

SLIDE 1: Partnerships Missions of the Florida Baptist Convention

Craig Culbreth, director
Volunteer Recruit
Volunteer Training
Orientations
Team Leader Training
Cultural Training

SLIDE 2: How to take a Mission Trip

Before

As you go

After

Are there any specific questions that you would like to have answered before I begin? During the presentation, please write down any questions and I will address those at the end.

SLIDE 3: BEFORE

SLIDE 4: Begin with you (Personal Preparation)

Orientation

Where you will learn what is required of you

Get the important “paperwork” to complete

Your task

This is what you are specifically going to accomplish as a team member both for the team and the project

Documents

Passport

Insurance

Transportation Tickets

Team member

You are part of a team

You are not the team itself

Personal Accountability

You are specifically responsible for your preparation and accountable to the team, the mission sending organization, and the national organization where the project happens. Take personal responsibility for your physical, emotional, and spiritual health

SLIDE 5: Everyone going (Team Preparation)

Recruitment

Team Leader will recruit the individual team members

Team building

Be a team

Everyone with a specific job

Within the team itself

Photographer

Devotions

- Logistics
- Prayer Coordinator
- Presentation
- Project
 - Preacher
 - Teacher
 - Children
 - Doctor
 - Nurse

SLIDE 6: Family (Family Preparation)

- Involve your family
 - Make it fun
 - Let them help you
- Homework accomplished
 - Do your paperwork
 - Research where you are going
 - Recruit pray-ers
- Contact information
 - Be sure to leave an itinerary and contact information
 - Be sure to take with you contact information
- Assurance
 - They need to be at peace about your trip
 - They need to know that they are going to be okay
 - They need to know that you are going to be okay
- In it together

SLIDE 7: Opportunity (Place Preparation)

- Where are you going
 - Know all that you possibly can about where you are going
- Cultural differences
 - Find out about cultural differences
 - Personal Space
 - Holding hands
 - Husband asks wife, "once wish..."
- What to expect
 - There will be enough surprises along the way
 - Kinda knowing what to expect is helpful to relieve stress
- By knowing about the place and the people where you will minister, it will enable you to be more effective at what you do whether that is in Cuba, Brazil, Arizona, or West Virginia

SLIDE 8: Right Job (Project Preparation)

- IMB, FBC, etc

The missionary sending has a specific goal for you being on the field
They will have specific requirements – certain hoops that you will need to jump through

National leadership

The people who you will be coming along side of will have certain needs from you as well

What will be done

There is a specific task to be accomplished.

Not everybody can do everything, but there is something that you can do that no other can.

The agenda is not set by you. Participate in the right project

Logistics

Transportation

Getting there and back

While there

Housing/Food

Medicines

Security

Translators

Other

Packing

Expenses

What is it going to cost!!!

SLIDE 9: Everything under Christ (Spiritual Preparation)

Personal

In right relationship with God and man

Personal devotion to prayer and fasting

Team

Come together for times of prayer and seeking God in His Word

Prayer Team

Have a team of prayer warriors praying for you, the team, and the work

On the field

Don't get so busy doing that you forget the Who of what and why

God will work as much in you as He will through you

SLIDE 10: As You Go

Are we there yet? (Getting There)

Should I really do that? (Expectation Meeting)

You need to know this? (In-Country Orientation)

On to work (Doing The Project)

Upon Christ we stand (Spiritual Time)

Good time had by all (Fun Time)

Outa here (Evaluation)

SLIDE 11: Are we there yet? (Getting there)

Packed

- That is too much
 - Pack everything you need early
 - Then repack it into something smaller
 - What you carry, you will carry
- You will also need to team pack
 - Not take something for someone else on the team
 - Team materials
 - For the missionaries
 - For the nationals

Documents

- Passport
- Insurance Card
- Contact Information

Going

- The logistics: when and where
- Don't be late

Witness as you go

- You are a witness throughout the whole process
- I can't tell you of the number of persons saved along the way
- Car troubles

SLIDE 12: Should I really do that? (Expectation Meeting)

There should be a time as soon as possible when you arrive on the field that the leaders of all the principle parties meet to review expectation

- Team
- Nationals
- Missionary organization

GOAL: both those on the field and the team desiring to work together again.

SLIDE 13: You need to know this? (In-country orientation)

- Review of orientation
- Cultural dos & don'ts
 - Example: taking pictures, clothing, certain gestures
- What is expected
 - Things have probably changed since you left home.
 - After the expectation meeting, present the changes in plans
- What is not expected
 - You are an ambassador and witness
 - Perhaps some things that were planned will not happen now
- Health Issues
 - Won't get sent home, but will go home sick
- Safety Issues
 - Will get sent home
 - Set the boundaries
 - Not the place to be too flexible

SLIDE 14: On to the work (Doing the project)

Preparing for the first day
 “one day at a time”
 First day of work is usually the toughest
Job Assignments
Be flexible
Witness as you work

SLIDE 15: Upon Christ we stand? (Spiritual time)

Individual
 Devotion time
 Journaling
Group
 Morning Devotions
 Evening Wind-down
Get Away if needed

SLIDE 16: Good time had by all (Fun time)

Make it fun!!!
 I mean the whole experience
 Work yes!!! But play hard
 Don't take yourself too seriously because no one else is
Be flexible!!!
 If you do not, not only do you get bent out of shape, but everybody else
 does too
Plan a “fun” event
 Sight-seeing
 Shopping
Witness as you go

SLIDE 17: Outa here (Evaluation)

On-going
De-briefing
 Team
 Nationals
 Missionary organization
 Project
Getting Home
You have changed

SLIDE 18: After

Arriving Home (Getting back into your normal routine)
Forget not you experience (Put it all together now while it is fresh)
Telling others (Church celebration and missions presentations)
Excited not all will be (Remember how boring it can be)
Ready to go again (Do it again)

SLIDE 19: Arriving Home (Getting back into your normal routine)

Relax

It may take you a few days to get back to “normal”
There is nothing wrong with you

Family Time

Don't let your every conversation be about you
Let them tell you what happened while you were gone

You are changed

As hard as you try, you will never be able to tell it all

Guard against depression and anxiety

SLIDE 20: Forget not your experience (Put it all together now while it is fresh)

Put together your presentation, i.e. pictures, powerpoint, video, etc.

Put it into a “nutshell”

SLIDE 21: Telling others (Church celebration and missions presentations)

Get together with team to put together group presentation

In your church, you will probably be given an opportunity to share in a special service or fellowship, maybe 30 minutes for everyone. (If 6 went, that is 5 minutes each!)

Make the group presentation exciting – action is better than many words.

Always be ready

You personally will have many opportunities to share

SLIDE 22: Excited not all will be (Remember how boring it can be)

Remember having to watch your neighbor's home movies of their vacation – all 4 hours of it including the 10 minutes of where he left the lense cap on.

You will never be able to express it fully – they did not experience it

You want to overwhelm with excitement not boredom.

You will always have too much

Keep it pithy as one news commentator says.

SLIDE 23: Ready to go again (Do it again)

Plan now for your next trip

Henry Blackaby testimony from Lake Yale

Go

SLIDE 24: Eloise on the river