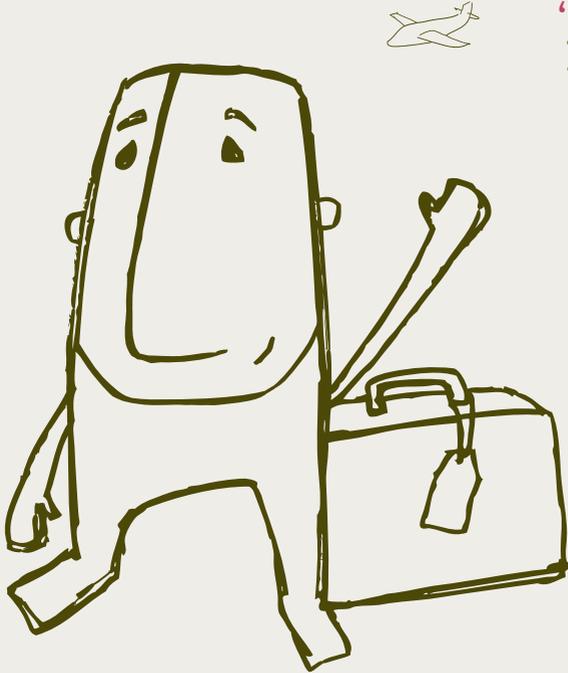


**'Do it Well'**  
Mission Toolkit



Ready,

Steady,

Go!

**BOOKLET 3**

Covers all aspects of team preparation, training and going on mission.

## 'Do It Well' at a Glance

### Stage 1: Exploration

- Do you know what the Bible says about mission?
- Are you clear what short-term mission is about?
- Have you thought about planning, training, support and follow-up?

#### 'Do it Well' Booklet 1

##### Thinking of Going



### Stage 2: Preparation

- Building church support
- Building connections with people overseas
- Recruiting team leaders and members
- Practical planning

#### 'Do it Well' Booklet 2

##### Doing the Groundwork



### Stage 3: The Team

- Team-building
- Team training
- Supporting your team
- Travelling and working overseas

#### 'Do it Well' Booklet 3

##### Ready, Steady, Go

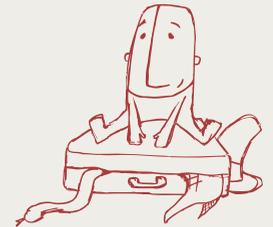


### Stage 4: Home Again

- Returning to your own culture
- Reporting back
- Continuing your mission involvement

#### 'Do it Well' Booklet 4

##### Finishing Well



### At Any Stage:

- Need extra help and inspiration?
- Want to know who to contact?

#### 'Do it Well' Booklet 5

##### Resources & Links



"The Mission Involvement Committee of the Board of Mission Overseas acknowledges with gratitude the considerable time, energy and thought given by Dr Deborah Ford in gathering and writing the material contained in this toolkit, and for the helpful advice and guidance given by the members of the Toolkit Working Group."

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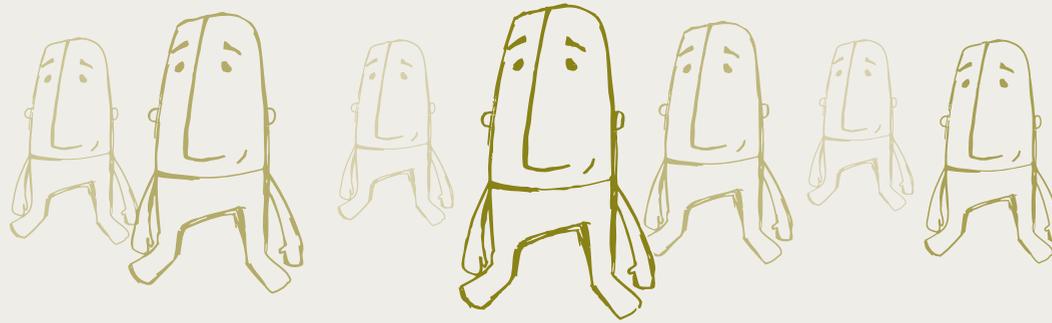
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# 1. Team issues



Planning your trip and recruiting your team are obviously essential, but they're not the only things you have to do before you go! This is the third in the series of the 'Do It Well' booklets providing guidelines for those sending and going on overseas mission teams. Its focus is on spiritual principles, communicating across cultures and practical training issues for effective short-term team ministry overseas.

## 1.1 Why teams?

Short-term team ministry isn't just a new-fangled trend; it's a Biblical principle. The New Testament gives numerous examples of the use of short-term mission teams: Jesus and the Twelve, Jesus and the Seventy, Paul and his ministry companions, to name but a few. Team ministry offers fellowship and encouragement and maximises potential, strengths and gifts.<sup>1</sup>

Team ministry is, also, however, challenging. Jesus' own 'short-term mission team,' the Twelve Apostles, were constantly competing and squabbling amongst themselves. On their second missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas had such a sharp disagreement over John Mark that they went their separate ways! Teams, then, don't just "happen" – they need to be "built"<sup>2</sup> – and every member is needed in the building process!

## 1.2 Building a 'Team'

For an effective team, each of you will need to be willing to lay aside your own agenda, preferences and interests, and to be prepared to think, travel, live, and work as a team, rather than as individuals.

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It's important to recognise that everyone has a valuable contribution to make. Remember Paul's metaphor of the body. Each part of the body is different, yet all are equally important and all are interdependent (1 Cor. 12:12ff). Teams work because of differences, not in spite of them! Team members will need to learn to depend on each other, to value each other, and to trust each other. Good teams also need good leadership that takes authority, is decisive, delegates, serves, encourages and is trusting.

For effective team-building, there will need to be careful planning and clear, continuous communication between the team leader(s) and team members. Prayer should be a constant of your team meetings from the very beginning – for each other, for your hosts, for those you are going to serve, and for those who are sending you. Regular, open and honest communication is vital, particularly when difficulties arise.

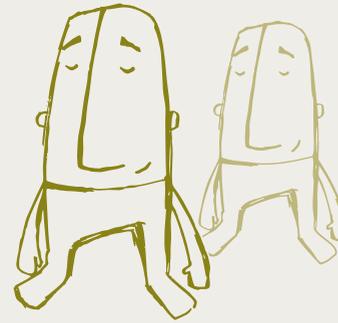
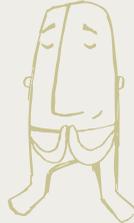
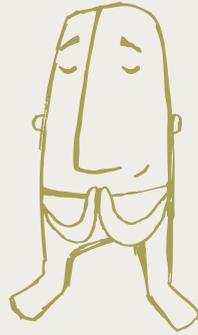
In order to grow together as a team, you will need to spend quality time all together, enjoying one another's company, sharing in some 'fun' activities together, as well as training and preparing for the work or ministry you are going overseas to do. To see how well a team gels, you should carry out some practical work together before you go overseas – such as taking a church service, undertaking some fund-raising, packing supplies and materials, or doing a team-building exercise. A team weekend away is well worth considering.

Thought!

*"I'm excited about going, we are getting prepared and doing lots of training with the team."*

Teams work because of differences, not in spite of them! Team members need to learn to learn to depend on each other, and to trust and value each other.

Everyone has a valuable contribution to make.



## 1. Team issues

You might also like to work together on drawing up a 'team covenant'. This is an agreement outlining the commitments expected of team members, including things such as: "the qualities you want to characterise your relationships, how you will spend your time together, worship and prayer, how financial and logistical decisions will be made and how you will incorporate others from the new context into your lives and relationships."<sup>3</sup> A sample team covenant is included in Booklet 5, 'Resources and Links'.

### 1.3 Team time

Both during your preparation period, and while you are overseas, be sure to spend time together as a team, praying, worshipping and reading God's word together, sharing your Christian experience, outlining your hopes and fears for the trip, discerning each other's gifts, and building each other up.

### 1.4 Ideas that might help

- Have a plan before you go, so things don't just work haphazardly. Decide whether you want to study a specific passages or book, or get everyone to do their own thing in turn.
- Get everyone involved: sharing a reflection on a verse or passage of Scripture, leading a Bible study, praying, or leading in worship, etc.
- Keep things short and sweet, and don't hold your meetings too early or too late. Once overseas, people will be tired!
- When at home, try and include your 'senders' from

Notes:

time to time; and once overseas, your hosts and national Christians, if possible – it will really help your spiritual thinking to have their input from their perspective(s).

- Make sure your team devotions are balanced. You should set aside time for worship and praise of God for who He is, but also make time to wait on Him, listen to Him and enjoy His presence, as well as praying about the day's events, specific requests, and personal and team issues.

### 1.5 Team unity and mission

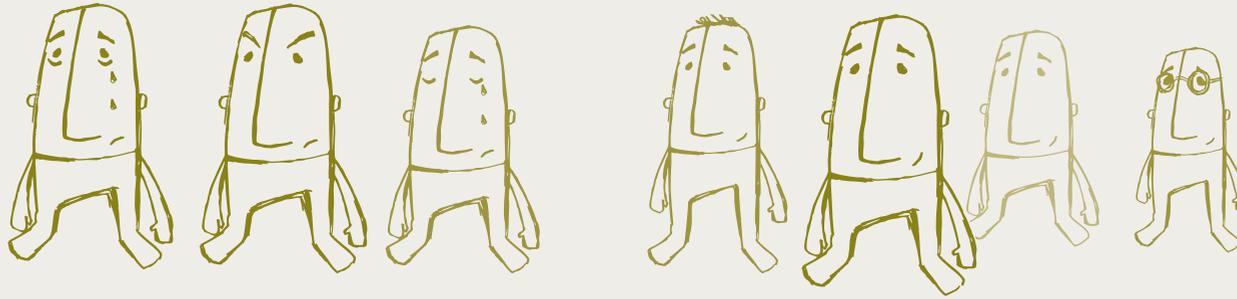
When thinking about mission, Christians often focus on the 'Great Commission' – Jesus' command to "Go out into all the world and make disciples of every nation." (Matt. 28:19-20). However, the Bible also contains a 'Great Commandment' – "A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35). And just before His death, Jesus prayed for His disciples to "be brought to complete unity, so that the world might know that you (God the Father) have sent me." (John 17:20-23). So, as well as seeking to obey the Great Commission, God's people also need to obey the Great Commandment. This will be a particular challenge for your team overseas, where, as foreigners, you'll be constantly 'on show!' <sup>4</sup> It's no good proclaiming the Good News of God's love if it's obvious to the local people that you don't get on together!

Thought!

*At home and overseas, it's vital to spend time together as a team to get to know one another. Learn to appreciate each person for who they are and the gifts they have, and share your experiences, hopes and fears with each other.*

Most importantly, regularly set time aside to pray, worship and study God's word together.

# 1. Team issues



## 1.6 Coping with conflict

As Jesus' prayers indicate, love and unity on your team are not automatic, but need to be worked at and prayed for:

- Pray about your attitudes as soon as they go wrong!
- Pray particularly for the one person you can't stand - there'll always be one!
- Avoid gossip, cliques, and exclusive friendships.
- Respect everybody equally for their contribution.
- Keep short accounts, and deal with problems as soon as they arise.<sup>5</sup>
- Focus on the problem, not the person.<sup>6</sup>
- If you feel wronged, follow the principles laid out in Matthew 5:23-24 and 18:15ff. Both parties must take the initiative in reconciliation.
- Remember the command to 'forgive just as the Lord forgave you.' (Col. 3:12-13).
- 'Speaking the truth in love' (Eph. 4:14-15) is an essential skill for every member of a mission team!

## 1.7 Servant-hood<sup>7</sup>

"You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to serve, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:42-45).

Notes:

Just as Jesus' mission was defined by service, so each short-term mission team member must view himself or herself as a servant. In practice, 'servant-hood' while on a short-term mission team may mean the following:

- Laying aside your rights for the sake of the team and for the sake of those you are serving, just as Jesus left the glories of heaven to become a servant (Phil 2:6ff).
- Avoiding emphasis on 'self' and putting the team first, seeking to live, think and act as a team player (this doesn't necessarily mean that everyone's 'your cup of tea').
- Accepting last-minute changes in plan that you may find disappointing or frustrating and being prepared to do things that lie outside your own particular preference or comfort-zone.
- Maintaining a positive attitude, looking for the good in the people and places you visit.
- Avoiding comments or conduct that might offend others, recognising that what is considered 'acceptable' may vary between cultures, and even between members of your team.
- Being disciplined in terms of your prayer-life, sticking to team schedules, going to bed at a reasonable time, etc. – you need to be both spiritually and physically fit to pull your weight on the team.
- Being faithful, available, and teachable, not necessarily successful.

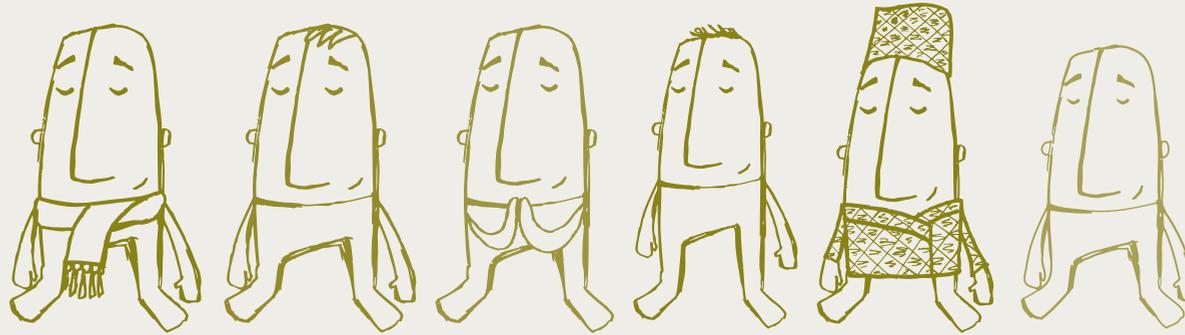
Being a servant also means following the lead of the local church as to how they would like you to work. This may mean setting aside your own ideas of what is the best or the most effective way to do things.

Thought!

*In addition to obeying the Great Commission, "to go into all the world and make disciples of every nation", you need to also obey the Great Commandment "to love one another..."*

*This will be a particular challenge overseas, where, as foreigners, you'll be constantly 'on show'!*

## 1. Team issues



It also means respecting the unusual or different things encountered overseas, acting as a learner, not a judge, not saying “At home we do things this way...”

### Note Paul's principle:

*“Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law... so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law...so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men, so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the Gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.” (1 Cor. 9:19-23)*

Watch that nothing you say or do implies cultural or spiritual superiority. Plan to work ‘with’ the people, rather than ‘for’ them, and to listen, learn and ask questions, rather than giving them advice and solving their problems. Don’t tell missionaries what to do either (unless you have relevant long-term experience in the same or a similar context!).

### 1.8 Points worth bearing in mind

- Fit into your hosts’ routine. They’ve probably disrupted their lives considerably for you, so be sensitive and appreciative. Give your hosts advance warning if you are going to miss meals or be back late. Don’t stay out too late or make too much noise with fellow team-mates: remember that your hosts will have

Notes:

their own work to do and that bed-time and getting-up time may be much earlier than at home!

- Eat the food you are offered and be grateful for it.
- Remember that hot water (or any water at all!) may be in short supply.
- Offer to help round the house – for example: washing dishes, helping with meal preparations, repairs or playing with the kids.
- Be sensitive to local custom – such as removing your shoes before entering the house.

### 2.1 Spiritual life

*I’ve packed my toothbrush...I’ve had my jabs...*

*I’ve finally found my passport...and now I’m ready...*

The most critical aspect of your preparation is not your programme planning, logistics, team organisation or personal packing, but your attitudes and heart. You’re not suddenly transformed into a missionary by getting on a plane – you tend to take yourself with you. The personal spiritual disciplines – prayer, Bible study, resisting temptation, keeping short accounts – that you have (or don’t have) now, will be the ones you will have (or won’t have) overseas.

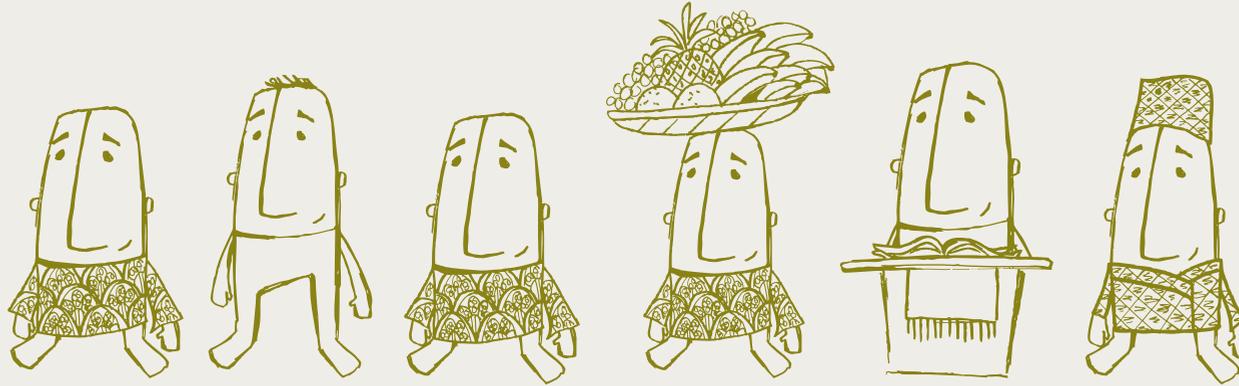
Your own personal quiet time is often one of the first things to go in the busyness of team life and ministry. Don’t let this happen – and don’t rely on the ‘buzz’ of team life and the excitement of a new context to carry you spiritually. This is a spiritual battle, and you will need to be ready. You owe it to the rest of the team to be disciplined spiritually.

Thought!

*Each team member must view themselves as a servant, putting the team first, seeking to live, think and act as a team player. It also means following the lead of your local hosts as to how they would like you to work.*

*This may mean setting aside your own ideas of what is best or the most effective way to do things.*

## 2. Spiritual issues



Be aware also that the trip may be as much about what God wants to do in your own life and in your life together as a team, as about what you actually do in terms of your 'outward' ministry. Be prepared to receive and give to one another spiritually. Make a decision to do this, particularly if you are an independent person who finds it hard to receive.

Don't just focus on the team, but try and meet to pray with at least one other person from your host culture.

### Don't forget also:

- To be nice to yourselves.
- To take some time for 'you' as an individual.
- To bring and buy some treats.
- To take time off as a team.

### 2.2 Spiritual warfare

*"We may be prepared to dig wells, teach schools, type manuscripts, build buildings, play with kids, programme computers, provide medical care and proclaim the Gospel – but if we're not prepared for spiritual battle, we are not prepared!"<sup>8</sup>*

Spiritual warfare is a reality throughout the Scriptures, and you can expect to be tested at both a "personal" and "team" level<sup>9</sup> while you are overseas. Remember that the love and unity of Christ's disciples is vital for effective witness, and that the devil would love to cause disagreement and conflict between you, so do all you can to deal with bad attitudes and disagreements as soon as possible. Don't allow disagreements or disunity to fester. Be prepared also for apathy or opposition to your message: *"The God of this age (Satan) has blinded the*

Notes:

*hearts and minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."* (2 Cor. 4:3-4).<sup>10</sup> Intercede for those with whom you would seek to share the Gospel, that the Holy Spirit would open eyes and soften hearts.

It's important, however, to keep a healthy perspective. Remember that the battle belongs to the Lord, and that God has ultimate authority: *"Greater is the one that is in you than the one that is in the world."* (1 John 4:4). God has given you His Holy Spirit to enable you to be effective witnesses. (John 15:26-27; Acts 1:8). His strength is made perfect in your weakness. (2 Cor. 12:9).

There are also weapons that you can employ. In the Gospels, Jesus escaped temptation and sent the devil packing by His knowledge and application of the Scriptures (Matt. 4:4ff). Ephesians commands us to *"put on the full armour of God,"* to *"be alert"* and *"to pray in the Spirit on all occasions."* (Eph. 6:11-18).

Note, too, that this passage on spiritual armour is addressed to the whole church at Ephesus, not just to an individual. Remember you're not alone, and seek to minister to, pray for, and encourage one another as a team while overseas.

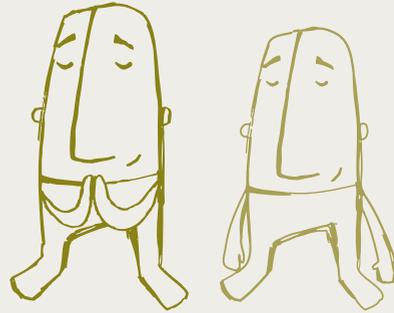
Finally, don't be tempted to 'over-spiritualise' and 'see the devil behind every bush' when things go wrong – remember you're tired, possibly trying to cope with extreme heat, while also adjusting to a new culture, new people and a new diet! *"Resist the devil and he will flee from you!"* (James 4:7).

Thought!

*The most critical aspect of your preparation is not your programme planning, logistics, team organisation or personal packing, but your attitudes and heart.*

Personal bible study and prayer is often one of the first things to go in the busyness of team life and ministry. Don't let this happen!

## 2. Spiritual issues



### 2.3 Prayer support

*“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion on the day of Christ Jesus.”* (Phil. 1:3-6).

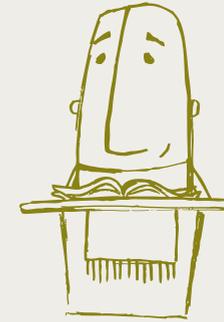
Your team’s spiritual protection and ministry effectiveness is also dependent on the prayer support of your senders. In fact, as Paul stresses, they are equal ‘partners in the Gospel’ and share equally in the ministry with you! Before you go, each team member should recruit a prayer base – up to 10 people who will pray faithfully for them during the teams’ preparation and daily, while away.

*You might like to ask them to pray for the following:*<sup>11</sup>

- Spiritual readiness and protection
  - Physical safety
  - Mental and emotional adjustment
  - Wisdom in decisions
  - Good relationships between hosts, team members and those being served
  - A willingness to learn
  - Effective ministry and openness to the Gospel
- However, don’t just pray for ‘the time away!’ Also ask for:
- God’s work to be done in team members as individuals, and as a team
  - Spiritual impact upon your contacts at home and particularly upon your congregation
  - God to raise up people for long-term missionary service and support.

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## 3. Commissioning



Producing and distributing a team prayer card or bookmark, with dates, key prayer points and perhaps a photo, will be a helpful visual prayer reminder.

### Commissioning

A team *commissioning service* (see Acts 13:1-3) is a special way of demonstrating and encouraging your congregation’s support for your short-term mission trip overseas. It’s also an effective visual reminder that mission is the responsibility of *the whole church*, and that you are all equal partners in the work of the Gospel together.

Introduce the team, if necessary, and give a brief summary of where you’re going, and when and why. Share brief up-to-date prayer points and give thanks for support received to date. Make it a family occasion, involving the whole congregation. You might even invite representatives of every age-group in your congregation to come to the front, to lay hands on each team member as they pray for them and the mission they are embarking on.

Show a PowerPoint® presentation (or video, if you have a suitable one) of the country, ministry and people you hope to work with, and be as creative as possible – could you sing a song or chorus in your host language, or display appropriate posters, pictures or crafts?

Distribute prayer cards or bookmarks at the end of the service. Once the team is away, you should keep in regular contact with your congregation and other prayer partners, through texts, twitter messages, emails or a team blog. A team member should be appointed to

Thought!

*Spiritual warfare is a reality when engaged in God’s mission! Expect therefore to be tested at both a ‘personal’ and ‘team’ level while overseas. But keep a healthy perspective and remember that the battle belongs to the Lord.*

Remember that your team’s spiritual protection and effectiveness is also dependent on the prayer support of your supporters.

## 4. Culture & language issues

update folk back at home and communicate daily or urgent prayer points.

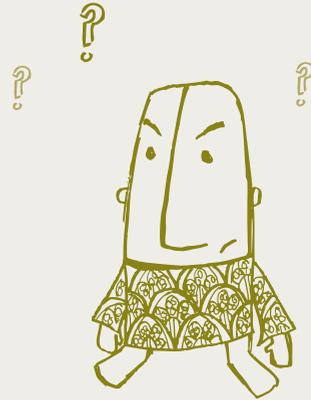
At the home end, someone should be designated as the *primary congregational contact*, who should convey information to the prayer meeting, house-groups, Sunday services, etc.

### 4.1 Cross-cultural communication

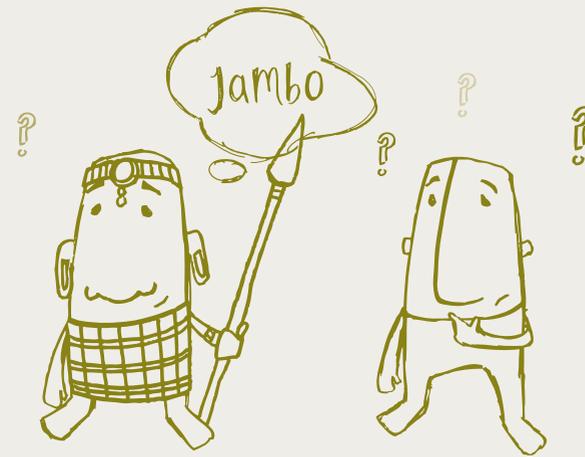
'Culture' is a term used to refer to "the distinct characteristics of a people's total way of life."<sup>12</sup>

It includes everything that a group of people thinks, says and does – its customs, beliefs, language, institutions, values and ideas. To travel on short-term mission from your own culture to another, very different, culture, takes you out of your 'cultural comfort zone' and exposes you to a very different way of looking at the world. The term 'culture shock' is used to describe this sudden change. Your cultural background will also have (subconsciously) conditioned your understanding of the Gospel and how you present it to others. Similarly, the people in your host culture will have their own expression of the Christian faith, formed and shaped by their cultural understanding and experience.

For effective ministry across cultures, you will need an awareness of *two cultures*: your own culture, and the culture you are going into, and how they each relate to the Gospel! Furthermore, the Bible comes out of a culture of its own, so in the overseas context you need to communicate the Gospel message across *three* cultures!<sup>13</sup> To effectively communicate Christ, then, you need to not only 'know the Gospel,' but also to be



Notes:



able to communicate the Gospel effectively between different (or across) cultures.

### 4.2 Some ways of bridging the cultural gap

It may seem a bit over-the-top to embark on an in-depth study of the country you may only be visiting for three or four weeks, but some basic research can have great benefits. It will help you to adjust more easily to the culture to which you are going, sensitising you to the values and behaviour you will encounter, correcting your misconceptions, increasing your interest in the people, and enabling you to make your presentation of the Gospel more acceptable to, and more easily understood by, those you will meet and talk with.

In your team, you might like to investigate the following:

- **Geography:** Can you draw a map of the area, outlining major cities?
- **History:** Can you give a brief overview?
- **Government:** Can you name current political leaders and issues?
- **Economy:** Can you list major sources of income and major economic issues?
- **Society:** Are there any major conflicts? What are the current social issues?
- **Religious life:** What is the country's religious history and traditional religions? How strong is the Christian faith? What are the primary church denominations or groups?
- **Views:** How do people generally view the West?
- **Family life:** How is the family structured? How would

Thought!

*A team commissioning service is a special way of demonstrating and encouraging your congregation's support for your short-term mission trip overseas.*

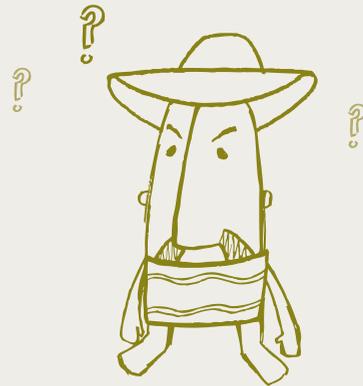
It's also a tangible reminder that mission is the responsibility of the whole church and that you are all equal partners together in the work of the Gospel.

## 4. Culture & language issues

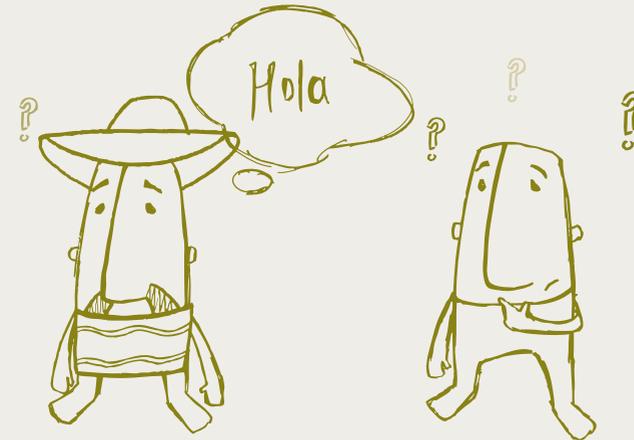
- you describe the male, female, child and parent roles?
- **Dress code:** What is the usual form of dress for men and women?
- **Education:** What level of formal education is normal?
- **Greetings:** How do people greet one another?
- **Food:** What is the normal daily diet?
- **Livelihoods:** How do most people among the group you are working with earn a living?
- **Lifestyle:** What kind of lifestyle/expenditure do people have?
- **Entertainment:** What is the dominant form of entertainment? <sup>14</sup>

To find out more, try the following:

- Obtain newspapers from your target country, if possible (often downloadable from the Internet), and watch local and national news for information about your destination. BBC World is particularly useful: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/default.stm>
- Try to obtain a DVD or downloadable presentation of the country you are going to and arrange to view it as a team.
- Get hold of missionary photos, prayer-letters, blogs, etc.
- Include a 'fact of the week' in each of your team training sessions. These could also be put in the church announcements or bulletin sheet. <sup>15</sup>
- Try and find someone who has lived in or is a national of your host country, and interview them or invite them to address your team. Or contact the Mission Overseas Office in Church House to see if there are



Notes:



- any leaders-in-training or returned or retired missionaries, who could help orient the team and teach them some simple phrases in the local language.
- Try and obtain recipes from your host country or, even better, have someone come and cook a typical 'national dish' for you! <sup>16</sup>

As a team, you could also try to gain some cross-cultural experience 'closer to home':

- Attend a church service of a different denomination or ethnic group. <sup>17</sup> Share individual reactions to your experience(s). Discuss what was different, what was good, and what made anyone feel uncomfortable or strange. Invite them back to one of your church services too!
- Attend a celebration, festival, or place of worship belonging to a different cultural group. <sup>18</sup>
- Invite international students or immigrants to come and meet with your team.

### 4.3 Language learning

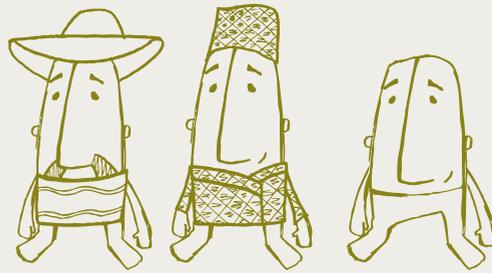
"In the country of the blind, the one-eyed man is king!" Again, it may seem 'over-the-top' to try to learn the language of a country when you may only be visiting for three or four weeks, but to try and grasp some key phrases and basic greetings will show that you are serious about seeking to relate to the people, that you take their culture seriously and respect it, and that you are a bit more than the usual 'tourist' (one-eyed, rather than blind, perhaps!) If you can learn to say a few Christian phrases, sing a simple chorus, or even give a testimony in the local language, so much the better.

Thought!

*For effective ministry overseas, you need to be aware of two cultures: your own culture, and the culture you are going into, and how each relate to the Gospel.*

Some basic research can be beneficial, helping you to adjust more easily to the culture to which you are going.

## 4. Culture & language issues



### 4.4 Some cross-cultural guidelines

- Respect your host culture. Show interest and appreciation, listen, and ask questions.
- Learn to pronounce people's names correctly. Their name is as important to them as yours is to you!<sup>19</sup>
- Be sensitive to local people's feelings when you encounter difficulties, poverty, etc. – you don't like it when people criticise your country!
- Speak clearly and slowly to be better understood (but don't shout!)<sup>20</sup>
- Show particular respect for community leaders and older people. Find out the appropriate way to greet such people and use titles, rather than first names, unless invited to do so.<sup>21</sup>
- Other cultures may be much more laid-back about time and punctuality than we are. It may be more important to stop and talk to someone than to turn up at 9.00 am for that meeting! Be flexible and 'go with the flow'! Try and see 'wasted time' as God's opportunity for building relationships!
- Remember, in fact, that mission is all about relationships. Westerners tend to be task-orientated. Non-Western cultures tend to be much more relationship-orientated. Ultimately, it is the relationships that you make, rather than the things you 'do', that will count.
- Do be careful, though, about relationships with the opposite sex! Avoid spending too much time with any one individual. Ask your missionary or national host what is culturally acceptable.

Notes:



- Don't give the impression that money is the way to a relationship with God, or to a successful ministry or church fellowship. Compassion may mean not doing for others what they should be doing for themselves. "We didn't know we were poor until you told us!"<sup>22</sup>
- Every culture, and every church, has its own particular customs. For example, in Africa and Asia, it is quite common for men to hold hands while walking along together! In many cultures, women sit on one side of the church, men on the other; while in Europe, drinking wine may be a normal part of church social gatherings! Be careful not to criticise or jump to conclusions in these situations – your culture and church may well have its own practices that others would consider strange!
- Watch your gestures, particularly what you do with your hands and feet. In Muslim areas, be careful not to eat or greet with the left hand. A 'thumbs-up' sign is an obscene gesture in Nigeria and many parts of Italy and Greece.
- Check out recent travel guides, such as the Lonely Planet or Rough Guide series, for useful cultural information.

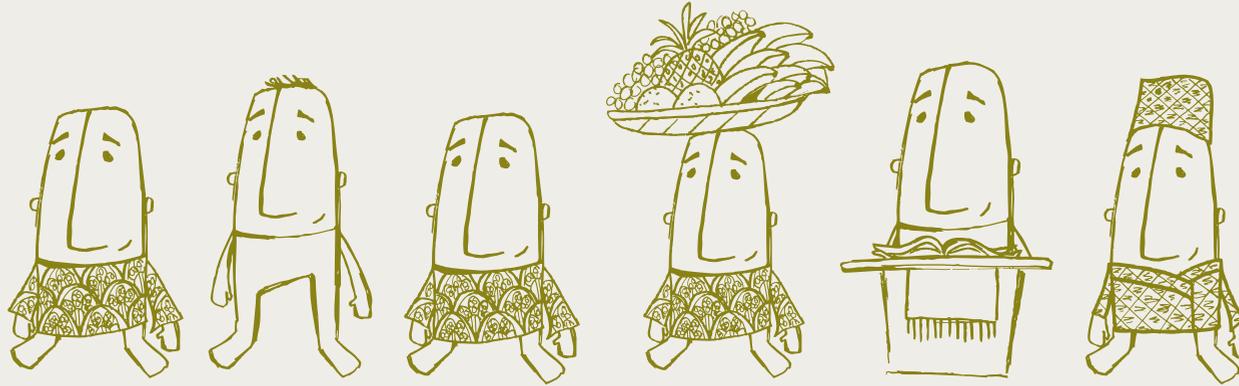
You will inevitably find some things difficult to adjust to. It's good to remember our supreme model for cross-cultural ministry, Jesus, who left 'the culture of heaven' for 'the culture of earth': *"Being in very nature God, [He] did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking on the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*

Thought!

*Even on a short visit overseas, knowledge of some key phrases and basic greetings in the local language can make a huge difference, and will show you are serious about relating to the local people.*

Lack of language can be one of the biggest barriers to effective communication so ensure that there will be people 'on the ground' to help you with translation, if needed.

## 4. Culture & language issues



*And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself, and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!” (Phil. 2:6ff).*

Remember, too, that though you will inevitably get things wrong, a genuine love for and interest in people will shine through. *“Love covers over a multitude of sins!” (1 Peter 4:8).*

### 5.1 Services and sermons

Your team should be prepared to deliver a sermon or two, some testimonies, some songs (unaccompanied or with team musicians) and perhaps some simple dramas or mimes. Material appropriate for children would also be useful. <sup>23</sup> It’s also good to have a prepared speech of greeting or introduction <sup>24</sup> from your sending congregation or presbytery, and from the team, along with another of thanks at the end.

Giving some words of greeting or singing a simple chorus in the local language would go down well. It might be good to bring some Christian literature (tracts, Bibles, Christian books) with you to give out as presents or to leave behind for use by your hosts. Always try to find out in advance what is needed or would be most appropriate for you to bring with you.

If you use a translator, always look at the audience or person you are speaking to, rather than looking at the translator. It can be very distracting for the congregation or person you are speaking to, if they have to try and listen to someone who is not looking directly at them. <sup>25</sup> Speak in short sentences and use simple English. Try to complete one thought or concept at a time. <sup>26</sup>

Notes:

Avoid jargon, slang, ‘Ulster-isms’ or ‘Irish-isms.’ Also watch the illustrations you use; are they familiar or relevant to your audience? Are they appropriate for the culture you are in? Going through your talk with your translator ahead of time might help identify and eliminate any potential ‘hurdles’.

Bear in mind also that using a translator will double the time it takes to deliver your talk!

### 5.2 Giving your testimony

Whether or not you are doing evangelism, you will have often have opportunities to share your testimony while overseas. Indeed, in some cultures, a testimony is the normal way for Christians to introduce themselves to one another! It does help to be prepared, and everyone in the team should have a rough idea of what they want to say. Bear in mind that a testimony doesn’t only have to focus on your conversion experience – things that God is doing in your life right now can be just as helpful!

The following questions may help as you consider what you will share:

- When did it happen?
- How did it happen?
- What difference has it made to you?
- What is God doing in your life today?

Things to think about or avoid:

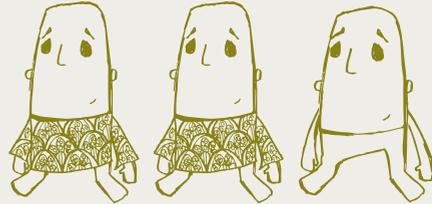
- Keep it short – about three minutes maximum. <sup>27</sup>
- Keep it simple, avoiding unnecessary or irrelevant detail.
- Remember that it is Good News you are sharing, so try and do it enthusiastically!

Thought!

*Remember that mission is all about relationships. Westerners tend to be task-orientated, while Non-Western cultures tend to be much more relationship-orientated.*

Ultimately, it is the relationships that you make that will count, rather than the things you ‘do’.

## 5. Ministry issues



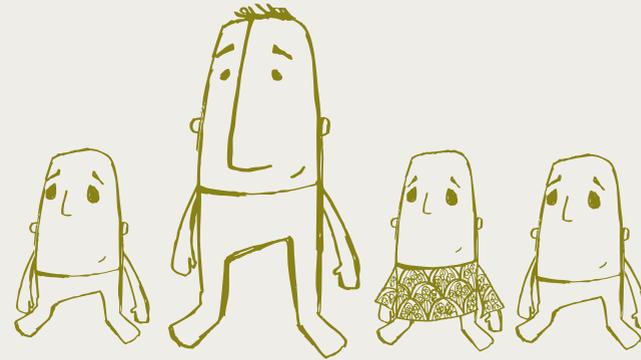
- Avoid too many gory details about your past life. Some subjects, such as past abuse, sexual issues or divorce, may or may not be acceptable according to the culture.<sup>28</sup>
- Don't just focus on the past: talk about what God means to you and what God is doing in your life right now.
- Avoid giving the impression that the Christian life is perfect or easy or that you never sin, doubt or struggle.
- Bear in mind the educational and financial level of your audience. Avoid references or illustrations that the audience may not be able to relate to.
- Be careful about using Christian 'jargon' or terms that your audience may not understand (e.g. 'saved', 'backslidden'...)
- Practise with your team mates to make sure your testimony is clear. (It's good to know one another's spiritual background anyway!).

### 5.3 Child protection

Obviously the checks and safeguards relating to work with children or vulnerable adults here at home do not legally apply to such work in an overseas context. However, as Christians, you will want to ensure that only appropriately approved and trained personnel are involved in this ministry overseas. You may wish to consider making a police check and recent child protection training prerequisites for joining the team, or you may wish to incorporate child protection training into your team training programme.

Follow the usual guidelines about appropriate physical contact, use of control and discipline, safety checks and leader-child ratios. Maintain the child's dignity when

Notes:



taking photos.

Bear in mind that working with children from a different cultural and economic background can bring its own challenges. As with adults, try to avoid creating dependency. Try not to compare your lifestyle with theirs, and be sensitive when showing photos of home. Don't compare your value-base with theirs. Avoid making promises and giving out contact details.

The BMO's Overseas Teams Training (OTT) Day offers a seminar on child protection issues overseas, facilitated by the Board of Social Witness, which has also produced a helpful booklet, 'Taking Care,' and a pocket Leader's Guide, "We Care 4 U Too!"

See <http://www.presbyterianireland.org.takingcare>. See also the resources on the Global Connections website: <http://www.globalconnections.co.uk/resources/standardsinmissionpractice/>.

### 5.4 Preparing to tell your story

Don't make the mistake of thinking that your 'ministry' is limited to your time overseas.

As members of a short-term team from Ireland experiencing new countries, cultures and churches, God also privileges you with the unique ministry of sharing the story of His work overseas with your congregations, families, friends and colleagues.

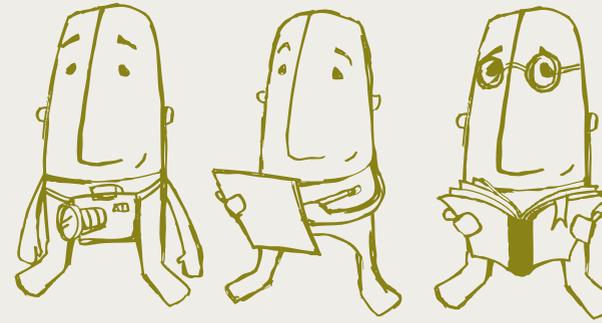
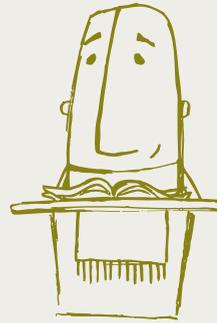
On arriving back at Antioch after their first short-term mission trip, Paul and Barnabas "gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he opened the door of faith to the Gentiles." (Acts 14:27). 'Telling the story' of what God has

Thought!

*Your team should be prepared to deliver some sermons, testimonies, songs and perhaps some simple dramas or mimes. Material suitable for children may also be useful.*

It's also good to have prepared a speech of greeting or introduction, along with another of thanks for when you are leaving.

## 6. Practical issues



done and is doing worldwide is an integral part of your short-term overseas mission experience.

The practicalities of telling your story to the church will be covered in more detail in **Booklet 4, 'Finishing Well'**. For now, be aware as a team that telling your story matters, and think about how to approach this before you go. While telling your story is something every team member should participate in, you may also wish to assign gifted individuals to specific roles, such as:

- Team journalist/ blogger (to collect news updates, interviews and stories for e-mail, blog, social networking sites, church services, church magazine and local newspaper)
- Team collector (to bring home unusual objects, drawings, crafts, etc., which will give a visual flavour of the culture)
- Team artist
- Team photographer/film-maker.

Don't forget the immediacy of blogging and twittering as well as regular email/text updates and phone calls!

### 6.1 Keeping a journal <sup>29</sup>

Individual team members may like to consider keeping a diary, scrapbook or journal of the team trip. Or what about recording your experiences through a video-diary using a camera, portable recorder, or mobile phone? This will not only provide you with useful material on which to draw when the team tells its story later; it will also help you process your feelings about the trip and will be a useful tool for spiritual reflection, prayer and growth.

- Journaling is basically 'a letter to God', an open

Notes:

communication between you and the Lord in which you describe your daily thoughts, as well as 'what happened', and note down anything you think the Lord might be saying to you.

- Think about the events of the day; the places you visited and the people you met; anything that stood out for you; the emotions that you felt. Listen and talk to God as you do so, so that your journal becomes a 'two-way' dialogue. Don't just compose a 'shopping-list' of prayer requests, but communicate your 'heart-feelings' to the Lord.
- Read the Bible as you journal, noting significant verses that speak to your feelings and situation. It might be good to focus on a specific portion of Scripture during your trip so that you have a clear spiritual focus. It is possible to buy 'pre-prepared' journals specifically designed for short-term mission trips, or see if your team leader has a specific Scripture book or theme in mind.
- It might be helpful to consider what daily life might be like for a contemporary in your host culture, what life might be like for a Christian in your host culture, and what life might be like for a long-term missionary to your host culture.
- You might want to consider what you have found strange, funny, sad or hopeful, or what things have most challenged, depressed or impressed you.
- You may want to include in your journal souvenirs (tickets, photos) that are especially memorable, or drawings, poems and prayers.

Thought!

*Even though the checks and safeguards relating to work with children or vulnerable adults that we are used may not legally apply where you are going overseas, you will want to ensure that your team members are appropriately trained and approved.*

The Overseas Training Day (OTT) held annually in the spring, includes helpful advice on child protection in the overseas context.

More details at:

[www.pcimissionoverseas.org/events/](http://www.pcimissionoverseas.org/events/)

## 6. Practical issues

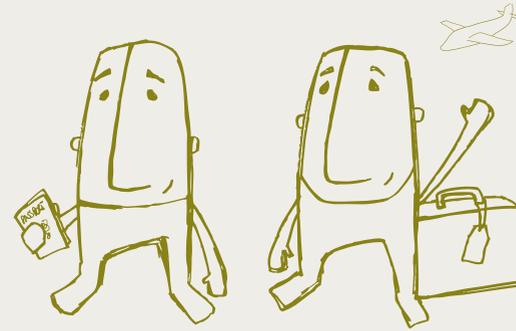
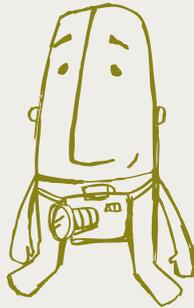
### 6.2 Tips on photography <sup>30</sup>

While all team members will probably want to take their own camera, your team should also have a designated person to take and manage photos on behalf of the team. Ask about in-country regulations and cultural or religious sensibilities when taking photos. In general, avoid taking pictures of military, police, or government buildings and subjects, and be careful photographing religious buildings. Avoid taking pictures of local people without permission.

When thinking about recording your trip, it's a good idea to think about where you are going, who you expect to meet and what you will be doing. Make an outline plan for all you expect to gather photographically and sound-wise. You might want to photograph:

- Pre-departure team preparations and supporters at the home base.
- Your hosts, missionaries, local church leaders.
- The people you are with and the work you are doing, including stages to show beginning and end.
- Team members working, teaching, etc.
- Daily team life – shopping, cooking, relaxing, accommodation.
- Towns and villages, shops and markets, local transport, local workmen, the way people live, customs, foods, vegetation, scenery, etc.
- Special events and services.
- Travelling and time off, plus reflections after arriving home.

For helpful technical information, check out the downloads on the PCI Mission Overseas website.



### 6.3 Travel advice

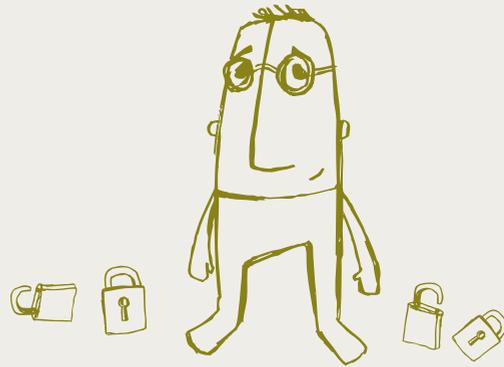
- Travel as light as possible – take half of what you think you'll need, and, if in doubt, leave it out! See the sample packing list in [Booklet 5, 'Resources and Links'](#).
- Reconfirm flight reservations and times 48 hours in advance, particularly overseas, where overbooking is often the norm.
- Remember to leave emergency contact details, itinerary and flight information with your designated home contact. Photocopy or scan passports and be sure to leave a copy of each passport with your home contact - if your passport is lost or stolen overseas, having someone to email or fax a scanned copy from home could speed up the replacement process.
- Each team member should also carry with them a copy of the team's itinerary, along with flight details and names of key contacts and addresses, in case they get separated from the rest of the party.
- Travel as a group and stay together.
- A European passport is highly prized, so guard it carefully! Bring with you a photocopy of your insurance details and passport (carried separately from the real things). If your passport is stolen while travelling or while overseas, report the loss immediately to the nearest British or Irish Embassy, Consulate or High Commission, depending on where your passport was issued.
- Vital medication should be carried in your hand luggage, in the original prescription bottle if possible. Take a copy of your prescription or a GP's letter with you.



*Keeping a diary, journal, scrapbook, or recording experiences through a video-diary, will not only provide useful materials for 'telling your story' but it will also help individuals, and the team as a whole, to process their feelings about the trip.*

*Such materials can also be a useful aid for spiritual reflection, prayer and growth.*

## 6. Practical issues



- Check with your airlines about current luggage limits, both for carry-on and check-in baggage. Remember that domestic and international flights may have different rules.
- Check at <http://www.baa.com> or with your airline for the latest security regulations. Be aware of prohibited items for hand-luggage - scissors, knives, tools, etc. – and of up-to-date restrictions on liquids.
- Remember that it may take more time to get a group through check-in. Allow significant extra time if you are taking tools, laptops or other heavy or specialised items which may need extra security checks. If in doubt about baggage allowances, be sure to have enough cash or a credit card available to pay for any ‘excess baggage’ charges that may be levied at check-in.
- Stay near the check-in desk/gate and watch monitors for updates: don’t rely on announcements!
- Report any baggage loss or damage immediately. Obtain written details from the airline. Keep receipts if you have to buy replacement items for insurance claims.

### 6.4 Personal security <sup>31</sup>

“A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it!” (Proverbs 22:3)

- When travelling, keep your luggage beside you and in full view at all times. Make sure your luggage is securely zipped and locked where possible.
- Carry vital documents on your person, not in your hand luggage. Ideally, use a velcro or zip-sealed pouch

Notes:



- and keep it out of sight, hidden under your clothing.
- Having a dummy wallet or purse to throw down for muggers may stop them getting hold of the real thing.
- Leave valuable items such as jewellery and electrical items at home. If you don’t want to lose it, don’t take it!
- Be observant – always look around you and be aware of who’s nearby. Don’t use short cuts, narrow alleys or badly-lit streets, and don’t walk alone.
- Be particularly careful in public parks, transport hubs and tourist areas where foreigners (and thieves) are known to congregate. Take local advice as to ‘safe’ and ‘unsafe’ areas.
- Be alert for mishaps that seem ‘deliberate.’ Thieves and pick-pockets (often working as a team of two or three) usually try to distract their ‘target’ by using a ploy such as bumping into someone, faking an accident or illness, or ‘accidentally’ spilling a drink in a crowd.
- Keep your address private. If staying in a hotel, don’t disclose your room number when strangers are in earshot. Be cautious about opening your door for messages.
- Check for the nearest fire extinguisher and emergency exit route. Lock your doors and windows when you leave. Lock your room when inside, and use a door wedge at night. Leave valuables in the safe.

### 6.5 Handling money

- Be aware that while working overseas, especially in a developing country, you may well be perceived as (and in fact may well be!) extremely wealthy by local standards, so avoid flashing too much cash around in

Thought!

*Most, if not all, team members are likely to take a camera with them but it is important that one person be appointed to develop and manage a clearly thought out plan for gathering appropriate photos, and maybe also video and sound recordings, while the team is overseas.*

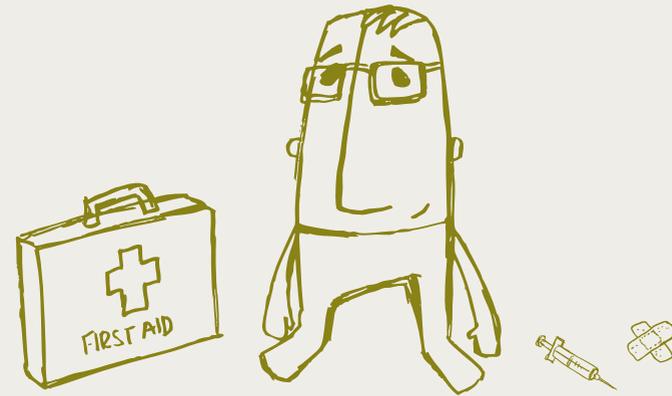
You should also check out if there are any local customs or restrictions affecting photography.

## 6. Practical issues

public, and be sensitive to local economic standards and local feelings.

- Be aware of the norms for shopping in the country you are going to: bargaining or fixed price?
- Local residents or missionaries may be able to negotiate you 'residents' rates' for accommodation and tourist attractions.
- Bring a photocopy or duplicate copy of your travellers' cheques with you. Only countersign travellers' cheques in front of the person who will cash them. If purchasing by credit card, make sure it's your credit card that has been returned to you, and not someone else's! Try, if possible, not to let your card out of your sight. Count all currency carefully before accepting it.<sup>32</sup>
- Never change money on the street – it could be illegal! In addition, as well as being ripped off or given counterfeit notes, you may well be setting yourself up for theft.
- Don't mix personal and team funds. Get receipts for all team purchases and assign someone to maintain a daily record of team money.<sup>33</sup>
- Consider buying any souvenirs from a self-help group or Christian charity.
- Decide, as individuals and as a team, how you are going to cope with begging. It may be better to donate to a specific charity or church organisation rather than give to people on the street.
- You may well also receive requests for help from people you're working with. Take advice from experienced missionaries or trusted nationals as to how to handle this. Don't make promises you won't be

Notes:



able to keep!

### 6.6 Health overseas<sup>34</sup>

- You need to be aware of region-specific risks, especially malaria, the nearest safe emergency treatment centre, emergency procedures, and sources of help and advice on return.
- Each team member should also carry on their person a form with the following information: blood group, any allergies, any vital medication needs; insurance details and whom to contact in case of emergencies.
- Take a sufficient supply of the medicines you may need and copies of your prescription. If you wear glasses, it's useful to have a copy of your prescription in case you lose or break them and need to obtain a replacement pair at short notice.
- Be aware of the danger of deep-vein thrombosis (DVT) if sitting still for long periods on a long-haul flight. Those with a family history of clots or those who have recently had surgery may be at greater risk. To minimise the risk, wear loose clothing, move around regularly and exercise in your seat (see the in-flight 'wellbeing' guide), avoid alcohol and caffeine, and drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. 'Flight socks' are recommended.
- Remember that (in most cases) the roads – and the rules of the road – are not like ours! Wear your seat-belt at all times and be 'extra careful' driving on dirt roads. Watch out for cars with no headlights, cyclists, pedestrians and animals! Be extra careful when walking.

Thought!

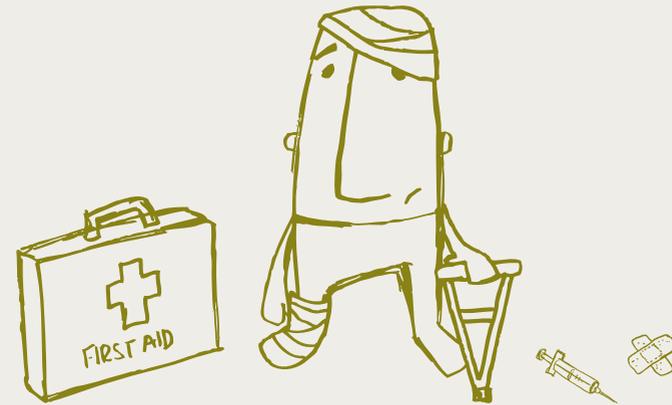
*When travelling overseas there's always the temptation to want to bring everything with you to cover every eventuality! The challenge is to travel light. Take half of what you think you need, and, if in doubt, leave it out!*

Take time and care to ensure all is in order - passports, visas, tickets, accommodation, transport, insurance, money, medicines, emergency contacts, etc.

## 6. Practical issues

- Malaria symptoms include fever and flu-like illness: shaking, chills, headache, muscle aches, and tiredness. Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea may also occur. For most people, symptoms begin 10 days to four weeks after infection, although you can feel ill as early as eight days or up to one year later.
- When travelling to a malarial zone it is essential that you take the recommended anti-malarials before travel, absolutely regularly during your stay, and after you have returned. This is extremely important to cover the incubation period of the disease.
- The best way to avoid malaria is to avoid getting bitten. The anopheles mosquito which transmits malaria is most active at night, particularly at dawn and dusk. Stay indoors or cover up and use insect repellent during this period. Use mosquito nets over the bed and make sure they are firmly tucked in. It might be a good idea to take with you a small sewing kit, or some plasters, so you can repair any holes in nets.
- Stomach upsets can be avoided by drinking and cleaning teeth with safe (purified/boiled) water. International brands of bottled water and bottled or canned fizzy drinks are usually safe if the seal is intact. Avoid ice in drinks.
- Don't eat salads, uncooked fruit or vegetables unless you have washed and peeled them yourself, and avoid unrefrigerated food, unpasteurised dairy products and shellfish. Also avoid mayonnaise and communal sauce bottles. If you do go down with something, take bed rest and plenty of fluids.

Notes:



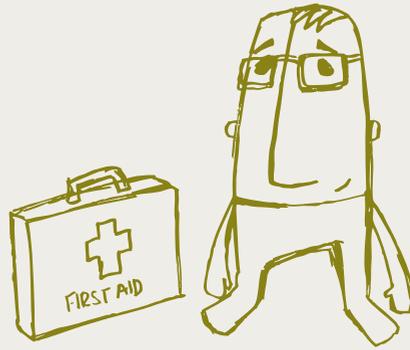
- Sunshine is more damaging near the Equator and at altitude, also if reflecting off water. Limit your exposure, especially between 11 am and 3 pm, cover up, and use high factor sun-bloc, glasses and a hat. Take after-sun cream. Drink plenty of safe water to avoid dehydration.
- Avoid swimming in local rivers or lakes unless you know they are clean and free from pollution or anything that might infect you. For example, many lakes in Africa are infested with bilharzia or other nasty parasites. Always take local advice. If in doubt, don't enter any river or lake no matter how inviting it may appear!
- Asthma or allergy sufferers may want to take extra inhalers or medication, as dust and pollution levels may be higher than at home. Similarly, contact lens wearers need to take plenty of solutions, spare lenses or maybe ordinary specs!
- In regions with high rates of HIV-AIDS infection, blood supplies may be suspect. If you are in an accident and taken to hospital, avoid a blood transfusion if at all possible. Contact BMO/your insurance company for advice. You may want to take a Sterile Kit and Dental Kit with you for peace of mind. See [Booklet 5, 'Resources and Links'](#), for where to buy.
- Note that BMO's Overseas Teams' Training Day, "OTT," offers seminars on personal security overseas, medical matters and health and safety issues. Again, check the website at <http://www.pcimissionoverseas.org> for latest information. The mission organisation LIFT offers specific training and advice on construction work: <http://www.liftni.org>.

Thought!

*Great care needs to be taken in all aspects of money handling. Have a well-thought out budget, keep a record of all transactions with documentary evidence where possible, avoid carrying large sums of cash around and keep personal monies separate from team funds.*

*Avoid flashing money around while overseas and work out in advance how team members should cope with begging if they encounter it.*

## 6. Practical issues



### 6.7 First aid kit

Each team member should carry their own remedies for minor problems. The team leader or designated first-aider should also have a first aid kit for the team and keep it handy at all times. It should include:

- Antiseptic cream
- Eye wash
- Anti-diarrhoea tablets
- Fluid replacement powders
- Minor injury stuff (gauze squares, non-adherent dressings, bandages, plasters, adhesive tape, scissors, tweezers, safety pins)
- Water purification tablets for emergencies
- Thermometer
- First Aid book.

For emergency use, you may also wish to bring a Dental Kit or Sterile Kit (to avoid contamination from HIV/AIDS).

If you'll be a long way from good medical facilities you may also need to bring selected antibiotics/emergency malaria treatment (consult carefully with your home GP regarding usage first).

### 6.8 Before you leave to return home

- Thank your hosts and any other local workers, perhaps by giving small gifts from home. You might want to consider a gift for the church with which you worked (Bibles, communion vessels, a banner?).
- Meet up with and encourage any converts or young Christians with whom you've been working. Make sure they've been introduced or made known to local

Notes:



church leaders for appropriate follow-up after you've returned home.

- Gather together addresses of those you plan to keep in contact with. Keep promises to write, send photos and offer support, if you have made them. Remember most people are not too familiar with our "disposable"<sup>35</sup> Western relationships, so try not to make promises you know you can't keep!
- Bring back small personal souvenirs and 'thank-you' gifts for supporters.
- Consider whether you could leave behind any of your materials, ministry resources or clothing for needy people, but take missionary advice first!

### 6.9 Thinking about coming home

Coming home from a short-term mission trip can be much more of a shock to the system than you might have realised! Booklet 4, 'Finishing Well', has much more about 're-entry', as it's known, what to expect and how to adjust, but to help you start 'processing' your experience, it might be useful to start jotting down answers to the following before leaving for home:

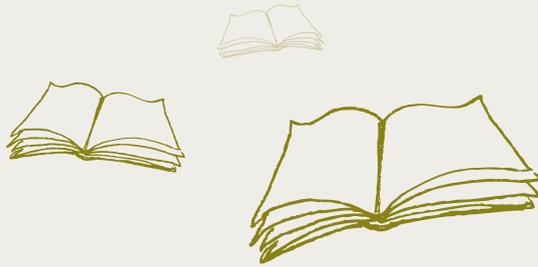
- What did you find most difficult?
- What did you enjoy most or find most encouraging?
- How might you have changed emotionally during the trip? What has made you happy, sad, angry?
- What new things have you learnt about yourself and your gifts?
- How might your priorities have changed?
- In what ways might have you changed spiritually?<sup>36</sup>

Thought!

*Your team needs to be in good health if it is to achieve its purpose and objectives. So be aware of any health risks where you are going and ensure team members have been appropriately vaccinated, have supplies of any medicines they require, and know as far as possible what is or is not safe to eat or drink.*

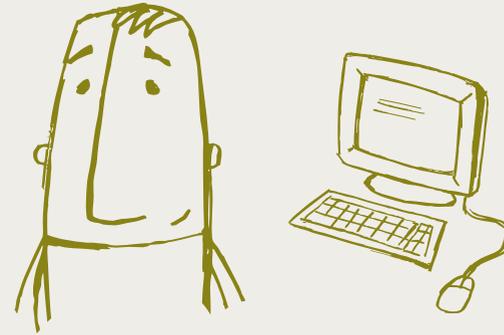
You should also have an emergency action plan and know where to go locally for medical help.

## References



- <sup>1</sup> From Effective Team Ministry, National Youth Ministries Department of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, (n.d.), 3, <http://www.paoc.org> (accessed 18th January 2008).
- <sup>2</sup> Dearborn, Tim: Short-Term Missions Workbook: From Mission Tourists to Global Citizens (Downer's Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2003), 59.
- <sup>3</sup> Ibid., 67.
- <sup>4</sup> See Effective Team Ministry, 10.
- <sup>5</sup> Elim Pentecostal Church Short-Term Leader's Manual, April 2005, 15. [http://www.unityworks.org.uk/missions/Elim\\_short\\_term\\_team\\_manual\\_v05.pdf](http://www.unityworks.org.uk/missions/Elim_short_term_team_manual_v05.pdf) (accessed 25th March 2007).
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Material for this section developed from Elim Pentecostal Church Short-Term Leader's Manual, 12; from VanCise, Martha, Successful Mission Teams, (Birmingham, Alabama: New Hope Press, 1999), 154-156, and from What to Know Before You Go, National Youth Ministries Department of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, (n.d.), 54-56, at <http://www.paoc.org> (accessed 18th January 2008).
- <sup>8</sup> Dearborn, Short-Term Missions Workbook, 80.
- <sup>9</sup> Effective Team Ministry, 70.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> Adapted from 'Spiritual Development – Prayer and Scripture,' The Next Mile Leader's Resource CD, <http://www.thenextmile.org>.
- <sup>12</sup> Wardell, Margaret, and Thomson, Robin, Entering Another's World: How to Live for God in Another Culture (Nottingham: St John's Extension Studies,

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- 2001), 3.
- <sup>13</sup> See further Wardell and Thomson, 23.
- <sup>14</sup> Adapted from Dearborn, Short-Term Missions Workbook, 121-122.
- <sup>15</sup> Destination Study Guide, National Youth Ministries Department of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, (n.d.), 6, <http://www.paoc.org> (accessed 18th January 2008).
- <sup>16</sup> Ibid., 7.
- <sup>17</sup> Dearborn, Short-Term Missions Workbook, 11.
- <sup>18</sup> Ibid., 7.
- <sup>19</sup> Adapted from '10 Ways to Build Relationships,' The Next Mile Leader's Resource CD, <http://www.thenextmile.org>.
- <sup>20</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>21</sup> Stepping Out: A Guide to Short-Term Missions, ed. Gibson, Tim, Steve Hawthorne, Richard Krekel and Kn Moy, (Seattle: YWAM, 1992), 116.
- <sup>22</sup> Quotation from Schwarz, Glenn, 'Two Awesome Problems: How Short-Term Missions Can Go Wrong' International Journal of Frontier Missions 21.1 (January 2004) 26-35, 28.
- <sup>23</sup> Townsend, Ditch: Stop, Check, Go: A Practical Guide for Cross-Cultural Teamwork (Carlisle, OM Publishing, 1996), 106.
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>25</sup> Adapted from 'Suggestions for Communicating through Translators,' The Next Mile Leader's Resource CD, <http://www.thenextmile.org>.
- <sup>26</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>27</sup> Dearborn, Short-Term Missions Workbook, 77.

Thought!

*Appoint one member of the team to be responsible for first-aid with assistant(s) if the team is large. Ensure their training is up to date and that the team is equipped with an appropriately equipped first aid kit.*

The Overseas Training Day (OTT) held annually in the spring, includes helpful information and advice on managing team health in the overseas context.

More details at:  
[www.pcimissionoverseas.org/events/](http://www.pcimissionoverseas.org/events/)





# 'Do it Well' Mission Toolkit

The 'Do it Well' Mission Toolkit has been developed as a resource to help ministers, congregational leaders and mission activists who may be considering sending a team overseas to engage in short-term mission.

Each booklet can be read separately, or combined in any order, according to your particular needs. Read them as leaders, or use the material with your teams in preparation and training sessions.

*And don't forget to check for up-to-date information and links on our website:*

**[www.pcimissionoverseas.org](http://www.pcimissionoverseas.org)**

This Mission Toolkit contains five booklets:

- 1. Thinking of Going**
- 2. Doing the Groundwork**
- 3. Ready, Steady, Go**
- 4. Finishing Well**
- 5. Resources & Links**

  
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Mission Overseas