

MISSION ONE

MINISTRY TEAMS

A DIVISION OF GENERAL BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES



HONDURAS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES - 2014

PURPOSE AND MISSION

Our primary purpose is to win and disciple people for Christ through church planting and mercy ministries and to involve the life skills and spiritual gifts of the people of God in the actual work of the mission.

Our mission is not as important as the people or the need to which we respond. The purpose of Mission One Teams is to share the love of Jesus Christ and to serve Him with gladness.

We are not to go just to complete a task, which might be to provide medical care and church ministries, or to engage in some other mission outreach. Worthy as those tasks may be, we have a higher purpose to honor God, to share Christian love, and to enjoy God's wonderful people.

We are to express Christ's love by all that we do as Mission One volunteers.

Matthew 25:35-40 (NIV)

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?”

The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”

VALUES

In accordance with Scripture we value: the unreached, cultural sensitivity, community, spiritual formation, training, witness, education, stewardship, youth, and strategy.

The Seven U.S. Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission

- God Centeredness
- Empowering Partnerships
- Mutual Design
- Comprehensive Administration
- Qualified Leaders
- Appropriate Training
- Thorough Follow-up

Faith Home Orientation for Your Upcoming Visit...

Things to know: The children are the top priority for our missionaries at Faith Home. While there are various philosophical opinions, we ask that you respect and abide by the rules our Missionaries have established at Faith Home.

- **Please do not give gifts or money to the children without asking first.** If your team would like to provide gifts for the children at Faith Home, please contact the Mission One Coordinator so details can be worked out ahead of time. Please note that if teams desire to bring gifts, they should plan to bring enough for ALL of the children at Faith Home. If you sponsor a child or children and would like to bring something specifically for them, notify a missionary upon arrival and he or she will arrange for that gift to get to the child, most likely on a special occasion such as a birthday or graduation, etc.
- **Do not tell a child that you have left him/her money for the missionaries to go buy whatever he/she wants.** If you leave money for a child, we will see that it gets spent on the child to provide the things he or she needs.
- **If your team would like some children to come to the team house, notify the M1 Coordinator ahead of time, and that can usually be arranged as part of your weekly schedule. **No one should invite the children into the team house until the Director of Faith Home and the team leader has approved it.****
- **No one should invite guests onto the property of Faith Home without permission from the Director of Faith Home.**
- **Special requests (outings, special meals with the children, etc.) should be made before arriving at FH, giving the missionaries as much notice as possible.**
- **When you worship with the children on Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m., REMEMBER it is their worship time.**
 - Please be a good example for the children.
 - No photography during the service, please.
 - Dress appropriately (men need to wear long pants and ladies need to wear skirts/dresses).
 - Please do not hand out candy to the children. *If you want to hand out candy, we will try to work that out at an appropriate time. Just notify a missionary if you would like to do so.*
 - Please sit as a team.
 - Please refer all spiritual matters of the children to the missionaries.
 - Be prepared to sing, because they will ask you to.
- **A tour of the Little Angels' School will be included in most team schedules. Team Leaders should notify the M1 Coordinator if their team does not wish to tour the school.**
- **Do not leave the property without talking first to a missionary and your team leader.**

- **You should not exchange personal contact information with the children or the staff (houseparents, teachers, night guard, etc.).**
- **Children are children regardless of nationality. If our children act inappropriately, please notify a missionary so that it can be dealt with in an appropriate and time-sensitive manner.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: “How do I organize a team for a short-term mission trip?”

A: As with anything else, we encourage you to start with prayer. Next, coordinate your mission trip dates early with the M1 office – 12 months in advance is preferred. M1 has a minimum/maximum number of people required per team. If your team does not have at least 8 or has more than 34 members, please contact the M1 office. Your team members may join with another church or organized team if necessary. If you are an individual who does not have a team and would like to participate, you can join an existing team, subject to availability of space. Contact the M1 Office for details.

Note: All team members are subject to a background check.

Q: “What is the age requirement for teams?”

A: Currently, our age limit is 16 for all teams, unless a parent is accompanying a child on a trip, in which case the age limit is 12. All minors on M1 teams must have a signed and notarized parental authorization to travel out of the continental U.S. This document should include an authorization for the team leader or another adult on the team to seek medical attention for the minor, if needed.

Q: “How much is the deposit?”

A: The non-refundable deposit is \$200 per person and should be submitted with your application, AT LEAST 120 days prior to departure.

Note: Half of the trip costs are due 90 days before departure. All airline tickets will be purchased 90 days before departure. If the M1 Office has not received \$675.00 (\$725.00 for Medical Teams) 90 days before departure, plane tickets will not be purchased until the money is received, and if there is an increase in airline ticket fare, the participant will be responsible for paying the difference in airline ticket fees.

Q: “What do I need to know about getting a passport?”

A: We recommend team members apply for passports as early as possible! A copy of your passport must be provided to the M1 Office with your M1 application. If you do not have your passport before the deadline for applications to be turned in, please contact the M1 Office with the details of your application date and status.

Passport applications may be obtained at the nearest U.S. post office or courthouse or downloaded online at travel.state.gov. Required accompanying documents with the passport application include a certified copy of participant’s birth certificate, two passport photos (which can be obtained from a local AAA/Auto club, Kinko’s, Wal-Greens, or travel agent for a small fee), and funds for payment.

You should allow at least 14-18 weeks for your passport to be returned after it has been processed. You can check the status of your passport applications at www.travel.state.gov, under *Passport for U.S. Citizens*, and *Checking the Status of Your Application*.

NOTE: Make sure the Expiration Date on your passport is at least 180 days after your return date.

If the M1 Office does not have a copy of your passport by the deadline for team ticketing, your ticket will not be purchased. Without a copy of your passport for ticketing, you may be subject to the loss of your non-refundable deposit of \$200.

Q: “Do I need to be immunized?”

A: Occasionally in some foreign countries, as our country, your doctor may recommend flu, typhoid, malaria, yellow fever, or other preventive medicines. **It is always best to confer with your doctor before leaving the country on a mission trip to verify any precautions you may need to take.**

You may also obtain current information for the country you are visiting at the website for the Center for Disease Control at www.cdc.gov.

Q: “Is it an issue if I have special medical needs?”

A: The M1 Office will review each case and reserves the right to reject an applicant in view of the risk and limited available emergency services in the field. However, do not let this discourage you from applying.

Please let us know of any prescription medication you are taking by completing the Personal Medical Information form attached. Keep medications in their original container with the correct label. When flying, pack medications in your carry-on luggage. Never carry expired medicine. It is also important to let the M1 Office know of any special diets or allergies (i.e., food, etc.) as soon as possible. Pay attention to your leader’s instructions concerning food and drink. This will help to protect you from diarrhea or intestinal infection. You may want to bring medicine for diarrhea, motion sickness, or aches and pains, depending on your personal needs.

Q: “What kind of preparation does the team conduct before the trip?”

A: We recommend that you attend four organizational meetings prior to departure.

1. Your first meeting should be early to review the **M1 Manual** page by page, which includes information for team members regarding costs, deadlines, terms, mission rules, and preparations. M1 Manuals are also available upon request by sending an email to kris@generalbaptist.com.
2. Your second meeting should include planning and organization.
3. Your third meeting might include packing everything needed for the trip (supplies, tools, crafts, etc.) and addressing any last-minute questions or concerns.
4. Your fourth is for debriefing and re-entry discussions. This is actually held once you have returned from the field.

When possible, M1 will send a representative to at least one organizational meeting with the team to help prepare the team for the trip.

EXPENSES

Deposits and Base Costs: M1 individual costs for ministry and construction team members are **\$1,350 per person**. Medical team member costs are **\$1,450 per person**. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 of each of the previously mentioned amounts is due to the M1 Office at least 120 days prior to team departure. M1's pricing is the combined total of:

1. Airfare and airport tax.**†
2. Team insurance (required and arranged by M1).**
3. M1 infield charges (fuel, transportation, lodging and food).**

*** Any time the team is required to be housed off the Faith Home campus, there may be an additional cost, which will be given to you when arranging the trip.*

† Airfare varies from season to season. Trips during Spring Break might be more expensive due to airline pricing. In the event of excessively high ticket prices, we reserve the right to adjust the price of the trip to meet these costs.

Extra Costs: The team member is responsible for the departure tax when leaving Honduras. Currently the cost is approximately \$38 USD, but check with the M1 Office closer to your departure date for the current cost. **The team member is also responsible for any luggage fees charged by the airline.**

Once the team has been ticketed, the airlines have a “non-refundable policy” on all group tickets with only the following exceptions: political/safety problems in the country of destination where the United States has issued a travel advisory against going to that country. However, many of the airlines will allow one name change per ticket if changed at least 48 hours prior to departure. A change fee is usually incurred (team member is responsible for this fee). Please contact the M1 Office immediately with any changes to team members. Tickets not changed prior to departure will have lost all value with the airline.

Project Funding: Team members are responsible for funding their project on the field. Project money is in addition to the base cost of the trip. The project costs will vary, depending on the project. The M1 Coordinator or M1 Director will determine the project and its cost. Helpful information on fund-raising is available upon request. We recommend that you encourage your church, family, and friends to get involved in supporting you through prayer and financial help. **All project funds should be sent to the M1 Office at least 3 weeks prior to departure date.** Donor receipts cannot be sent if funds are taken directly to the field and not sent through the M1 Office.

M1 Payment: M1 prefers that the **team leader** collect each participant's money according to the deadlines provided. Payment should then be sent directly to our offices at GBIM, 100 Stinson Drive, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901, in accordance with each deadline. **All checks should have trip info on the memo line, including trip code and whom the money should be posted to in our system.** We also accept Discover, MasterCard, and Visa. The Credit Card Authorization Form, found on the website at www.gbimissions.org under the Mission One Teams tab, should be completed and returned with your application. We do NOT accept American Express.

Personal Expenses: Please use discretion in the amount of cash you carry. All of your expenses will be handled by the M1 representative, so you will need only enough for souvenirs, restaurant meals and the exit tax. We recommend the use of money belts or secure undergarment pouches. If women carry purses, they should hold them securely to prevent snatch-and-run type thefts. Pickpockets will have difficulty in removing your wallet if you wrap rubber bands around the wallet and put it in a front-zippered pocket.

Additional “out-of-pocket” expenses may include immunizations, medications needed for participating on the team, passport costs, snacks and meals at airports, day-off expenses, and tips.

LIFE ON THE FIELD

MINISTRY AND FAITH HOME OPPORTUNITIES

You may attend Honduran church services during your trip. Anyone desiring to sing or play an instrument is encouraged to do so. Come prepared with CDs.

Listed below are several ministry opportunities. If your church would like to assist in any of these, please contact the M1 Office. These programs will be planned before leaving on your trip.

Food Distribution – Our ministry works with local Hondurans, providing food to family members who are destitute, widows, and orphans. If your team would like to contribute to this program, please contact the M1 office.

Hygiene Pack - These packs are needed in church planting and at Faith Home. Items include one toothbrush, toothpaste, and one ladies’ hair ornament or scrunchy in half of all the bags.

School Packs - Please contact the M1 Office for a list of these items for Faith Home or church planting.

If your team is bringing hygiene or school packs, the packs should be clearly marked as to which ministry they are to be used: Church Planting or Faith Home. If your church plans to donate additional items for Faith Home, the children, or the missionaries, please check with the M1 Office to receive a list of needed items and correct sizes.

CLIMATE/DRESS PERSONAL ITEMS NEEDED

1. **HOT and HUMID!** The climate is tropical, around 100 degrees during the summer months; 80-95 degrees during the winter months. Keep this in mind while packing clothing. Occasionally a light jacket may be needed in January and February.
2. Conservative, casual attire is recommended for both men and women. Pack comfortable, durable shoes that will protect your feet well. Assume they will get dirty.
 - a. **Ladies:** Honduran culture believes Christian women should be very modest. Lightweight cotton skirts, jumpers, Capri pants, or casual dresses. Pants and **knee-length shorts** are not allowed in worship areas, but are acceptable for shopping and at team house facilities. Please, no halter-type dresses or tops or shorts above the knees. No tank tops outside of Faith Home facilities. Remember modesty is the key.
 - b. **Men:** Casual slacks, jeans, short-sleeve shirts or T-shirts are acceptable. Any clothing resembling the military is not allowed. Knee-length shorts are not acceptable at worship services but are acceptable for shopping or at team house facilities. No shorts above the knees at any time during your trip. No tank tops outside of Faith Home facilities.
 - c. Do not wear your best clothing for the entire trip. They may get soiled.

- d. Bring enough clothing for the entire trip. **Personal laundry is not allowed, as laundry facilities are available but are for laundering team towels, washcloths, and bed linens only.**

Note: We have received reports that washers and dryers have been used DAILY by some teams in 2013. This should not happen, and will only cause the price of the trip to increase to cover higher electric bills. Help us keep the cost of these trips as low as possible by observing ALL team house rules, and only using the washers/dryers for linens and towels. Teams that are reported for having used washers and dryers excessively will be charged higher fees to cover higher electric bills. Regarding linen and towel washing, please limit it to a maximum of 2 days, unless an “emergency” warrants additional washing (someone gets sick on their bed, for instance). Dryers should only be used if it’s raining. Otherwise, clotheslines should be used for all linens and towels. Sheets/bed linens should be washed as early as possible on the day of departure in order to allow time for them put on the clothes line to dry.

3. For more information on Honduras go to www.gbimissions.com. Follow the *World* tab to *Field Facts* for information on our various fields.
4. The following items will be needed and/or are recommended for your trip.
 - Airline ticket, passport, photo ID (such as drivers license), blood type
 - Bible and prepared devotions
 - Notebook or journal and pens and pencils
 - Work clothes (see above), including cotton work gloves
 - Nicer clothes for worship services
 - Boots, tennis shoes, work shoes, etc., comfortable for working and walking
 - Shorts
 - Caps or hats
 - Suntan lotion/sunscreen
 - Insect repellent such as Deep Woods, Off, Skintastics, etc., and ant/roach spray of some type (should contain Deet).
 - Sleepwear and slippers or shower shoes
 - Toiletries: toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, antiseptic baby wipes, soap, etc.
 - Cameras, extra memory, and battery charger
 - Sunglasses
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - Drinking bottle (with your name on it) (plastic, insulated sports bottle) used at worksite
 - Snacks and gum, if desired
 - All items needed for your area of work: VBS materials, sermons, Bible studies, craft items for ladies’ Bible study
 - Any medications you require (malaria, prophylaxis, chloroquine, may be recommended)

M1 VALUES ON THE FIELD

M1 seeks to provide seamless consistency to our fields by asking our team members to keep the M1 values in mind at all times. Please consider the following.

Cultural Sensitivity (1 Corinthians 9:19-23)

Often times things that might be meaningful to us in our culture, are taboo in the culture we are visiting. We must resist our propensity of asserting our cultural norms on those we are trying to reach with the gospel. In light of this we ask that you

- **Use neither alcohol nor tobacco** of any type throughout the entire trip.
- Dress modestly. **No shorts above the knee at any time.**
- **If you have tattoos, please keep them covered at all times during the trip.**
- **Piercings – women should be the only ones wearing earrings on the trip, and they should only wear them in holes on the earlobes. Please cover any earrings that may be at the top of your ear, or not on the lobes.**

Community (Romans 12:18)

Inevitably, culture shock occurs to some degree no matter where you go or how long you are there. Generally, the negative side rears its ugly head halfway thru a trip. On trips to Honduras this usually happens on about day 3 or 4 of the trip. To minimize conflict and promote community we ask that

- Everyone make his/her own bed daily and pick items up off the floor so it can be swept.
- Keep personal items in your dorm rooms. Please do not clutter tables and furniture with clothing, books, cameras, etc. Also, due to crowded dorm space, we ask that you keep your things in your suitcases or under your bed when not in use.
- Please do not sit on living room furniture in soiled work clothes. Shower first.
- Observe “lights out” at 10:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. and be considerate of others who may wish to sleep.
- No schedule changes/switches (kitchen, devotions) without team leader’s authorization.
- **Quiet Please**, especially in the evenings.

Christian Witness

It’s important to realize that others are watching the way we conduct ourselves as followers of Christ. Observers include Honduran nationals, the children of Faith Home, and fellow team members who might not be at your same level of spiritual maturity. Perception is everything.

- Modest conduct please. Couples who are dating must conduct themselves in a Christian manner, being concerned about excessive partnering.
- No men allowed in females’ rooms; no females allowed in males’ rooms.

Spiritual Formation

A comment often made by team members returning to Faith Home is, “Although it’s hot and the work is hard, I get spiritually recharged while I’m down here.” We want to see God glorified not only in the lives of the Honduran nationals, but also in the lives of our team members. We want to promote an environment of spiritual growth and renewal. With this in mind we ask:

- That team members refrain from using cell phones and the Internet throughout the day **(please save internet browsing until after dinner/devotions each evening).**

- That there be no use of headsets or MP3 players during work or scheduled activity times. We prefer that the use of personal electronic devices be limited to presenting music during services and to be used to enhance worship and devotions.
- Everyone be present for all devotions, meals, and scheduled activities, unless otherwise excused by his/her team leader. Valid excuses would include illness and related problems.

Stewardship

- Do not give personal gifts or tokens of appreciation, money, etc., to any of the Honduran people. All giving is done through structured programs and not on an individual basis. We will elaborate on this during infield orientation and explain when and where gifts will be distributed through such programs as our Faith Home Child Sponsorship and other ministry programs.
- Keep valuables secured in your room, and do not leave cameras and other valuables lying around the worksites.
- Please do not leave anything outside in the yard at night. It won't be there in the morning.
- No food, drinks, or snacks in sleeping rooms at any time. Keep all food in kitchen or dining hall.
- Air-conditioning may be run at night only. **All A/C should be turned off during the day.**
- No food preparations between meals. Everyone will eat what is prepared. Special consideration can be made for those on physician-directed food plans/diets. Help yourself to snacks in the evenings, but clean up after eating.
- Do not remove dining chairs or any furniture from inside the house.
- No sleeping in living room. Sleep in dorm rooms only. Feet off the furniture, please!

Safety

Safety and stewardship are two values closely related, in that being unsafe costs the mission money that could go toward ministry. In addition to the stewardship aspect, the safety of individuals and the team as a whole adds to our ability to do impactful ministry. With that in mind please remember

- At no time are M1 team members authorized to operate vehicles.
- No one is to leave Faith Home property without the permission of the team leader and/or the M1 personnel.
- Do not drink the water from spigots/faucets. GBIM will provide safe drinking water. Use ONLY bottled water!
- Do NOT give your address or phone number to any Hondurans. If you desire to correspond with someone, it must be done through the main office of GBIM.
- Report all illness, diarrhea, accidents, etc., to M1 hosts or mission representatives.

Some of our requests have multiple reasons for being made. For example, we ask that you not invite Honduran acquaintances or friends into the mission house at any time, and please do not invite them to participate in any of our team private activities. We ask medical team members not to invite Hondurans to the motel or to ask them to eat with the team or participate in any of the team's private activities when working in the south. Please realize that we are talking about people from outside the gate and not our General Baptist Mission employees.

One reason we ask that you follow these guidelines is for perception. If other nationals think their friends are getting special treatment, they will often ostracize those individuals. So it becomes a matter of cultural sensitivity.

Secondly, it becomes a matter of security and stewardship. Our goal is to protect our teams and the children at Faith Home, as well as maintain the property God has blessed us with.

Lastly, we must look at this from a community standpoint. The other members of your team may very well be exhausted physically, emotionally, and culturally. We want to provide an atmosphere where our team members can recharge their batteries, be fed by the Word, and prepare for the next day's events. We feel that it's important to have that downtime with the team.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geography

Honduras, in the north-central part of Central America, has a Caribbean as well as a Pacific coastline. Guatemala is to the west, El Salvador to the south, and Nicaragua to the east. The second-largest country in Central America, Honduras is slightly larger than Tennessee. Generally mountainous, fertile plateaus, river valleys, and narrow coastal plains mark the country.

Government: Democratic constitutional republic.

History

The restored Mayan ruins of Copán in the west, first discovered by the Spaniards in 1576 and rediscovered in dense jungle in 1839, reflect the great Mayan culture (see Maya) that arose in the region in the 4th cent. It had declined when Columbus sighted the region in 1502, naming it Honduras (meaning “depths”) for the deep water off the coast. Hernán Cortés arrived in 1524 and ordered Pedro de Alvarado to found settlements along the coast. Comayagua and Tegucigalpa developed as early mining centers. In a war (1537–38) between Spain and the indigenous population, Spain crushed the resistance after the death of the native leader, Lempira.

In 1821, Honduras gained independence from Spain and became part of Iturbide's Mexican Empire; from 1825 to 1838 it was a member of the Central American Federation. Thereafter, conservative and liberal factions fought bloody wars to control the republic, and Honduras was subjected to frequent interference from its Central American neighbors. Great Britain long controlled the Mosquito Coast and the Islas de la Bahía; William Walker attempted a “liberation” in 1860. Although Honduras often sought to reestablish Central American unity, the attempts were frustrated by political and personal animosities.

Foreign capital, plantation life, and conservative politics constituted a trio of dominant forces that held sway in Honduras from the late 19th cent. to the end of the regime (1933–48) of Tiburcio Carías Andino, when the liberal movement was reawakened. The rights of workers were not effectively defined and protected until a labor code was adopted in 1955 and a new constitution was promulgated in 1957. That year Ramón Villeda Morales became the first liberal president in 25 years.

Shortly before the scheduled presidential election in 1963, Villeda was overthrown and replaced by a military junta under Osvaldo López Arellano. The illegal immigration of several hundred thousand Salvadorans across the ill-defined El Salvador–Honduras border and the expulsion of many of the immigrants by Honduras led to a war with El Salvador in July, 1969. Although the war lasted only five days, its effects were serious, including the country's withdrawal from and the subsequent collapse of the Central American Common Market as well as continued border incidents. (A peace treaty was not signed until 1980.) In 1971 Ramón Ernesto Cruz was elected to succeed Lopez, only to be ousted by Lopez the

following year. In late 1974 the Caribbean coast of Honduras was devastated by a hurricane. In 1975, Lopez was himself the victim of a coup after accepting \$1.25 million in bribes from the United Brands Company. His successor was in turn ousted in 1978 in a military coup led by Gen. Policarpo Paz Garcia. As political unrest in the surrounding areas increased in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the United States pressured the Honduran government to hold democratic elections, and in 1982 a new constitution that called for free elections was promulgated and Robert Suazo Córdova became president. During the 1980s Honduras served as a base for insurgent activity against the government of Nicaragua by rebels known as Contras. The country's economy became heavily dependent on aid from the United States, which supported the rebel bases. In 1985, Jose Siméon Azcona del Hoyo was elected president in a disputed election. By 1988 popular discontent with the Contra presence resulted in massive demonstrations and the declaration of a state of emergency. In 1989, Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero was elected to the presidency; the Contra war ended the following year.

In the 1990s Honduras benefited from regional peace and cooperation as it worked to establish economic viability independent of the United States. In 1992 an agreement was signed with El Salvador, largely settling the border controversy between the two countries; the last disputed section of the border was demarcated in 2006. Carlos Roberto Reina, of the Liberal party, was elected president in 1993; Carlos Roberto Flores Facussé, also a Liberal, won the 1997 presidential election. Late in 1998 the country was devastated by Hurricane Mitch, which left 5,600 people dead and thousands missing; much of the country's crops and livestock were destroyed. In 2001, Ricardo Maduro Joest, of the National party, won the presidency. Manuel Zelaya Rosales, the Liberal party candidate, was elected president in 2005.¹

¹ *The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia*, 6th ed. Copyright © 2007, Columbia University Press. All rights reserved.

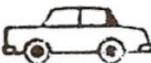
HONDURAS TRAVEL HINTS

1. The team leader will manage the team members' tickets and copies of all passports and applications.
2. Plan to arrive at the airport at least two hours before departure.
 - a. Team members should get in line at airport immediately with itineraries and passports.
 - b. Keep carry-on bags separate; they will not be needed at check-in.
 - c. Be sure your luggage has your name, address, and GB luggage sticker on it.
 - d. Remind airline agent to check your luggage all the way through to final destination. This way you will not have to claim it at stops along the way. Keep your luggage claim ticket available to claim your luggage at final destination.
 - e. Be sure to wear your team T-shirt. This will help identify team members at the airport.
 - f. On the plane to Honduras the flight attendants will distribute two forms. One will be a Customs Declaration Form (see example on page 14). If you are traveling with family members, only one card will need to be completed for each household. Notice, this form is in English and Spanish. (2) The second will be the Honduras Migration Office Information Sheet. Each member will need to complete this form. These are easy to complete, but there are a few areas on the individual tourist/visitor form you might question. **
 - Purpose of visit should be listed as pleasure.
 - You will be residing at "Private residence": El Barro, San Manuel, Cortes
 - On the left side, Port of Embarkation. This is where you boarded the plane for Honduras (e.g., Miami, Houston, Atlanta, etc.).
 - Port of Disembarkation will be the city where you arrive (San Pedro Sula).
 - Country of Departure—USA
 - Country of Destination—Honduras

On the plane back from Honduras it will be the opposite. Port of Embarkation: San Pedro Sula. Port of Disembarkation will be the city where you are going in the United States. Note: The left side of this form is for where you are coming from. The right side is where you are going.

**** You will need this information Please carry it with you on the plane.**

Continental Airlines

BOLETA DE CONTROL MIGRATORIO DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MIGRACIÓN HONDURAS, C.A.		INFORMATION SHEET HONDURAS MIGRATION OFFICE HONDURAS, C.A.	
LLENADO POR EL VIAJERO		TO BE FILLED OUT BY PASSENGER	
EMPRESA NAME OF TRANSPORTATION COMPANY		No. 19- 1979320	
APELLIDO DE CASADA MARRIED NAME		PRIMER Y SEGUNDO APELLIDO FAMILY NAME	
NOMBRES NAMES		NACIONALIDAD NATIONALITY	
DIRECCIÓN ACTUAL O PERMANENTE HOME ADDRESS:		SEXO SEX	
M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>			
CIUDAD CITY		DEPTO. PROV. O ESTADO STATE	
		PAIS COUNTRY	
TRÁNSITO TRANSIT <input type="checkbox"/>		TURISMO TOURIST <input type="checkbox"/>	
		NEGOCIOS BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/>	
		OFICIAL OFFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
		DEPORTES SPORTS <input type="checkbox"/>	
MOTIVO DEL VIAJE		REASON OF YOUR TRIP	
ESTUDIOS STUDIES <input type="checkbox"/>		CONVENCIONES CONVENTIONS <input type="checkbox"/>	
		SALUD HEALTH <input type="checkbox"/>	
		RESIDIR RESIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/>	
		OTROS OTHERS <input type="checkbox"/>	
TIPO DE TRANSPORTE		TYPE OF TRANSPORTATION	
 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
		 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	
		 4 <input type="checkbox"/>	
		 5 <input type="checkbox"/>	
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NÚMERO DE VISA O TARJETA DE TURISMO VISA NUMBER OR TOURISM CARD		ENTIDAD EXPEDIDORA DE VISA O TARJETA DE TURISMO VISA ISSUED BY	
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U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Customs Declaration

19 CFR 122.27, 148.12, 148.13, 148.110, 148.111, 1498; 31 CFR 5316

FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 1651-0009

Each arriving traveler or responsible family member must provide the following information (only ONE written declaration per family is required):

- 1. Family Name
2. Birth date
3. Number of Family members traveling with you
4. (a) U.S. Street Address
(b) City (c) State
5. Passport issued by (country)
6. Passport number
7. Country of Residence
8. Countries visited on this trip prior to U.S. arrival
9. Airline/Flight No. or Vessel Name
10. The primary purpose of this trip is business: Yes No
11. I am (We are) bringing
(a) fruits, vegetables, plants, seeds, food, insects: Yes No
(b) meats, animals, animal/wildlife products: Yes No
(c) disease agents, cell cultures, snails: Yes No
(d) soil or have been on a farm/ranch/pasture: Yes No
12. I have (We have) been in close proximity of (such as touching or handling) livestock: Yes No
13. I am (We are) carrying currency or monetary instruments over \$10,000 U.S. or foreign equivalent: Yes No
14. I have (We have) commercial merchandise: Yes No
15. Residents — the total value of all goods, including commercial merchandise I/we have purchased or acquired abroad, (including gifts for someone else, but not items mailed to the U.S.) and am/are bringing to the U.S. is: \$
Visitors — the total value of all articles that will remain in the U.S., including commercial merchandise is: \$

Read the instructions on the back of this form. Space is provided to list all the items you must declare.

I HAVE READ THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM AND HAVE MADE A TRUTHFUL DECLARATION.

(Signature) Date (day/month/year)

For Official Use Only

CBP Form 6059B (01/04)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Welcomes You to the United States

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is responsible for protecting the United States against the illegal importation of prohibited items. CBP officers have the authority to question you and to examine you and your personal property. If you are one of the travelers selected for an examination, you will be treated in a courteous, professional, and dignified manner.

Important Information

U.S. Residents — declare all articles that you have acquired abroad and are bringing into the United States.
Visitors (Non-Residents) — declare the value of all articles that will remain in the United States.
Declare all articles on this declaration form and show the value in U.S. dollars.
Duty — CBP officers will determine duty. U.S. residents are normally entitled to a duty-free exemption of \$800 on items accompanying them.

The transportation of currency or monetary instruments, regardless of the amount, is legal. However, if you bring in to or take out of the United States more than \$10,000 (U.S. or foreign equivalent, or a combination of both), you are required by law to file a report on FinCEN 105 (formerly Customs Form 4790) with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Description of Articles

Table with columns: Value, CBP Use Only. Includes a Total row.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE: The Paperwork Reduction Act says we must tell you why we are collecting this information, how we will use it, and whether you have to give it to us.

CBP Form 6059B (01/04)

- 3. Upon your arrival in Honduras each team member will go through immigration one at a time. Each team member will need to show his/her passport and turn in his/her tourist/visitor card. Immigration will keep a copy of each tourist/visitor card and return one to team members along with their passports. Be sure to keep this copy with your passport and don't lose it. It must be turned in to Honduran authorities upon departing from Honduras.
4. After clearing immigration, you will go to the baggage room and claim your luggage. Allow ample time for your luggage to come in before determining luggage has not arrived.
a. If all luggage has arrived you will go through customs lines, and you may be asked to open your luggage.
b. Sometimes we are authorized to bypass inspection. It is a good idea to assign one or two people to wait in one place with the carry-on bags while the rest of the group locates the

- checked bags. Once your luggage is located, then the group can begin going through the customs/inspection line together.
- c. After all bags are inspected by customs, the skycaps will help you get your bags together and take them outside. Before leaving the baggage room, all claim checks and matching stubs will have to be taken off luggage to verify that the luggage has arrived.
 - d. If some of the luggage does not arrive, you will have to match claim tickets to luggage to determine which claim check is the missing luggage. (This can be done by process of elimination.)
 - e. If missing luggage occurs, you must take the time to file a claim in customs. The M1 host will assist you in this process.
 - f. The M1 host will designate the skycaps to be used and will also pay the correct skycaps. If you allow another to handle or touch your bags, more expense will be incurred.
5. In Honduras we will review travel procedures for departure from Honduras and arrival back in the United States.
 6. When leaving Honduras to return home, you will check your luggage to the final destination.
 7. When returning back into the United States you will have to claim your luggage and carry it through customs. This will take place at the first airport you land at in the United States. (e.g., Miami, Houston, Atlanta, etc.) Once you have cleared customs you will drop your luggage off at the airline luggage check station (usually immediately after you pass through customs). Remember to follow customs laws: no fruit, animals, etc. may be carried into the United States.

When traveling, the unexpected can happen. Even though you have prayed for protection, do not “tempt God” by exposing yourself to unnecessary danger. Listen to the M1 representatives and team leaders and take their suggestions. Never wander off alone or without permission from a mission representative. If confronted by a superior force, use your head. Do not fight, surrender valuables. Remember, nothing is more important than human life. Team members would do well to keep the three-crisis rule in mind for all foreign travel and large group activities. The rule is simply this: Assume that three things will go wrong no matter how well you plan. Be prepared for any contingencies that may be necessary. Someone may become ill, the bus may break down, or the rooms at the hotel may have been given away. When you begin with this attitude, you are preparing to be flexible as well as facing the fact that you cannot always be in control or trust in your strength.

Luggage: Each airline has different rules when it comes to how many bags you can take. Please check with the airline website before packing to see how many bags you are allowed. One suitcase or carry-on *may* be needed to carry supplies and materials for the mission trip. In some circumstances personal belongings may be limited to one suitcase or carry-on. Each suitcase can weigh no more than 50 pounds and not be larger than 62 linear inches. A parachute bag from any army surplus store works well. The carry-on can weigh no more than 40 pounds and not be larger than 45 linear inches and should include any prescription medication and one complete change of clothing in the event your luggage should become lost.

- Be sure to pack your razors, nail clippers/file, pocketknives, or any other sharp objects in your check-in luggage. You are not allowed to carry any sharp objects in your carry-on luggage.
- Check with each respective airline to determine carry-on liquid allowances prior to departure.

We recommend when traveling with large sums of cash that you strap it discreetly to you, using money belts or a hidden pouch. Do not be obvious with your money.

LANGUAGE

For some people trying out a new language is part of the excitement of exploring a new culture and getting to know the people. For others, trying to say a basic phrase to a national in his/her native tongue can open the door to feelings of incompetence and insecurity. While it is understandable that you will never become fluent in a language just by going on short-term trips, there are benefits to moving out of your comfort zone and trying to communicate with the nationals. Here are just a few of the benefits that come from attempting to speak the language.

- It shows you respect and value the host culture.
- Though there might be some giggles or laughs at first, trying to speak the language tears down social barriers that might not be overcome in any other way.
- It shows your humility in that you have a teachable spirit.
- It allows you to experience a glimpse of what full-time missionaries deal with on a daily basis.

ENGLISH/SPANISH BASIC TRANSLATIONS

English	Spanish	Pronunciation
GREETINGS		
Good morning.	<i>Buenos dias.</i>	BWE-nos DEE-as.
Good afternoon.	<i>Buenas tardes.</i>	BWE-nas TAR-des
Good evening.	<i>Buenas noches.</i>	BWE-nas No-ches.
Hello / Hi / Hey.	<i>Hola.</i>	O-la.
What's up?	<i>¿Que' pasa?</i>	¿ke PA-sa?
Nothing much.	<i>Nada.</i>	NA-da.
How are you?	<i>¿Como esta usted?</i>	¿KO-mo es-TA us-TED?
I'm....	<i>Estoy....</i>	Es-TOY...
Great.	<i>muy bien.</i>	mooy byen.
well. / fine.	<i>bien.</i>	byen.
OK.	<i>asi asi.</i>	a-SEE a-SEE.
Not so great.	<i>No muy bien.</i>	No mooy byen.
How is your family?	<i>¿Cómo esta su familia?</i>	¿KO-mo es-TA soo fa-MEE-lya?
How is your wife?	<i>¿Cómo estan tu esposa?</i>	¿KO-mo es-TAN too e-SPO-sa?
husband?	<i>¿Cómo estan tu esposo?</i>	¿KO-mo esTAN too e-SPO-so?
Great, thanks. And you?	<i>Muy bien, gracias. ¿Y tu?</i>	Mooy byen, GRA-syas. ¿ee too?
GOOD-BYES		
Good-bye.	<i>Adiós.</i>	a-DYOS.
Bye.	<i>Adiós</i>	a-DYOS.
So long.	<i>Hasta la vista.</i>	A-sta la VEE-sta.
See you later.	<i>Hasta luego.</i>	A-sta LWE-go.
See you in the morning.	<i>Hasta mañana</i>	A-sta m-nya-na.
Good night.	<i>Buenas noches.</i>	BWE-nas NO-ches.
INTRODUCTIONS		
What's your name?	<i>¿Cómo te llamas?</i>	¿KO-mo te YA-mas?

My name is	<i>Me llamo</i>	Me Ya-mo.
My friends call me	<i>Mis amigos me llaman</i>	Mees a-MEE gas me YA-man.
Pleased to meet you.	<i>Mucho gusto</i>	MOO-cho GOO-sto.
Do you speak English?	<i>¿Hablas inglés?</i>	<i>¿A-blas een-GLES?</i>
I speak only a little Spanish.	<i>Hablo poco español.</i>	<i>A-blo PO-co es-pa-NYOL.</i>
GETTING HELP		
Can you help me, please?	<i>¿Puedes ayudarme, por favor?</i>	<i>¿PWE-des a-yoo-DAR-me, por fa-VOR?</i>
PLEASANTRIES		
Thank you.	<i>Gracias.</i>	<i>GRA-syas.</i>
You're welcome.	<i>De nada</i>	<i>De NA-da.</i>
Excuse me.	<i>Perdon. / Permiso.</i>	<i>Per-DON / per-MEE-so.</i>
Sorry.	<i>Lo siento.</i>	<i>Lo SEN-to.</i>
NUMBERS		
0	<i>Zero</i>	<i>SE-ro</i>
1	<i>Uno</i>	<i>OO-no</i>
2	<i>Dos</i>	<i>Dos</i>
3	<i>Tres</i>	<i>Tres</i>
4	<i>Cuatro</i>	<i>KWA-tro</i>
5	<i>Cinco</i>	<i>SEEN-ko</i>
6	<i>Seis</i>	<i>Seyss</i>
7	<i>Siete</i>	<i>SYET-e</i>
8	<i>Ocho</i>	<i>O-cho</i>
9	<i>Nueve</i>	<i>NEW-ve</i>
10	<i>Diez</i>	<i>Dyes</i>
11	<i>Once</i>	<i>ON-se</i>
12	<i>Doce</i>	<i>DO-se</i>
13	<i>Trece</i>	<i>TRE-se</i>
14	<i>Catorce</i>	<i>Ka-TOR-se</i>
15	<i>Quince</i>	<i>KEEN-se</i>
16	<i>Dieciséis</i>	<i>Dyes-ee-SEYSS</i>
17	<i>Diecisiete</i>	<i>Dyes-ee-SYET-e</i>
18	<i>Dieciocho</i>	<i>Dyes-ee-O-cho</i>
19	<i>Diecinueve</i>	<i>Dyes-ee-NEW-ve</i>
20	<i>Veinte</i>	<i>VEYN-te</i>
21	<i>Veintiuno</i>	<i>Veyn-tee-OO-no</i>
22	<i>Veintidós</i>	<i>Veyn-tee-DOS</i>
30	<i>Treinta</i>	<i>TREYN-ta</i>
40	<i>Cuarenta</i>	<i>Kwa-REN-ta</i>
50	<i>Cincuenta</i>	<i>Seen-KWEN-ta</i>
60	<i>Sesenta</i>	<i>Se-SEN-ta</i>
70	<i>Setenta</i>	<i>Se-TEN-ta</i>
80	<i>Ochenta</i>	<i>o-CHEN-ta</i>

90	<i>Noventa</i>	<i>No-VEN-ta</i>
100	<i>Cien</i>	<i>Syen</i>
COLORS		
White	<i>Blanco</i>	<i>BLAN-ko</i>
Pink	<i>Rosado</i>	<i>Ro-SA-do</i>
Purple	<i>Morado</i>	<i>Mo-RA-do</i>
Red	<i>Rojo</i>	<i>RO-ho</i>
Orange	<i>Anaranjado</i>	<i>a-na-ran-HA-do</i>
Yellow	<i>Amarillo</i>	<i>a-ma-REE-yo</i>
Green	<i>Verde</i>	<i>VER-de</i>
Blue	<i>Azul</i>	<i>a-SOOL</i>
Brown	<i>Marrón</i>	<i>Ma-RON</i>
Gray	<i>Gris</i>	<i>Grees</i>
Black	<i>Negro</i>	<i>NE-gro</i>
DAYS AND WEEKS		
Monday	<i>Lunes</i>	<i>LOO-nes</i>
Tuesday	<i>Martes</i>	<i>MAR-tes</i>
Wednesday	<i>Miércoles</i>	<i>MYER-ko-les</i>
Thursday	<i>Jueves</i>	<i>WE-ves</i>
Friday	<i>Viernes</i>	<i>VYER-nes</i>
Saturday	<i>Sábado</i>	<i>SA-ba-do</i>
Sunday	<i>Domingo</i>	<i>Do-MEEN-go</i>
Yesterday	<i>Ayer</i>	<i>Ai-ER</i>
Today	<i>Hoy</i>	<i>Oy</i>
Tomorrow	<i>Mañana</i>	<i>Ma-NYA-na</i>
PRONOUNS		
Singular		
I	<i>Yo</i>	
You (informal)	<i>Tu</i>	
You (formal)	<i>Usted</i>	
He	<i>El</i>	
She	<i>Ella</i>	
Plural		
We	<i>Nosotros</i>	
You (informal)	<i>Vosotros</i>	
You (formal)	<i>Ustedes</i>	
They (all men/mixed group)	<i>Ellos</i>	
They (all women)	<i>Ellas</i>	

Either as a team or alone, try to find the translation and pronunciations of the following useful words and phrases:

- Help!:

- Where is the bathroom?:
- I am lost. Please take me to (enter Faith Home's address here):
- Fire! (as in flames; not an order to fire a weapon):

Now that we have ventured into the realm of communication, let's discuss unspoken communications. The hand gestures used in the United States don't always have the same meaning in other countries. A well-intentioned "peace sign" might mean something insulting and distasteful, as former President George H. W. Bush discovered in 1992. Here are just a few unique gestures you might find useful in Honduras.

- Personal space is not the same in Honduras as it is in the United States; therefore, conversations take place in a much closer proximity. Backing away from an individual you are conversing with might be interpreted as rejecting them.
- It is not uncommon for a Honduran man to touch the shoulders or hold the arm of another man. To pull away when in this situation is also seen as an insult.
- Rather than shaking one's head "no" is expressed by waving one's index finger.

Knowing what to talk about also says something about you and can either add to or take away from the impression a national might have of you. Hondurans are very warm and social people. Great topics to bring up in conversation include your family, your job, historical and tourist sites, and sports (especially soccer). Try to stay away from topics like politics and unrest in Honduras and other Central American nations.

As in the United States, an appropriate greeting defines how the nationals view you. In Honduras, men shake hands when greeting one another. Women, however, will often pat one another on the right shoulder or arm unless they are close friends or family. In these cases, women will often hug or kiss each other on the cheek. Men from the United States should be warned not to expect the hearty and firm handshake they experience back home. Handshakes in Honduras are usually weaker with a lighter grip, so try to meet Hondurans' expectations when shaking hands.

When attending a party or group event, it is customary in Honduras to shake the hand of every person in the room.

CULTURE SHOCK

The term “culture shock” was introduced for the first time in 1958 to describe the anxiety produced when a person moves to a completely new environment. This term expresses the lack of direction, the feeling of not knowing what to do or how to do things in a new environment, and not knowing what is appropriate or inappropriate. The feeling of culture shock generally sets in after the first few weeks of coming to a new place.

We can describe culture shock as the physical and emotional discomfort one suffers when coming to live in another country or a place different from the place of origin. Often, the way that we lived before is not accepted as or considered as normal in the new place. Everything is different, for example, not speaking the language, not knowing how to use banking machines, not knowing how to use the telephone, and so forth.

The symptoms of cultural shock can appear at different times. Although, one can experience real pain from culture shock; it is also an opportunity for redefining one's life objectives. It is a great opportunity for learning and acquiring new perspectives. Culture shock can make one develop a better understanding of oneself and stimulate personal creativity.

Symptoms

- Sadness, loneliness, melancholy
- Preoccupation with health
- Aches, pains, and allergies
- Insomnia; desire to sleep too much or too little
- Changes in temperament, depression, feeling vulnerable, feeling powerless
- Anger, irritability, resentment, unwillingness to interact with others
- Identifying with the old culture or idealizing the old country
- Loss of identity
- Trying too hard to absorb everything in the new culture or country
- Unable to solve simple problems
- Lack of confidence
- Feelings of inadequacy or insecurity
- Developing stereotypes about the new culture
- Developing obsessions such as over-cleanliness
- Longing for family
- Feelings of being lost, overlooked, exploited, or abused

Stages of Culture Shock

Culture shock has many stages. Each stage can be ongoing or appear only at certain times. The first stage is the incubation stage. In this first stage, the new arrival may feel euphoric and be pleased by all of the new things encountered. This time is called the "honeymoon" stage, as everything encountered is new and exciting.

Afterwards, the second stage presents itself. A person may encounter some difficult times and crises in daily life. For example, communication difficulties may occur such as not being understood. In this stage, there may be feelings of discontent, impatience, anger, sadness, and feeling incompetence. This happens when a person is trying to adapt to a new culture that is very different from the culture of origin. Transition between the old methods and those of the new country is a difficult process and takes time to complete. During the transition, there can be strong feelings of dissatisfaction.

The third stage is characterized by gaining some understanding of the new culture. A new feeling of pleasure and sense of humor may be experienced. One may start to feel a certain psychological balance.

The new arrival may not feel as lost and starts to have a feeling of direction. The individual is more familiar with the environment and wants to belong. This initiates an evaluation of the old ways versus those of the new.

In the fourth stage, the person realizes that the new culture has good and bad things to offer. This stage can be one of double integration or triple integration depending on the number of cultures the person has to process. This integration is accompanied by a more solid feeling of belonging. The person starts to define himself/herself and establish goals for living.

The fifth stage is the stage that is called the "re-entry shock." This occurs when a return to the country of origin is made. One may find that things are no longer the same. For example, some of the newly acquired customs are not in use in the old culture.

These stages are present at different times, and each person has his/her own way of reacting in the stages of culture shock. As a consequence, some stages will be longer and more difficult than others. Many factors contribute to the duration and effects of culture shock. For example, the individual's state of mental health, type of personality, previous experiences, socio-economic conditions, familiarity with the language, family and/or social support systems, and level of education.

How to Fight Culture Shock

The majority of individuals and families that emigrate from other countries have the ability to positively confront the obstacles of a new environment. Some ways to combat stress produced by culture shock are

- Develop a hobby.
- Don't forget the good things you already have!
- Remember, there are always resources you can use.
- Be patient, the act of immigrating is a process of adaptation to new situations. It is going to take time.
- Learn to be constructive. If you encounter an unfavorable environment, don't put yourself in that position again. Be easy on yourself.
- Don't try too hard.
- Learn to include a regular form of physical activity in your routine. This will help combat the sadness and loneliness in a constructive manner. Exercise, swim, take an aerobics class, etc.
- Relaxation and meditation are proven to be very positive for people passing through periods of stress.
- Maintain contact with your ethnic group. This will give you a feeling of belonging, and you will reduce your feelings of loneliness and alienation.
- Maintain contact with the new culture. Learn the language. Volunteer in community activities that allow you to practice the language that you are learning. This will help you feel less stress about language and useful at the same time.
- Allow yourself to feel sad about the things that you have left behind: your family, your friends, etc.
- Recognize the sorrow of leaving your old country. Accept the new country. Focus your power on getting through the transition.
- Pay attention to relationships with your family and at work. They will serve as support for you in difficult times.
- Establish simple goals and evaluate your progress.
- Find ways to live with the things that don't satisfy you 100 percent.
- Maintain confidence in yourself. Follow your ambitions and continue your plans for the future.
- If you feel stressed, look for help. There is always someone or some service available to help you.²

² Written by [Dr. Carmen Guanipa](#), [Dept. of Counseling and School Psychology](#), San Diego State University.

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RE-ENTRY

Welcome home!

Over the past week or so you have experienced things your friends and family may not understand or be capable of relating to. You might find yourself in a position where it is difficult to express your feelings. Friends and family might not seem to respond in a way that you anticipate (especially if they have never experienced a short-term mission trip). This is completely normal. We want to offer some suggestions on how to share your experiences.

You might ask, “Why is it important to share my experience?” To glorify God. It is our prayer that God has worked in your heart while you were on the field. We hope you have seen Him move in ways you have never experienced before or in ways you had forgotten. By sharing your experience, God receives glory for what He did in, through, and around you while you were on the field. Sharing also provides those who hear with an opportunity to see the changes God has done in you and time for contemplation of how they might get involved in what the Lord is doing.

Telling your story

It is easy to get overwhelmed with everything you want to share with loved ones. It’s also easy for them to be overwhelmed, and rightly so. You’re trying to express every feeling and experience you encountered whether it be spiritual attacks by the enemy or the Holy Spirit revealing something profound and beautiful to you in something that might seem mundane to others.

When telling your story it is best to think in relation to time. We suggest creating three versions of what you want to communicate. The first version is roughly three minutes long. This gives you a read on how perceptive the other person is to your story and leaves him/her wanting to know more. It also creates boundaries so that the person isn’t turned off to future discussion.

The second version is a little longer (approximately 10-15 minutes). This version works perfectly when asked to quickly share something with the church. It shares more information than the three-minute version, yet it’s still fairly quick.

The last version we suggest is about 30 minutes in length. This is your opportunity to open the floodgates of information. Half an hour is perfect to share with a youth group, Sunday school, or small group.

Dependency in Mission Partnership

Principles for enabling the servants of God in hard places

By Daniel Rickett, Partners International

The loudest objection to partnership with non-Western missions is the fear that it will create dependency. We seem to assume that it is better to leave our brothers and sisters in Christ alone than to run the risk of making them dependent. But as Chuck Bennett points out, to refuse to share our resources with overseas brethren because there have been abuses is "like outlawing marriage because we discover some husbands abuse their wives. The problem is real, but the proposed solution misses the point."

The issue of dependency in mission relationships is widely recognized. What is often overlooked is that there are two kinds of dependency: healthy and unhealthy. If there is to be a productive partnership, it is crucial that we understand the difference between the two. Only then can we develop ways to use it constructively.

Dependency Defined: Dependency is the state of relying on someone or something. To be dependent is, first and foremost, to be reliant on another.

Reliance can actually be more important than being independent. The fact is that no one can go it alone. In many ways, every one of us depends on a wide variety of people and institutions. Pastors depend on parishioners, missionaries depend on donors, organizations depend on employees, universities depend on students.

Certainly it is possible to rely too heavily on someone or something. When medical patients become habituated to drugs we call it dependency. When people remain on government welfare for a lifetime we call it dependency. When an adult child remains too long with his parents we call it dependency. Yet when a missionary receives all of his or her support from a few churches, we don't call it dependency. When a mission agency relies exclusively on a single association of churches, we don't call that dependency either. Although every church and mission is sustained by multi-lateral dependencies, we don't think of them as being dependent.

So what makes a certain kind of dependency acceptable and another kind unacceptable? Why is it that a dependent child is legitimate but a dependent adult is not? The answer lies in the dependent's willingness and capacity to do his or her part—that is, to take responsibility and give something back. Although we are all dependent in countless ways, dependency goes over the line when people fail to take responsibility where they can.

Dependency in the Body of Christ Perhaps the first thing to understand is where dependency fits into the Christian context. The biblical view of the Church is that it is one body made up of many parts (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). In this body, God distributes spiritual gifts for the building up the Church and putting Christ on display. The nature of the Church is such that as each part does its work, the entire body grows in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-16). Is it not outrageous for the eyes to tell the hands that they have no need of them? Or the feet to tell the ears they are of no use?

If Christians are to avoid dependency, what are we to do with the command to carry one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2)? What are we to say when we see our brother in need and have the means to help (1 John 3:16-20)? And what are we to make of Paul's collection of funds from the churches of Asia Minor for the suffering church in Jerusalem (1 Corinthians 16:1-3)?

Rather than steer Christians away from reliance on one another, the Bible seems to celebrate dependency in the body of Christ. Yet this is clearly not the way we normally think of dependency. The dependency implied by the image of the body is complimentary and reciprocal. One part of the body cannot deny another part without in some way denying itself. All the parts of the body are knit together in such a way that every part has something to give and something to receive. Perhaps this is why the New Testament authors so often remind us of our oneness in Christ. Christians are designed for each other as

well as for Christ.

It is important to note that, as with all analogies, at some point the comparison of the human body with the spiritual body of Christ breaks down. The parts of the human body are obviously mutually dependent. But mutuality among Christians does not happen so automatically. It requires a conscious effort. Such dependency demands regard for the commands of Scripture and cooperation with the Holy Spirit. The declaration of the Bible that the body of Christ is one must be balanced with the demands found in the Bible. All of the instruction about how to do good and relate to one another as members of Christ's body are expected from and commanded of all believers. For example, believers are declared one in Christ, yet they are commanded to be like-minded, to love one another, and to work together with one heart and purpose (Romans 12: 4-8, Philippians 2: 1-2). In Christ there is no racial or cultural distinction, yet Christians are commanded to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace (1 Corinthians 12: 13, Ephesians 2: 14-16, 4:3). The Holy Spirit administers spiritual gifts as He sees fit, yet believers are commanded to use their gifts for the common good (1 Corinthians 12: 1-11, 1 Peter 4:10- 11). No part of the body of Christ can cease to be part of the whole, yet all believers are admonished to have equal concern for each other, to share in one another's sufferings and rejoice in one another's victories (1 Corinthians 12: 14-26).

Clearly, then, dependency in the body of Christ is not passive but very active. It demands that Christians take up their responsibilities in the body. Such commands as to share with one another (Romans 12:13), care for one another (Galatians 6:2), support one another's interests (Philippians 2:4), and serve one another (1 Peter 4:10) all require responsible action. The command to do good, especially to the family of believers, is given to those who receive as well as those who give (Galatians 6:10). No Christian—whether rich or poor, young or old, weak or strong—is exempt from taking responsibility. That's because responsibility makes reciprocity both possible and dependency beneficial.

Healthy Dependency: Taking our cues from the Bible, the kind of dependency expected from and commanded of Christians is characterized by reciprocity and responsibility. Thus, in a healthy relationship both partners recognize their responsibilities and work to fulfill them. Each enters the relationship with a clear picture of what each has to offer and what each stands to gain. Each maintains its independence and capacity to instruct, correct, and refuse the other. Each honors and upholds the unique and divine calling of the other. Each makes a distinctive and complementary contribution to the partnership. Each conducts itself in a manner that safeguards one another's integrity and honors Christ. Therefore, it is important in a partnership to not only give but to receive, to not only teach but to learn, and to not only lead but to follow. By contrast, the seeds of unhealthy dependency are planted when the only deal struck in a mission relationship is the one-way flow of resources, whether that be money or personnel.

Unhealthy Dependency: Unhealthy dependency occurs when reciprocity and responsibility are ignored, overruled, or undervalued. If the accent is on the exchange of money or personnel and not on the complementary contributions each partner makes, the importance of reciprocity is easily overlooked. If resources are shared more for the benefit of one partner than for the purpose of ministering more effectively to others, the receiving partner's responsibility is effectively sidelined. If one partner maintains control over the decision-making process, the other partner cannot exercise responsibility as a co-laborer. If one partner's contributions are valued more highly than the others', it is impossible to establish true reciprocity. In the end, if a partnership is not joining in a common purpose and sharing complementary resources, it cannot be reciprocal and it will not be responsible.

Five Sure Ways to Create Unhealthy Dependency Several factors may coalesce into unhealthy dependency, but there are five starting points that almost guarantee it.

1. Make an alliance with a lone ranger. An independent ministry leader may be the next John Wesley, or he may be a very talented individual with a self-serving agenda. Unless you've known the individual for some time, it's difficult to discern real intentions. Bogus, questionable organizations that compete for mission dollars tend to by-pass local churches. If you're not working with a ministry that has a local board of directors or the equivalent, there's a chance you've been found by a fortune hunter.
2. Send money directly to individuals. Unless individuals are employees or contract laborers with whom you have a performance agreement and means of accountability, sending funds directly can put people in a precarious position. Individuals cannot vouch for themselves; they need others to verify their testimony. Even the Apostle Paul was not willing to convey funds without the involvement of trusted men from the contributing churches (1 Corinthians 16:3, 2 Corinthians 8:16-21). It takes a bona fide organization with a governing structure and accounting system to administer funds in an auditable and defensible manner.
3. Finance pastors and local churches. History has shown that foreign funding of pastors and churches has proven more often than not to hinder genuine indigenous growth. Foreign funding can easily stifle local initiative by creating the assumption that believers need only rely on distant benefactors rather than learn to give sacrificially. It can cause pastors to become preoccupied with raising foreign funds, and fail to be creative in maximizing local resources. Foreign funding of some pastors and not others creates jealousies, and frees them from accountability to the local Christian community. In the matter of funding pastors, the chances of creating unhealthy dependency are at their highest.
4. Give resources based only on need. A partnership that sets out to satisfy needs soon finds itself running a race with no end. That's because needs alone are insatiable. Giving based solely on need creates a pipeline of supply that in turn raises the expectation of future need satisfaction. Needs have to be defined and boundaries set so that you can actually see results. At a minimum, giving should be based on what will enhance
 - responsibility—each partner's ability to meet their obligations as Christians,
 - reciprocity—each partner's ability to make distinctive and complementary contributions, and
 - results—the ability to achieve specific ministry outcomes.
5. Underwrite 100% of a ministry's need. Money is one form of power, and in international partnerships it has proven to be the most problematic. When one ministry relies solely on another for financial support, the balance of power leans heavily toward the funding source. This is a problem because unhealthy dependency thrives on the imbalance of power. The best antidote is to subsidize a strategic initiative or program rather than to fund the entire ministry.

There is a sixth way to create unhealthy dependency. It's not listed above because it teeters on the border between acceptable and unacceptable dependency. It's the hiring of local Christians to run Western programs. Unless you plan to establish a local branch of your church or mission, hiring local people can be the first step to unhealthy dependency. The reason is simple: hiring local Christians is not partnership; it's employment. There may be very good reasons to hire local people to administer programs of a foreign mission. But employment relationships should never be confused with partnership. When a Western agency hires local people, they assume all the responsibilities of an employer: fair and competitive wages, medical insurance, retirement benefits, direct management of performance, and compliance with local labor laws.

Even then, Western employers have to cope with the potential of providing their employees with lifestyles far above their peers, making it possible for them to bypass local Christian authority, and creating jealousies locally and internationally.

Managing Dependency: A Few Don'ts If a healthy dependency is to be preserved, there are certain things partners in the work of the gospel should never do to each other. Here are seven taboos that must be observed:

1. They don't define goals and methods unilaterally. For Western partners especially this means don't assume you know what the task is and what the goals are. Don't first develop a plan, then merely invite non-Western partners to join in at a later stage. If you really want a partnership, ask your partners what God is inviting them to do, then build a plan together to achieve it.
2. They don't base the relationship on a one-way flow of resources. Complementarity, not assistance, lies at the heart of effective partnerships. Assistance is focused on meeting the needs and interests of one party. Complementarity concerns the accomplishment of mutual purposes and a shared vision, and includes each partner's needs and interests. A partnership moves beyond assistance to complementarity when each partner makes different but crucial contributions to a common goal.
3. They don't allow money to become the most highly valued resource. In the affluent West, where ministries rely on capital-intensive and technology-intensive strategies, making the claim that money will not be the driving force is fine in principle but difficult in practice. Unfortunately, this difficulty spills over into mission partnerships. We tend to put a premium on our own resources rather than on the resources of our non-Western counterparts. In most cases, non-Western partners may rely on Western partners for financial and technological resources, but Western partners are dependent on the human resources, linguistic skills, cultural insight, and relevant lifestyle of its non-Western partners. Who can estimate the value of such resources? If money becomes the driving force, the golden rule takes hold—the one with the gold rules. When that happens, reciprocity is broken and shared responsibility gives way to unbalanced control.
4. They don't fund the full cost of a project without clear justification. In the face of enormous economic inequities, there is inherent pressure on Western partners to be the "sugar daddy" of more "needy" partners. Favorable exchange rates and the relative access to money might make it easy to underwrite projects, but it doesn't make it right. Healthy dependency flourishes on the foundation of shared responsibility. Funding decisions should be based as much on what fosters responsibility and reciprocity as on what might be accomplished. Matching grants, capital funds, one-time projects, and partial support are useful methods of shared responsibility.
5. They don't interfere in the administration of the partner's organization. It's one thing to give advice when you're asked for it, or even to admonish a partner in the case of serious misconduct. It's quite another thing to meddle in the internal affairs of the partner ministry. For example, Western agencies that provide support for workers tend to assume responsibility for deciding how much non-Western personnel get paid. But this is an area that should be clearly under the control of the local authority structure.
6. They don't do for others what they can better do for themselves. Doing so has two serious negative consequences. One, it retards the chances of growth and development. Organizations, like people, become strong and effective only when they make decisions, initiate action, and solve problems.

Two, it lowers the ceiling on what you can accomplish. Mission partners must develop the right mix of contributions, that is, each of the complementary skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to accomplish the shared vision.

7. They don't rely on "one-size-fits-all" policies. Policies can make decisions easier, but they can also lead to bad decisions. For example, one mission agency tries to avoid unhealthy dependency by giving only very small amounts, such as 10% of the total need. That may be fine in some situations, but it is harmful in others. A better approach is to find out what is at stake, identify what is missing, and then to determine the best contribution you can make under the circumstances.

For some, dependency in mission relationships is regarded as a condition to be avoided rather than an essential quality. But for today's missions that are assessing the missing links in their ministry capacities and seeking collaboration with non-Western missions as peers, dependency is no longer a one-sided issue. It is the key to interdependence and mutuality.

The above article is adapted from *Building Strategic Relationships: A Practical Guide to Partnering with Non-Western Missions* by Daniel Rickett, Partners International, 2000. To order the book in its entirety, call (800) 966-5515.³

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(1) Chuck Bennett. "Open Letter to Robertson McQuilkin." EMQ, April 2000, 211.³

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED:

Don't throw anything out of the bus windows.

During one M1 trip, candy was thrown from the windows of the bus. While good intentions were meant, the outcome was quite dangerous as children trying to pick up candy rushed toward the bus as it was rolling.

On another trip an older gentleman on his first M1 trip thought it would be a good idea to bless some children who were walking beside the road in a nearby village by throwing some U.S. dollar bills out the window of the bus. A couple of days later as the team traveled through that same village, men at one of the local watering holes motioned with their hands and cheered, "Dollars! Dollars! Dollars!" It's important to point out that a school bus full of foreigner's sticks out like a sore thumb and in no way functions as an armored car.

Don't Make Promises

In the past individuals have promised some of the children at Faith Home that they would bring them to the United States. While well intentioned, there are scores of barriers that makes this extremely difficult. In the end, the child or children are brokenhearted and have negative feelings toward the individual who made the promise, the teams that come to Faith Home, and North Americans in general.

There have also been promises made by team members to adults: promises of money or material goods. When these promises don't come through, the nationals point back not to the team member who is now back in the States, but at the missionaries and houseparents who live in Honduras year round. In short, it reflects poorly on Faith Home, the mission, and General Baptists as a whole.

Don't Keep Secrets

It's important to remember that certain aspects of ministry are universal. One such area is youth ministry. If there is something significant, whether positive or negative, that has happened to one of the Faith Home children, the missionaries or team host should be notified. For instance, it doesn't help things if someone accepts Christ and doesn't tell anyone. That's why we are commanded to make a public profession of baptism, so we can share in the excitement and praise to God for that life. Additionally, keeping the missionaries informed allows for real-time discipleship.

Hogar de Fe, Aldea El Barro, San Manuel, Cortez

