



Many individuals from churches across the United States have experienced the impact that a short-term missions trip can have on their church. Here's a sample of what they had to say about their experience:

I would say initially there is some apprehension because of the language and cultural differences. You wonder how you will ever communicate and how you will be accepted. I quickly learned that God's love showing through immediately brings down any language and cultural barriers. I felt an immediate rapport with these people.

One thing is that my God is awesome and almighty, but He also walks beside me and He is my Friend! I have a personal God that I can talk to and cry to and laugh with! I knew this before, but it was again illustrated to me in a different way, and it was as though blinders came off! He loves me through all my failures and it's okay that I'm messing up. I won't destroy His work or His plan and He uses those times to cause me to grow and other people still see Jesus Christ in me. How much I love Him!

I saw how painful experiences from my past were helpful to others in understanding how God works in our lives. This helped me to be more grateful for having gone through difficult things.

The relationships were wonderful. I saw that spending time with people and making an effort to get to know them is far more rewarding than other selfish things we might choose to do. I was paid back 100 times more than I feel like I gave. I wouldn't trade this experience for anything else I could have done that month.

The Lord has shown me that He desires to use me to minister to others much more than I've allowed myself to be used. No more holding back!

Apart from my decision to accept the Lord as my personal Savior, this was by far the most challenging and rewarding experience of my entire life. It's a "mountain top" peak that allows you to see the "backside of God." You will never be the same again. How can one describe to others the privilege of being used by God!

WE BELIEVE the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writing, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and the Divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.

WE BELIEVE in One God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, having precisely the same nature and worthy of equal worship and obedience.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is true God and true man. Having been conceived of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary, He lived a sinless life and died on the cross as a substitutional sacrifice for our sins. He arose bodily from the dead, and ascended into heaven, where He continues His High Priestly ministry at the right hand of the throne of God.

WE BELIEVE that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.

WE BELIEVE that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin through Adam and is therefore totally depraved, and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.

WE BELIEVE that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only those who receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit, and thus become children of God.

WE BELIEVE that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by the Church during the present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.

WE BELIEVE that the true Church is composed of all who through personal faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together as the body of Christ of which He is the Head.

WE BELIEVE in the personal, pre-millennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer. We believe the destiny for the believer is to be present with the Lord and for the unbeliever is to be separated from the presence of the Lord in everlasting punishment.

WE BELIEVE the great evangelistic and missionary commission given by Jesus Christ to the disciples and to the continuing church is that of making Christ known throughout the world by word and example and bringing to maturity those who believe in Him through instruction from the Word



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International Messengers' career missionaries request numerous teams each year. It is advantageous for several or all of the team members to come from the same church. The relationships that develop provide the team members with prayer support, feedback, accountability and more hands for the task.

These cross-cultural ministries will include great training and team building that will benefit your church's work for years to come. They are truly a leadership development tool so be very intentional in selecting those people you challenge for comprising the team. We'll provide the training and most materials needed as well as travel details, camp/ministry set-up and follow-up. You provide the team and help them raise the necessary prayer and financial support.

Our largest need is for Family English Camp teams to work with children, youth, and adults in a resort setting. We especially need men on those teams to build relationships with the men who come to the camps. We also get a few requests for coaches, youth camp team members, and construction team members who will also take part in discipling ministry.



An overseas missions experience for your congregation will affect the life of your church for years to come. Here are some steps you can take now to see a harvest of blessing later:

1. **Share** the proposed overseas ministry idea and concept with your pastor and mission committee. Secure their blessing.
2. **Organize** a prayer group to pray for the raising of a team.
3. **Ask** your pastor to express his support of the project from the pulpit. Supply him with possible dates, purpose, etc., and encourage him to be a part of the team. His involvement and support are very important.
4. **Enlist** your elder board and mission committee to challenge key leaders and future leaders of your church to make up the core of the team.
5. **Commission** talented individuals to make a few banners and posters announcing the project (i.e. PROJECT POLAND 2011).
6. **Saturate** your church with information about the trip during three consecutive Sundays as soon as possible (e.g., pulpit interviews and announcements, Sunday School class announcements, bulletin inserts, etc.)

7. **Immediately** following this, organize an informational meeting with all those who are interested. At this meeting you can share more details about your missions trip - dates, country options, costs. Hand out applications and set a deadline for returning them.
8. **Put** frequent updates in the church bulletin regarding the size and destination of the team. Provide a contact name and phone number for others who may be interested.
9. **Keep** IM informed on your progress often.
10. **Immediately** following the mission committee's review of the applications, send the applications and a \$200/person deposit to IM.
11. **Upon** receiving the applications and deposit, IM will send preparation materials for the team.
12. **Begin** meeting as a team for prayer and to delegate the assignments given in the preparation materials.

NOTE: Arrangements can be made to have an IM staff member assist with many aspects of this process.

LET'S GET STARTED... We are prepared to send you the information you may need and provide help along the way as you take the important first steps toward recruiting a team from within your church.

Let us know how we can help - whether you are just beginning to consider this opportunity or ready to pack your bags! Contact us today and we'll begin a journey that will change your church forever!