



MISSION TRIP **LEADER GUIDE**



**GLOBAL MISSION
CENTER**

A Word from the Global Mission Center



From the Parishes To All Peoples

The Global Mission Center exists to help our NOBTS and Leavell students prepare to serve among the nations. We want to be a community dedicated to proclaiming the gospel to the ends of the earth, with a particular focus on those unreached or least served with the gospel message.

Mission trips are one of the best ways for us to train our students and give them a global vision. Our vision is for every student to participate in at least one short-term mission trip during their time at NOBTS or Leavell College. When considering missions, we want all of our students to not only see missions firsthand and connect with missionaries but to wrestle with the larger questions: "Why not me?" "Why not here?"

THANK YOU for leading one of our short-term teams. Your role is invaluable within the ongoing equipping of NOBTS and Leavell College students. The GMC is stronger with you involved in the lives of our students as you model a Great Commission lifestyle for them. May this guide be a helpful resource as you prepare students to serve anywhere from the parishes to all peoples.

-Greg Mathias
Director, Global Mission Center

Pre-Trip

Connecting with the Field

One key to an effective short-term mission trip is a healthy understanding of expectations. Plan to have (at least) one conversation with the field missionary about the broad scope of their ministry along with specific details about the trip. Here are some questions to consider when speaking with your field contact.

Questions to Consider

- What is the nature of your work?
- How will the short-term team support long-term ministry?
- What security precautions need to be taken?
- Any suggested resources on ministry, culture, or evangelism specific to your context?
- What supplies can we bring to support/bless your team or national partners?
- What are the estimated charges for transportation, food, lodging, etc.?



Pre-Trip Trip Details

- The GMC will collect money, purchase insurance, and obtain copies of passports for your team. It is helpful for the leader to check in with team members about money/passports during team meetings.
- For international trips, all team members will be required to complete the IMB's "Go Method." This includes a \$25 background check, child protection training, and outside references.
- Before departure, you will receive a travel folder which includes the following. Keep these documents in a safe place:
 - Folder for receipts
 - Insurance cards
 - Passport copies
- Two weeks before departure, alert the GMC to needed travel money for you as the trip leader. The GMC will request those monies and distribute to you.
- The team's fundraising schedule might differ slightly depending on the trip, but a rough schedule follows:
 - Initial deposit: Determined by GMC
 - Half of total cost: Due six weeks before departure
 - Total cost: Due one week before departure
- Team members will receive a sample support leader to aid them in their fundraising.



Pre-Trip Team Meetings

The team leader should plan 2-3 team meetings before departure. Keep in mind that some members might need to participate virtually depending on their situation. Between meetings, use a communication group platform like WhatsApp or GroupMe.

1 1-2 Months Before Departure

Focused on getting to know the team and outlining general goals/expectations. Get the team started on GO Method (if applicable).

2 3 Weeks -1 Month Before Departure

Can be used to address specific needs and/or supply extra training specific to the trip. Ideally, you will include someone from the ministry location in this meeting (in-person or virtually).

3 Less than Two Weeks Before Departure

Overview final logistics/details and spend focused time in prayer.



During Trip

It's GO time! Your role as team leader shines from the moment you arrive to the airport for departure through the time of arriving back home. Here are some tips to lead well during the trip.



Lead Spiritually

In addition to team members' personal devotions, take time each morning or evening to connect with and set direction/debrief through devotional thoughts/prayer (~ 30 min).



Model Evangelism/Discipleship

Every team member, including you, needs to be all in on ministry activities. Take opportunities to encourage those who are more cautious or unsure during the trip.



Equip Team Members

Set healthy daily expectations and allow team members to take ownership of ministry and team building by giving opportunities to serve and lead.



Debrief After Ministry

In addition to daily, regular debriefing times, have time with missionary and national partners to debrief at the end of the trip. Celebrate all God has done!

Post-Trip



GMC & Team Debrief

Set up a debrief meeting with the GMC director within 1 week. Set up a separate debrief with your team at least one month following the trip. Here are some questions to consider:

- What are your biggest takeaways from your time?
- How have you applied what you learned to your personal ministry/everyday life?
- Did you experience any reverse culture shock?
- Would you consider going back to that location? Do you have interest in any other places as a result of the trip?

Our Mission

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

The Goals

- Get there and get home with everyone
- Serve one another and walk in the Spirit
- Encourage missionaries, church planters, and partners
- Help students take next steps in living out a global vision and fulfilling His mission.

Contact List

We hope your trip will be uneventful and that no challenges or emergencies arise. If that is not the case, refer to your travel folder and take note of the contact information below. Additionally, if there are challenges in your flights while traveling, contact the travel agent as well as alert the GMC. Have a great trip!

Name	Phone	Email
Global Mission Center	504-816-8232	globalmissioncenter@nobts.edu
Greg Mathias	919-621-9165	gmathias@nobts.edu

