





**Going Well** is a training resource for teams going on an overseas mission team in PCI congregations. The training is delivered across **four films** described as follows:

- **1. GOING WELL FOR LEADERS:** preparing leaders for leading a team. To be watched by the leaders before the first team meeting.
- **2. BEFORE GOING:** preparing team members with important information to consider before going on an overseas mission trip.

To be watched by the whole team before the mission trip.

3. DURING THE TRIP: helping team members consider some details that are important during an overseas mission trip.

To be watched by the whole team before the mission trip.

**4. AFTER THE TRIP:** helping teams reflect upon what they have learnt during an overseas mission trip. *To be watched by the whole team on the final night of the mission trip.* 

Each film highlights a range of important information under the headings of 'Building Team', 'Discipleship', 'Culture' and 'Nuts and Bolts'. Questions related to the content of each film are suggested below for leaders to choose from. These are to be used after each film as conversation starters that will enable learning and provoke planning for the team experience.

Further information related to this resource is available from: *www.presbyterianireland.org/goingwell* 

### **CONVERSATION STARTER QUESTIONS FOR EACH FILM**

Encourage participants to note down anything that stands out whilst watching the films along with any questions they provoke. Share these with each other before discussing any relevant questions from the following suggestions.

### **GOING WELL FOR LEADERS** – some questions to choose from:

- 1. How many times are you planning to meet as a team and what dates are you proposing?
- 2. What might you plan for the first team meeting that will keep it relaxed and sociable?
- 3. What activities or games might you use for 'Building Team' when you gather?
- 4. How are you going to get to know each team member well?
- 5. When will you have your first parents' meeting? What about a second meeting close to departure? (Youth teams only.)
- 6. How will you ensure every team member completes a consent form (youth teams only) and provides all appropriate health information?
- 7. What needs to be done regarding the following practicalities:
  - a. Checking and photocopying each team member's passport.
  - b. Printing travel documents and making visa applications (where necessary).
  - c. Travel arrangements to/from the airport at both sides.
  - d. Insurance cover for the team, including the finer details.
  - e. Complete a thorough risk assessment with the input of the host.
  - f. Is anyone on the team first aid trained? If not, seek out training. Who will arrange to bring a comprehensive first aid kit?
  - g. What is an appropriate daily team budget?
  - h. What gifts might you bring for your hosts?
  - i. Any dietary requirements or allergies within your team? Inform your host where necessary.

## **BEFORE GOING** – some questions to choose from:

- 1. What might a team day away look like? When could this happen?
- 2. Do we need to fundraise for this trip? Are we doing this as a team/individually? What ideas do we have for fundraising? What is our fundraising target?
- **3.** What is the best way to communicate as a team between meetings? Share relevant contact details to facilitate this.
- 4. Would you like team clothing? If so, what item(s)? Has anyone any ideas regarding the design of team clothing?
- **5.** How might we seek to read and learn from the Bible together as a team using the lightbulb, question mark and arrow questions?
- 6. How will we seek to embed prayer within our team? Will we pair up as prayer partners?
- 7. How will we get our congregation(s) praying for our team?
- 8. Is there anyone on the team who could put together a short video that introduces the team?
- **9.** What about asking for a commissioning service in your congregation(s). Who will do this? When should it take place?
- **10.** What cultural differences have you experienced across the world either first hand or through media? What can be learnt from this about our responsibility as a guest in another country?
- **11.** What are the things you think you might be asked to do on this team that scare you but you would really want to say yes to?
- 12. What needs to be done regarding the following practicalities:
  - a. Insurance what is covered?
  - **b.** Vaccinations visit your GP for advice.
  - c. Medical requirements details must be given to team leaders.
  - d. Spending money what is appropriate?
  - e. Dietary requirements and allergies details must be given to team leaders.
  - f. Team schedule who will liaise with your hosts and put this together?
  - **g.** Gifts and strengths has anyone any gifts that might be useful on the team such as: sports, music, art, drama, public speaking, photography, teaching, writing etc.

### **DURING THE TRIP** – some questions to choose from:

- 1. What should be included in your team contract? Ensure to include positive behaviours.
- 2. What should the mobile phone usage policy be whilst away?
- **3.** What should team morning devotions look like whilst away? Is everyone willing to lead this once? Plan a rota for this.
- 4. Is everyone willing to share their faith story in an evening team time? Plan a rota for this.
- 5. Has anyone any suggestions of fun games we could play as a team?
- 6. What Bible passages will we use for team devotions whilst away?
- 7. How will we communicate with our congregation(s) whilst away? Plan a rota with a different person to do this each day.
- 8. How and when will we plan our programme of work? Divide into sub-teams and allocate roles as appropriate.
- **9.** How can you prepare each team member to be able to share their faith story and/or lead games for 20 minutes? When will you practise these things before you go?
- **10.** If you are on a 'go and see' trip, what are some of the things you are looking out for? What might be helpful to remember and record to help your congregation pray more meaningfully?
- **11.** Consider the following practicalities as you look at a map:
  - **a.** Language share some basic words and phrases prepared in advance.
  - **b.** Currency what is the currency and current exchange rate. How much is a can of coke? A meal at McDonalds?
  - c. Are there any political, historical, cultural or security issues?
  - d. What is the main religion of the country and what size is the Christian population?
  - e. Food what is the typical food and what local dishes might you be eating?
  - f. Climate what will the temperatures be like when you are visiting? Will it be wet?
  - **g.** Clothing what clothing will be suitable given the climate and what is appropriate for the culture?
  - **h.** Safety where are you allowed to go and where is unsafe? Clarify any rules around this. Are there any dangers associated with local animals, plants, insects or water?
  - i. Equipment what might you need to bring with you for your work programme? Who is responsible for organising this?
  - j. Questions what questions do you need to ask your host? Who will do this and report back?

# **AFTER THE TRIP** – some questions to choose from:

- 1. Reflecting back on your trip, what have been the highlights of this experience for you?
- 2. What have been the areas in which you have experienced the biggest challenge?
- 3. What have you learnt about God throughout this time away on mission?
- 4. How might you encourage one another? Perhaps consider using the 'A4 Affirmation' idea.
- 5. How might you use your time, talents and treasure to serve God at home?
- **6.** How might the relationship between you and your host be maintained and developed at home? Could this be something your congregation supports? How?
- 7. How might you report back to your home congregation(s) about your mission experience? What are your best stories that you don't want to forget?
- 8. Is there anyone on the team who could put together a short highlights video?
- 9. When will you meet as a team for a reunion? Decide upon a date and location for this.





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