



Empowered  
to **SERVE**

**A guide for missions trips  
in the United States.**

As Christians, we must spread the gospel and help build the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:8 says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (NIV).





# So many opportunities

Preparing for a missions trip can be both exciting and stressful. Our goal is to provide clarity and simplicity to the process.

## 8 steps for a successful missions trip

### 1. CHOOSE YOUR DESTINATION

- Visit [usmissions.ag.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer](https://usmissions.ag.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer) and explore the short-term missions opportunities.
- Contact the ministry or missionary you will be assisting for logistical details and requirements regarding your visit.

### 2. ESTABLISH TEAM LEADERS AND RECRUIT TEAM MEMBERS

- Conduct background checks on each team member.
- Inform team members of the cost of the trip and begin fundraising.

### **3. CREATE A WRITTEN AGENDA AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN**

- Clearly establish the purpose of your trip.
- Develop a written plan for team members that includes needed contact information and steps to follow if an emergency were to occur.

### **4. PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE**

- Buy Mission Assure travel insurance ([www.agfinancial.org/mission-assure](http://www.agfinancial.org/mission-assure)) through our preferred provider AGFinancial to ensure that all necessary forms are accurately completed and you have adequate coverage for your team.

### **5. BOOK TRAVEL AND HOUSING FOR YOUR GROUP**

- Schedule your driving route, purchase plane tickets and/or book a rental car.
- Ask the ministry or missionary if housing is provided and, if not, ask for recommended hotels for your group.

### **6. SCHEDULE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER**

- Encourage your team and congregation to start praying immediately for your trip and the people and places you will reach and continue praying until you return home.

### **7. CONDUCT PRE-TRIP MEETINGS**

- Organize meetings with your entire team to discuss expectations and scheduling, review forms, and ensure everyone is aligned with the vision and requirements of the trip.

### **8. HOST A POST-TRIP TIME OF REFLECTION**

- Give your team time to share testimonials and pray that God will multiply the work done.
- Debrief both the good and the bad.





# U.S. MISSIONS

THE GOSPEL DISPLAYED

**As** your trip approaches, ask the Lord for wisdom and discernment every step of the way. You will witness chains breaking, moments of gratitude and the fresh wind of God's presence. You may also face long days, uncomfortable situations or plans going haywire. Stay flexible and stay in tune with His voice. May this be a time when God transforms your own heart as well as the hearts of those you are going to serve.

“Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin.”

Zechariah 4:10, NLT



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