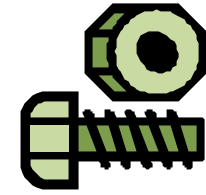


The Nuts And Bolts Of Planning and Implementing An Effective Short-Term Mission Trip

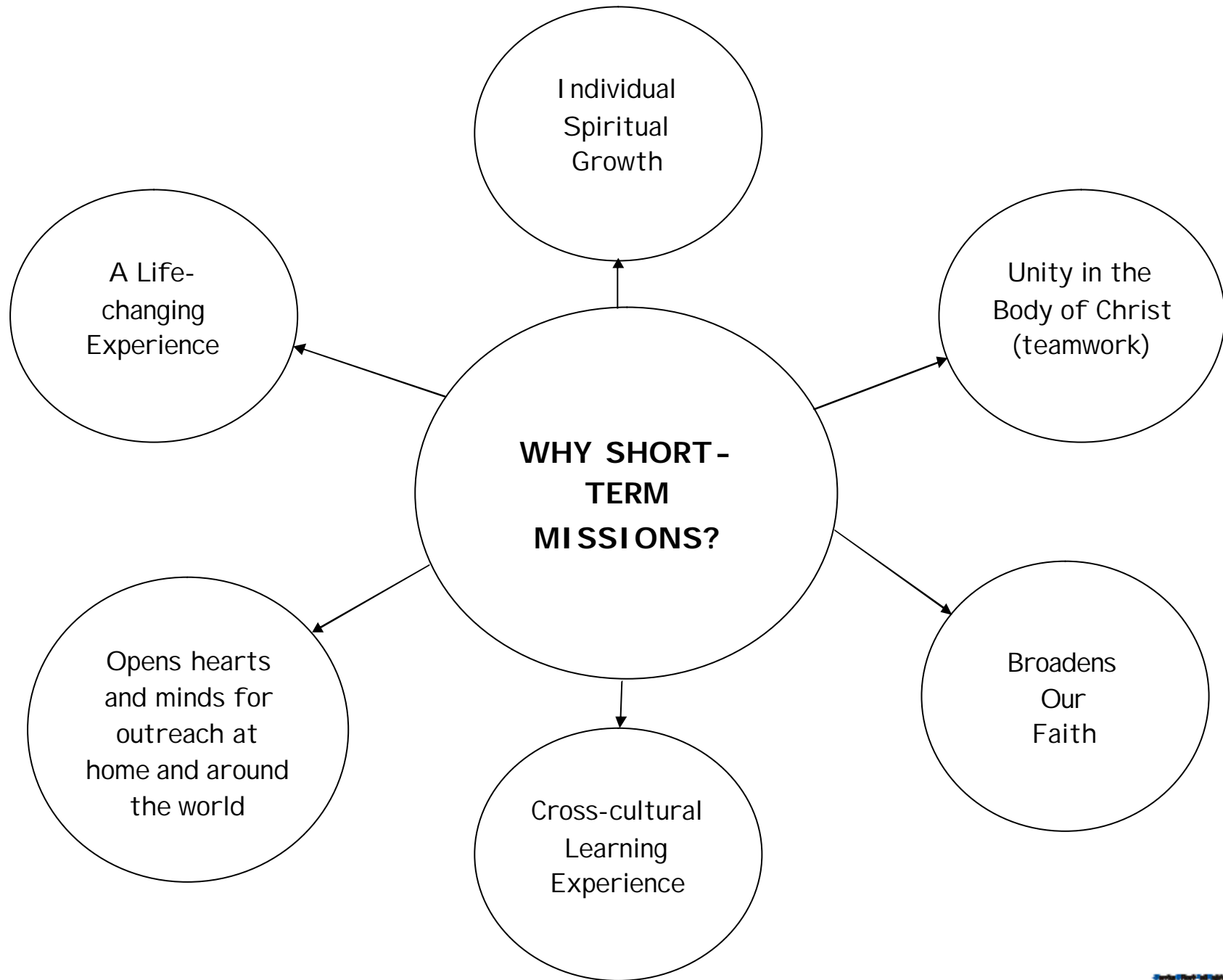


Serving Others And Rejoicing



Serving
Others
And
Rejoicing

"...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8



A FOUNDATION OF PRAYER

PRAY FOR THE SENDI NG CHURCH

- the leadership
- the recruiting effort
- the involvement of the congregation

PRAY FOR YOURSELF

- your role in short-term missions
- your attitude toward service
- your heart for sharing Jesus with others

PRAY FOR THE TEAM

- an obedience to God's will
- an openness to learning what God is teaching
- an attitude of service and unity

PRAY FOR THE MI SSIONARY

- for encouragement
- for strength and perseverance
- for rest and peace

PRAY FOR THE NATIONALS

- for God to prepare their hearts
- for encouragement to fellow believers
- for non-believers to be open and receptive



. . . The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer . . . I Peter 3:12

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6



PLANNING – RECRUITING – ORGANIZING

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select a team leader or co-leaders 2. Objectives and goals <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why do we want to go? b. What do we expect to accomplish? c. What project(s) do we want to complete? d. What do we want each team member to experience? e. What impact do we want to make on the nationals? 3. When and Where <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How long should the trip be? b. When is the best time for the trip? c. What are the options and availability of different locations? 4. Building the team <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do we need to set an age limit? b. How many team members do we need for an effective ministry? c. Is the trip open to non-members of the sponsoring church? d. What is the selection process/criteria for team members? 5. Recruiting the team <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Send out recruiting letters. b. Invite potential members to the informational meeting. c. Have previous participants in short-term mission trip speak to classes, groups, congregation, etc. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> d. Do skits about missions during Sunday School/Church, etc. e. If possible invite the host missionary or mission organization to speak. f. Use newsletter and bulletin advertisements. g. Talk it up; be excited – especially the team leader. 6. Conduct an informational meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discuss the work of the host missionary or mission organization. b. Provide information regarding the destination country. c. Provide specific mission project information. d. Discuss teamwork; unity; flexibility. e. Have previous short-term participant give a testimony. f. Discuss any predetermined policies. g. Discuss cost of the trip and general financial issues. h. Set dates for deposit and payment schedule. 7. Team Meetings <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have six to seven meetings prior to trip. b. Discuss cross-cultural issues. c. Plan the mission project (i.e. VBS; construction; worship service participation, etc.). d. You can use “Vacations With A Purpose” by Chris Eaton and Kim Hurst. e. Get to know each other; build unity in the team.
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FINANCING THE TEAM

Why fund raising letters?

- involves others
- promotes excitement
- builds trust and faith in God
- encourages accountability
- provides opportunities to share the experience

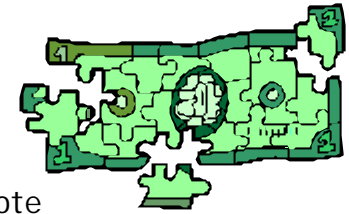
Who should receive your letters?

- friends, near and far
- business associates
- relatives
- neighbors



Guidelines for writing a letter:

- tell why you want to go
- give a background about the mission and missionary you will visit
- mention information about the project
- share information about the culture
- provide details of the cost of the trip
- inform donors where to send the money
- advise donors to whom the checks should be payable and if contributions are tax deductible
- give deadline dates for payment schedule
- provide make-up of the team



When funds are received:

ALWAYS send a personal thank you note

- keep a personal record of funds received
- make sure team leaders are aware of fund raising progress

When you return from the trip:

- send a letter to your financial supporters to let them know about your experience
- possibly bring back a small memento to supporters
- have a follow-up team meeting and picture party

General fund raising tips:

- don't do it all yourself
- direct funds through the church account
- brainstorm different fund-raising ideas
- think individually and for the team
- monitor how each team member is doing
- allow advance notice to treasurer for when check are due
- review each project for investment vs. return potential

REMEMBER - " . . . my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19



ON THE FIELD

Conduct team meetings daily

- devotions
- sharing the day's experience
- announcements and preparation
- prayer

Delegate/rotate responsibilities

- kitchen duty
- trash pickup/burning
- bathrooms
- general clean-up

Establish rules for travel

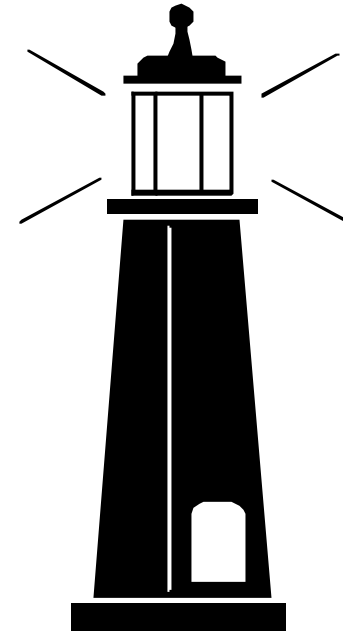
- don't wonder off alone – stay in pairs and let someone know where you're going
- keep carry-on luggage in sight

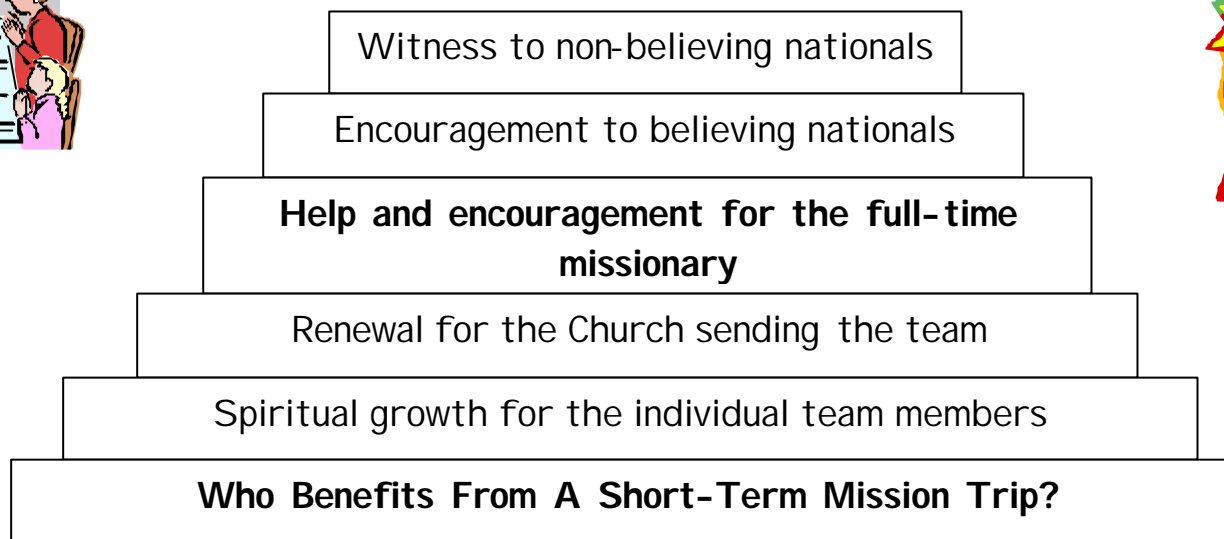
General tips

- know how money exchange will be handled
- have unique identifier on ALL luggage
- wear common t-shirts while traveling
- neck pouches for valuables
- be aware of your surroundings
- check luggage ticket for correct destination

Keys to success

- prayer
- flexibility
- teamwork
- preparation
- a good attitude
- prayer
- ALWAYS " . . . let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16





“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. . . . Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

I Corinthians 12:12 & 27

