, exemplified by an enthusiastic and positive attitude
- Willingness to follow guidance of the team leader
- Flexibility and openness to other cultures and ways of worship
- Willingness to serve in friendship and mutuality with the host and the host church
- A cooperative and courteous way of relating to others
- An enthusiastic and positive attitude

Teamwork

- Share Christ's spirit of kindness, acceptance, and unity.
- Think team, not self. Participate in and cooperate with all team activities. Accept assignments for team duties.
- Be sensitive to others and considerate of them. Be willing to listen – really listen.
- The purpose is to share Christ's love in a spirit of kindness, acceptance, and unity.
- Respect the leadership of the team leader, recognizing that some decisions will need to be made by him or her.
- Attend training sessions. Complete and turn in forms and money on due dates as indicated by the team leader.
- Covenant with the team for a work schedule while at the mission. Have realistic goals for your part of the team task, knowing that physical conditioning, equipment, and travel to the worksite may limit team output.
- Creatively support and encourage fellow team members in fulfilling the purpose of the mission.
- Recognize the unique contribution of each team member.

Team Care

“Care for the flock of God entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly.....not for what you get out of it,
but because you are eager to serve God.....lead them by your example 1 Peter 5: 2-3

The most stressful parts of a trip can be the beginning and the end, when telling your family goodbye, and then again when saying goodbye to your new friends. Listed here are a few things that you may wish to prepare yourself for they are called “ Trip Stressors”

- Inclement weather is always a concern, rain, fog, wind or heat and humidity. Yes it might be different than home but that doesn't mean it's bad.
- Significant emotional events may be taking place in some of your team members lives, learn to recognize this and be sensitive to it.
- The flight may also be a stressor, not all people relate to travel the same. Remember you will be flying over the Ocean; this can often bring about feelings of unrest. When filling out paperwork on the plane assist one another.
- The first day is often hectic, people are excited yet very tired. Customs is often slow and confusing to some. Not everyone is a world traveler. Help one another; your host will also be at the airport to assist you.
- You may be having second thoughts about what you have done; you may even wish you were going home. Remember that God will give you the spiritual gifts and graces needed to get through whatever is before you. You are surrounded by teammates who care.

Get the picture!! It may be stressful – for some more than others. So, remember to relax, meet others where they are, praise God for His many blessings, and eagerly await what will be placed before you.

Even amidst stress, God will reveal some wondrous and marvelous things to you!!

SUGGESTIONS FOR Team Member Assignments

Co-Leader - Assistant to Team Leader

Interpreter – Bilingual team member

Journal Keeper – In charge of team journal

Kitchen or Food Service – Assists with food preparations

Luggage Detail – Make sure luggage is being transported

Packer – Weighs bags and arranges for packing extra supplies

Photographer – Takes pictures for team, and for return home program

Spiritual guide – In charge of devotionals and or reflections

Treasurer – Responsible for handling of all money and reporting

VBS Coordinator – Manages VBS and then personnel involved

Team Medic – Person in charge of medical kit and providing minor First Aid

Activities Coordinator – Will be liaison for schedule and arrangements for Rest Day

Timekeeper – In charge of morning wakeup call and evening lights out.

Construction Coordinator - Lead person for Construction

Theology & Basis for Missions

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

John 20:20b-21

Why should we go on short-term International mission trips? Not just because we can, but because Jesus said to go.

Christ's mission to the world is our model. Matthew 9:35 states,

"Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness."

It is in this way that short-term mission teams have the privilege and responsibility of being instruments of God's redemptive mission for the world. Participating in short-term missions is the same as participating in God's movement of passionate love and reconciliation toward the world that "God so loved.." (John 3:16)

Team Member Responsibilities

PURPOSE AND TASK

It is most important that we be constantly mindful of the primary nature of our purpose. The task is important but is always to be secondary to realizing our true mission as Christians together...to share Christ's love. When we are faithful in our purpose – the difference that Christ intends will be made.

MISSION POLICY AGREEMENT

I realize that the following commitment is crucial to the effectiveness, quality, and positive expression of our mission together. As a participating member of the Mission team, I agree to:

1. **Lift** up Jesus Christ with my thoughts, words, and actions
2. **Develop and maintain** a servant attitude toward the people our team serves as well as toward each team member.
3. **Pray** for and support my team leader and his/her decisions.
4. **Respect** the host's view.
5. **Accept the ministry** that is going on in the area where I am serving as well as the local approach to the mission, though it may differ from my own approach.
6. **Abstain** from the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, medications not prescribed to me, inappropriate clothing, and profanity during the mission.
7. **Refrain** from negativism and complaining. Travel and ministry outside my church may present unexpected and even undesired circumstances. However, my support and creativity will enhance the moment.
8. **Refrain** from gossip. If it is not true, good, and positive, I will not say it.
9. **Remember** that I am a servant of Jesus Christ called to be in ministry with the host team. I will serve as best I can so that both the spiritual purpose and the task of the mission will be accomplished.

Signature _____

Date _____

Print name _____