

# Policies and Procedures

Short Term Mission Trips  
First Baptist Church Forney



## **Our Purpose GC4:**

First Baptist Church Forney exists to encourage Christians to embrace a GREAT COMMITMENT to the GREAT COMMISSION and the GREATEST COMMANDMENT in order to empower a GREAT CHURCH for the glory of Jesus Christ!

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# MISSION PROJECT POLICIES

## First Baptist Church of Forney

The Short-Term Missions Project should fit within the bigger picture of the strategic partnerships and the overall plan to lead people to:

1. Salvation (II Corinthians 5:17-21). What does God want to do first in YOU though this project?
2. Worship (Matthew 22:37). How does God want to save and work in people on the project?
3. Holiness or Christ-likeness (Leviticus 11:44). How does God want to use me AFTER the project?
4. Service (Luke 6:46)

### What we are trying to accomplish?

Make Disciples through our preparation and ministry process, activities and strategies.

1. Here – Our people (Colossians 1:28)
2. There – The focus people (Psalm 67:2-7)
3. As we go – Anyone in between or on either end, wherever we are (Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8)

### Purpose of Short-Term Mission Projects

1. To lead people to faith in Jesus Christ
2. To impact the world through the living testimonies of project participants and through the Word of God
3. To aid and build up the ministry of the local missionary or pastor
4. To develop Great Commission believers
5. To assist FBC Forney in being obedient to God's command expressed in the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19)
6. To assist in the development of long-term, strategic relationships throughout the world

### Policies for Short-Term Member Selection

#### Criteria for team member selection

- \* All team members must have a testimony of salvation through Jesus Christ and be able to verbally express this testimony before the team leaves
- \* Team members should be at least 15 years of age unless otherwise approved by the Team Leader(s). Parental or guardian permission is required for team members who are under 18 years of age
- \* Team members must demonstrate willingness to complete the First Baptist Church of Forney short-term mission team training as prescribed by the team leader(s).

#### Application for the team

- \* Team members must complete the First Baptist Church of Forney short-term mission team application and submit it to the team leader by the set deadline.
- \* Selection may require interviews with potential team members in addition to the application
- \* Short-term members must agree to and comply with the First Baptist Church of Forney Financial Policy (see next section)

#### Financial Policy for short-term team members

- \* Team members are expected to raise 100% of their financial support for the trip. Funding will be completed by the due date set by the team leadership
- \* Support shall be raised within and outside First Baptist Church of Forney using the methods taught in "Short-Term Mission Support Raising: The Team Building Approach"
- \* If the team member's financial support is channeled through First Baptist Church of Forney and he/she raises more than the required support or for any reason cannot participate on the trip, it is the preference of the Missions Department and team leadership to reallocate the funds within the team account.
- \* Candidates should make funding deposits through the Team Treasurer, who will also keep a record of each team member's contributions

### Policies for Team Behavior and Attitude

Team members participating on FBC Forney sponsored short-term trips are reminded that they are ambassadors of Jesus Christ (II Cor. 5:20). As teams go overseas they not only represent Him, but FBC Forney, our Pastor, the United States and the supporting mission agency. This is a tremendous responsibility. For this reason, the Missions Department of FBC Forney asks that each team member seek to be above reproach in his/her actions and attitudes.

- \* Honor Jesus Christ in your thoughts, actions, speech, and dress.
- \* Honor your church and your Pastor.
- \* Refrain from any actions that are prohibited in God's Word, the Bible.
- \* Team members must submit to the team leader's authority
- \* Due to the political instability and anti-American sentiment in various countries around the world, FBC Forney asks that team members refrain from expressing political opinions while overseas
- \* Abstain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages or any use of tobacco or illegal drugs while on the trip.
- \* Refrain from any gambling and from viewing any R-rated movies or pornographic material.
- \* The team member must adhere to the behavioral guidelines for each specific team set by the team leadership or missionary agency with a mind toward the culture to which the team is going. This will require a servant attitude toward all nationals and team members, as well as the willingness to learn from the host culture ( I Cor. 9:19-23a)

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on o take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Philippians 3:12.

After consultation with the Missions Department, the Team leader reserves the right to ask a problem team member to return home if that team member's behavior is destructive to the team, the ministry, or the host community. Any additional cost incurred as a result of this action will be at the team member's expense.

## A PRAYER FOR TEAM UNITY

With great honor and respect for our Lord and His precious Word, pray and lay hold of these scriptures for you, the mission team, and for the people God will bring into your life as you walk in faith and obedience to Him.

*For Protection - Psalm 34:7	Psalm 91:9-10	
	Psalm 121:7-8	
*For Courage -	Isaiah 43:1 Joshua 1:9	Psalm 31:24 Psalm 27:1-5
*For Your Needs -	Phil. 4:19 Luke 22:35	Matthew 6:33
*For His Power - John 14:12-14	Luke 10:17-19 Mark 16:14-20	John 15:16 Acts 1:8
*For His Glory -	John 15:7-12	

### Prayer Considerations

Pray for:

- Those that make up your prayer support group
- Those who God has appointed you to minister to on the field
- Those that make up your financial support team and for your general fund raising
- Your other team members and the necessary unity of the team
- Your field contact, missionary, or local church pastor and for their ministry and their encouragement
- That you may stay close to God so as to hear and learn all He has for you during this project
- Your team leader and the wisdom he needs to make any necessary decisions
- That the whole team, especially yourself, may keep a devotional time as a priority in all the hectic schedules throughout the project.

## PACKING TIPS

- 1) Pack light! You will have to carry what you pack. Because we will be taking extra weight with tracts, Bibles, equipment, etc. only one piece of checked luggage is allowed. **Your bag must be less than 50 pounds.** You will also be permitted to have one carry on bag (regulation size to fit under the seat)
- 2) Tightly secure with tape any items that may come open while traveling.
- 3) Take luggage you don't mind having damaged.
- 4) Carry one change of clothes and some toiletries (allowed) with you in your carry-on luggage. Sometimes luggage is lost and or/delayed. Any carry-on toiletries that are liquid need to be less than 3 ounces and in a small zip lock bag.  
<http://www.tsa.gov/311/index.shtm>
- 5) Take items you won't mind leaving behind if you see a need.
- 6) Leave room for souvenirs.

**Don't Forget:**

- Bible and Journal/Pen
- Passport/Visa and Tickets/Itinerary
- Basic Clothing (keep in mind weather, related work, church service, etc)
- Comfortable Shoes
- Plastic bags (to pack dirty clothes)
- Hat (protection from the sun)
- Watch (leave valuable jewelry at home)
- First Aid items, Insect repellent, sunscreen, lip balm, etc
- Medicines
- Camera (with extra batteries, memory or film if not digital)
- Handy wipes, hand cleaner, tissues
- Battery operated alarm clock
- Toiletries: Shampoo, shaving items, toothbrush, toothpaste and floss, tissue packets
- Feminine Products
- 2 towels and washcloths (if not staying in a hotel)
- Raincoat or umbrella (optional)
- Snack foods or money for snacks
- Spending money in small bills
- Flashlight
- Toilet paper (optional, depending on location)
- Electrical current adapter
- A water bottle
- Travel sickness medicine and sleep aid
- Reading material for travel
- Credit Card and/or cash for spending money (at times you cannot change money but credit cards are accepted)

**Gift Ideas to Share With Your Hosts**

**For Children:**

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|--|--------------------------|
| Baseball caps for boys                 | Jigsaw puzzles and games |
| Hair barrettes and necklaces for girls | Stickers                 |
| Socks                                  | T-shirts                 |
| Pencils and pencil sharpeners          |                          |

**For House Parents, Pastors and Families, Village Churches, Orphanage Staff**

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|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Coffee                           | Hair Brushes |
| Stationary                       | Pens         |
| Calculators (solar, if possible) | Toiletries   |
| Chocolate bars / candy           |              |