

Volume

1

SHORT-TERM MISSION

Team Training

Mission Mobilization &
Connection/Covenant Merge Ministries

SHORT-TERM MISSION TRAINING

Sessions

Covenant World Mission
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1. Welcome

a. Participant Introductions – have individuals introduce themselves to the larger group.

B. Trip Overview

WHERE you're going (country specific/geography/climate), WHEN you're traveling, WHO you'll be serving, WHAT you anticipate doing and hope to accomplish, WHY the leaders chose this particular trip. There are many more details to cover regarding travel, schedule, responsibilities, culture which will be covered in the following sessions.

2. A New Perspective

Awareness of perceptions and broadening understanding is an important part of serving in cross-cultural settings. This section sets a foundation for the team in thinking about poverty and appreciating what the team has to offer as they participate in God's Mission.

Who is Poor? [MTRM pp. 26–29]

What Do You Have? [MTRM pp. 30–33]

3. Trip Logistics

Travel Documentation [MTRM p. 128]

Permission Forms [MTRM pp. 129, 153-154, 157-158]

Immunizations [MTRM p. 129]

Health & Safety [MTRM pp. 131-133]

4. Teamwork

Fundraising [MTRM pp. 138-139]

Raising Financial Support [MTRM pp. 140-142]

5. Motivation

Christians feel called to “go” in mission for a variety of reasons. This session will help participants identify unhealthy motivations and point them to positive attitudes as they approach the opportunity to cross cultures.

Why Am I Going? [MTRM pp. 34-38]. Suggestion – end this session with “Healthy Motivations: The Guest” and cover the other 3 in the following sessions.

6. Journal

Spiritual preparation is essential as individuals get ready to “go”.

Journaling Exercise [MTRM p. 62]

7. In the Spirit

Spend time in group prayer for the team who is travelling and for the ministry sites you will be working alongside.

1. Teamwork

Spend time building relationships among the group that is travelling on a short-term mission trip. Participants may know each other prior to this experience, but it is important to spend time in team-building activities. The team gathered for the trip is likely a unique combination of people. Choose one or two of the options in Team Building Exercises, study God's Word and discuss qualities and characteristics of effective teams.

Team Building Exercises [MTRM pp. 110-114]

What does the Bible have to say about teamwork? [MTRM pp. 114-115]

Characteristics of an effective team [MTRM p. 115]

2. A New Perspective

Deepening cultural understanding is a benefit of the opportunity to serve through short-term mission. Help team members learn about the country where you'll be travelling and the context in which you'll serve.

Country Lesson [MTRM p. 93]

Developing Relationships [MTRM p. 94]

Personal Conduct [MTRM pp. 95-99]

Language Lessons [MTRM p. 105]

3. Motivation

Developing healthy attitudes in mission continues.

Cultural Attitudes: #2 The Servant [MTRM p. 103]

4. On-Site Ministry Preparation

Based on any work your group may do during the mission experience, set time aside to strategize, delegate, prioritize tasks. It is important to think through logistics of what you plan to do while on the trip, so you have what you need (supplies) and participants understand their role. Work projects, relational ministry all have various levels of preparations. Assign group or team leaders as necessary. Be sure everyone is included in the planning process.

5. Travel Logistics

Cover any details about group travel information team members need.

Food [MTRM pp. 129-131]

Health & Safety [MTRM pp. 131-133]

15 Ways to Stay Healthy [MTRM p. 135]

6. In the Spirit

Close with a small group discussion and prayer, which includes a short Bible study.

Group Lesson #1 – Spiritual Concerns [MTRM p. 63]

1. Teamwork

Take time to continue building relationships. Choose another activity from the options in Team Building Exercises. Be sure you make time to have some fun with the group!

Team Building Exercises [MTRM pp. 110-114]

Team Attitudes – Like Christ [MTRM pp. 116-118]

2. A New Perspective

Cross-cultural sensitivity is the quality of being aware and accepting of other cultures. Developing cultural sensitivity is important because what is acceptable in one place may be rude or derogatory in others. Our actions, in turn, affect our ability to develop relationships and further the Gospel.

The New Testament [MTRM pp. 89-90]

Hot-Climate and Cold-Climate Cultures [MTRM pp. 90-93]

Culture Shock [MTRM pp. 56-57]

Language Lessons [MTRM p. 105]

3. Travel Logistics

Health, Culture and Safety in 60 seconds [MTRM pp. 50-55]

Money and Budget [MTRM pp. 136-138]

Packing Tips [MTRM pp. 143-145]

Arrival at the Airport [MTRM pp. 145-148]

Suggested Packing List [MTRM pp. 149-150]

4. On-Site Ministry Preparation

Set time aside for planning, practice, whatever your team needs to get ready.

5. Motivation

Developing healthy attitudes in mission continues.

Cultural Attitudes: #2 The Learner [MTRM p. 104]

6. In the Spirit

A group discussion to get participants thinking about how to best communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ.

“The Storyteller” [MTRM pp. 63-64]

Group Lesson #2 – Getting Ready to Tell Your Story [MTRM pp. 65-69]

PRAY with the team

1. Teamwork

As the mission experience approaches, create space in your preparation to talk about conflict and covenants.

What does the Bible have to say? [MTRM p. 118]

Methods of Conflict Resolution [MTRM pp. 118-119]

Styles of Conflict Resolution [MTRM pp. 119-120]

A Team Covenant [MTRM pp. 120-122]

2. Travel Logistics

Update the group regarding details about how you are getting where you are going. Be sure you have all participant forms turned in. Discuss fund-raising and payment information.

3. Onsite Ministry Preparation

Present any pertinent updates about the host ministry, location you will be working alongside.

4. A New Perspective

Cover any Language Lessons that would be appropriate.

Language Lessons – Things to Remember [MTRM pp. 105-106]

5. In the Spirit

One more Bible study to allow for individual, small and large group reflection. Also, take time for participants to practice sharing their testimonies with each other, based on the last session's teaching.

Group Lesson #3 – Paul, “Barney” or “Tim”... which one am I? [MTRM p. 70]

Personal Preparation [MTRM p. 71]

6. On-Site Ministry Preparation

Allow time for work teams to go over strategy and plan before the team leaves. Be sure the team has supplies it needs for the ministry it intends to participate in.

7. *PRAY!*

Follow-up is important!

Read through the final section of MTRM [pp.163-179] which covers important aspects of following up on a short-term mission experience. Pay attention to evaluation and processing options for individual and group settings. Be sure to gather the team to share stories and pictures, to reflect on lessons learned and ways perspectives are transformed. Discuss next steps for how the mission experience can continue to shape individuals' lives and the church community.