



Spiritual Preparation -1

**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “
Who shall I send and who will go for US?”
Then I said, “Here am I. Send me!”**

Before a mission trip, you must be spiritually prepared for the experience if you are going to have the maximum impact. You must take time to assess your spiritual fitness. Are you making time for daily disciplines like prayer, Bible reading and quiet time before the Lord? (Psalm 46:10) Do you have the support of family, friends and fellowship?

The commitment to fellowship, Bible study and prayer will encourage and strengthen you. Spending time with the Lord will give you growth and knowledge in Him. (II Peter 3:18) If you don't already do this, starting this discipline while at home will benefit you later when you have to deal with culture shock, strange foods, weird smells, unfamiliar customs, a second language, limited facilities, lack of privacy, and varied ways of worship. If you take the time to be prepared spiritually, you will be able to handle all of the inevitable challenges with peace and joy.

Being spiritually prepared helps you have the right attitude (i.e., complete trust in God), and be more flexible and have a good sense of humor.

Helps on Spiritual Preparation

Maintain a living and growing relationship with Jesus Christ through...

- 1. Maintaining fellowship with other believers through consistent church attendance and Bible study.*
- 2. Prayer about the mission – travel details, hosts, team members, work, ministry, etc.*
- 3. Building a prayer support team.*
- 4. Keeping a journal during the preparation time and throughout the mission.*
- 5. Entering into where God is working – keep your spiritual eyes open.*
- 6. Always being ready for any task in the field and at home.*

RAISING UP A PRAYER TEAM – IMPORTANT!!

Regardless of whether or not you ask people to support you financially for this missions outreach, you DO NEED TO ASK FOR PRAYER! We guarantee that the fruit of this trip will be exponentially increased if you develop a team of praying family, friends and clients around you who will eagerly await the report of your trip upon your return. For the sake of all involved, especially yourself, your team and those to whom you will minister, please send out a letter inviting people to pray with you and for you as you serve on this missions outreach.

Spiritual Preparation -2

A Devotional Guide

To assist you on your spiritual preparation for the field, we have provided a 31-day devotional guide. Take time to read the passages below and use your journal to document your study responses. You will also find a list of suggested devotional aids in our reading list. May God's grace rest on you as you prepare to serve.

Day	Theme	Day	Theme
1	<i>The example of Jesus Christ – Phil 2:3-11</i>	17	<i>True greatness and leaders – Matthew 20:20-28</i>
2	<i>Renewed for Service – Psalm 1</i>	18	<i>Dealing with differences – Acts 15:36-41</i>
3	<i>Time for prayer – Mark 1:35-45</i>	19	<i>Unfinished task – Luke 10:25-35</i>
4	<i>The Word sets the course – Psalm 119</i>	20	Being who you are – Matthew 21:18 & 19, Galatians 5:22 & 23
5	<i>Empowered to serve – Acts 1:1-12</i>		
6	<i>Here I am, Send ME! – Isaiah 6:1-12</i>	21	Victory over prejudice - Jonah 1-3
7	<i>In Jesus I serve – John 6:1-4</i>	22	Serving in JOY! – Psalm 100
8	<i>Fit for service – Ephesians 5:1-17</i>	23	Serving in THANKFULNESS – Psalm 103
9	<i>The Commission – Matthew 28:19 & 20</i>	24	Serving with COMPASSION – Jonah 4
10	<i>Ministry companion – John 14:16-31</i>	25	Serve with URGENCY – John 9:1-7
11	<i>The surprise witness – John 4:1-42</i>	26	Reliance on God – John 15:1-16
12	<i>The extraordinary ministry – Act 4:1-19</i>	27	Loving people – John 21:15-23
13	<i>Revival – Psalm 85</i>	28	Team building spirit – Romans 12
14	<i>Overcoming the ruts – Numbers 13:25-33</i>	29	Mission – the common purpose – I Co 1:23-31
15	<i>Removing the obstacles – John 11:39 & 40</i>	30	Proclaiming freedom to the poor – Isaiah 61:1-6
16	<i>Anxiety – Philippians 4:4-9; I Peter 6:6-11</i>	31	Putting on God's armor – Ephesians 6:10-20

Spiritual Preparation -3

Your Testimony

How amazing is the work of Jesus Christ in you! The Bible challenges us, “...*in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...*” (1 Peter 3:15)

We are aware that the grace of God and His love (Ephesians 2:8 & 9; John 3:16) are at work in your life, changing you and motivating you to serve others. Be prepared to share your personal testimony – the story of how you came to faith in Christ and the difference He makes in your life.

When sharing your testimony, first prepare an outline to help you organize your thoughts. Make your message short and simple so it can be translated and shared with the nationals. Keep your words short and simple without jokes or idioms - these do not translate easily. Keep in mind the culture you are visiting and understand the subjects that may be offensive.

Testimony Outline

Prepare to share the following during your trip:

1. Introduce yourself, where you are from, what you do, and why you came.
2. Share your life before becoming a Christian (no lurid details and please keep it short)
3. How you became a Christian. Use appropriate scripture texts.
4. What it means to be a Christian and its impact on your life.
5. Your favorite scripture and why.

When you blend your testimony with your practices, all those you come in contact with will see the light in your deeds as well as your words.