

Appendix G: Team Member Application

Are you interested in going on a BMMC short-term mission trip?

Going on a short-term mission trip can be a life-changing experience. We ask that each person going take an active role in preparing for the trip. Consider the following mission team member preparation as you decide whether joining a team is right for you. *By filling out the application, you agree to be responsible for your own preparation as outlined below.*

Pre-Trip Preparation

- Spend time in prayer asking God to direct you about going, trip destination, timing, etc.
- Fill out this application and turn it in, along with a \$100 deposit, to Pastor Josh or your team leader. This is payable either all at once or may be made in installments if that is not feasible. You will need to be approved after; your team leader will communicate this with you after these forms are turned in. *In the event you are not approved to go, we will refund the full deposit.*
- Read and sign the Team Member Covenant and turn it in with your application.
- Read Appendix I: Preparing Your Heart in this booklet. Ask God to search your heart as to the motives for why you desire to go on this trip.
- Fill out a background check form and turn it in with your application. The church will pay for the background check to be done. Your personal information will be kept secure and confidential. If something shows up, it does not automatically prevent you from going. *You do not need to do this if you have a current form on file with us.*
- Fill out a trip waiver form and turn it in with your application.
- Write a prayer (and possibly financial) support letter. You are responsible for raising the finances needed to go. *An example is included in the training material you will receive.*



- Participate with your team in BMMC fundraisers. BMMC plans fundraisers throughout the year *as a supplement*; you need to participate in them in order to receive a portion of the proceeds.
- Commit to covering the cost not raised by fundraisers or prayer letters out of your own pocket.
- Ask a minimum of 25 others to pray for you before, during, and after the trip.
- Attend all team meetings before the trip and the debriefing afterward.
- Take part in any training or language learning necessary.
- Apply for a U.S. passport if you don't have one. If you have one, it cannot expire within 6 months of your trip.
- See your family doctor for immunizations and prescriptions. These are not included in the cost of your trip.

Keep this page when turning in your application. Note that depending on how your trip is set up, you may be asked to fill out paperwork with the sending agency (e.g., Back2Back Ministries). We require this in addition to what they ask of you.

Brenneman Memorial Missionary Church
Short-Term Mission Trip Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Legal Name: _____ SSN: _____

Full Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

I am on the following social media platforms (circle): Facebook Instagram Twitter

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: M F Shirt Size (circle): S M L XL 2X 3X

Passport Number: _____ Country of Citizenship: _____

Place and Date of Issue: _____ Exp. Date: _____

List Previous Citizenships (if any): _____

Place of Birth: _____

(city, state, country)

Important: You need to have a passport, valid for at least 6 months AFTER the end of the trip. If you do not yet have a passport, you need to apply for one as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide information for two emergency contacts.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

SPIRITUAL BACKGROUND

Please share your testimony (attach a separate paper if necessary).

What do you believe is the most significant thing the Lord is doing in your life right now?

Describe your devotional habits (Scripture reading, prayer, journaling, worship, etc.).

Briefly explain what you hope to see the Lord do in and through you on this mission trip.
Explain why you feel you are supposed to go on this trip.

How long have you attended Brenneman? _____

How are you serving in the church and/or community? _____

What small group/Sunday School class are you currently participating in? _____

List other mission trips you've participated in, whether through BMMC or another organization.

Location

Date

What The Trip Entailed

- | | | | |
|----|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | _____ | _____ | _____ |

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Diagnosed Medical Condition	Yes	No	Current Treatment/Medication
Anemia	_____	_____	_____
Asthma	_____	_____	_____
Cancer	_____	_____	_____
Chronic Bronchitis	_____	_____	_____
Diabetes	_____	_____	_____
Epilepsy	_____	_____	_____
Hay Fever	_____	_____	_____
Heart Murmur	_____	_____	_____
High Blood Pressure	_____	_____	_____
Hypoglycemia	_____	_____	_____
Infectious Mononucleosis	_____	_____	_____
Intestinal Problem	_____	_____	_____
Kidney Disease	_____	_____	_____
Migraine Headaches	_____	_____	_____
Nervous Breakdown	_____	_____	_____
Severe Depression	_____	_____	_____
Severe Emotional Problem	_____	_____	_____
Skin Disease	_____	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Allergies

General	_____	_____	_____
Penicillin	_____	_____	_____
Aspirin	_____	_____	_____
Codeine	_____	_____	_____
Other Drug/Medicine	_____	_____	_____
Bee Stings	_____	_____	_____
Inhalants (mold, dust, etc.)	_____	_____	_____
Food Allergy: _____	_____	_____	_____

Medications

Please list any over-the-counter or prescription medications you are now taking (not mentioned above). *You will be responsible for carrying your own medication while we are in country. The team will bring a first aid kit for minor injuries.*

Appendix H: Team Member Covenant

Going on a short-term mission trip is a privilege. It is a privilege to represent Brenneman Church and Jesus Christ in a foreign country. By sending you, Brenneman is signing off that you are a person with Christlike character who will represent us well. This covenant is a list of statements that we ask each person to promise to uphold.

As a member of a Brenneman Church short-term mission team, I covenant to:

Adopt the attitude that I am going to try to understand the host culture, not convince them of my own viewpoint. I go knowing there are many ways to worship and accomplish tasks, and acknowledge that my way is not necessarily the best.

Abstain from making derogatory comments or engaging in arguments regarding people, politics, religion, ethnic backgrounds, ways of life, or traditions.

Go as a servant/disciple of Jesus Christ.

Accept and submit to the leadership of my team leader and those in authority. I promise to abide by his or her decisions leading up to the trip and while on the field.

Acknowledge that our team's work is but a small part of the bigger picture of what local Christians are doing. I promise not to be overly demanding, do my best not to offend or cause embarrassment for our hosts, and do my best to help them attain their long-term goals.

Attend all team meetings prior to going, on the trip, and debriefing when we return.

Participate in the commissioning service and the report back to the church.

Follow through with all requirements for passports, visas, financial obligations, vaccinations, etc. in a timely manner.

Regard differences in worship styles and theology with respect. I promise that where God presents an opportunity, I will share my faith, but without a superior, colonialist attitude.

Interact with all members of the team, not just with any close friends or loved ones who are going. I will not promote cliques within the team.

Avoid any communication or action that could be perceived as flirting or amorous toward the nationals I meet and those on this team.

Remember that we are the new Christians from another part of the world and we will be watched very closely. I will not take lightly the importance of setting an example.

Refrain from giving gifts to anyone. If I feel compelled to give a gift, I will first consult with the team leader and let him/her make the final decision. This does not apply to any gifts we have planned to give to the host missionaries or nationals.

Refrain from giving my contact information to anyone with promises to be friends once I return. While I may form bonds with some people, I will only accept friend requests on social media from them, not extend them.

Respect any advice I am given regarding dress, eating and drinking, gestures, and local traditions from the hosts.

Acknowledge any homesickness or culture shock I am feeling rather than hiding.

Understand that each member of the group is expected to share freely from their spiritual gifts and talents. I agree to participate fully in the tasks and ministry we have to the best of my ability.

By signing below, I agree to abide by the covenant above to the best of my ability by the grace of God.

Participant Signature: _____ Date: _____

If the participant is under the age of 18, parent or legal guardian's signature:

Appendix I: Preparing Your Heart

Please read this as you fill out your application. It is meant to help you determine and check your motives for going.

Some people look at a mission trip as they would a revival or a retreat—an opportunity to fix themselves. “If I can see how people live in another country, it will make me less materialistic and therefore a better person.” “If I can see another culture, it will make me a well-rounded person.” “If I can just get away from my bad influences for a week or two, I really think I could find God.” The reality is that most people that go on a short-term mission trip find it beneficial to their lives in multiple ways. However, self-betterment is not the purpose of your mission trip.

The reason why we go on trips is found here.

First, we give people the chance to experience the global Christian movement and begin to see Christianity is bigger than them. As they observe the way faith is practiced by others, they are humbled and lose any false notions that our way of being the church is the only way.

Healthy Motive #1: Team members go in order to observe Christianity in a global context and with humility. They do not go with the attitude that they will bring God to the people they meet, or to teach nationals the best way to worship. They go for learning, not teaching.

Second, short-term trips allow members of the same family to minister together. While children normally are not allowed to go, teenagers, parents, and grandparents are all able to serve together.

Healthy Motive #2: Team members do not go for a vacation with their family or to see another part of the world and bring home souvenirs. If they are going as a family, they go to let one generation learn from another, to encourage one another in their relationship with Christ.

Third, trips like these are one chance for us to grow in our understanding of what it means to be in relationship with one another. When you're far away from home and all the normal resources you draw on when things get uncomfortable, you are forced to rely on God and your team members.

Healthy Motive #3: Team members go to be stretched out of their comfort zone. They do not go with expectations of nice accommodations or certain types of food or climate. They go expecting to be supported by other team members and to play an active role in one another's discipleship.

Fourth, trips can engender a greater sensitivity to and support for what God is doing around the world. Those who go on trips become passionate for further support. Even if they never go overseas again, their experience awakens them to the need to pray and to support missions.

Healthy Motive #4: Team members go with the prayer, "Lord, open my eyes to see you at work. Let me be amazed at your power and in awe of You as I encounter you in the Church universal. Remove my cultural biases for how Christianity must look and feel, and convict me of the ways I assume my church is better than others." In short, they go expecting to have their vision of God enlarged and expanded, and their hearts broken for supporting national Christians and missionaries in the future.

Fifth, while we will not neglect to engage in God's mission in our backyard, short-term trips are a tangible expression of the Great Commission—going around the world in an effort to make disciples. Even if we are the disciples who end up being made.

Healthy Motive #5: Team members go with real expectation that they are a part of the Great Commission. They want to be a part of disciple-making movements around the world, even if they don't see someone come to Christ for the first time or get baptized.

Sixth, much like carving out personal time with God creates space for the Holy Spirit to work in us, God often works in our hearts through pivotal experiences like a short-term trip.

Healthy Motive #6: Team members go expecting to be changed by God. Removed from the distractions that fill their lives here, they devote significant time to prayer, meditation on Scripture, and journaling their experiences and questions.

Seventh, trips to missionaries that we already support financially strengthen our partnership in the gospel. We are able to encourage missionaries and develop a long-term relationship with them.

Healthy Motive #7: Team members go not for a once-in-a-lifetime experience but for a potential long-term blessing to those who live there. They go recognizing that career

missionaries may be in any state of spiritual and emotional health, and may just need encouragement and prayer from the team.

Eighth, those who go on mission trips go through training that is applicable at home, too. In this, we grow in our passion for evangelism in our hometowns as well.

Healthy Motive #8: Team members go with a firm grasp that they do not swim in the same cultural waters as the people they will meet. Therefore, they go with an attitude of needing to soak up as much as they can prior to going. They approach preparation with all seriousness, seeking to apply what they learn both on the trip and when they return.

You are not to be an empty vessel going to be filled; you should be a full vessel going to be poured out.

Speaking of vessels used for God, 2 Timothy 2:20-21 says, *"In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for disposal of refuse. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work."* Are you going as one ready for the work? You will not find yourself a useful vessel by accident. It will take months of spiritual preparation to be effective on your upcoming trip.

Douglas Wilson says it like this: What you practice at home is the show you take on the road. What you grow in your fields is what you load on the trucks. Compassing sea and land doesn't generate a new message. The way you live when you get on the plane is going to be the single best indicator of how you live when you get off the plane. In short, don't expect geographical location to fix anything.

So take some time to pray about why you are going. Be honest before God and yourself. If it's not for one or more of the reasons listed above, you may want to reconsider.

Appendix J: Short-Term Mission Trip Waiver

Trip Information

Sponsoring organization (Trip Sponsor): Brenneman Memorial Missionary Church

Location of mission trip: _____

Nature of mission trip: _____ Dates: _____

Name of team leader: _____

Participant Information

Name of participant: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Name of emergency contact: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ Evening Telephone: _____

List any current allergies, illnesses, physical conditions, or medications: _____

Is team leader authorized to approve medical treatment? _____ Yes _____ No

Is participant covered by personal/family medical insurance? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, name of insurer: _____

Policy or group number: _____

Participant Agreement *(To be completed by Participant or by parents or guardians if*

Participant is a minor)

I acknowledge that participation in the above trip involves risk to the Participant (and to Participant's parents or guardians, if Participant is a minor), and may result in various types of injury including, but not limited to the following: sickness, bodily injury, death, emotional injury, personal injury, property damage and financial damage.

In consideration for the opportunity to participate in the above trip, the Participant (or parent/guardian if Participant is a minor) acknowledges and accepts the risks of injury associated with participation in the trip. The Participant (or parent/guardian) accepts personal financial responsibility for any injury sustained during the trip. Further, the Participant (or parent/guardian) promises to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Trip Sponsor and its agents, employees, volunteers, or any other representatives (collectively included hereinafter in the term "Trip Sponsor") for any injury related directly or indirectly out of the above trip, whether such injury arises out of the negligence of the Trip Sponsor or otherwise.

If a dispute over this agreement or any claim for damage arises, the Participant (or parent/guardian) agrees to resolve the matter through a mutually acceptable alternative dispute resolution process.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Participant or parent/guardian if participant is a minor

H:drive/Missions

For office use only: Filed _____ by _____.

Notary Information

The following is to be completed by the notary witnessing parent/guardian's signature.

The State of _____ the County of _____

Before me, a Notary Public, on this day personally appeared _____ known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and the seal of the office this _____ day of _____

In the year _____.

Notary Public, Signature _____

My commission expires on the _____ day of _____, in the year _____.

{Seal}