

Corazon Del Siervo Team Manual

The Great Commission

*He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."
Mark 16:15*

Get ready to get out of the boat, and walk on water! You are about to embark on one of the most incredible journeys of your Christian life. You will be stretched and pulled beyond your wildest imagination. Be ready to leave your comfort zone, leaving all timidity and reservation behind, and walk boldly for the Lord into new territories.

As you go out into the nations in obedience to the Lord, you will be called to give testimony and share all the wondrous things that He has done for you. Be prepared ahead of time to share and exhort on the way the Lord has faithfully fulfilled His promises in your life.

Be ready to share the word at any time, expecting always to lead the person through the prayer of Salvation. You are encouraged to be as creative as you feel guided, using evangelistic visuals, or symbolism. Do not let the language barrier discourage you; you will have translators within your reach at all times. As a foreigner, you have a special grace in their eyes, which the Lord will use to minister to their needs, regardless of the language in which you pray.

"The harvest is ripe, and the workers few." Matt. 9:37

"Many are called, few are chosen." Matt. 22:14

You made the decision to live as Christ, to be a missionary.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." Mark 10:45

"But in humility, consider others better than yourselves." Phil. 2:3

Everyone will be expected to do their part to aid in the promptness of all activities and help maintain the cleanliness of the living quarters and work sites. Please be courteous at all times, and be conscious that trash is always disposed of properly.

"Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by signs that accompanied it." Mark 16:20

As you pray and evangelize on the mission field, expect and believe that the signs and wonders of our Lord will accompany your obedience. You will experience firsthand miracles of healing and liberation from demonic influences as spoken about in the gospel.

While on your mission trip, we ask that you adhere to the schedule provided, participate in team activities and work to serve others. As part of a team, you will need to be flexible to accept disappointments as well as share in the joy. If things get off course, look for God's hand rather than

complain. There are many things that may take a day or two to accomplish, that in the US or other countries may be finished in a day. Practice patience, self-control and let God be in control.

It takes Grace to flow in servanthood and love. Please try to be in one accord with your leaders, teammates and those we serve at all times. If conflict arises, please take it up with the team leader first. Remember to maintain a humble spirit, a gentle answer turns away wrath, and love covers a multitude of failures.

What to bring:

Bible	Digital Camera	Valid identification,
Notebook/Journal	Professional Equipment	Spanish/English dictionary
Passport	Pen & Glasses/Contacts	Spending Money

Cash is the best means of currency exchange. ATM's are available for getting cash, and most businesses accept major credit cards. We don't suggest changing money at the airport, but if you need money right away there is a bank downstairs after you come completely out of customs and enter the airport waiting area. It is at the bottom of the walkway to the left. However, there will be an opportunity as a group to exchange money. We can also have prepared exchange envelopes with Dominican Pesos ready for you at the airport in specific denominations to save time. Most teams like for each member to exchange \$25 to begin with for spending money, petty cash and buying snacks.

Remember, also, a medical history list including any allergies, natural and chemical should be sent to team leader and local host ahead of your arrival. If you suffer of severe allergies, please carry your epi pen on you at all times. The team leader will assign someone to carry a small first aid kit with them during the trip to handle small incidents and accidents.

Luggage:

- ✓ Use suitcases or duffle bags that can withstand some rough treatment. It is recommended to have everything locked and well labeled with your appropriate info.
- ✓ Bring a backpack or satchel bag to have personal belongings in for daily travel to work or ministry sites. Do not pack in boxes or have heavy tools in carry on luggage.

Airlines usually permit 1 piece of luggage, a small carryon bag (that will fit in the overhead) and a personal bag such a purse or briefcase.

Clothing:

- ✓ Because of the climate, cotton outfits for church and meetings are appropriate.
Women may wear long skirts and dress slacks with dressy shoes/sandals.
Men may wear slacks with dressy/casual shoes.
Note: *Public gatherings are a formal engagement.*
- ✓ Construction work sites call for comfortable clothing that can get dirty. (modest shorts, no short-shorts or miniskirts; no spaghetti straps, mid-drifts and no clothing with holes. Men are required to wear belts).
- ✓ Work boots and durable sneakers are recommended.
- ✓ Medical outreaches call for scrub tops and jeans or slacks are preferred.
- ✓ Appropriate supply of underclothing and sleep attire.
- ✓ Hats and sunglasses are highly recommended for everyone.

- ✓ Umbrellas for extra protection against sun rays.
- ✓ **Modest** one-piece bathing suits and properly fitting swim trunks.

We highly recommend bringing extra outfits in case of unforeseen events; keeping in mind, however, you will have to carry what you pack!

Toiletries:

Sunscreen 30+ spf	Toothbrush & paste	Baby wipes
Insect repellent (<i>plenty</i>)	Comb & brush	Disinfectant hand solution
Mild perfumes <i>so as not to</i> <i>Attract insects</i>	Deodorant	Q-tips
Soap	Razors	Feminine hygiene items
Shampoo & conditioner	Hand & body lotions	
	2 rolls of toilet paper	

Note: *Airline regulations limit all lotions and/or liquids to be limited to 3 oz. or less, they be placed in a clear ½ gallon size zip-lock bag and placed on the top of packed clothing just beneath top of luggage or they will be confiscated.*

First Aid:

All personal medication	Aspirin or Tylenol	Bandages
Anti-biotic cream	Cortisone cream	Hand sanitizing solutions.
Vitamins & supplements	Benadryl or allergy meds	Dramamine (travel sickness)

Nutrition:

- ✓ Sealed snack food, ie. energy bars, mixed nuts, peanut butter, etc.
- ✓ Dry snacks are recommended due to the warm climate.
- ✓ Favorite powder drinks, ie. Gatorade
- ✓ Canteen or refillable water bottle.

Bottles of filtered water will be available at work sites, retreat center and ministry events.

Miscellaneous:

Twin Sheets	alarm clock	2-bath & hand towels
(Queen set for couples)	Pillows w/pillowcases	Flashlight w/batteries

Electronics:

✓ Cellular phones may be used in Dominican Republic depending on the agreement between carriers (i.e. Verizon, AT&T) International calling is not standard for most carriers. Make necessary arrangements with your carrier **prior to the trip**. Each must take responsibility for safe keeping of these devices.

✓ **Electronic game devices are at the discretion of the team leader and for your down time only. Not to be brought to work sites.**

How to prepare culturally for the trip?

- ✚ Dominican Republic predominantly is a Spanish speaking country. Any preparatory language aid classes for conversation are recommended. Translators will be available, but will not be there 24 hours. Members may want to learn simple key phrases such as “where is the bathroom?”
- ✚ Read about the country, its people, and customs in any encyclopedia or other helpful resources. Dominicans are a mixture of African, Latin and European decent. They generally are very warm and hospitable people.
- ✚ Dominican food is fresh and colorful. Their typical lunch meal would be a “Bandera” or flag consisting of green salad, red beans, white rice and a blue meat or fish (Just kidding!). Fast food chains have recently invaded the island and are frequently visited. Tropical fruits such as passion fruit, papaya, pineapple, coconuts, mangos, sugar cane, and bananas are plentiful during the summer time.
- ✚ The social strata consist of 5 to 10% upper class, 20-25% middle and the rest lower class. Malnutrition is one of the biggest health problems of the country. Poverty is more prevalent in the remote countryside. Flexibility is good policy! Attitudes regarding time and punctuality among Dominicans are usually very lax.
- ✚ Currency is in Dominican pesos and the recent exchange rate ranges from 43-44.5 Pesos on the dollar. We strongly recommend carrying cash; however, traveler’s checks and personal checks may be exchanged also. ATM’s are easily accessed and major credit cards are honored at any major department or grocery store.

As in many developing nations, poverty will be predominant. Please ask your host missionaries if led to meet a need of any Dominican. In spite of their condition, Dominicans are very hospitable and generous people. Do not be surprised to be given gifts. When offered drinks or foods, please ask your host missionary how to proceed.

Because of the culture, Dominicans are very laid back. It seems like nothing hurries them or motivates them to be on schedule. Please remember that we are guest to their country and as part of our relating to them, let us be very flexible.

How to prepare physically for the trip?

Because the Dominican Republic is on an island in the tropical zone, the climate is warm and humidity very high. Dehydration is one of the main physical risks; however, with plenty of food, liquids and rest between activities, the risk is minimized. The warmest months are July to September. Hurricane season starts late September.

Having your general immunization up-to-date is highly recommended. Consult your physician regarding other immunizations. Carefulness, cleanliness and mosquito repellent are usually enough to prevent serious health problems. We suggest bringing along vitamins and other supplements to ensure physical wellness. Please bring along any prescription medications also.

For some participants there may be a difference in time, thus jet lag can be a factor. Avoid caffeinated, carbonated and alcoholic beverages days before the flight to further ensure an easy acclimation to the new environment.

How to prepare spiritually for the trip?

Maintain spending quality prayer and devotional time with the Lord.

Ask Him to prepare for the trip. Meet and pray with other team members.

Prepare for soul winning and giving your personal testimony.

Be willing and expect the Holy Ghost to use you as an instrument for His honor and glory!

“And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on the sick people, and they will get well.” (Mark 16:17)

Expectations for Personal Conduct

We must bear the responsibility of bridging the cultural differences and we want to be perceived as ambassadors, not tourists. In adapting to the contextual expectations of those we seek to serve, there are some practical restrictions that we all agree to follow together for the duration of each project: No alcohol, tobacco, firearms or fireworks, pornography or illegal drugs. In addition to be circumspect in public, immoral behavior is not condoned. Only married couples may share a room when double accommodations are available, and unmarried couples should not leave project area alone.

All participants on short-term foreign missions projects are expected to adhere to these standards of conduct. Anyone who cannot accept these for the duration of a project should not register for it. The Project Director is obligated to dismiss anyone who betrays the trust of the group by violating these standards, and his or her decision in the matter will be final.

Corazon Del Siervo is excited to have you join the Harvest. Thank you for donating your time, talents and finances to further the Kingdom work.