

On Mission



...for Jesus



Introduction and Dedication

One of the beautiful freedoms of ministry comes in our diversity. So, before I would even begin to tackle the massive topic of planning missions trips, please note that this guide will not be comprehensive. Gleanings from various ministry leaders are included, and the prayer is that the information here will spark new ideas, give creative input, and practically equip you in the calling God has placed on your life and ministry.

But...above all, the hope is that you will hear from the Holy Spirit and seek Jesus in all of these things. And these ideas and forms and budgets are presented as one more way to bring Him glory and share the resources that God has given us.

The desire of every event and missions trip is that people would be drawn into relationship (for the first time, or in a deeper way than previously) with Jesus Christ. Without Him, these events and trips would not exist. To borrow from author E. Stanley Jones:

While I owe much to the sons of men, I owe my all to the Son of Man. If the sons of men have enriched me, the Son of Man has redeemed me. So this dedication is a double one. First, to the sons of men of every race and nation. Every race has something to give every other race. I've been rich in my short and prolonged contacts.

Second, this dedication is primarily to the Son of Man. Without the Son of Man, I would never have discovered the sons of men. I found them through Him.

Of Jane Addams it was said that she looked into the faces of the slum children of Chicago and then looked into the face of Christ, and then spent the rest of her life trying to bring them together. I did something like that, only in reverse. I looked into the face of the Son of Man, and then looked into the faces of the sons of men, and I have spent my life trying to bring them together. After that one look into that "one dear Face" I have never seen an uninteresting face. They all are so worthwhile with infinite possibilities.

And so, the dedication of this book is a twofold one: to the sons of men to whom I owe so much and to the Son of Man, to whom I owe my all.

-E. Stanley Jones, *A Song of Ascents* (Nashville: Festival Books, 1968) 5.

For in Him we live and move and have our being...(Acts 17.28)

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Don't Plan Without God

Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass —Psalm 37:5

Don't plan without God. God seems to have a delightful way of upsetting the plans we have made, when we have not taken Him into account. We get ourselves into circumstances that were not chosen by God, and suddenly we realize that we have been making our plans without Him—that we have not even considered Him to be a vital, living factor in the planning of our lives. And yet the only thing that will keep us from even the possibility of worrying is to bring God in as the greatest factor in all of our planning. In spiritual issues it is customary for us to put God first, but we tend to think that it is inappropriate and unnecessary to put Him first in the practical, everyday issues of our lives. If we have the idea that we have to put on our “spiritual face” before we can come near to God, then we will never come near to Him. We must come as we are.

Don't plan with a concern for evil in mind. Does God really mean for us to plan without taking the evil around us into account? “Love . . . thinks no evil” (1 Corinthians 13:4-5). Love is not ignorant of the existence of evil, but it does not take it into account as a factor in planning. When we were apart from God, we did take evil into account, doing all of our planning with it in mind, and we tried to reason out all of our work from its standpoint.

Don't plan with a rainy day in mind. You cannot hoard things for a rainy day if you are truly trusting Christ. Jesus said, “Let not your heart be troubled . . .” (John 14:1). God will not keep your heart from being troubled. It is a command—“Let not. . . .” To do it, continually pick yourself up, even if you fall a hundred and one times a day, until you get into the habit of putting God first and planning with Him in mind.

Vision and Reality

“And the parched ground shall become a pool.” Isaiah 35:7

We always have visions, before a thing is made real. When we realize that although the vision is real, it is not real in us, then is the time that Satan comes in with his temptations, and we are apt to say it is no use to go on. Instead of the vision becoming real, there has come the valley of humiliation.

*“Life is not as idle ore, but iron dug from central gloom,
And batter'd by the shocks of doom to shape and use.”*

God gives us the vision, then He takes us down to the valley to batter us into the shape of the vision, and it is in the valley that so many of us faint and give way. Every vision will be made real if we will have patience. Think of the enormous leisure of God! He is never in a hurry. We are always in such a frantic hurry. In the light of the glory of the vision we go forth to do things, but the vision is not real in us yet; and God has to take us into the valley, and put us through fires and floods to batter us into shape, until we get to the place where He can trust us with the veritable reality. Ever since we had the vision God has been at work, getting us into the shape of the ideal, and over and over again we escape from His hand and try to batter ourselves into our own shape.

The vision is not a castle in the air, but a vision of what God wants you to be. Let Him put you on His wheel and whirl you as He likes, and as sure as God is God and you are you, you will turn out exactly in accordance with the vision. Don't lose heart in the process. If you have ever had the vision of God, you may try as you like to be satisfied on a lower level, but God will never let you.

-Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*, July 5-6



Planning a Missions Trip

The focus of this guide is specific to missions trips (involving travel to a community outside your own) and to working with youth. The checklists included are meant to cover as much information as possible, but please take into consideration the size of your church and youth group, the vision of your leadership, and the guidance of the Spirit.

- PRAY! Everything we do should be start, continue, and end in prayer. Seek the Lord for His direction, continual guidance, and presence in every portion of your missions trips.
- Set overall vision for the mission trip. Usually includes answering the following questions:
 1. WHO? Who is this trip for? What grades will it be open to? Is it available to students only in your school/youth group? What criteria will you set for applicants?
 2. WHAT? What will this missions trip include? What type of activities will you take part in? How will you be able to prepare your team to participate in these activities?
 3. WHEN? What date (s) will this trip be held? Does this conflict with other major dates on your church or community calendar? Do you need to confer with other ministries at your church?
 4. WHERE? What location will you minister in? Is there a long-term, Gospel-centered missionary or organization that you can partner with? Will they be able to accommodate the group expected to attend along with their guests/children, etc? Do the dates you've chosen work with them?
 5. WHY? Is this missions trip in line with the vision of your senior pastor/church administrators? What is the primary purpose (evangelistic, ministry, encouragement, equipping, other?)
- Early Planning!
 1. Meet with your overseer/senior pastor to confirm the overall vision and plan, with the who/what/when/where/why included. At Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa, two initial pastors approve a missions trip, and then the trip is presented to the board at the monthly board meeting for approval.
 2. Begin to assemble the leadership team that will work with you and set the tone in leading the students.
 3. Set the budget for the trip by considering: travel, accommodation, leader budgets, food, supplies and outreach materials, love gifts for the church, transportation, and travel insurance.
- 3-6 Months Out
 1. Get the word out! Create an application and info sheet (samples included) and start letting students know about the trip. At CCCM that includes: announcing at a chapel/assembly, announcing to our youth group, emailing past team members, setting up a website (ccmissions.yolasite.com), and talking to individual students about the trip.
 2. Develop an initial detailed schedule for the trip.
 3. Research airfare and start getting price quotes from airlines.
 4. Meet with your leadership team to begin setting the vision for the trip.
- 1-3 Months Out
 1. Finalize your team list. If possible, interview each student who is applying for the trip. Ask them why they are hoping to go, what their personal relationship with Jesus Christ looks like now, and what questions/fears/expectations they have for this missions trip.



2. Finalize itinerary details including: lodging, transportation, travel insurance, activities and outreach schedule, and cultural experiences (free time activities). Prepay for as many things as possible so that you can carry as little cash as possible.
 3. Begin meeting as a team (at least three times for a weekend team and 6-10 times for an adult team).
 4. Coordinate team fundraisers and provide opportunities for students to invite friends and family to tithe towards the missions trips.
- 1 Month Out. This is the time where there are a million odds and ends that can vary greatly by missions trip. I have included below a list of items that might or might not apply!
 1. Spend time in prayer for the missions trip.
 2. Continue to communicate with your local missionaries. Have a good general idea of what ministry will look like in the field.
 3. Obtain parental consent forms and passport copies for all students. Purchase travel insurance for international trips.
 4. Communicate regularly with the team (email, text, Facebook, meetings)
 5. Arrange for a church sendoff (where a pastor prays over the team). This may or may not be part of a regularly scheduled church service.
 6. Arrange for financial details - how much cash to carry, how that money will be split and recorded.
 7. Create a tour book (samples available or online at ccmissions.yolasite.com).
 8. Consider suitcases and packing space. Decide if you will pack supplies in suitcases or carry-ons.
 9. Purchase outreach and ministry supplies. Work with your children's ministry if possible for kids outreaches.
 10. Sample shopping list:
 - Smart and Final
 - 200 paper bags
 - Dollar Tree/99 Cent Store
 - Nail Polish - 24 bottles
 - Cotton balls
 - Baby Wipes
 - Children's Bowling Kit (if they have something like that) - 3 sets
 - US Toy Company
 - Salvation Bracelets - 200
 - Frisbees - 24-36
 - Face Paint - 6-8
 - Balloons - 144-288
 - Water Balloons - 10 packs
 - Bouncy Balls / Tennis Balls - 100
 - Religious Silly Bands - 300
 - Stickers - 10 packages
 - Stamps (self contained)
 - Bubbles - 10 big bottles
 - Marker Sets - 10 sets of 10 (at least)
 - Crayons - 5 big sets
 - Glue - 10 small
 - Staplers - 4 with staples
 - Scissors - 8
 - Water Guns - 12 cheap ones
 - Anything else fun and affordable that you see!
 - Fabric Store
 - 4 sets each of 8 foot length of
 - Red
 - Black
 - White cloth
- And above all, ask Jesus for His continual guidance in all things!

C

VISION

Our vision is to provide the students at Calvary Chapel High School with an opportunity to know Jesus better by seeing Him at work:

- In their personal life
- Through outreach/service
- In other countries/cultures

A

Our desire is that each student would participate in at least one missions trip. Trips count toward their community service hours. Our missions trips are:

- 1 Centered on Christ
- 2 Partnered with a Calvary Chapel or trusted ministry with a long-term vision to share the Gospel
- 3 Varied in opportunities for outreach
- 4 Well-planned in all logistics, with flexibility to the leading of the Holy Spirit
- 5 Financially accountable; trips should not place a burden on the school. Fundraising opportunities will be provided for team members as well
- 6 Led by qualified men and women who are passionate about seeing our students grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ
- 7 Appropriate in training and preparation for the country, activities, and outreach
- 8 Thorough in discipleship prior to, during, and following the trip

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QUESTIONS?

Contact Missions Coordinator Sarah Yardley at sarah.yardley@calvaryschools.org or 714.662.7485 x2363 with questions on any missions or outreach opportunities. Visit ccmissions.yolasite.com for additional information and future trips.

**WE GO ON MISSIONS FOR CHRIST
BECAUSE HE CAME ON A
MISSION FOR US!**

LOCAL

Serving Jesus is every bit as necessary in our own communities as it is in other countries. The missions opportunities below are available locally. Visit cceagles.org and click on the Community Service Opportunities link on the Bulletin Board for local opportunities.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Santa Ana (After School Programs, Homeless)
Contact Wendy Leece, Council Member, wleece@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us or wendyleece@gmail.com

CONVALESCENT

and Assisted Living Ministry
with Steve Mathein. Visit al.cccm.com or email stevemathein@calvarychapel.com

EVANGELISM

with Pastor Karl Corcoran
Meet on Mondays/Fridays at 4 PM in the Prayer Rm.
email crossreach@gmail.com

FOOD BANKS

Volunteer to serve at a food bank/feed the homeless.
Please call ahead to schedule a time to volunteer.
2nd Harvest Food Bank 949-653-2900
O.C. Food Bank 714-897-6670
Someone Cares Soup Kitchen 949-548-8861
Qoheleth Ministries 949-230-4518
Red Wagon, Ray Peterson 714-330-3958

KIDS CLUB

5th grade students at Andrew Jackson Public School
Tuesdays, 3:00-4:30 PM. Starting October 11th meet
at the CCHS office at 3 PM to carpool.
email sarah.yardley@calvaryschools.org
call: 714.900.0056

TRAINING

SIMPLY THE STORY

Training on how to teach the Bible as Jesus did, using questions, stories, and parables.
When: Saturday, September 24 from 9 AM - 1 PM
Where: Fellowship Hall, CC Costa Mesa

MISSIONS

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WEEKEND

INFORMATION MEETING

A missions trip information meeting will be held at 6 PM in the Charis Sanctuary on Wednesday, September 28th, for those interested in any of the upcoming missions trips. All trip costs include transportation, accommodation, meals, and travel insurance.

SAN FRANCISCO

- Who: High school students
- What: Service event with City Impact Church, with a focus on practical ministry in the city of San Francisco. We will be driving up on Friday, staying at a local church, serving on Saturday, do a short amount of sightseeing on Sunday, and driving home Sunday night.
- When: October 7 - 9, 2011
- Where: San Francisco, CA
- Cost: \$199
- Applications Due: September 19, 2011

MEXICO

- Who: High school students
- What: Serve with Calvary Chapel Bible College Ensenada and visit the local orphanage, help with a construction project, and partner with the church for an outreach. We will also visit Casa de Esperanza, a battered women's shelter.
- When: November 25 - 27, 2011
- Where: Ensenada, Mexico
- Cost: \$110
- Applications Due: October 7, 2011

HYDER, ARIZONA

- Who: Junior high and high school students and parents
- What: Christmas stocking distribution and outreach with Christian Missionary Pilots in Hyder, Arizona.
- When: December 16 - 19, 2011
- Where: Former ghost town in Hyder, Arizona
- Cost: \$225
- Applications Due: October 14, 2011

ADDITIONAL WEEKEND TRIPS FOR SPRING SEMESTER WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE YEAR.

SHORT-TERM

UGANDA

- Who: High school students with a passport and funds for the trip are welcome to attend the info meeting and apply.
- What: Ministry at New Hope Uganda and Kasana Children's Center
- When: October 30 - November 16, 2011
- Where: Entebbe, Uganda
- Cost: \$2750, due by September 20, 2011
- Applications Due: September 19, 2011
- Information Meeting: Sunday, September 11th at 3:30 PM in the CCM Prayer Room

EUROPE

- Who: High school students
- What: Outreach and ministry with Calvary Chapels in Budapest, Austria, and Serbia.
- When: CHRISTMAS BREAK, December 27, 2011 - January 5, 2012
- Where: Budapest / Austria / Serbia
- Cost: \$1799
- Applications Due: October 14, 2011

GUATEMALA

- Who: High school students
- What: Street ministry, community outreach, light construction projects, and a day trip to a Mayan civilization in the interior of Guatemala.
- When: February 1 -10, 2012
- Where: Guatemala City/surrounding areas
- Cost: \$1299
- Applications Due: October 14, 2011

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SENIOR CLASS TRIP

- Who: Open to CCHS graduating seniors
- What: We are encouraging the entire senior class to participate in this trip. We will be visiting sugar cane villages and orphanages with a free day visiting a Caribbean beach.
- When: SPRING BREAK, April 9 - 15, 2012
- Where: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- Cost: \$1299
- Applications Due: January 11, 2012

TRIPS...

CCHS MISSIONS APPLICATION

1. Complete the application.
2. Attach a recent photo and a copy of your passport, if you have one.
3. Submit to the CCHS school office. Call 714.662.7485 x2363 or email sarah.yardley@calvaryschools.org with any questions.

- Ensenada, Mexico, November 25-27, 2011, \$110
 Hyder, Arizona, December 16-19, 2011, \$225

- Europe, December 27-January 5, 2012, \$1799
(Only wait list spaces available)
 Guatemala, February 1-10, 2012, \$1299
 Dominican Republic, April 9-15, 2012, \$1299

PERSONAL INFO

Full Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

M/F: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parent's Names: _____

Parent's Phone: _____

Parent's Email: _____

HEALTH INFO

Do you have any physical concerns that might be a concern on this trip? If so, please describe:

Please list any hospitalizations in the last two years: _____

Are you currently taking any prescription medication? If so, please describe the medication and purpose:

PRACTICAL INFO

Have you ever been out of the country before?: _____

Where?: _____

Have you ever been on a missions trip before?: _____

Where?: _____

Do you have problems with the following? Please explain: _____

Traveling: _____

Food: _____

Do you already have a passport? _____

How are you planning to pay for this trip?

Personal: _____ Family Help: _____ Fundraising: _____

Other: _____

Please list any talents (drama, singing, musical) or other skills/work experience and your Spanish level:

EMERGENCY INFO

In case of an emergency, please contact:

Full Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Other Phone: _____

REFERENCE INFO

Please give two references we can contact (one from a pastor or spiritual leader and another non-family member)

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

How long have you known them?: _____

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

How long have you known them?: _____

COMMITMENT

We are excited that you are interested in the upcoming outreach. We read through and prayerfully consider each application received. Our desire is to see the Lord put this team together as He knows is best and we trust He will lead us in that. Before you turn in this application, please review the commitments required of each team member:

1. **TEAM COMMITMENT:** team meetings, which include prayer and trip information, are mandatory and typically are held on a weekly basis.

2. **FINANCIAL COMMITMENT:** as with every trip, there is a non-refundable deposit due upon the first team meeting. In addition to the initial deposit there will be other financial due dates that are also non-refundable (but are tax-deductible) which cover the expenses of the trip. You will be responsible for the full amount of the trip. Fundraising will be discussed during team meetings.

Upon completion of this application, please sign and date below. This tells us that you understand and agree to the commitments of applying for this trip. Thank you!

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

SPIRITUAL INFO

Is Calvary Chapel your home church?: _____

If so, which services are you involved with?: _____

How long have you attended Calvary?: _____

If not, where do you attend?: _____

How long have you been walking with the Lord?: _____

How and when did you come to know the Lord?: _____

Describe your personal devotional life: _____

Explain briefly WHY you want to be a part of this trip: _____

What do you see as your strongest and weakest character qualities? Describe:

CCJH AND CCHS MISSIONS PARENTAL CONSENT FORM
EFFECTIVE September 2011 through June 2012

Effective for our Europe team, traveling to Hungary, Serbia, and Slovakia

STUDENTS NAME:

NAME _____ M/F _____
Last First

PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME :

NAME _____ M/F _____
Last First

ADDRESS _____
Number Street Apt. #

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ (____) _____
Cell Phone or Home Work

OTHER EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Parents Employer: _____ Address: _____

Insurance Co. _____ Policy #: _____ Name of Policy Holder: _____

Date of Child's last tetanus shot: _____ School Attending: _____

HEALTH HISTORY: Please list health concerns that we should be aware of. Include known allergies to drugs or insect stings.

A. _____ B. _____ C. _____

Name and phone number of your Child's regular physician: Dr. _____ Phone#: () _____

PLEASE LIST ANY MEDICATION THAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED TO HAVE:

IMPORTANT: MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

I HEREBY STATE THAT I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO GRANT THE PERMISSION, AND DO HEREBY GRANT SAID PERMISSION for my Child herein identified below, to engage in all missions activities including and not limited to: travel, transport, and outreach UNLESS otherwise specifically excluded above. I also HEREBY STATE that I am the person most knowledgeable about the health history of my Child; and that the information provided in this application is true correct to the best of my knowledge.

In case of accident or injury of my Child, I consent to allow any and all needed medical, dental, or surgical treatment to be performed, including but not limited to medical examination(s), diagnosis, treatment(s), surgery (ies) or operation(s), injection(s), hospital and/or other emergency care, as well as any and all corresponding treatment modalities, medical tests, x-rays, medications, anesthesia, etc., all to be provided under the general or special supervision of a physician and/or surgeon licensed under the Medical Practice Act and/or by a Dentist licensed under the Dental Practice Act and/or any other type of medical or health professional necessary to address the needs of my Child, as determined by the discretion of the Youth Pastor and/or his representative or agent(s).

This authorization shall remain effective with Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa and its affiliates throughout my Child's attendance with the Program and during all such times that my Child is in under the supervision of Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa and its affiliates personnel, unless and until revoked by myself in writing. I further agree to pay and/or reimburse any and all charges for medical, dental, hospital, surgical care or any related treatment and needs of my Child if requested. I HEREBY authorize the youth leader or anyone in authority at Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa and its affiliates and/or any Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), to administer common medicines such as cough medicine, Tylenol, and Ibuprofen, if necessary in dosages appropriate for my Child's age and to clean and bandage or wrap wounds as necessary.

In the event of accident or injury of my Child, I HEREBY WAIVE AND RELEASE Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa, its Board of Directors, officers, employees, agents, staff, volunteers, affiliate churches and/or ministries, from any and all liability, damages, claims, judgments, attorneys fees and/or costs related to any such injury and/or accident and/or event.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Minor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Work/Emergency Phone: () _____

TRIP BUDGETS

SAN FRANCISCO

Line Item	Description	Cost Per Person
Gas	Based on an 8 person vehicle	\$25.00
Lodging	Includes Friday and Saturday, plus food	\$65.00
Food Expense	Friday dinner and Sunday only	\$50.00
Supplies		\$50.00
Insurance		\$10.00
		\$200.00
	No Leader Pricing	\$199.00

MEXICO

Line Item	Description	Cost Per Person
Gas	Based on an 8 person vehicle	\$20.00
Lodging		\$20.00
Food Expense	Breakfast - \$5, Lunch - \$5, Dinner - \$10	\$50.00
Supplies		\$10.00
Insurance		\$10.00
		\$110.00
	No Leader Pricing	\$110.00

HYDER, AZ

Line Item	Description	Cost Per Person
Gas	Based on an 8 person vehicle	\$25.00
Lodging		\$60.00
Food Expense	Breakfast - \$5, Lunch - \$10, Dinner - \$10	\$95.00
Supplies		\$25.00
Insurance		\$10.00
		\$215.00
	No Leader Pricing	\$215.00

EUROPE

Line Item	Description	Cost Per Person
Flights	LAX-London \$683, London-Budapest - \$250	\$933.00
Transportation		\$150.00
Lodging	8 nights at \$30 each, plus \$60 padding	\$300.00
Food Expense	Breakfast - \$5, Lunch - \$10, Dinner - \$15	\$300.00
Supplies		\$50.00
Insurance		\$25.00
		\$1,758.00
	No Leader Pricing	\$1,799.00

GUATEMALA – BASED ON TWO PREVIOUS YEAR BUDGETS

Airfare: \$668
Accommodations: \$20 a night
Food: \$15 a day
Health Ins.: \$473.05
Emergency Fund: \$4000.00
Ministry Expenses: \$4000.00
Transportation: \$2823.00 3 vans

Cost per student: \$1299

This cost has been the same for our three previous Central American trips (El Salvador, Panama, Nicaragua).

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Line Item	Description	Total Cost	Cost Per Person
Airfare			\$539.70
Airport Fee			\$10.00
Lodging / Meals			\$450.00
Free Day			\$40.00
Supplies			\$50.00
			\$1,089.70
Additional padding for Leader Budgeting			
			\$1,275.00

CCHS MISSIONS TRIP CORE VALUES

Our primary desire for any missions trip is that Jesus would be glorified in the lives of the students and leaders. We believe that there is tremendous opportunity for students to grow in their relationship with Jesus as they step outside of their culture and comfort zone.

With that in mind, the core values for our missions trips cover the spiritual, practical, and financial preparation that will be involved for any missions trip. The length of the trip and the amount of time that we have to prepare for these trips sometimes affects how much of this is able to be included.

- Spiritual – Our Primary Focus
 - Spiritual Care Groups
 - Developed for trips of 4 days or longer. The focus of these groups is to draw students into relationship with Jesus through prayer, testimonies, and discipleship with mature leaders.
 - Prayer Groups
 - Leading up to the trip, we will set aside time to pray for the trip as a team.
 - Devotion
 - During every trip, time will be set aside for morning devotion and evening reflection. Some of these will be group times, some will be personal and individual.
 - Interviews
 - Some missions trips will require a short interview with applicants to set expectations, discuss the trip focus, and pray with a team leader.
- Practical
 - Administrative details
 - We will communicate itinerary, packing lists, practical expectations, and lodging information, as well as emergency contact information, for any trip coordinated by CCHS.
 - Training Resources. Due to timing, not all resources will be included for every trip.
 - Skit Groups. We believe that skits can be used powerfully to communicate the Gospel, especially where there is a language barrier. We typically use the following skits:
 - Everything
 - Agnus Dei
 - King of Hearts
 - Music Ministry. We endeavor to train the team on several children's songs in the language of the country we will be visiting.
 - Outreach and Evangelism. We typically include at least one training session on relational evangelism and sharing the Gospel.
 - Simply Jesus. This is a very simple and clear way of presenting the Gospel for children (and adults!) We usually train teams:
 - Basic Simply Jesus Presentation
 - Sin Skit
 - King Skit
 - Practical Outreach
 - Face painting
 - Games and activities
 - Basic language training
- Financial
 - We firmly believe that God provides for His children, and have seen Him miraculously provide for many missions teams. With that being said, we will provide practical resources to support students financially, including:
 - Tithing. All trips are eligible to be covered by tithes. This means that your family and friends can make tax-deductible donations toward any trip, or direct current tithes to a trip.
 - Fundraisers. We ask that students be very active in planning and working our fundraisers. We typically do:
 - Bake Sales
 - Rummage Sales
 - "Eat Out" credit (Rubio's, Ruby's, etc)

FUNDRAISING AND FINANCES

We realize that finances can be one of the most challenging concerns for many families as they consider a missions trip. Many students desire to take part in a trip, but simply don't have the funds to pay for the trip outright, and don't want to commit to something that's outside of their available funds.

Our first request for anyone considering any missions trip is that they commit it to the Lord in prayer. Where God calls, we believe He will provide, but not every trip is for every student.

Secondly, the student and their family should prayerfully consider the missions trip together. Review personal calendars, school itineraries, sports commitments, and financial commitments, and pray about whether or not this trip is a fit.

Lastly, we do encourage you that many students are supported in their trips through:

- Tax-Deductible Donations
- Team Fundraisers
- Personal Fundraisers

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

Friends and family can make a tax-deductible donation toward a missions trip by writing a check to Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa. Please DO NOT write the student's name on the check. Instead, attach a sticky note with the student's name and trip name (Example: Sarah Yardley, Dominican Republic). These donations are considered tax-deductible. All funds received are under complete control and discretion of Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa. There are no refunds and no exceptions.

TEAM FUNDRAISERS

For our 10-day trips, we offer the following fundraisers:

- Wednesday night bake Sales (weekly or bi-monthly)
- Saturday morning church rummage sales (monthly)
- Rubios and other restaurant fundraisers (bi-monthly or monthly)
- Postcards with team information and an invitation to make a tax-deductible donation
- School "free dress" day with purchased wristbands (at the discretion of CCHS administration)

For most fundraisers, those participating in the fundraiser (bringing baked goods, working the fundraiser, etc) will get any money earned evenly shared among them. Trip financial statements can be obtained for individual students by contacting Pamela Steed, Pamela.steed@calvaryschools.org

PERSONAL FUNDRAISERS

We do encourage students with financial concerns to invest in raising funds personally. Ideas include:

- After-school jobs. Many students have paid for their own trips completely through an after-school job or service opportunity. This can include odd jobs like:
 - Babysitting
 - Yard Work
 - House Cleaning
- Personal rummage sale. If you hold your own personal rummage sale at your house, the entire proceeds can be sent directly to the trip. Friends and family are often willing to clean out a closet and donate towards a rummage sale for a good cause.
- Car wash. While organizing a big car wash can be a huge commitment, consider walking through your neighborhood and asking neighbors if you can wash their car to raise funds for your upcoming missions trip! Great way to meet your neighbors as well.
- Crafts and Jewelry. If you are talented in painting, making jewelry, or other craft items, consider making some and selling to friends and family to raise funds for your trip.

Our prayer is that "fundraising" would be one more way for you to simply see the faithfulness of God! If you have any questions or concerns about funds, feel free to contact Pam Steed or Sarah Yardley, sarah.yardley@calvaryschools.org



Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission

OVERVIEW: The Seven U.S. Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission

GOD-CENTEREDNESS

An excellent short-term mission seeks first God's glory and his kingdom, and is expressed through our:

Purpose — Centering on God's glory and his ends throughout our entire STM process

Lives — Sound biblical doctrine, persistent prayer, and godliness in all our thoughts, words, and deeds

Methods — Wise, biblical, and culturally-appropriate methods which bear spiritual fruit

EMPOWERING PARTNERSHIPS

An excellent short-term mission establishes healthy, interdependent, on-going relationships between sending and receiving partners, and is expressed by:

Primary focus on intended receptors

Plans which benefit all participants

Mutual trust and accountability

MUTUAL DESIGN

An excellent short-term mission collaboratively plans each specific outreach for the benefit of all participants, and is expressed by:

On-field methods and activities aligned to long-term strategies of the partnership

Goer-guests' ability to implement their part of the plan

Host receivers' ability to implement their part of the plan

COMPREHENSIVE ADMINISTRATION

An excellent short-term mission exhibits integrity through reliable set-up and thorough administration for all participants, and is expressed by:

Truthfulness in promotion, finances, and reporting results

Appropriate risk management

Quality program delivery and support logistics

QUALIFIED LEADERSHIP

An excellent short-term mission screens, trains, and develops capable leadership for all participants, expressed by:

Character — Spiritually mature servant leadership

Skills — Prepared, competent, organized, and accountable leadership

Values — Empowering and equipping leadership

APPROPRIATE TRAINING

An excellent short-term mission prepares and equips all participants for the mutually designed outreach, and is expressed by:

Biblical, appropriate, and timely training

On-going training and equipping (pre-field, on-field, post-field)

Qualified trainers

THOROUGH FOLLOW-UP

An excellent short-term mission assures debriefing and appropriate follow-up for all participants expressed by:

Comprehensive debriefing (pre-field, on-field, post-field)

On-field re-entry preparation

Post-field follow-up and evaluation



Short-Term Missions Philosophy

http://eh.robis.net/uploads/JID44_AWhySTTeams.pdf

Making Disciple-Makers, the Acts 1:8 Philosophy

In Matthew 18:18-20, Jesus tells us, as the original Greek renders it, “as you go, make disciples...” So where should we be going as we go!? I think the answer is in one of the last statements Jesus makes in Acts 1:8 — “But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere--in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (NLT)

First and foremost, our responsibility is to our local fellowship of believers (Jerusalem), youth group, church; whatever God has called you to shepherd. Jesus states that you WILL tell people about me everywhere! So where do we make disciple-makers? We start in our own ministries winning the lost, building the believers, and equipping the workers to make fully developed followers of Jesus Christ recognizing that some of these followers will go on to become shepherds in your own or OTHER ministries.

Secondly, we should look at how we can minister outside of our local body (Judea), maybe in the city or region that our ministry is located in. Opportunities abound in Judea; soup kitchens, rescue missions, struggling churches, etc. Jesus states that you WILL tell people about me in Jerusalem AND in Judea. The path our local ministry takes “as you go” goes through Judea!

Third, we need to look at areas away from home that are different than our own (Samaria), but are still of similar influence. Samaria is within our boundaries, but still culturally different. Within the United States and Canada, there are countless Samarias. They include ethnic areas of large cities, inner city and rural areas, native reservations and large Spanish and French-speaking regions. Our ministry’s path should go through Samaria as well! Remember the woman at the well? Jesus’ path definitely went through Samaria!

And last, we need to allow our ministry to go beyond the borders of our country (to the ends of the earth). When we allow our ministry to go to the ends of the earth, crossing cultures is a given if not crossing oceans! This is the one area of ministry where we can go where Jesus (in His earthly body) did not. Yet, Jesus still commands us, “you WILL tell people about me everywhere to the ends of the earth.”

SO ARE MINISTRY (MISSION) TEAMS NECESSARY?

Can’t I just send money to Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth? Can’t I just pray for Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth? Do I have to go? I think that we need look no further than the heart of God for the answer to these questions. Why did Jesus have to come to earth Himself? Wasn’t there another way? Even in His prayer at Gethsemane, the night before the cross, Christ asked that same question (Luke 22:42). In Matthew 9:35-38, verse 36 describes Jesus having pity on the crowds that came. Crowds that He saw after “(He) traveled through all the cities and villages of that area.” Jesus had to come to earth personally because God is a personal God. No one less than His only Son could “cross-cultures” from heaven to earth and save us from our sins.

Money is needed in reaching the world and prayer is essential, but God’s people are indispensable. They are His hands and feet in the world. We have been given new opportunities in recent years to be Christ’s witnesses in this world. Advances in transportation (airfare), communication (Email) and finances have brought the ends of the earth closer than ever and Ministry Teams are an unprecedented means of opportunity for many Christians to reach out to the world like never before. A ministry (mission) team experience will change the way the people in your ministry look at the world around them. Your team members will lead the way in regards to missions and the local church’s responsibility. And, a ministry experience will challenge many to consider the call of career missionary or other Christian service. We challenge you to multiply your ministry’s influence far outside the walls of your own building and get involved in short-term missions.



Planning a Missions Trip (Joel Lopez)

In Robert Coleman's book, *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, Coleman states, "Contrary to our superficial thinking, there never was a distinction in His mind between home and foreign missions. To Jesus it was all world evangelism."

In developing your outreach or missions trip, be sure to have a purpose behind it. Oftentimes we do things just because it is what other churches do. We need to realize the importance of every moment we have with our flock before us. Studies have shown in times past the ratio of personal discipleship was 1:1, currently students need a 5:1 interaction. With divorce, fatherless homes and students being left to themselves, we need to make every moment count when we interact with our students.

Before Outreach and Missions trips our teams need to know Jesus. We do a great disservice to our teams by sending them out to tell others about Jesus when they themselves do not Him! Yet there is an incredible opportunity for personal discipleship in having teams with us as we do outreach and missions work. As you take these teams to the mission's field or community, they will have the opportunity to watch you and others interact with the world and each other and prayerfully see Jesus being lived out in you!

The following information I hope will aid you in your planning and developing outreach and missions trips.

I. Missions Trip

- a. Know where you are going
 - i. Try to take trips to team up with your church's missionaries.
 - ii. If you don't have a place to go, ask another Calvary or call CCCM for recommendations
- b. Develop a budget
 - i. Airfare
 1. Be sure to use the airlines group rates.
 2. Check on-line at www.travelzoo.com to see the going fare for your location. When getting a quote from the group desk, it should be cheaper than the going fare.
 3. It sometimes helps letting them know you are doing a missions trip, they oftentimes will let you bring your baggage for free.
 - ii. Lodging
 1. If your place of missions work doesn't have a facility tied to it that has lodging, food and transportation, you will need to shore up a place to stay.
 2. Look at hotels.com for group rates on rooms. They are very helpful and get great rates.
 3. Check the hotels you look at through hotels.com against tripadvisor.com. You can get a good feel about the hotels from what others have to say.
 4. It is nice to have an area where you can have group devotions and debriefings with the students.
 - iii. Transportation
 - This will vary according to where you are going.
 - Don't forget to add the cost of gas and insurance into this part!



- iv. Food
 - 1. Again, if food is not part of the missionaries arranged facilities you will need to budget this.
 - 2. While you book your hotels, it is helpful to see if they have a free continental breakfast in the morning. This can go a long way!
 - 3. Go to local grocery stores and get sandwich materials, cereal, chips, waters, etc. You can cut costs by making breakfast and lunches this way.
 - 4. If you are unable to do any of the above, you can develop a daily budget. For example, \$5 for breakfast, \$8 for lunch, \$15 for Dinner=\$23/dayX period of time there.
- v. Medical insurance
 - 1. I would always recommend medical insurance for the group, you never know when you might need it. I use www.daytripper.com.
 - 2. Also be sure to look at travel.gov to see the recommendations for immunizations and possible medications needed.
- vi. Miscellaneous
 - 1. I try to build a 10%contingency in the budget for overages in gas, etc.
 - 2. You may want to bring a “gift” for the missionaries.
 - 3. Build in costs of VBS materials, outreach things such as bibles, face paint, balloons, etc.
- vii. Fundraising
 - 1. Support letters to family and friends (invitation to tithe towards the trip)
 - 2. Bake sales at the church
 - 3. Movie nights
 - 4. Local restaurants- Chick-fil-a, Rubios, Rubys, etc.
 - 5. Car Washes
 - 6. Flyer in the church bulletin for work around homes and businesses. Have the team work together to build unity
- c. Team
 - i. Make the trip cost the students more than just money. Have them put some effort into the trip. Have them serve in Children’s ministry, coffee service, parking lot ushering, etc.
 - ii. Be sure to have leadership that will be a blessing and not a curse to you! You don’t want too many generals!
 - iii. Make sure you have a good ratio of leaders to kids and women to girls/men to boys
 - iv. Meet often to pray for each other, missionaries and families, the people you will be involved with, etc.
 - v. Having spiritual care groups is a great idea as well. Have your group break up into smaller groups with a leader to talk about a weekly scripture reference and to be able to discuss personal issues.
 - vi. It’s always good to have musicians, skit people, speakers and kid-friendly people on your team.

Last but not least....

-Team Communication is important! Find a way to communicate regularly with parents and prayer partners back home (Facebook, blog site, email updates).

-Invest in discipleship with your team. Be sure that your group leaders are relating with the students and praying with them regularly.



Sample Team Meeting Notes

Nicaragua Meeting Notes- 1/31/11

Calvary Chapel High School Missions Trip / February 3-13, 2010

Opening Worship: Chris De Ruyter / Simply Jesus in Spanish: Kristen Ramirez

Important Dates

- Tuesday, February 1 - Optional 4 PM packing party at the Charis warehouses
- Wednesday, February 2 – Craig will pray over the team members who will already be at the Refuge service.
- Thursday, February 3 - Meet at the Charis Gym at 7:30 PM (*Note the new departure time)

General Reminders

- Encourage your friends and family to check facebook.com/nicaragua2011 for team updates both before and during our trip.
- Luggage allowances from our airlines
 - o Carry-on baggage: 1 piece weighing up to 22lb, and measuring up to 45 linear inches.
- Please leave space in your carry-on to add: tour book, 20 tracts, 2 Gospels of John. You will collect these when you check in on Thursday night at the Charis Gym.
 - o Checked baggage: 1 piece each weighing up to 50lb, measuring up to 62 linear inches.
 - o NOTE: You will receive a second piece of luggage to check on your day of departure, along with a list of what is included in that bag. Items will include: VBS supplies, gifts for the missionaries, clothing, etc.

Packing Reminders (IMPORTANT). See the Facebook site for our full packing list.

- o Passport
- o Bible, Journal, Pen
- o At least one pair of closed toed shoes
- o Clothes for warm weather within the dress code requirements (especially remember the button down shirt for the men, and the two women outfits for Leon: shoulders covered and skirts only. Skirts must reach below the knee).
- o Modest bathing suit
- o Bug repellent
- o Personal medication
- o Spending Money. (optional). If you choose to bring spending money for snacks or souvenirs, please bring dollars and plan to change them to cordobas at the Managua airport. Suggested amount: no more than \$50-100.

Don't Pack:

- o Clothes that combine black and red exclusively
- o Anything that you would not like to be stolen or would contribute to the rich American stereotype

Flight Information

Departure date: Friday, February 4, 2011

Departure time: 12:40 AM, Los Angeles, LAX on TA 531/360

Arrival time: 9:37 AM, Augusto C. Sandino, Nicaragua



Inbound Flight - Connect through San Salvador
Departure date: Sun, February 13, 2011
Departure time: 17:30, Augusto C. Sandino, Nicaragua
Arrival time: 22:55, LAX, US on TA 361 / LR 670
Return to the Charis Building at approx. 1 AM on 02/14/11

Leadership Team

- The complete leadership team is below. Please know that each adult leader has been prayerfully selected. Our hope is that the leadership would encourage, inspire, and provide spiritual guidance to the team throughout the trip. Please feel free to contact any leader with any questions.
- Team Leaders/Counselors
- Jay Henry, jay.henry@calvaryschools.org
- Joel Lopez, joel.lopez@calvaryschools.org
- Art Pena, apena12@msn.com
- Steven Thompson, steveninsr@gmail.com
- Hannah Yardley, hannahyardley@calvarychapel.com
- Michelle Wright, michellewright@calvarychapel.com
- Art and Sharon Lopez-Hidalgo, aslhidalgo@gmail.com
- Sarah Yardley, sarahyardley7@gmail.com
- Juan and Laura Ramirez
- Jesse Rich, jesserich@calvarychapel.com

Spiritual Care

- Spend time in prayer for the trip!
that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
-Ephesians 3:20-21

Parent Information and Requests

- During the trip, we will make every effort to send out daily email updates. Due to the possibility of restricted internet, the updates might not be daily, but will be regular. Please check our Facebook page, facebook.com/nicaragua2011, and email nica2011@calvarychapel.com if you are NOT receiving updates currently. We will also email out leader cell phone numbers upon arrival in Nicaragua. If you have Skype, you can try to reach your students through the Skype account for Sarah Yardley.
- We still need a care package for one missionary, Jamil. Please see Hannah Yardley tonight if you are able to do this care package.
- We are planning to give students a note from their parents at the end of the trip. This note can include encouragements, what you are praying for them, a photo or candy bar from home, and anything else you'd like to share. You can email the note to nica2011@calvarychapel.com, or write one tonight. If you did not have a chance to pre-write, please see Laura Ramirez at the back and write your note tonight and leave it with her, as we want to be sure every student receives their note.



Detailed Itinerary

Friday, February 4

12:40 AM - Depart from LAX
 8:42 AM - Connect through San Salvador
 9:37 AM – Arrive in Nicaragua
 11:00 AM - Check into Hotel Teodolinda
 2:00 PM - Lunch at the Plaza Inter Mall
 3:00 PM - Leaders purchase supplies/ Team visits Children’s (Cancer) Hospital Mascota
 5:30 PM – Dinner at the hotel - Pizza
 8:00 PM - Closing devotions/spiritual care groups
 10 :00 PM - Bed

Saturday, February 5

8:00 AM – Devotions
 8:45 AM – Breakfast at the Hotel
 9:45 AM– Depart for CC Managua
 10:00 AM – Serve at Calvary Chapel Managua

- Painting Projects (Bakery, Bathroom, and Hallways)
- Invite kids from the neighborhood to the festival.

12:30 PM Lunch - McDonalds
 1:30 PM - Festival for 100 kids
 5:30 PM - Dinner - Mall
 7:30 PM - Return to the hotel
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups

Sunday, February 6

6:30 AM – Devotions
 7:00 - Breakfast at the Hotel
 7:30 AM – Leave for Calvary Chapel Managua
 8:00 AM – Calvary Chapel Managua

- Host the Sunday school
- Pick up 60-80 dump kids

12 Noon – Lunch Preparation
 12:30 PM – Lunch
 1:30 PM - Women’s Tea , including serving, worship, greeters, and skits / Zoo trip with children
 3:30 PM - Tea Begins
 5:00 PM - Zoo team returns
 5:30 PM - Depart from Calvary Chapel Managua
 6:00 PM – Dinner at the Plaza Inter Mall
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups

Monday, February 7

7:00 AM – Devotions
 7:30 AM – Breakfast at the hotel
 8:30 AM– Depart for Leon
 10:30 AM - Check in at the Hotel Europa , Leon
 11:30 AM - Head to CC Leon
 12:00 Noon - Lunch
 1:00 PM - Leaders shop for supplies /remaining team invites surrounding neighborhood to VBS
 2:00 PM – Gardening and Cleaning Project
 7:00 PM -Dinner
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups

Tuesday, February 8

7:00 AM – Devotions

7:30 AM – Breakfast at Hotel
 8:00 AM– Go to Capilla del Calvario Emanuel
 8:30 AM - Set up for tea and VBS
 10:00 AM – Women’s Tea and VBS
 12:30 PM - Lunch - Hot Dogs
 4:00- 6:00 PM - Church Service
 7:00 PM - Dinner
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups

Wednesday, February 9

7 AM – Devotions
 7:45 AM – Breakfast in Leon
 10 AM – Return to Managua
 10:30 AM - Outreach at Jamil’s
 12:00 Noon - Lunch - Pizza Hut
 1:00 PM - Feeding of children
 6:30 PM - Dinner at the Plaza Inter Mall
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/spiritual care groups

Thursday, February 10

7:00 AM – Devotions
 7:45 AM – Breakfast at the Hotel
 8:30 AM - Make sandwiches for the trip
 11:00 AM – Take kids from the church to Mombacho (50 kids) (in rented school bus)
 12:00 Noon - Sandwich lunch with the kids
 6:00 PM - Dinner at the Inter Plaza Mall
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups
 10:00 PM – Bed

Friday, February 11

8:00 AM - Devotions
 9:00 AM - Breakfast
 10:00 AM – Refugee Camp
 12:30 - Lunch
 4:00 PM - Leave for Montelimar
 6:00 PM - Arrive at Montelimar
 7 :00 PM – Dinner at the Hotel
 8 :00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups

Saturday, February 12

7:00 AM – Devotions
 7:45 AM - Breakfast in Montelimar Beach
 12:30 PM – Lunch in Montelimar Beach
 7 :00 PM - Return to Managua Hotel
 7:30 PM - Dinner - Return Tour Bus
 8:00 PM – Closing devotions/care groups

Sunday, February 13

7:00 AM – Devotions
 7:30 AM - Breakfast at the Hotel
 8:30 AM – Leave for Calvary Chapel Managua
 12:30 PM – Leaving for the airport
 1:00 PM - Lunch at airport
 5:30 PM - Flight leaves Managua
 10:45 PM - Land at LAX
 1:00 AM - Approximate return to Charis Building



Sample Outreach Budget Plan

Oh budgets... Very few people actually enjoy the financial planning involved with coordinating an event or conference, but understanding your financial boundaries and being fiscally responsible is an important part of successfully planning a church event. There are two main approaches to event planning where budget is concerned. It's important that you define with your church leadership whether the event is meant to cover its own costs (including staff payroll, printing, hospitality, etc) OR whether the church will be subsidizing the event, and what the overall subsidized budget will include.

A sample budget for a church event (from CC Boise) is below. Microsoft Excel and many other programs have excellent templates to help you build a budget for your event.

<i>Event Name</i> _____		<i>Date Submitted</i> _____	
Cost Breakdown			
Expenses:		Income:	
Location Fee	_____	Registration Fee	_____
Food costs	_____	Merchandise Sales	_____
Worship costs	_____	Other	_____
Labor (childcare, sound)	_____		
Airfare	_____		
Hotel	_____		
Equipment Rental	_____		
Gifts for speakers	_____		
Printing costs	_____		
Speaker Honorarium(s)	_____		
Other	_____		
Total Expenses	_____	Total Income:	_____

Notes:





Planning an Outreach (Mike Doyle)

1. Pray

2. Come up with a plan
3. Form a committee to help with the event
4. Form a focus group of your kids to give you feedback on what's cool and what kids are into
5. Research the right time and date to do it – don't compete with football games or other major events, do it during the right time of day, and the right time of year.
6. Come up with a cool name and theme
 - Be subtle – you don't want to turn people off before they ever even show up
 - Be creative, think out side the box, try something different and crazy
7. Dream big – have faith
8. Secure your venue – try to do it a cool, neutral venue
9. Start putting the line up together and securing the artists, speakers, and athletes you want for the event – I would be careful playing worship music at an outreach – try picking bands and athletes that are relevant to young people today. Some ideas:
 - a. Punk, rock, emo, hip hop bands
 - b. Skate demos
 - c. BMX demos
 - d. FMX demos
 - e. Film premieres
 - f. Surf and skate contests
10. Secure a good evangelist
11. Think through the schedule for the evening – keep it tight and moving – no down time. Don't let the event drag on to long where you lose the audience. Keep it short, tight ad effective.



12. Design and build all your promotional items: use every medium you can
 - a. Posters
 - b. Flyers
 - c. A Website
 - d. Trailers
 - e. Stickers
 - f. Newspaper ads
 - g. Myspace page
 - h. Facebook
 - i. Radio Ads
 - j. TV ads – you can get ads on MTV through your local cable provider
 - k. Business Marquees
 - l. Email blasts
 - m. Promo packets out to other churches
 - n. Faxes

13. Promote like crazy!!
 - a. People respond to events that are highly promoted and promoted well
 - b. 10% response from flyers
 - c. Use guerrilla marketing tactics
 - d. Flyers – www.nextdayflyers.com
 - e. Posters – [Kinkos/ Americasprinter.com](http://Kinkos.com)

14. Send press release with usable photos out to all the local media

15. At least three weeks out blanket your community in posters and flyers – read off handbook

16. Have kids pass them out at school

17. The day of the event
 - a. Have everything in place and ready to roll a half hour before the event starts
 - b. Keep the evening tight and on schedule
 - c. Be sure to have a good evangelist give the Gospel at the right moment and be sure to give people an opportunity to respond.

18. Have a good follow up plan in place.



Sample Outreach Timeline (Mike Doyle)

Three months out:

- a. Secure outreach venue and reserve the date and time
- b. Assemble leadership team and delegate responsibilities
- c. Start key planning
- d. Begin praying regularly – regular email prayer updates
- e. Approach local churches and ministries about getting involved
- f. Fax and email churches, ministries, and local Christians to notify them about the upcoming event so they can plan around it
- g. Research all the ways to promote the event: websites, ministries, magazines, radio, TV, etc.
- h. Draft a press release and contact local media to see if you can get them to run a story

Two months out:

- a. Design and order posters and flyers for the event
- b. Gather volunteers for security, counselors, promotional team, prayer, follow up team
- c. Lay out plan for the evening
- d. Develop follow up program
- e. Collect giveaway bibles and other follow up materials

One month out:

- a. Have posters and flyers COMPLETED (designed, printed, and in your possession)
- b. Have major event details resolved
- c. Start promotional push
- d. Follow up with local media, resend press release, see if you can get them to run a story on the event
- e. Organize volunteers: security, counselors, promotional team, follow up team, prayer warriors
- f. Get giveaway items

Three weeks out:

- a. Main promotional push
- b. Get posters and flyers to local churches, ministries and campus clubs.
- c. Put posters up in the community and begin distributing flyers
- d. Start praying daily for the event

Two weeks out:

- a. Distribute ALL of the flyers and posters – have promotional team in full gear
- b. Distribute all posters and flyers to all the various places listed in the Outreach guidelines
- c. Encourage churches and ministries to show movie trailer to their groups and to encourage them to bring their non-Christian friends to the event

One week out:

- a. Meet with venue manager and audio/visual tech and go over all the night's details and make sure that all the technical aspects of the evening are worked through
- b. Final meeting with leadership team
- c. Finalize any last details
- d. Keep promoting up to the night of the event



Outreach Planning as a Mom (Tami McKeown)

Whenever God gives me a vision for an event, I first commit it to prayer. For me it is very easy for me to charge ahead of what God may want to do with an event if I were to skip or forget this step. My goal in event planning is to be like oil seldom seen, or heard but one who makes things work better and run smoother for being there.

I make sure that I have my personal life in order before I start. If I know I have a special event coming up in a week or two I make sure I have meals planned for my family, my laundry is caught up, I usually change the way I take care of my house the weeks prior. I will break down chores into a few per day rather than taking a day to clean or cook. I also make sure I set aside time for exercise.

I have found that if I do this, it helps me keep my focus on the task at hand and that after the event is over, I don't feel like I am burnt out or overtaxed.

I have a spot at my house where I work on projects . When I am done I put everything on a chair by the front door, ready to go with me in the morning. This may sound like a silly step but for me it is like checking it off a list.

Sample Morning Routine

- Get up and make bed immediately
- As I am getting ready in the morning I wipe down the bathroom.
- Swish the toilet and clean off the counters.
- Eat and do devos.
- Start a load of laundry before I leave.
- I usually start my dishes at night so I can empty the dishwasher in the morning and before I have started my day I have 4-5 chores under my belt. It frees me up to focus on my day and what God has for me that day.

I also enlist the help of my family, I never want them to feel neglected or that any project I am working on is more important than them. In event planning there is always a situation that arises that is not your first skill set.(the thing you are best at I look for people who have that and give them the opportunity to be blessed by being a part of the ministry with me.

Sometimes that is my children. I have a musician for a son and when I need music for an event he is my go to guy. My daughter is very artistic and creative with spatial planning and has a gift for event planning as well so I often will bounce ideas off her to see if she has a different view of things.

On the Agape Board it is a beautiful thing to watch each woman discover their gifts and to be able to find just the perfect spot to be used by God. Each person brings their own flavor to every event.



Make a Project Planner for your event

I use a variety of resources, A couple of websites I use are:

Flylady.com for home organization(not everything will apply it's a little hokey at times.)

Cozi.com I love this website and I use the BENTO app for iPhone and iPad

Use what works with how your brain works. If it doesn't work for YOU ...It DOESN'T Work!

When the event is planned , I start a project planner and get it on all my calendars and begin praying for it. I make notes and start assembling a team, based on skill sets and needs.

It is very important to have a framework but not to be too set in your mind that you don't allow the flexibility to let God change it to the way He wants it to be.

2 months prior

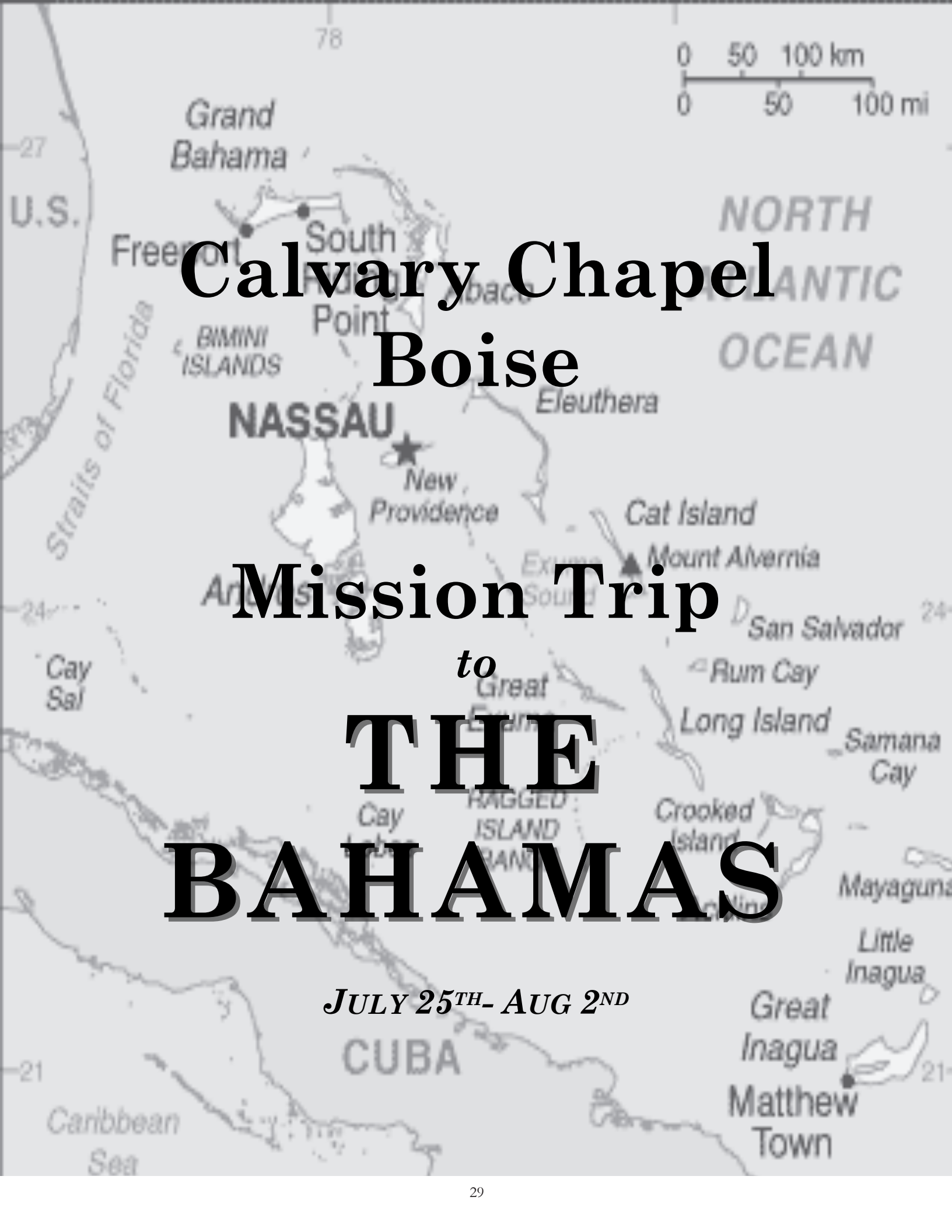
I make a checklist for things we can start on 1 month, 3 weeks, 2weeks, 1 week , 3 days, day before and day of the event. You can sit down early and organize your thoughts. I usually keep these on a clipboard and I write in pencil so they can be changed.

I also find out what my budget is and start right pending on the way on researching costs on the event. What I have started doing and have had great results with is community partnerships.

I have several vendors that I work with for events . When I book them I usually will ask them to do a Buy one get one deal with whatever I am purchasing or If they are donating something for our event , I will try to give them the opportunity to offer a coupon or a flier to the people at the event . It is a perk for your attendees and a way to say Thank You to the vendors for their help.

It also is a community builder . It allows us as a church and school to be a blessing to our community especially in a tough economic time such as this.

*Email sarahyardley7@gmail.com to request a PDF with additional handouts and samples from Tami.

A grayscale map of the Bahamas archipelago is the background. The map shows the main islands and surrounding waters. A scale bar in the top right corner indicates distances in kilometers (0, 50, 100) and miles (0, 50, 100). The text 'Calvary Chapel Boise' is centered over the map in a large, bold, black serif font. Below it, 'Mission Trip' is also centered in a similar font. The word 'to' is smaller and italicized. 'THE BAHAMAS' is written in the largest, boldest, black serif font across the middle of the map. At the bottom, the dates 'JULY 25TH- AUG 2ND' are centered in an italicized serif font. Various island names like Grand Bahama, Nassau, and Great Inagua are visible on the map.

Calvary Chapel
Boise

Mission Trip

to

THE
BAHAMAS

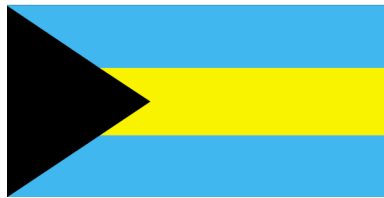
JULY 25TH- AUG 2ND

Welcome to the beginning of an incredible journey with the Lord to The Bahamas. We are excited that you are part of this missions team to The Bahamas and know that God is going to do incredible things IN you and THROUGH you.

The Missions Ministry sees this time of preparation and training equally as important as the ministry you will do while in The Bahamas. The Bible encourages us to *“be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15)*. We want you to be able to minister in The Bahamas to the best of your ability and have designed these training sessions to accomplish that. Our commitment to you is to provide you with the necessary tools and information to be confident as you minister to the Bahamian people. In order for that to happen, you will need to:

1. Attend every training session.
2. Participate in class discussions and contribute your thoughts, ideas and questions along the way.
3. Be diligent to complete each homework and reading assignment before the next session.
4. Be praying that God will teach you and grow you up through this training process so you will be able to use what you have learned to share the love of Jesus in The Bahamas.

“The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38



Session One- Meetings Schedule

Team Training Schedule

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Subjects Covered</u>	<u>Homework</u>
Tuesday July 20 @ 4:00	* Introduction * Team Builder – Ball game * HIV/AIDS myths vs. facts * Team Covenant * Packing List * Prayer	* Read Team Covenant and answer questions
Friday, July 24 @ 5:30	* Prayer * Cultural Info * Evangelism Training * Bridge Builder * Team Builder * Team Work Factor * Avoiding Christianese * Logistics	* Next meeting bring: insurance info and release

Session One- Team Unity

Team Unity

If you have any encouragement
From being united with Christ,
If any comfort from His love,
If any fellowship with the Spirit,
If any tenderness and compassion,
Then make my joy complete
By being like minded,
Having the same love,
Being one in spirit and purpose.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition
Or vain conceit,
But in humility
Consider others better than yourselves.

Each of you should
Look not only to your own interests,
But also to the interests of others.

Your attitude should be the same
As that of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:1-5

SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIP TEAM COVENANT

The most common reason that short-term mission teams experience difficulty is interpersonal conflict within the team. In order to function as a unified team, it is important to agree on a policy of acceptable attitude and behavior prior to going to the mission field. The following Team Covenant is an agreement between each team member, one to another, and the team leaders:

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

Our purpose is to allow God to work through us as a team to glorify Him and demonstrate His love to others.

FLEXIBILITY:

1 Corinthians 9:9 states, *"For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more."* We agree as a team to be flexible in our attitudes, actions and circumstances as we allow Christ's purposes to be carried out through us. *"To the weak I am weak; I have become all things to all men that I may by all means save some."* 1 Corinthians 9:22.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

Philippians 2:3 states, *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself."* In all our actions on this mission trip, we are individually accountable to God above all. We agree to be accountable to the team leaders, supervisors and other members of our team. We also agree to encourage each other to be faithful servants of God. Hebrews 10:24 states, *"But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called 'today' lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."*

RESPONSIBILITY:

Philippians 2:4 states, *"Do not merely look out for your personal interests, but also for the interests of others."* As team members, we pledge to carry out our tasks in a responsible and timely manner. We will handle all ministry equipment and assignments as tools and gifts that God has entrusted to us. *"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."* Colossians 3:23.

TIME/PUNCTUALITY:

Philippians 2:3 states, *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself."* We agree to exhibit respect to team members and others by arriving on time and carrying out tasks on time. If a situation arises that causes one to be late, we agree to inform leaders and/or team members right away. We agree that time is given to us for God to accomplish His purposes and being punctual is an outward display of using God-given time wisely.

CULTURE:

As a team, we realize that we are entering other cultures as guests. We will, to the best of our ability, refrain from passing judgment on customs that are foreign to us because they are simply different. We realize that we answer first and foremost to God; therefore we will refrain from any activities that violate God's Word. If this occurs, we will be sensitive as to how we approach this, explaining to the best of our ability the reason for our inability to participate in whatever activity is presenting itself. As a team, we will strive to show respect to those who are native to the country in which we are ministering by learning their customs and culture as well as living as they do. We hope that we may gain credibility as people with a genuine love for them as we labor to present the news of Christ to them.

GIFTS:

We are being instructed not to give out any form of gift – cash or otherwise. Regardless of how noble our intentions may be, as visitors to a country, we have no way of knowing the ramifications a monetary or other gift could cause. We promise to walk by faith, trusting we have been asked to do this for the *benefit* of the receiver. We acknowledge that even the smallest failure to do so could result in deep and lasting consequences for the recipient and the ministries we represent, and therefore understand that any compromise in this may result in the team member's immediate return home. Psalm 9:18 promises, "*For the needy shall not always be forgotten, the expectation of the poor shall not perish forever.*" We will trust the Lord to fulfill His promises, and will take heart in His Word when overwhelmed by the needs we see. We promise to react in prayer and compassion, not impulse, and to seek effective ways of contributing that will result in lasting change.

Session One- Team Covenant

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO:

1 Corinthians 9:22 states, "*I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.*" In order to express the best image for Christ as possible, and in light of the alcohol-related problems so rampant in many countries, we will abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages and using narcotics. It is also recommended that everyone abstain from using tobacco products, allowing God the opportunity to work in this area of someone's life. If someone needs to smoke, he or she will be extremely sensitive to other teammates and those who are watching our Christian witness by not smoking in hotel rooms, the bus, or with the group.

TRAVEL:

Before planning any trips outside of our pre-scheduled group itinerary, we will discuss it with the team leader. We will not travel anywhere without another team member. We agree to stay together in a group wherever we may go, unless given permission to be apart from the group.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

As a team, we agree that when we have conflicts and differences among ourselves, we will, first through prayer and time in the Word, examine ourselves for selfish motives and unrealistic expectations of the other person. We will take responsibility to approach or confront the other person if it is appropriate. We will do this in love, for the purpose of restoring unity. We will forgive one another and pray together. We will not discuss the matter with other members of the team, causing them to become involved in the conflict. "*In your anger, do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.*" Ephesians 4:26-27. If a conflict cannot be settled among the two parties, they will then seek counsel from the group leader.

TEAM UNITY:

We agree that being united as a team means that as in Philippians 2:1-2, we must be *"like minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose."* We will accomplish this as outlined in Philippians 2:3-8: *We will do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility, consider others better than ourselves. We will look not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

We realize that each team member is vital and has something unique to contribute; he or she should be encouraged and given opportunity to develop and utilize his/her spiritual gifts. Romans 12:4-6 states, *"For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. And since we have gifts that differ, according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly."*

Session One- Team Covenant

GOSSIP:

As a team we agree to speak only words to and about each other that will serve to build up and encourage. We will refrain from remarks that would hurt or tear down.

"With the tongue we will praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?" James 3:9-11.

EMERGENCY OR CONTINGENCY PLAN:

If an emergency or crisis develops, the team will follow the following principles:

1. Whatever action is taken, the TEAM STAYS TOGETHER. There is no room for individual action. If a team member is away from the group at the time of the event, he or she will immediately return to the group and contact the group leader.
2. Once the team leader is contacted, he or she will assess the situation and make further contingency plans. If necessary, he or she will contact a supervisor from Calvary Chapel Boise, who will be a communication link to our families.
3. A decision to leave an area will be made in conjunction with the team leader, the Calvary Chapel Boise supervisor and national leaders in country. The team leader or team members will not seek to make a decision without consultation with local national leaders. They know the situation best and know the best way to leave the area.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD:

Luke 10:27 states, *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and love your neighbor as yourself."* As team members, we agree to seek out an ever-increasing dependence and deepening relationship with God through Christ by setting personal devotions as a priority and humility before God in all communication and circumstances.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS:

God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble. Proverbs 3:34 states, *"Though He scoffs at the scoffers, yet He gives grace to the afflicted."* We also seek to place other team members' needs ahead of our own and seek out understanding in all relationships. We will respect each other by submitting to one another out of reverence to Christ. Ephesians 5:21 states, *"...and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ."* This includes listening to each other's opinions, ideas and needs, and respecting time, property, and sleep.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH NATIONALS:

In our relationships with nationals we will be obedient to the absolute truth of God and be women and men of integrity in our behaviors and motives. We will respect any cultural differences we may encounter. In all circumstances, we will seek to glorify God. We will demonstrate our love for God and others to the community, educational leaders and interpreters by respecting their opinions and differences. We will support their endeavors by coming alongside them with servant hearts and teachable spirits. 1 Peter 4:8-10 states, *"Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."*

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX:

We will uphold the directives of Calvary Chapel Boise by maintaining relationships with other team members as brothers and sisters in Christ and friendship. We will not engage in dating relationships with each other or with nationals. We will also respect other cultural values of relationships with the opposite sex.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEAM LEADERS:

In light of Romans 13:1, *"Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities,"* we will respect our God-given leadership by understanding their responsibility, accepting their decisions, and praying before we approach them with our disagreements. While submitting to and obeying their authority, we will treat them as friends and give them privacy at the proper times.

CALVARY CHAPEL OF BOISE SHORT TERM POLICIES: As a short-term team member participating with Calvary Chapel Boise short-term missions, we are reminded that we are ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we go to minister, we do not only represent Him but the United States and Calvary Chapel Boise. This is a tremendous responsibility; consequently, we confess our dependence on the Holy Spirit to empower us to be above reproach in our actions and attitudes as stated in the above Team Covenant.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
John 13:34-35



Questions to Consider

1. Why do you think it is important that each member of the team agree to the Team Covenant?
2. Was there anything in the Covenant that you would not be able to agree to?
3. What areas do you think will be the most challenging for you during this mission trip?

AGREEMENT TO TEAM COVENANT

I, _____, as a team member of a short-term mission trip with Calvary Chapel Boise, have read this Team Covenant and promise before God and this team to abide by all of the policies and statements contained therein, by the grace of God.

If at any time in my service on this short-term mission, my behavior constitutes a problem, Calvary Chapel Fort Boise reserves the right and authority to send me home. Any additional costs incurred as a result of this action will be at my expense.

Signature: _____
Date: _____

Please sign and date this form, remove it from this booklet and return it in to the Missions Ministry.

Suggested Packing Items

In your carry-on bag:

- Passport, plane tickets and 1 other form of photo identification
- Prescription medicines in original containers
- At least 1 change of clothes
- Earplugs
- iPod
- Camera
- Medical Insurance card, phone card, driver's license
- Cash (in small bills, not higher than \$20's)
- Snacks for traveling

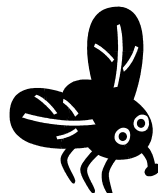
Suggestions to put in a daily backpack or tote bag:

- Sunglasses, lip balm, Sunscreen, hand cream
- Visor or hat
- Hand sanitizer, anti bacterial baby wipes
- First aid kit, stomach medications
- Toilet tissues in a travel pack
- Raincoat
- Camera



Basics:

- Basic wardrobe including work pants and shirts (long pants, long sleeved shirts, and closed toed shoes – these items will get dirty)
- Conservative church clothes (*men: slacks, women: skirts*)
- Rain jacket
- Underwear and socks
- One piece swimsuit
- Dress shoes, all-purpose sandals
- Toiletries-bathroom caddy (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo & conditioner, personal medication, washcloth, makeup)
- Sunscreen
- Feminine hygiene items
- Work gloves (marked with your name)
- Sleeping bag/ Blanket
- Pillow
- Garbage bag for dirty clothes
- Travel Alarm and a watch
- Small Flashlight
- Bible, pen, notebook
- Insect repellent with **Deet**





Luggage: You are permitted to bring ONE **check-in** piece of luggage that does not exceed 50 pounds and is no more than 62 inches (length+ width + height) and ONE **carry-on** piece that does not exceed 36 inches (length + width + height). The size for the carry-on is roughly the size of a lap-top computer bag. All measurements should include wheel base.

We recommend that you choose a backpack as your carry-on piece of luggage; since you will need something to carry your daily needs (bottle of water, Bible, notebook, snacks, jacket, etc). *You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage. Please make sure you can lift your luggage and carry it.*



Note about Clothing: As Christian ambassadors in another country, we want to remember to dress modestly because what is culturally appropriate to us may be considered inappropriate or even vulgar in another culture.

Meals and Drinking Water: It is **NOT** safe to drink the water in The Bahamas. Drink only bottled water. Avoid drinks with ice. Feel free to eat meals provided to you without concern. However, please be wise and do not eat too much of something that you do not ordinarily eat, since your body may react to a drastic change in your diet.



Most days you will eat breakfast and dinner at the Adventure Learning Camp. Lunch will almost always be away from ALC that we will prepare before hand. You may bring food from home (packaged meats or lunches, power bars, nuts and dried fruits, etc.).

Calvary Chapel Boise Release of Liability

I understand that there is a risk associated with traveling, and therefore I agree to release Calvary Chapel Boise and any related corporate entities, organizations and their staff, volunteers, or representatives associated with sponsoring the trip to the Bahamas on July 25- Aug 2, 2009 (Calvary Chapel Church, Inc., Adventure Learning Centre) for any injury, accident, or illness that may occur during the trip, including medical and hospitalization costs.

I authorize any medical care deemed necessary by accredited physicians, nurses, paramedics, or hospitals during this trip. I will be responsible for any additional costs that are incurred as a result of my injury or failure to follow the Team Covenant.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

If a Minor, parental signature required: _____

Date: _____

**BAHAMAS MISSION TRIP
MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

BLOOD TYPE: _____

Prescription Medications: _____

Any Known Allergies: _____

Any Known Medical Problems: _____

Comments: _____

DON'T LIST 800 OR 888 PHONE NUMBERS, THEY ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR INTERNATIONAL DIALING

Contact in the Event of an Emergency: _____

Relationship to You: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

PROOF OF INSURANCE: Please attach any additional information about travel insurance to this form.

Medical Insurance Company: _____

Phone Number for International Contact: _____

Policy Number: _____

Primary Care Dr. if HMO: _____

Phone Number of Dr.: _____

The “RULES” will be different

A glimpse at a few Bahamian cultural differences

- **Greetings**

Greetings and salutations (*saying “good morning, afternoon or evening”*) are very important. Failing to greet others can be viewed as being rude.

- **Interaction between Men and Women**

Male and female roles are actually more traditionally defined in the Bahamas than in the USA. Modest interaction is acceptable and encouraged.

- **Time vs. Event**

Bahamians are “event” oriented as opposed to “time” oriented. Events (*meetings, performances, services*) often do not start until everyone involved has arrived... even if this means they start very late (*especially true for performances/assemblies*), and events rarely end on time if they are not finished.

- **Relational vs. Task**

Most everything is a “group effort” in the Bahamas, and people take care of each other. For example: people without cars don’t plan ahead on who will take them home and when, they just show up. When the time comes to leave, they ask around until they find a ride. They always get taken care of without a problem.

- **Spiritual**

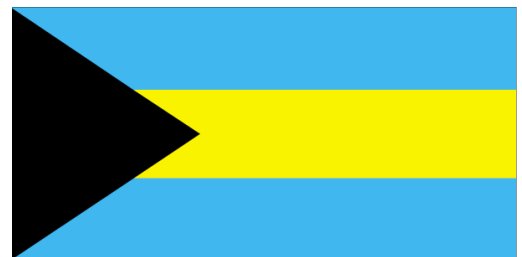
Although most people in the Bahamas will tell you they are Christians, it is much more religion rather than relationship. The Bahamas is very traditional when it comes to the spiritual temperature of the country.



THE

BAHAMAS

at a glance



Location: Caribbean, chain of islands in the North Atlantic Ocean, southeast of Florida, northeast of Cuba.

Background

The Commonwealth of the Bahamas, as the country is officially known, is an independent member of the Commonwealth of Nations. The location, climate, and geography of the Bahamas combine to make the islands a popular tourist destination. The first place Christopher Columbus landed when he came to the New World in 1492 was an island of the Bahamas. Columbus claimed the island for Spain and named it San Salvador. At the time of Columbus' landing in 1492, the Bahamas were inhabited by a group of Arawak Indians known as the Lucayans. Over the following decades, the Spanish carried off many of the original inhabitants to serve as slaves on other islands, and the native population was eventually decimated.

British settlement of the islands began in 1647; the islands became a colony in 1783. Since attaining independence from the UK in 1973, The Bahamas have prospered through tourism and international banking and investment management. Because of its geography, the country is a major transshipment point for illegal drugs, particularly shipments to the US and Europe, and its territory is used for smuggling illegal migrants into the US.

People

The number of tourists that visit the Bahamas each year is more than four times greater than the population of the islands. Only a few dozen of the islands are inhabited. More than half of Bahamians live on New Providence. The majority of the population is descended from African slaves and settlers from Britain, Bermuda, and the United States. About 85 percent of the population is black. There are no surviving descendants of the original Native American inhabitants who lived on the island when Columbus landed.

Population: 307,451

note: estimates for this country explicitly take into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality, higher death rates, lower population growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected (July 2008 est.)

Age Structure:

- 0-14 years: 26.4% (male 40,608/female 40,506)
- 15-64 years: 66.9% (male 101,150/female 104,457)
- 65 years and over: 6.7% (male 8,472/female 12,258) (2008 est.)

Ethnic Groups: black 85%, white 12%, Asian and Hispanic 3%

Religions: Baptist 35.4%, Anglican 15.1%, Roman Catholic 13.5%, Pentecostal 8.1%, Church of God 4.8%, Methodist 4.2%, other Christian 15.2%, none or unspecified 2.9%, other 0.8% (2000 census)

Languages: English (official), Creole (among Haitian immigrants)

Literacy: *definition:* age 15 and over can read and write
total population: 95.6%; *male:* 94.7%; *female:* 96.5% (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate: 3% (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS – people living with AIDS: 5,600 (2003 est.)

Land

Area:

- *total:* 13,940 sq km
- *land:* 10,070 sq km
- *water:* 3,870 sq km

Area Comparative: slightly smaller than Connecticut

Climate: tropical marine; moderated by warm waters of Gulf Stream

Terrain: long, flat coral formations with some low rounded hills

Elevation Extremes: *lowest point:* Atlantic Ocean 0 m; *highest point:* Mount Alvernia, Cat Island 63 m

Natural Resources: salt, aragonite, timber, arable land

Natural Hazards: hurricanes and other tropical storms cause extensive flood and wind damage

Government Type: constitutional parliamentary democracy

Capital: Nassau

Economy: Possessing a pleasant subtropical climate and splendid beaches, the Bahamas are one of the most popular year-round resorts in the Western Hemisphere. Tourism plays a central role in the country's economy and has helped make the Bahamas one of the wealthiest countries in the Caribbean region. Tourism has a downside, however. The huge numbers of visitors damage the island nation's environment.

Geography: The Bahamas comprise an archipelago of about 700 islands and islets and nearly 2,400 cays (pronounced "keys"). The Biminis, the westernmost of the group, are about 97 km (about 60 mi) east of Miami, Florida. The Bahamas make up the northern end of an island chain called the West Indies that stretches through the Caribbean Sea all the way to South America.

Most of the islands in the Bahamas are low and rocky. Cat Island, the highest, rises only about 122 m (400 ft) above sea level. Many areas are covered with ponds, mangrove swamps, and forests. There are lots of cave systems both above ground and underwater.

Being a Bridge Builder

As a short-term missionary you are “plopped” down into a culture quite different from your own. The behavior, values, and beliefs of the people may differ greatly from those familiar to you. With time you may come to notice the common denominators between yourself and those you meet. But the differences will hit you first.

Cultural differences might be pictured the following way: There are two cliffs. On one side is the North American way of life and on the other is the way of life found in The Bahamas. In between these cliffs looms a large chasm. In order for the two cultures to meet and understand one another, a BRIDGE must be built connecting the two sides.

Imagine this upcoming journey to The Bahamas as an apprenticeship in bridge building. You can lay the beams, erect scaffolding, and forge cables that make communication between these two worlds possible. Surprise those in The Bahamas with your initiative at bridge building and you will find their hands joining yours.

Building the bridge involves a number of things you can think through before going, as well as others you can work on while you are there. Unfortunately, some people go on short-term trips and never work at building the bridge. They deprive themselves of some very important personal experiences, which tragically limits their understanding and curtails their growth.

Bridge building is an exciting challenge! In fact, we believe you will come to appreciate the world opening to you so much that you will continue to build bridges for the rest of your life.

Bridge Building Involves Examining Your Stereotypes:

All of us maintain certain stereotypes about other people. Some are based on elements of truth. Others grow out of myths or false perceptions. It is unfair to judge or evaluate a person based on stereotypes about the group to which he or she belongs. God created individuals who are uniquely different and should be treated as such.

You cannot change the fact that you are an American. You will be perceived stereotypically from time to time. This is not all bad. Stereotypes can have some merit and facilitate understanding. But as you know from experience, not every individual embodies all the characteristics of a particular stereotype. To be a bridge builder, you need to understand the reasons behind stereotypes. We “bomb the bridge” when we judge people without attempting to understand or allow them a chance to explain themselves.

There are three “roles” you will play during this short-term mission trip that will contribute to your ability as a bridge builder:

As a “GUEST” in the culture. Think of being a guest in someone’s home. How would you behave, react, interact, etc.? Or conversely, what expectations would you have of a guest in your home? What might please and/or irritate you?

As a “STUDENT” of the culture. Think of yourself as a person who is there to study and learn. How does a student in school get an A? What behaviors contribute to their success?

As a “SERVANT” in the culture. Think of being a person who serves everyone he or she encounters in the country. How does a servant approach those whom he or she serves? How does a servant handle differences in others?

**Stereotypes North Americans Have
About People in Other Countries:**

Negative:

Inefficient
Needing help
Lazy
Slow
Indifferent
Corrupt
Uneducated
Controlled by customs

Positive:

Interdependent with family
Living in harmony with life
Content
Considerate of others

Stereotypes Other Countries Have of North Americans:

Negative:

Aggressive
Tense
Discontent
Lonely
Corrupt
Wealthy and materialistic
Dominating
Loud and obnoxious
Competitive

Positive:

Educated
Reliable
Strong individuals
Secured better lives
Free of superstitions
Confident
Organized

Questions for Reflection:

1. As you look through this list, what is your reaction? How do you feel?
2. Which of these apply to you? Would others see those in you?
3. Do you feel that you hold some of the stereotypes listed about people in other countries?
4. How might these stereotypes hinder the bridge building process?

Bridge Building Involves the Following Applications:

Accepting:

Accept the fact that you will not completely understand the people in just one trip. This is just a beginning, so don't become too frustrated with yourself or think that you have become an expert.

Awareness:

Be aware that at times you may feel your prejudices. You may become frustrated with the way things are or the way people behave. Don't deny the feelings; own up to them. Only then can you begin to understand the reasons behind them. Why are you frustrated? Being aware will help you grow in understanding the differences.

Listening:

Listen more than you talk. You are there to learn, not instruct. The right to instruct is earned only after demonstrating respect.

Giving:

Give of yourself. Take the initiative in group settings to reach out to the nationals. People on short-term trips can tend to shy away from contact with nationals, especially if they aren't fluent in the language. Go ahead! Take a risk and try to speak the language. People will really appreciate the effort. And don't worry; they'll forgive you when you mess up.

Enjoying:

Enjoy the people, their culture, and their language. If you don't take yourself too seriously, you can have more fun. Help create an environment where they can enjoy you, your culture, and language, just as you aim to enjoy theirs.

Session Two – Bridge Building

Things that can BUILD bridges:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Affirmation | A favor |
| Information | Listening |
| Clarification | An explanation |
| An admission | A verbal apology |
| Approval | Acquiescence |
| A compliment | Reverse action of "Bombs" |
| Correction | A game or recreational activity |



Things that can "BOMB" bridges:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Cutting in when he is speaking | Disagreeing with him |
| Laughing at his statements | Not listening to him |
| Questioning his facts | Acting superior to him |
| Showing lack of confidence in him | Arguing with him |
| Talking down to him | Insisting on being right |
| Over-reacting to what he says | Making comparisons to your home culture |
| Not acknowledging his ideas | Criticizing country and customs |
| Avoiding eye contact with him | Making sincere compliments |
| Forgetting his name | Using inappropriate body language and gestures |
| | Speaking with too much volume |

Adapted from "Being a Bridge Builder" from David C. Cook Publishing Vacations with a Purpose, Team Members Manual, 1993.

The Teamwork Factor

Just what does teamwork mean? What are the traits of a team player? We have come up with fourteen words that form the basis of what we call the "Teamwork Factor", traits exhibited by those who are pitching-in to do their part for the good of the group.

T is for Teachable: A teachable spirit helps create a noncompetitive environment in which learning and sharing come naturally. Teachability gives all members the freedom to make mistakes as they learn.

E is for Encouraging: Think of how encouraging words enhance the development of a team. What differences do they make?

A is for Appreciative: What things can we appreciate in others on the team? How can we show our appreciation?

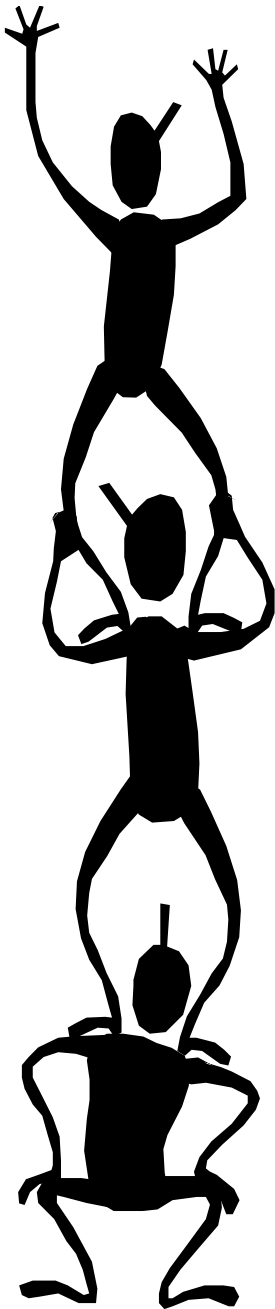
M is for Motivated: Take initiative. Do all things as unto the Lord! (Colossians 3:17, 23)

W is for Willing: Team members have different levels of strength, skill, and health, but each should be willing to work to the best of his or her capabilities. Willingness also includes accepting uncomfortable conditions in the host country.

O is for Open: Be open with what you are learning, experiencing, feeling, thinking, etc. Express both the positive and negative. Your vulnerability with others builds community within the team.

R is for Refreshing: The times may be tough – heat, sickness, exhaustion, work, emotional drain, and so on. In those times it will be incredibly refreshing to have another team member help pick up your spirits! Think about how you can be replenishers to each other on a daily basis.

K is for Kindred Spirit: There's a sense of camaraderie as we pursue this together. We are all part of the Christian family and we're all in this together.



F is for Flexible: Anything can change from day to day. A flexible team member will learn to accept the unexpected as the norm.

A is for Agreeable: Living together in close quarters, sharing crowded bathing facilities, and every other aspect of group travel requires everyone to be gracious.

C is for Cooperative: Share with one another, help, and assist one another. Instead of grumbling about problems, propose solutions!

T is for Thoughtful: What can you do to make a teammate's day a little easier?

O is for Obedient: There will be times when the team leader has to "pull rank" and make unpopular decisions. A team player will respect the leader's authority and encourage others to do the same.

R is for Relational: Get to know the others on your team. Go out of your way to learn about their hopes, their dreams, and their history.

Avoiding "Christianese"

Try to Avoid

Use instead

BORN AGAIN

Spiritual birth, spiritual renewal, to become alive spiritually, to receive a new spiritual nature, given a new life

SAVED

Rescued, delivered from an old life

LOST

Heading in the wrong direction, separated from God

JUSTIFIED

Pardoned, acquitted in heaven's court, received a favorable

SANCTIFIED

Separated out for special use by God

GOSPEL

Gods' message to man, the basic facts concerning Christ's purpose and work on earth

REDEEMED

Rescued, released for a ransom, to purchase ones' freedom

SIN

Rejecting God, missing the mark, falling away from the right path, a crime against God's law, disobedience to God, failure in God's eyes

FAITH

Trust, conviction, or reliance upon belief

SALVATION

To be rescued from the penalty and power of death, to be given spiritual life through God

REPENT Admit a wrong, change one's mind, change one's heart or attitude, make a decision to turn 180 degrees from what one does

INVITE CHRIST INTO YOUR HEART Make a decision to accept Jesus Christ, to believe in God's plan for eternal life

Session Two Homework – Travel Hints

Travel Precautions: Sometimes when traveling, we forget to exercise the same caution that we do at home. Here are a few things to remember:



- Keep a copy of your passport in your luggage in case your passport is lost or stolen.
- Keep a list of the travel phone numbers with you in case you get separated from the group.
- For security reasons, do not leave luggage unattended in any public areas.
- NEVER venture out alone; always take at least one other person with you.
- In any crowded place, keep your backpacks and hip packs in front of you. Most thefts take place in crowded places, so be aware.
- Be very aware of where your valuables are... don't leave your backpack open, don't have your wallet in your back pocket easily accessible to pickpockets, don't lay your wallet/purse down and step away from it. Watch out for others on your team as well.
- Drink plenty of water, especially during construction projects to avoid dehydration.
- Don't bring anything with you that you can't afford to lose.
- Avoid friendly embraces from strangers and children. They may be trying to pickpocket you.
- **Do not criticize the country, the people, or the food. If you are having a problem, see a Team Leader.**
- Clean out your wallet before you leave. Take only necessary identification and credit cards with you. It is advisable to secure some type of special "pouch" for carrying money, credit cards, and passport.

Room Etiquette: Since you will be sharing a room with other people, here are a few guidelines that will make for an enjoyable trip:

- If you are an early riser and your roommates are not (or vice versa), make sure that you do not disturb them either with noise or light.
- Be sensitive to each other's needs for "quiet-time" or simply some "down-time" for reflection.



Calling Home: We recommend that you plan to bring a phone card from your long distance company with you to The Bahamas or purchase a prepaid calling card from Walgreens or Costco. You will also be able to use your cell phone if you wish, but be mindful that the cost per minute is \$2.00.

Money Exchange: The Bahamian dollar has the same value as the American dollar. For that reason, you will not need to exchange any money as both currencies are accepted.

Medicines: Be sure to pack enough of your prescribed medications to last through the trip. In The Bahamas, you may need a prescription for medications that are sold over the counter in the U.S. If you use a life-dependant medication, you may want to get your doctor to write an *equivalent* prescription to take with you. You should also pack aspirin, Tums, or similar items you use at home and feel you might need on the trip. **DO NOT have loose or unmarked prescriptions with you. Drug enforcement is strict in The Bahamas.**



Spending Money: Depending on your shopping intentions \$50 to \$80 in small bills should be sufficient. We suggest that you take enough money to pay for items that are not included such as meals at the airport, bottled water, snacks, beverages, souvenirs, and other items. We recommend that you travel with smaller denominations of bills (NO 50'S OR 100'S).



Credit Cards and ATM cards can be used in The Bahamas. Make sure you call your credit card company or bank to inform them you will be using your credit card/ bank card in THE BAHAMAS. They will ask you what your dates of travel are, so be prepared with this information. (October 2-7, 2008)

Cameras, etc.: Be sure you know how to operate your camera, especially if it is borrowed. Remember to pack your camera charger or extra batteries. You will want to put these items in your carry-on luggage. You can bring a video camera. Be sure to have enough video-cassettes and at least two batteries. Make sure to pack more film than you need or to bring an extra memory chip if using a digital camera.



NOTE: Please use sensitivity when using your camera or video recorder. Ask permission to take someone's picture, rather than assuming it is okay. You may be approached by someone wanting to have their picture taken.



Session Two Homework– Travel Hints

YOU ARE TRAVELING AS A TOURIST! When filling out any customs or entry forms to enter The Bahamas, indicate the purpose of your travel as tourist. Identifying yourself as part of a "missionary trip" may require additional resident visas or travel documents that you will not have as a "short-termer". The term Missionary means different things in different countries.



Don't forget the spiritual! We all tend to spend a lot of time preparing for a trip by purchasing, packing, making lists, and handling last minute details. Don't forget to spend time preparing yourself spiritually for the trip through prayer and devotions.

Leave some information behind! It is a good idea to make a copy of your passport, your travel itinerary and important phone numbers to leave with a family member or friend in the U.S.

Session Two Homework– Travel Schedules

Travel Schedules

Departure from Calvary Chapel:

We will be meeting at Calvary Chapel on Saturday, July 25 at **1:30pm** for a brief team meeting. You **MUST** be on time so we can go over any final instructions, pray and then depart for Salt Lake City by 3:00pm. Calvary Chapel will provide transportation to the Airport in Salt Lake.



Your Vehicles: We are able to provide long-term parking at Calvary Chapel for your vehicle if necessary. If you need to leave your car at the church, let me know before hand so I can let the staff know its not an abandoned vehicle. We would suggest that you have someone drop you off at the church on Saturday. We should arrive back at Calvary Chapel between 11 & 12 midnight on Sunday August 2.

Bahamas Air Itinerary:

Sunday, July 26, 2009

Depart SLC, UT: **12:30 AM**
Arrive Atlanta GA: 6:05 AM
Depart Atlanta GA: 9:35 AM
Arrive NAS Bahamas: 11:45 AM

Saturday, August 1, 2009

Depart NAS: **12:34 PM**
Arrive Atlanta GA, 2:48 PM
Depart Atlanta GA, 6:30PM
Arrive SLC, UT: 8:29 PM

Airline Tickets: You will receive your airline tickets from the team leader on the bus to the airport. You will be responsible for the safekeeping of your airline ticket until you arrive in The Bahamas. Your team leader will collect the tickets and hold them in safe-keeping until your departure day.

Check in at the Salt Lake city Airport: Please remain with your Team Leader until we have reached our departure gate. Have a luggage tag filled in and attached to your check-in piece of luggage. You will not be able to check your luggage at the curb. **Make sure your passport/travel documents and ticket are easily accessible for the check-in procedure. DO NOT pack these items in your checked luggage.**

Session Two Homework– Airport Security

Airport Security: When traveling through airports, it is important that you remain with your Team Leaders who will be giving you instructions and guidance on how to proceed through customs/passport control and security checkpoints. It is **EXTREMELY** important that you do not bring attention to yourself in anyway, nor make jokes or "fool around." Please answer all questions in a straightforward manner and limit your responses to what



is asked of you. If team members disregard these instructions, luggage, ministry items and even team members can be held up or denied passage.

Some helpful to get ready for recent changes in security:

- Put any item that may be “suspicious” or need inspection on the top of your checked luggage inside a large Ziploc bag. In the event security chooses to search your luggage, it will be easy to repack if items are accessible.
- Make sure that your carry-on bag is packed for easy inspection. You may want to put smaller, loose items inside large Ziploc bags so they could be easily removed, inspected, and replaced in your carry-on piece. Pack your carry-on for fast and easy access at security checkpoints so you do not need to spend a lot of time in line repacking after inspections.
- Since you will be required to remove everything from your pockets before going through security checkpoints, plan in advance to have an empty Ziploc bag in your carry-on piece. You can quickly remove the items from your pockets or body (wallet, change, watch, belt, tickets, cell phone, etc), put them inside the Ziploc bag and store them in your carry-on piece. After the security checkpoint, you will know exactly where all your items are and can collect them easily.
- You may need to demonstrate that your camera or video camera is usable at security checkpoints. Plan in advance to be able to reach your camera, turn it on, and shoot a picture with the security agents present.

Keeping a Trip Journal



Journaling is an important way for you to process what you are learning about yourself, God, and the world. This short-term mission trip will be forever embedded in your mind, but you will begin to forget some important events, names, and feelings. If you journal, you will find yourself returning to it for many years to come.

Though many people do journal during a short-term mission trip, now is really the time to begin. God uses all the steps in a journey to mold and shape us: the time of preparation as we deal with anxieties and excitements, the trip where so many new things are being experienced, and once we return as we process through all that happened. Make a commitment to start now; it will take some discipline, but it is guaranteed that you will be glad you did it.

Here are a few journaling tips:

- Write down impressions you have of your training, your team, and your culture. Was it as you expected? What did you learn?
- Write about special places, events, foods, etc. You will not have time to capture all details, but journal about those that stuck in your mind.
- Write about your relationship with God. What are you learning about Him? What are you learning in Scripture?
- Write about your relationship with others. How are you relating to your team? The nationals? Any special national or team friends?
- Write down what you are learning about yourself. Have you learned something new about yourself? Are you learning you have gifts and abilities you did not know about?
- Write your praises and prayer needs to God.

Adapted from "Help! We're going on a short-term trip!" by Culture LINK, 1997.
Session Two Homework– Building a Support Team



Spiritual Care Groups

What is a spiritual care group?

A spiritual care group is exactly what it sounds like: a small group focusing on the spiritual care of its members. It is a place for students to be open and honest about their spiritual needs and receive encouragement and prayer concerning their walks with God.

Who are in the groups?

The students have been prayed over and then assigned to a leader. We tried to mix the groups according to friends, grade-levels, and spiritual maturity. Because of this, we hope each group has a number of students who will get to know each other for the first time, helping foster an environment of unity within our team.

When will spiritual care groups meet?

Because it is so important to prepare our hearts before we go to _____, spiritual care groups will meet at each of our upcoming meetings. At our upcoming meeting we will meet with our spiritual care groups for the first time following a brief introduction of the groups and the vision behind them. Not only will we be meeting before our trip, but we will be meeting daily while we are in _____ as well. Typically we will meet in the evenings and have a time for students to share what the Lord taught them during the day, how the event impacted their lives, and any struggles they may have experienced as well. The hope is to have a few questions per day printed into our Panama tour books for each small group to discuss.

What is the vision behind the groups?

So often we can sign up “to do God’s work” and take no time to prepare ourselves spiritually before hand. The hope for establishing spiritual care groups is that this will not happen so easily. Each week (or team meeting) the groups will meet together for accountability and prayer. This is a time to ask them if they are spending time in the Word, what they have been reading, and if and what the Lord has been speaking to them.

It is a place where they can share personal prayer requests regarding any struggles they might be experiencing and receive encouragement and prayer from not only their leader, but other group members as well. Another important aspect to the groups will be this time of prayer: for one another and for the upcoming trip as well.

The hope is that when each student leaves for _____, they will leave with the ability to serve God from the inside out. What we mean by this is that each student’s service in _____ will come from an inward desire to please the Lord and not merely an outward act to please man.

Once we are in _____, daily meetings with our groups will help encourage students’ spiritual growth, discouraging them from simply going through the motions of the trip but rather encouraging them to have the Lord’s heart behind their actions.

We are so excited you are willing to lead a group, and we are confident God is going to do great things through it! Thank you for all of your help!



Missions Trips and Tax Deductions

Frank Sommerville, JD, CPA

As summer approaches, many churches embark on mission trips. Churches want their members to experience ministry outside the four walls of their church. Many of these trips have tax advantages that many churches and volunteers overlook. This article discusses the tax rules that apply when volunteers embark on a ministry trip. Please remember that different rules apply to clergy and paid staff when they travel.

Individuals may deduct contributions that are (1) GIFTS TO or (2) FOR THE USE OF a qualified organization. As discussed below, both types of contributions have additional requirements that must be met.

CASH DONATIONS

GIFTS TO QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS: Since churches are qualified organizations, direct cash payments are tax deductible if the donor does not receive any goods or services for the payment. This would include instances where the church collects the funds for the ministry trip. Does the donor receive any goods or services when they pay to the church to go on a mission's trip? It depends on the trip. We must first analyze the primary purpose of the trip. A direct connection must exist between the expense incurred and the charitable, volunteer services being rendered. If the primary purpose is to minister to others in the name of the church, then the trip qualifies as a church trip and is mostly deductible.

On the other hand, if the trip is a retreat where the individual will receive ministry from the church, the individual is receiving good and/or services. This trip is personal and nondeductible. Trips where the primary purpose is to educate participants also fall into this category; i.e. trips to Israel.

The Internal Revenue Code states, "No deduction shall be allowed under [charitable contributions] for traveling expenses (including amounts expended for meals and lodging) while away from home, whether paid directly or by reimbursement, unless there is no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation, or vacation in such travel." This provision has several requirements. First, the term "away from home" has the same meaning as it does for business travel. That is, one must travel overnight away from their "tax home" while rendering charitable, volunteer services. One's tax home is generally where one works and lives.

Next, we must examine whether the trip contains significant characteristics that make the trip comparable to a pleasure trip. In adding this provision to the Code, the Senate Committee observed that travel expenses remain deductible though the individual receives substantial pleasure from serving others through charitable works. In other words, the pleasure one receives from ministry will not preclude a deduction.

The courts have examined trip itineraries closely to determine whether substantial blocks of time exist for personal activities. All trip days are counted either as charitable work days or pleasure days. Most days must be charitable work days to make the airfare deductible. For example, if the trip includes 5 days of sightseeing and 4 days of charitable work, then the participants receive no deduction for airfare and sightseeing days. To be classified as a work day, the participants must perform meaningful charitable work most of the day. My firm recommends that the volunteer work at least 6 hours for the day to qualify as a work day. Also, travel days are generally considered work days.



These rules do not mean that all trip days must be charitable work days. It simply means that the expenses associated with pleasure days are not deductible. The church simply must disclose that fact to the trip participants. For example, the church could tell participants that the trip costs \$600.00, \$400.00 of which is tax deductible. Finally, the travel expenses must be reasonable in amount. The more luxurious the accommodations and meals, the more likely they are unreasonable. Please note that the IRS will likely use “luxurious” accommodations to demonstrate that the trip contained substantial elements of personal pleasure.

CASH TRIP EXPENSES

FOR THE USE OF QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS: If the payment is for the use of the church, then it is tax deductible. For example, if the trip cost collected by the church does not include the evening meals, then the participant may deduct the cost of the evening meals. This rule would apply to every expense the individual pays directly. If the entire cost is paid directly to travel vendors, then it is still deductible if the trip meets the rules discussed above.

PAYING FOR OTHERS TO GO

Many members have the skills needed on a trip, but lack the funds to pay for the trip. As a result, many church groups raise funds to pay for the trip by soliciting donations from friends and relatives. These contributions are deductible if the church controls the selection of the recipient of the funds. A gift designated by the donor to send Susie on the youth trip is not tax deductible.

Instead, a gift designated by the donor to support the youth trip is tax deductible. From a tax perspective, the best way to raise money for the youth trip is to raise money for the whole group. If it will cost \$20,000.00 to send the youth on a mission trip to Hollywood, California, then they need to raise money together to meet that goal. Another approach would be for the church to select the participants and then ask the donors to underwrite the cost of sending each on the trip. In other words, the church may raise funds to send Susie on the trip, but the donor cannot require the church to send Susie on the trip.

Happy travels.



Short Term Service for High School Students

The ministries and organizations below specialize in short term (1-6 month) missions opportunities for high school students. These are great resources for summertime or independent trips by students).

Summer of Service

Email Address: castle@calvarychapel.com

SoS is a discipleship opportunity aimed at young people - usually aged 16-25.

During our busy summer season we look to build a team of 25-35 volunteers to come and serve alongside our missionary staff and help us run each church retreat. Students of SoS have the opportunity to learn to develop a heart of servanthood in an environment of spiritual support and discipleship from our missionary staff. Each student is responsible for funding their own way to the Castle and contributes €140 per month (approx \$185) towards their food and board. Remember, this is a missions experience not a summer job!

Students of SoS serve in departments such as dining room, housekeeping, kitchen, coffee shop and grounds. The Castle is an entirely English speaking environment but on Sundays we fellowship at our local Calvary Chapel in a nearby town so there is a good opportunity to experience Austrian culture too.

At various points in the summer we may have the opportunity to take day trips. In the past we have visited the Austrian city of Salzburg, Jesolo beach resort and the beautiful city of Venice, both located in Italy. These trips are not planned or promised and are totally dependent on the needs of the ministry to our guests coming first. Anyone considering a Summer of Service should visit our website at www.schlossheroldeck.com and click on the SoS tab. Here you can read a host of information about the program.

A Vision for Life

www.avisionforlife.com

Our desire for those attending the A Vision For Life (AVFL) program is that they would know, grow, and follow—Jesus. The original vision was to extend a weekend retreat to six weeks. Within that time, our hope is that students will build a “habit” for making Him the vision for their lives.

While there are many ways to seek the Lord, little parallels taking time away from the familiar, to be in an environment designed to seek Him. During your time here, you will have the opportunity to grow in your relationship with Him, and as a result grow in:

- God’s Word – individually, in small groups, and in classes
- Prayer – individually, and with others
- Being Others Focused – (a work of the Spirit in our lives) serving on outreaches to various locations in Europe, appreciation/sensitivity to new/different cultures, working together as a team
- Purpose – by God’s grace, He desires, and can, use our lives to be something it couldn’t be apart from Him

AVFL is an opportunity to see Him change your life. We invite you to get away for a season in order to spend time with Jesus—getting to know Him, who you are in Him, and what He can do in and through your life.



Simply Jesus

The Gospel = Jesus:

- Who He is.
- Where He came from.
- What He did.
- Why He did it.
- What do we do about it?

Motions for Jesus

Jesus is God (Son of God). He came from heaven to earth. Lived a perfect life, died on the cross to pay for our sin, then rose from the dead and is in heaven now offering us the free gift of eternal life (or preparing a place for us or and will one day come again).

In the beginning God... What is God like? People have some strange ideas about God. Some are true and some are not. Let's take a look.

Hat Skit

Policeman: Some people think that God is like a policeman. He always out looking for what you've done wrong so he can write you a ticket and throw you in jail. That's not what God is like.

Firehat: Some people think that God is like a fireman, you just call 911 and he'll put out the fires in your life and then go back to the station and leave you alone. That's not what God is like.

Boss: Some people think that God is like the "big Boss in the sky", and they must work, work, work, to get please him and get to heaven. God is not like that. We cannot work our way to heaven.

Fairy godfather: Some people think that God is like a fairy godfather. You just call on him when you want something and he'll wave his magic wand and then 'poof', he's gone.

A Fool: Some people think that God is like a fool because he is so slow to anger, patient and longsuffering. But the Bible tells us that God is not a fool and He will not be mocked. The Bible says that the real fool is "the man who says in his heart that there is no God!"

Now here are some accurate descriptions of God that we find in the Bible.

Doctor: God is like a doctor. In fact, He is called "The Great Physician," and He is in the business of healing broken hearts and renewing your spirit.

Train engineer. God is like a train engineer. He wants to keep your life on track and bring you safely home to the station.

King: God is like a king, he is the "King of the Universe" and he wants to be the king of your heart.

Hen: God is like a mother hen, who longs to gather us under her wings and care for us.

Captain: God is like the captain of a ship who will guide through the storms of life.

Judge: God is like a judge. He will one day judge the universe and cast out those who have sinned and not been pardoned by the blood of His son. How will you do in that courtroom?

Love: God is love and he has loved us with an everlasting love.

God's Love Motions

- Even the very hairs on your head are numbered... Matt 10:29-31
- My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore...Ps. 139:17-18
- I knit you together in your mother's womb... Psalm139:13
- I have loved you with an everlasting love...Jeremiah 31:3
- God showed his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in him will have everlasting life. John 3:16

Simply Jesus

- 1) Jesús es el hijo de Dios
Jesus is the Son of God
- 2) Él vino del cielo a la tierra
He came from heaven to earth
- 3) Vivió una vida perfecta
Lived a perfect life
- 4) Murió en la cruz para pagar por nuestros pecados
Died on the cross to pay for our sins
- 5) Resucitó de la tumba tres días después
Rose from the dead after three days
- 6) Está en el cielo ahorita, preparando un lugar para nosotros
And is now in heaven, preparing a place for us.



Good King

A long time ago in a far off land there was a wise and just King. A king known far and wide for his love and justice. A famine came to the land, but because the King was wise they had stored food for a time such as this. One day his servant came to him and said, “Good King, someone has been stealing our food!” The King was outraged! How could someone do such a thing. He told the servant to go and tell the people, “Whoever is caught stealing food will be punished severely and given 40 lashes.” So the servant went and told the people. Just a few weeks later they caught the thief and dragged the thief to the King. “Oh King, the good news is we have caught the thief! The bad news is that it is your mother!” Oh no. What would the King do? He had a problem. You see, he loved his mother very much and if he punished her she would surely die. But, on the other hand if he didn’t punish her, he would no longer be seen as a fair and just leader of his people. What would he do? He had a problem.

He made a decision and called his servant. He said, “Get the whip, the punishment will take place.” Just as the servant raised the whip, the King said, “But it is not my mother you will punish. He took off his robes and crown and shirt, and bent his back to the whip, and said, I will take the punishment.”

And so love and justice were served that day. It reminds me of another story though. Can you think of another who came and took the punishment that we deserved? Jesus came from heaven and took the punishment for our sins. He paid the debt that we owed.

Coin Illustration:

This coin it reminds me of God. It’s shaped like a circle, and a circle had no beginning and no end. God is from everlasting to everlasting, no beginning, no end. It is one coin, yet it has two sides, each side is very different. That’s just like God, He is one God with two sides to his nature. One the one hand He loves us and doesn’t want to punish us, on the other hand He is just and must punish sin. This coin also isn’t worth very much. It reminds me of the good works I do. No matter how much I try, I can’t pay the debt I owe because of sin. The price of sin is death and must be paid by a perfect sacrifice. God loved me so much He sent His Son Jesus to pay for my sin so I could be with Him in heaven one day. How do I receive the gift of eternal life God offers? Well, the answer is on the coin. In God we trust. We trust fully on the sacrifice God has provided for us and invite Jesus into our lives as Lord and Savior.

Sin vs Salvation

Black Fabric Activity (some ways the Bible describes sin)

The Bible describes sin for us many different ways.

This cloth reminds me of sin, its shiny on one side, it looks beautiful and enticing; but on the other side it is really dull and ugly.

- Sin separates us from God.
- Sin leaves us in darkness, the Bible says “men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.”
- Sin blinds us.
- It stops up our ears.
- It keeps us from speaking words of life.
- It binds us.
- It makes slaves of us.
- It trips us up.

But, worst of all, it brings death. The Bible says, “the wages of sin are death but the gift of God is eternal life.” But God made a way. He sent His only Son Jesus to pay the price of our sins with His precious blood. The Bible says, “...the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7) So Jesus’ blood washes us “white as snow”, and now when God looks down from heaven he no longer sees our sin, but Christ’s righteousness.

So, let’s review.

- Our sins are washed white as snow
- By the blood of Jesus
- Who takes away our sin
- So we can be free

James 1:14,15 tempted and enticed

Isaiah 59:2 your sin has separated you from God

John 3:19 Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.

Proverbs 5:22 entrapped

Hebrews 12:11 entangled

James 4:14, 15 death, blind

Romans 6:23 wages of sin is death

Ephesians 2:1 you who were dead in your trespasses and sins

Hebrews 9:22 “... without shedding of blood there is no remission (payment for sin).”

1 John 1:7 “...and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.”

John 1:29 “Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.”



Recommended Contacts & Contributors

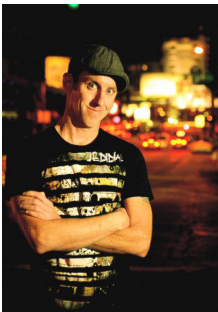
The ministry leaders listed below contributed to this booklet and have personal experience in event, outreach, and missions trip planning. Feel free to contact them using the information below!



Lisa Collins

Email Address: missions@ccbce.com.

Ministry experience: Lisa is a missionary at Calvary Chapel Bible College Europe in Vajta, Hungary. Students from over 20 countries attend with the desire to grow in their relationship and service to the Lord. Her ministry is to assist in mobilizing students onto the mission field through training and providing practical short and long term opportunities. In addition, her responsibilities include being a support to churches and missionaries in Europe, and coordinating mission trips for American teams desiring to experience Eastern Europe.



Mike Doyle

Email: mike@themovementishere.com

Ministry Experience: Pastor and Evangelist for 12 years. Currently planting a church in New York City and Director of Movement Ministries. Also a member of the Next Generation Alliance of the Luis Palau Association and on the Livin It Alliance Core leadership team. Formerly Director of Outreach and an Evangelist with Walking On Water. Coordinated youth outreach events across the US and in over 19 different countries and the Noah's Arc Surf Film World Tour, Outsiders East Coast Tour, Walking On Water World Tour, and the Kaleidoscope Skate Film South East Tour. Has coordinated large scale evangelistic youth events with up to 7000 people in attendance.



Jessica Durham

Email: jdurham@ccboise.org

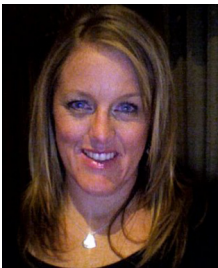
Ministry Experience: Jessica has been serving on staff at Calvary Chapel Boise, Idaho for the past 11 years, currently working as the office and events administrator. She loves volunteering her time serving in youth ministry where she leads a weekly senior high girl's study. She has a passion for seeing others grow in their walk with the Lord and encouraging others to become what Jesus desires them to be.



Joel Lopez

Email: joel.lopez@calvaryschools.org

Ministry Experience: Missions pastor at Calvary Chapel Old Bridge, NJ. Currently, Bible teacher and a missions leader at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa. Pictured with his lovely wife, Michelle.



Tami McKeown

Email: tami.mckeown@calvaryschools.org

Ministry Experience: I have a background in event planning and Public relations. When I joined the staff at Calvary Chapel Schools in 2007, I was blessed to partner with others on staff on some very exciting special events. In my job I have the opportunity to plan many different types of events and what I have learned through the years that though the circumstances may be vastly different in each one the process is very much the same. I am proof that you do not need to be an extremely organized, type A individual to have a successful event. Where I lack in some of those areas I use checklists and timelines to take a large event and break it down to manageable sized projects. I also apart from my job at the school, I lead our Agape Board which is a board of parents who volunteer our time to plan special events for our kids and the school.



Amber Smith

Email: amber@realitysb.com

Ministry Experience: Oversees missions at Reality Carpinteria/Ventura and coordinates the Perspectives program and sending team for long-term and short-term missionaries at the church.



Online Resources

The websites below may be of help to you. Please note that we do not agree with everything on every website!

Cozi.com (Planning and Family Calendar Apps), <http://www.cozi.com/>

Ministry Serving Ministry, <http://ministryservingministry.com/category/christian-event-planning/>

Reality Carpinteria Missions, <http://realitycarpinteria.com/missions/sendingteam/index.html>

Simply Jesus (Simply the best simple Gospel presentation), <http://patcannon.org/>

US Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Missions, <http://www.stmstandards.org/standards/>

Walking on Water Outreach Guide, <http://www.walkingonwater.com/pdfs/Handbook.pdf>

YolaSite (Free Website Builder), <http://www.yola.com/>

Recommended Reading

Likewise, these books may be of help to you, but as always, we only agree 100% with one book...the Bible!

The Lost Art of Disciple Making by Leroy Eims

The Mission Minded Family, Ann Dunagan, Authentic, ISBN-13: 978-1934068434

Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation, Jason Mandryk, Biblica Publishing, ISBN-13: 978-1850788621

Serving with Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence, David Livermore, Baker Books, ISBN-13: 978-0801066160

TransforMission: Making Disciples Through Short-Term Missions, Michael S. Wilder and Shane W. Parker, ISBN-13: 978-0805447743



To Read With Your Team

Don't Waste Your Life by John Piper

If by Amy Carmichael

Radical by David Platt

Life-Changing Biographies

Autobiography of George Muller by George Muller

Bruchko by Bruce Olson

A Chance to Die: Amy Carmichael by Elisabeth Elliot

Gladys Aylward: The Little Woman by Gladys Aylward

Heavenly Man by Brother Yun

Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret by Mrs. Howard Taylor

Prisoners of Hope by Dayna Curry and Heather Mercer

The Shadow of the Almighty by Jim Elliot

They Found the Secret by V. Raymond Edman

Think About This!

Regardless of where we live – here or overseas – our hearts should be consumed with making the glory of God known in all nations.

Of the **16,787** people groups in the world **6,947** are still considered unreached by the Gospel.

Today, more than a billion people in the world live and die in desperate poverty. They attempt to survive on less than a dollar per day. Close to two billion others live on less than two dollars per day. More than twenty six thousand children

today *will breathe their last breath due to starvation or a preventable disease.*

Every saved person this side of **heaven** owes the gospel to every lost person this side of **hell**.

-Radical, David Platt

Sometimes



we think we are too busy to **PRAY**. That is a great mistake, for praying is a saving of time.

-C. H. Spurgeon