



MISSION POSSIBLE

Equipping the Next Generation of Christ Centered Leaders

Team Member Guide

Introduction

You have decided to join a team in a life-changing experience overseas, but you may be wondering what a trip with Mission Possible is all about. This information is designed to help you along the way. The following pages will provide vital information about traveling overseas, relating to a different culture, and loving people in a genuine Christ-like manner. It will also be a guide for you to encounter God and allow him to change you spiritually.

We hope to answer, through this document and your training sessions, any questions you may have about your trip, the people, the culture, and your primary focus of the trip. As far as your specific trip is concerned, ie: exact dates, flight schedules, etc., if you don't have it already, this information will be given to you very soon.

Our intent is that this information and the guide as a whole will help you prepare physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually for your trip.

If this is your first time on a mission team, get ready for quite a ride! Prepare yourself to serve, love, learn, grow, stretch, be flexible and give your heart away. We guarantee that the more you pour out, even more will be poured in.

If you are a second, third, or long time veteran, keep in mind that this will be a brand new team and your experience is to be embraced with a fresh heart and a desire to serve. You can be instrumental in building team unity and cohesiveness because of your previous experience. We hope that your joy will be as deepened by this trip as it was previously.

Lord,

You know how you have prepared and called each member of this team. Each one plays a specific role in what you will be doing on this trip. Go before us. Come behind us. Give us your presence on our right and on our left. Be our umbrella of protection and our firm foundation. May we do your will and set aside our personal agendas and ideas about what this trip is to be. May we love you and others as we go.

Amen



The purpose of Mission Possible is **equipping the next generation of Christ-centered leaders**. This is the *end*, the purpose, the goal of any trip that is taken.

The trip's end or ultimate purpose is not to build a school, paint a fence, provide healthcare, or teach masonry. Each of these things is a wonderful, good, and necessary *means* to the end of equipping leaders.

There is a child in Haiti that will miss his or her opportunity to be a leader without a Mission Possible school. There is a person in the Dominican Republic (DR) who will not be allowed to rise to leadership without the safety provided by a fenced in property. There are future leaders who will suffer and perhaps die without proper health services. There is a family, from which a future leader will come, who will survive by one of its members learning the masonry trade.

Mission Possible is the Ace Hardware (or choose your favorite hardware store) for leadership in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Ace doesn't come and fix your toilet, or pound the nail. It doesn't mow your yard, or paint your family room. Ace Hardware provides the necessary tools and supplies for the job. It provides the *means* for you to accomplish the *end* result. Home Depot says, "You can do it. We can help." Mission Possible and your participation in this ministry team provide the necessary tools and supplies for the leaders and teachers in Haiti and the DR to do the job of leadership development.

Kurt Bishop, past-president of Mission Possible, once said, "Just think. The next president of Haiti or the DR could be in one of our schools today." Yes, just think, leadership throughout Haiti and the DR can be changed through the work of God, Mission Possible, and the other leadership development ministries in these countries. And yes, just think, you are going to be a part of that leadership toolbox.

Mission Possible seeks more than putting Christian leaders in the Haitian government. Mission Possible is about Christ-centered leadership. So primary to the development of leaders comes the discipleship of the spirit through the Spirit. As you will hear from our national leaders Herve Pierre and Moise Sam, growing Christ-centered followers of the one Lord and God is the chief end of our mission.

This chief end is based on the biblical commands and commission of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 22:34-40, "Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the Law tested him with this question. Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? Jesus replied: **Love the Lord** your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it, **Love your neighbor** as yourself. All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments."

The primary end of Mission Possible is **equipping the next generation of Christ-centered leaders**. This not only happens in Haiti and the DR, equipping leaders happens on trips just like this one with people just like you.

God will be changing you. You will be entering an incubator especially prepared for you by God. The travel, the culture, the people, the children, everything will be part of the Spirit's specially planned environment for growing you more fully into what he wants you to be.

The next page suggests some ways in which you and your friends can pray for the team and the mission trip.

How to Pray for Mission Trips

Travel

- Luggage and belongings not lost, stolen or broken
- Protection of tickets, credit cards, passports and money
- Pass through customs without problems
- No mechanical problems with planes and other vehicles

Health and Safety

- Protection from accidents, crime, natural disaster, terrorists and dangerous animals
- Protection from sickness: cholera, AIDS, Hepatitis, Typhoid, Malaria, food poisoning and all the illness and diseases everyone else experiences
- Find time for sleep and exercise
- Provided with safe food and water
- Protected from drastic climate changes

Spiritual

- Good times of intimacy with Jesus in the Bible and prayer
- God's protection from demonic attack
- Protection from discouragement, fear, doubt and curses
- Demonstrate purity, humility, boldness, wisdom, patience, love for people, teachable spirit and the power of the Holy Spirit
- People come to Christ and be equipped for ministry

Team

- Express unity, love, good communication, patience and spiritual gifts
- Resist jealousy, envy, bitterness and pride
- Grace for cultural adjustments, being away from family and friends and lack of privacy

Long Term

- Spiritual growth
- Changed lives
- Long term commitment to and involvement in world evangelism

Verses to Pray

- Exodus 4:12; 33:1-4
- Psalms 4:8; 19:14; 121:1-8
- Isaiah 40:29-31; 55:10-11
- Zechariah 4:6
- Acts 1:8; 4:29-30
- Ephesians 3:16-20; 6:10-20

Source: Gail Seiver, World Christian Magazine, December, 2001, p. 31 (with additions)

Cited from **Stuff II**, More Stuff you need to know about Doing Missions in Your Church, p. 40