

# ASAP MISSION PACKET

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***Ezekiel 22:30***

*"And I searched for a man among them  
who should build up the wall  
and stand in the gap  
before Me for the land,  
that I should not destroy it;  
but I found no one."*

Verses to look up, write out, and refer to the article below:  
Matthew 6:33 • Luke 4:42 • Luke 22:39 • Matthew 6:6 •  
Matthew 4:4 • I John 5:14,15 • Acts 2:42,43 • Matthew  
18:19,20 • Ephesians 6:18 • James 1:22 • Luke 18:13,14 •  
Luke 6:12 • Matthew 26:41 • I Samuel 12:23 •  
I Thessalonians 5:17,18 • James 1:5 • Luke 18:1,27

Don't be a s l e e p w a l k i n g servant!  
Don't do it. Don't be a sleepwalking servant. There is a reason why this article is at the front of this packet. It is the answer to everything you will experience on your short-term mission. We are about to give you the answer to every problem, trial and temptation you may face...are you ready...we hope so...here's the answer...dig into God's Word, apply it, and pray unceasingly. *That's it.* We could end the article here, but let's expand on this a bit.

What is a sleepwalking servant? It is someone who is allowing satan to make them complacent in their Christian life. You're in motion, but totally useless in achieving God's Will. Why? You're swordless. You're not using the power of the Word of God. You can't live a day without God's help if you want to see His Work completed here on earth. Pray for a desire to soak up His Word. If you are praying and reading, the desire will come. Ask God to give you the convictions He wants you to live. You will need to be in the Word every day. Satan will try to distract you, but don't let him. Live Matthew 6:33. Put God first and watch Him work out your day.

### **SOME IDEAS FOR YOUR BIBLE STUDY TIME**

Study verses on how you can be an effective servant on your short-term.

Read a chapter of Scripture that gives you hope, more than once a day and meditate on it, memorizing a verse in the process.

Try studying Scripture in the foreign language of the culture you are in or going to, so you can share it with others.

Read a portion of Scripture aloud to yourself more than twice.

Apply prayer to what you are reading and watch God's work be done on earth by claiming His promises.

The key to Bible Study is what James 1:22 tells us. You will understand His Word more if you get into it more, and do it.

An amazing aspect of prayer is the more you pray, the more you want to pray as your relationship with God gets closer. Here are some helpful P's:

### ***Purpose of prayer***

To listen to what God wants to tell you.

Prayer allows God to work in us because of our humble attitude (Luke 18:13,14).

As He answers prayer, our faith is strengthened, and His Name is glorified for the world to see.

To tell Him exactly how you feel and think.

### ***Priority of prayer***

Set a time as Jesus did in Luke 6:12.

Prayer keeps us from sin as in Matthew 26:41.

You sin if you don't pray for others as in I Samuel 12:23.

Pray all of the time (I Thessalonians 5:17). Here are some examples: when walking to the washroom when you first awake in the morning, when talking with someone about Jesus, driving a tractor,...

Luke 18:1,27 speaks for itself.

### ***Place of prayer***

Jesus has one in Luke 4:42, 22:39.

Matthew 6:6 is a suggestion from the Lord Himself for a place to pray.

Ask God to show you where you should meet Him regularly while on your short-term mission and seek the place out.

### ***Power of prayer***

Pray believing in accordance with His Will (I John 5:14, 15).

Pray with others for there is power in united prayer (Acts 2:42,43 also Matthew 18:19,20).

Ephesians 6:18 is a verse we should take seriously and pray specifically with the petitions on our heart.

***Keeping all of this in mind and obeying it, you will not be able to sleepwalk for He is the answer!***

## Expectations Acceleration

Verses to look up, write out, and refer to the article below:  
Proverbs 16:3 • I Peter 1:5-7

Expectations are arising. You're planning on venturing on a short-term mission, whether it's a trip to the jungles of Papua New Guinea or the mountains of Colorado, everything will be new to you. Since people are supporting you in prayer, encouragement and possibly money, you are expecting that certain things will happen. High expectations are not a problem unless they are unrealistic or based on the wrong motives. Here are some things you need to expect:

### **f l e x i b i l i t y**

This word can't be stressed enough. Yield yourself to God as in Proverbs 16:3 and hold onto that peace-giving promise. Allow God to use you the way He wants, when He wants, and where He wants, then you will receive the greatest joy. You will grow more spiritual as you obey Him each day. His Spirit will tell you what to do, just listen. Apply your faith in knowing everything can go smoothly, even if it isn't according to your plans or timetable but God's instead. On the other hand, keep in mind that God is still sovereign and could use this mission

experience as a trial so your faith will come out shining as gold (I Peter 1:5-7).

### **f o r g i v e n e s s**

You are going to have to apply forgiveness every day as you fail and when others fail. God can teach you many lessons about accepting others and yourself through forgiveness. People might unintentionally hurt you, but love and forgive. If you wallow in your hurt, how is any work for God's Kingdom going to get done effectively through you here on earth? Not only that, think about what Jesus received from so many of His so-called "followers and friends," they wanted to kill Him. Don't let satan use a misunderstanding or false accusation eat you up inside.

Life is not fair, but **God is the victor!**

With God on our side,  
carrying out His plans,  
how can we lose?!?

**We won't.**

## P A R E N T S

Some verses that relate to this article:  
Ephesians 6:1,2 • Exodus 20:12 • Matthew 28:19,20 •  
Luke 18:29,30 • Luke 14:25, 26 • Matthew 10:34-39

*"What do they have to do with my short-term mission?"* you ask. If God wants you to go to the field, He will open up all doors for you to go. Some helpful ideas to involve your parents in what you would like to do by going to the mission field:

**Pray** with your parents so they can understand you and support you with the power of prayer in your decision-making process.

**Honor** your parents. The promise from Ephesians 6:1-3 refers back to Exodus 20:12. The more we honor our parents, the more we honor God.

**Love** your parents. We, as children, need to let our parents know we love them and appreciate them for who they are. Tell them and show them. Just as our Heavenly Father deserves our love, so do our parents.

#### SOME WAYS TO SHOW THEM LOVE:

Spend time with your parents - what a great way to show your love and to prepare for the time of separation overseas.

Involve you parents in learning about what part of the earth you're going to.

Include them in your preparations. Fill them in. This will help rid of some of the fears they might be having as they send you away.

Keep in touch. Life on a short-term can be busy, but don't forget about your parents. Call or drop them a note once in awhile so they know you haven't forgotten them.

Become prayer partners with one another. Take the time to find out what they need prayer for and share your prayer requests with them.

Finally, live out your commitment to the call of God. Let your parents know that **Jesus takes first place** in your life. If they seem reluctant to let you go, pray. God can work in their hearts if it's His Will for you to go. Remind them that you are going in response to the Great Commission from Matthew 28:19,20 and don't forget Luke 18:29,30.

May God Bless you  
as you obey Him  
and your parents.

## How do I get the \$ ?

Matthew 10:9,10 • Luke 8:1-3 • Luke 10:4-7 • Romans 15:24 • II Corinthians 5:7 • Philippians 4:19 • I Thessalonians 5:24

### Positive Steps<sup>s</sup> of Action

Pray the money in. You know God wants you to go, so the money will be provided. Apply your faith by making a budget. Consider food, travel, personal items, unexpected emergencies, and gifts. Ask God what you need to do to put your faith into action.

### Some ideas for raising financial support after you've prayed...

Send a letter asking for prayer so that your needs will be covered, informing them of your plans, and rely on God to bring the money in.

Give a presentation at your church, informing them of your plans.

Telephone those whom you would like to advise of your need (ie. family and friends).

Visit the presidents of some companies, giving a short, specific presentation of your plans and ask them if they will support you (they can use it as a tax write-off).

Work certain odd jobs and save the money specifically for your trip (mowing lawns, bake sale, babysitting, teaching music lessons, etc...)

See if your youth group would want to support you by a fund-raising activity (car wash, bake sale, walk-a-thon, etc...)

R e m e m b e r:

**Pray and put your faith into action!**

## Tips for short-termers

U.S. dollars are acceptable in most countries. Traveller's checks are not easily exchanged in all countries. Personal checks will probably not be received. If you take credit cards, guard them well. Do not let people see how much money you have! When you need to pay for something, take out your cash in small amounts instead of pulling a wad of money out and flipping through it.

If you take one, empty it of unnecessary identification and other misc. articles. Write down your passport #, expiration date, and place issued to keep with you. The use of money belts around your waist and neck are recommended, because it is easier to keep your money and documents safe. Do not photocopy your passport, it is illegal, but do photocopy your birth certificate and marriage licence.

If you are thinking about going on a workteam, you should apply for your passport now. Phone your nearest travel agency to obtain your application. In order to receive your visa, you need to have your passport. The process is usually a quick one, but needs to be taken care of as soon as possible. The conditions to apply for a visa change with each country. If you would like ASAP to assist you in this process, feel free to ask.

The service could be inconsistent so do not forget to explain this to family & friends. You might want to number each letter you send so you can observe the consistency of the mail in case any gets lost or stolen. You might want to bring addresses of family, friends, and supporters from home.

The voltage and amperage could be different so bring proper transformers and adaptors for the things you need.

Relationships  
Male/female relationships are strongly discouraged because God's Work needs to be done and an individual has more of a chance of being distracted.

Airports  
It might feel very strange for you to hear a foreign language you don't understand sounding from the speakers, everyone looks different, you're not sure where your gate is... go to the information booths, most know English. Try not to make a scene, no matter what happens. Keep your voice down and stay calm for God is in control.

## The LORD'S Business

### Spiritual Checklist

Check each one as you read the verses and realize the importance of each statement.

#### *Heart*

- I realize that there is a battle we fight every day... Ephesians 6.
- I realize the extreme importance of prayer & Bible study and applying it... II Timothy 2:15.
- I realize that service for Christ and love for the missionaries are the primary reasons for going... Ephesians 2:10 & I John 3:18.
- I have someone to hold me accountable in my Bible study, meditation of Scripture, memorization, and prayer... I Peter 4:17,18 & Hebrews 10:24,25.
- Write down all of my concerns about the trip then pray through each one... I Peter 5:7.

#### *Hands*

- I am willing to use my gifts & talents on my short-term.
- I am making efforts to learn the language.
- I am learning about the culture.

### *Head*

- I realize that when I arrive at my destination, I know enough about the culture to equal a 3-4 yr. old, so prepare myself to ask a lot of questions.
- I realize I am not a tourist on a holiday, but am going to experience what the local people and missionaries experience.
- Don't think I am any more important than any other human just because I am a North American.
- Remember that every human, whether of different colour or nationality, usually has the same feelings/ functions as I do.
- Prepare myself by praying to God to help me enjoy eating the food so as not to appear rude or ungrateful to others. Find out the proper cultural eating habits by asking ASAP, writing/asking the missionary of that culture.
- I understand that sacrifices will have to be made on my part.
- I realize that God has overcome all things.
- Expect different types of weather.
- Obedience is the key to a joy-filled short-term.

### *Feet*

- I have included others in my preparation for my short-term by... prayer.
- ... by listening to other's advice.
- ... by sharing with non-Christians why I am going.
- I am mentally prepared to share with my church when I return.

## Team Leader's Trials

Romans 13:2-4 • Hebrews 13:17

Don't be a trial for your team leader. Ask God how you can best assist your team leader instead. Take the initiative and think ahead of how you can support their

ministry with fresh ideas. Be willing to submit to their advice and counsel, willing to work when asked. Accept them for who they are, don't fight or try to change them. They are human just like you. Respect them even if you don't understand or agree. Focus on their strengths and observe to see what you can learn from their lives. One way to learn from them is to get to know them and ask them questions about their life and why they do what they do, etc... Pray specifically for your team leader, your relationship with him/her and their relationship with God and others.

## Build a winning team!!!

Write out verses and answers:

Ephesians 4:1-3:

How can I walk "worthy of His calling" in dealing with others and their personalities, habits, and imperfections? (**Remember:** you also have a personality, habits, and imperfections)

James 2:10:

How can I display humility?

How can I display gentleness?

How can I display patience?

Put up with one another in love?

I Peter 2:17:

I Peter 4:8:

Diligently preserve unity?

Matthew 18:15-17:

**Some tips:** don't accuse or confront, go to him/her in love realizing that if you share with them the problem, the situation can turn around to be a glory to God.

Colossians 3:12-14 • Luke 6:41,42

## Healthy Hints list

Check each box when you have read and completed what you need to do.

- We recommend that contact lens wearers take their glasses instead.
- Call my local Health Department for information on specific shots I should get for the foreign area I am going to.
- My vaccinations are current.
- Do I want health insurance? If so, get some.
- Remember to ask questions about what is safe to eat and drink.
- Experiencing jet lag? Treatment: Adjust to your host's schedule A.S.A.P. A nap sometimes helps, but don't take advantage of it.
- We recommend that you do not walk barefoot due to insects that are in the soil that enjoy hitching a ride in a human foot.
- Eat lots of yogurt or yogurt pills 6 weeks before you go to gain the nutrition your body needs.
- Diarrhea? Can be caused by food poisoning, viral infection, amoebic dysentery, etc. Treatment: Pray. Consult medical staff about your condition. Drink lots of liquids (water with a bit of sugar & salt, and orange juice). Good foods to eat: bananas, chicken, potatoes, hot cereal. No raw fruits or highly seasoned foods.
- Vomiting? Treatment: Pray. Consult medical staff about your condition. Stay calm and sip clear liquids.
- Fever? Treatment: Pray. Try to stay cool. An aspirin or 2 and rest. If body temperature reaches 102F (38C), see a doctor.
- If you get an illness, take care of it immediately and inform those who should know (mission leader, medical staff, team leader, doctor, etc.)
- If ill overseas, register it with your doctor when you return home.

- Ask people to specifically pray for your health.

## Suitcase ✓ up

Check box as each one is packed.

Feel free to add to the list.

Regarding quantity of clothing will depend on your mission and the work you will be engaging in and the climate. Your team leader/ASAP will inform you of what to pack, **please** ask.

- Bible (suggestion: pack in carry-on, see \*)
- Passport/Visa (carry on your body, never in a suitcase!!)
- Journal (?)
- Camera/Film (?)
- Toiletries (razor, shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, band-aids, tweezers)
- Hair accessories
- Shoes (work, casual/church)
- Socks ( “ “ “ )
- Pants ( “ “ “ )
- Shirts ( “ “ “ )
- Shorts
- Blouses/Sweaters/Sweats
- Skirts/Dresses
- Coat/Jacket (?)
- Mittens/gloves/scarf/hat (?)
- Underwear items/long underwear
- Medication (?)
- Health/Immunization Records
- Copy of my Medical History
- Lens prescription & glasses/contact lenses
- Instruments/tools/art supplies/etc...
- Gifts for Missionaries (?)
- Calling Card (?)
- Stationary/addresses (?)

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- Photos of family, friends, church, etc...

- Small pillow (?)

\* In your carry-on, pack Bible, toiletries, one outfit appropriate for your destination's climate, extra underwear, and a small pillow (?) just in case suitcase does disappear.

## Friends to a Foreigner

**Older People:** Show respect. Give an appropriate cultural greeting for someone older whether it be a handshake, kiss, nod, bow, hug, or whatever. When in a group, always take time out to talk with them.

**Higher Status:** Ask what is appropriate to call them (ie.: doctor, elder brother, nurse, etc...) Rarely ever use first names, Mr. and Mrs. is more appropriate, unless otherwise told.

**Opposite Sex:** Avoid long periods of time talking with someone of the opposite sex, especially if not customary. Be sure to dress logically and modestly.

**Look Respectable:** If you are in a position where others are looking up to you as a teacher, counselor, minister, etc..., dress appropriately and respectably.

**Don't talk too much:** Americans have a tendency to do this. Be sensitive. People usually enjoy hearing stories. Slip some stories in by telling about the different instances in your life where God can be glorified (a good witnessing tool). James 1:19 - Be quick to listen!

**Crowds:** Make an effort to get to know the people.

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Ask them about their family/friends and show them your photos.

**“Slow to anger”:** James 1:19 - This verse should be lived. Some cultures consider anger the greatest sin possible, so save your emotional reactions till your prayer time.

**Photography:** Make sure you aren't offending someone by taking pictures of a negative/private section of their country.

**Poor:** When people come begging, be ready for them by having food with you that you packed that morning.

**Focus:** Focus on the similarities you may have with the people so you can talk to them on the same level, instead of a feeling of “I have more and know more.” Remember, you have nothing, it is God's. He can take it away as fast as He gave it.

**Language:** Tear the language barrier down. If you don't know the language, carry a translation dictionary around with you so they can see you care to communicate with them.

**Observe:** Pay close attention to how others speak, behave, look, etc. as a guide to your conduct.

## Culture Stress

*Definition: A feeling of unfamiliarity, loneliness, incapability to function at normal capacity.*

II Corinthians 12:10  
How to face culture stress...

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Pray...Talk your emotions over with a Godly person you trust. *Caution:* some things should be left **only** for God's ears. You could sin if you don't put a reign on your tongue. Read James 1:26...Get into a routine of working and learning the language and soon you will feel like you “fit”...Observe, ask questions, learn as much as you can, then it won't seem so unfamiliar to you...Don't forget about those expectations that you have set for others and yourself. Leave them in God's hands, and watch the Lord work His will, not yours...Consider your own culture and assess how it fits in with this new culture...Consider how your perspective on life is different from the national's perspective on life and why that is...Grow spiritually by living out II Corinthians 12:10, leaving everything to God, and knowing what it is to live totally sold out for Jesus... Remember, you might learn a lot more from your situation after you return home, so go with the flow of God's Will and let Him mold you.

Isaiah 64:8...Amen.

## I Don't Want to go home

Romans 14:22,23 • Isaiah 64:6 • I Peter 3:15-17 •  
Joshua 1:7-9

This is a feeling many short-termers experience when returning home or when at home already. A feeling of trying to readjust to their own culture. Usually on return, after you've seen your friends and family, you feel a sense of loneliness because no one might be sharing your vision with you. They seem uncommitted to sharing the gospel or living a holy life. How do you tell them? How do you cope with being home with people who don't share the same vision? Remember, **you are not alone**. The Word of God can give you comfort beyond anything else on this earth. Ask God to lead you to Scripture to meet your needs. Jesus Christ and the Apostle Paul experienced much of what you are feeling now. Something else to keep

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in mind, there are many short-termers who went through what you are experiencing now. Contact them. Find out how they handled it. Another way to overcome this feeling is to analyze and apply what you've learned on the field to your own home/work/school/church situation. You might find that your priorities have changed, you have strong convictions now that no one else has...live them out (Romans 14:22,23) or it is sin (James 4:17). Don't begin to feel self-righteous either. Your righteousness is still as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6) in God's sight. Jesus' blood is the only thing that can wash you clean and make you look righteous. If someone asks you why you won't do this or that anymore or why you do this or that because of the Word and your convictions, then apply I Peter 3:15-17. God will bless you if you live out your convictions. God could be using you to work in the lives of your family & friends. Give God the glory for what He has done in your life. Change comes slowly so if you set up expectations for yourself, your family, and friends, remember to concentrate on yourself and watch God work in each individual. What you need to decide is does God want you to go back? Wait on the Lord to give you an answer and seek Him out. He will let you know in His perfect timing. Thank God for your experience to serve Him more effectively. Now move out into the culture God wants you to serve Him in and do it with the boldness and courage of Joshua 1:7,9 and with the wisdom of vs.8!

## Evaluating your Experience

On a separate piece of paper, please answer the following questions and return to ASAP, 5101 SE Mitchell Street, Portland, OR 97206

1. The thing I liked best about my short-term was...
2. The most significant lesson God taught me was...
3. The area in my life where I saw the greatest change was...
4. One story that sums up what God did through me...
5. The biggest challenge I face in returning home will be...

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6. The thing I'm most thankful to God for is...
7. Comments/reflections on part or all of your trip...

### *A poem*

I was hungry and you formed a humanities club to discuss my hunger. **Thank you.**

I was imprisoned and you crept off quietly to your chapel to pray for my release. **Nice.**

I was naked and in your mind you debated the morality of my appearance, **what good did that do?**

I was sick and you knelt and thanked God for your health. **But I needed you.**

I was homeless and you preached to me of the shelter of God's love. **I wish you'd taken me home.**

I was lonely and you left me alone to pray for me. **Why didn't you stay?**

You seem so holy, so close to God; But I'm still very hungry, lonely, cold, and still in pain. **Does it matter?**

—Anonymous

## Telling Your Tale...

Some suggestions when telling others about your experience or for a presentation at church:

### **Tell stories.**

People can relate to them more effectively than facts because it adds excitement to your experience. Also, if someone asks you about how your time was on your short-term, relay to them a quick story so they feel more apart of your experience. Focus on stories that the people can relate to so you don't lose your audience. Make it exciting in the beginning and at the end of your talk.

### **Take the initiative!!!!**

Take the initiative to share a presentation with your

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church/work/school/church camp. Don't wait for them to ask you. Take the call God has given you and make it real to His church so they can reach others. Use it to explain how you relied on God. Share some of the neat experiences He brought you through and what you learned.

**Accentuate the positive.**

Philippians 4:8...

Allow time for questions. Let people know you care about what they are thinking and they'll listen more to you.

**Don't talk their ear off.**

Use discretion in your story telling and presentation. Find the balance. Maybe 2 or 3 stories basically summed up what you learned instead of all 20 stories on your mind. Remember: God could be using you to send others to the world to work for His Kingdom.

**Praise God He chose to use you!**

Take the time right now to praise and thank God for all of the marvelous works He is accomplishing in your life.

If you have any questions, need some prayer, or just a friend, feel free to write, phone, fax, or visit us here at ASAP. May God Bless You **Real Good!**

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