

# Church Policy For Short Term Trips

*The church shall plan and implement a number of short term mission trips each year designed to advance the strategic missions partnerships of the church and to carry out projects as planned by the MOM and GIT.*

## 1. Qualifications for Participants

- a. Must have a clear written testimony of a conversion experience turned in to the trip leader with the initial deposit.
- b. Must exemplify Christ-like behavior.
- c. Must be active in the life of FBNS, including regular attendance in Sunday School.
- d. Must demonstrate a heart for missions through active support of the Faith Commitment Offering
- e. Must be in agreement with the church missions strategies and goals.
- f. Specific trip qualifications may be determined based on the needs and the nature of the trip.
- g. Participants must attend all orientation and training meetings and must carry out all assignments in preparation for the trip.
- h. Participants must be willing to adapt to other cultures and must not exhibit any form of racial prejudice.

## 2. Procedure For Enlistment

- a. Trips will be announced to the church as soon as they are planned.
- b. Individuals may sign up to go on the trip by putting down a deposit.
- c. Deposits may be received at the church office or at an advertised location.
- d. In cases where a limited number may go on a trip, the openings will be filled on a first come, first served basis, unless there are specific needs for certain skills or abilities.
- e. The full amount of the cost of the trip must be received in the church office by 45 days prior to departure or a spot on the team cannot be guaranteed.
- f. Should a person be forced to withdraw from a trip team, a refund of money paid will be made unless it is too late to get the money back.

## 3. Financial Support for Participants

- a. Participants on trips will be responsible for paying the costs of the trip.
- b. Individuals who assist participants in trips should make checks payable to FBNS in order to receive a tax deduction.
- c. Should a participant channel financial support through FBNS, and he raises more than the cost of the trip, it is the preference of the GIT that the money over the cost be reallocated to someone else in need or to some part of the FCO.

- d. Should a participant not be able to go, it is the preference of the GIT that money already paid for the trip be reallocated to someone else in need, if the participant agrees.
- e. On occasion, trip costs may be subsidized by the FCO on the recommendation of the MOMandGIT.

#### **4. Field Behavior**

- a. Candidates must submit to the team leader's authority.
- b. Candidates must refrain from using abusive language, drinking alcoholic beverages, taking illegal narcotics, smoking or using any form of tobacco products while on the trip.
- c. Due to the political instability and anti-American sentiment in various countries around the world, FBNS asks that each candidate refrain from expressing his political opinions while overseas.
- d. If at any time while overseas, a candidate's behavior constitutes a problem, the team leader has the authority to ask that candidate to return home. Any additional costs incurred as a result of this action will be at that candidate's expense.