

# ... AN INTRODUCTION ...

The following pages are from a workshop Epworth Center led at Youth Jam 2007. They are informative sheets on planning a work mission trip. We have included the following:

- **Handout sheets** from the PowerPoint Presentation
- **Two team building exercise** sheets—with #1, after the colors are chosen, the group members are to find one other person with one of the same colors and discuss why they chose that particular color
- **Fundraising ideas**—including a list of things discussed during the workshops
- **Ten Commandments for mission trip participants**—the ten things to do while on a short term mission trip project
- **Ten ways to ruin a short term mission trip**—the ten things NOT to do while on a mission trip project

If you would like more information, please let us know. It is our hope this packet will be of some assistance to groups when planning a work mission trip. We have a PowerPoint presentation available with the information from the handouts.

SO... YOU WANT TO GO ON  
A WORK MISSION TRIP?

**\*NOW WHAT?\***

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**Youth Jam 2007 ~ "It's Your Call"**

## <<<NOW HEAR THIS>>>



- Job 29: 12 – 16
  - NLT
- Mark 10: 45a
  - NIV

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## WHAT IS A WORK MISSION?

- Types of work mission trips
  - International
  - National
    - Urban
    - Rural
- Typically week-long
  - Sunday thru Friday / Saturday



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## RESEARCHING A SITE

- **What are YOU looking for in a work mission?**
- Things to consider include:
  - Location and facility
  - Type of work
  - Cost
  - Age group



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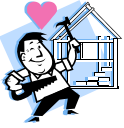
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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



- What meals are provided?
- Who does this mission help?
- How are teams assigned?
- What do we need to bring?
  - ▶ ▶ ▶ Sample list in packet
- What do fees cover?

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- What safety precautions are taken on the jobsite?
- Are workers supervised?
- What about insurance?
- Do we get a fun day?



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- What is a typical work day like?
  - Day begins at... ?
  - Lunch plans?
  - Day ends at... ?
  - What about evenings?



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## KEYS TO WORK MISSION



- Growing experience
  - Individually
  - As a group

▶ ▶ ▶ It's not **just** a "community service project"



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## KEYS TO WORK MISSION



- Showing Christ's love
- Example to others
- Building relationships
  - Within team
  - With those you help

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## EXAMPLE ~ EVELYN

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from your friends



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## A SERVANT'S



Doing something so little as painting a house can help people in huge ways.

– youth volunteer

We feel we made a difference to one of God's families.

– adult volunteer

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## BUILDING REPAIRS

- What skill level does your group have?
- Types of building repairs...
  - Painting
  - Siding
  - Roofing
  - Handicap accessible ramps
  - Porches
  - \_\_\_\_\_



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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

- Some work mission sites offer groups the opportunity to conduct VBS for local churches



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## GATHERING YOUR TEAM

BOX  
THINK  
OUTSIDE  
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- Your own church
- Area churches
- Youth organizations
- Friends & family members
- "Kitchen" helpers

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## WORK MISSION TEAMS

MAKE  
A  
DIFFERENCE  
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BEFORE & AFTER

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## PREPARE YOUR GROUP

- Expect the "unexpected"
- Be flexible!
- Prepare your youth for what they'll see
- Learn about the family you will be assisting

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## OTHER PREPARATIONS

- Timeline
- Fundraising ideas
- Paperwork paperwork paperwork...
- Ideas about what to take on your trip
- **And, remember to....**



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## HAVE FUN!!!



- Before
- During
- After

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## CLOSING COMMENTS

- You will make a difference
- You will be blessed as you bless others
- More information about the SOWER Work Mission available
  - PowerPoint Presentation
  - [www.epworthcenter.org](http://www.epworthcenter.org)
- **THANK YOU!**



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# TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE 1



My nAmE is:

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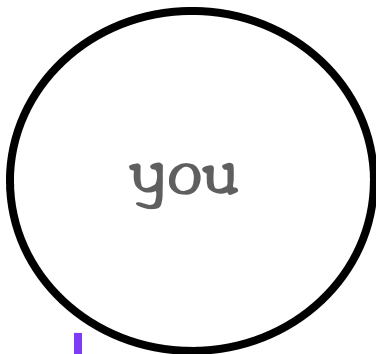


oNe WoRd that comes to  
mind when I hear  
"work mission"  
is

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uSiNg ThE cRaYoNs...

Choose 2 colors that symbolize:



Why did you choose these colors?

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## TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE 2

### Directions

Break into small groups.

Each person will have a different colored crayon.

Your small group must now create a picture, using all of the colors.

Each person must only use his / her color — no trading or sharing is allowed!

Be creative!

Example:

*If you would draw a tree, the person with the brown would draw the trunk, and the person with the green would do the leaves. Someone with yellow would do a sun, etc....*

### Questions to consider:

- Was this a difficult task for the group? Why or why not?
- How did you work as a group to complete the picture?
- Is everyone happy with the picture? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to be able to work with others as a member of a team?



These ideas come from a group who has participated in the SOWER Work Mission for many years. Use them to spark thoughts for your own work mission trip fundraising!

### CARE ENOUGH TO SHARE

We sold mission trip shares at \$10.00 per share. We asked our Adult Sunday School Classes to compete with our youth in a contest to see which group could sell the most shares. The winning group was served breakfast made by our education team during the Sunday School hour. We also used china and stemware and made it a special experience for the winners.

### TALENT SHOW & POTATO BAKE

We hold a church-wide talent show and serve a baked potato bar & dessert and beverage. We solicit local grocery stores for donations and collect a love offering at the table and/or during the talent show.

### PIG ROAST

This fall we put on a pig roast and advertised it to the entire area through local cable TV, flyers, and newspapers. We did it to raise funds to help meet our apportionments. We were blessed to raise \$900 (all profit) because everything was donated. We sold tickets in advance to help us in estimating the size of pig to buy and how much food to prepare. We made sure we had plenty to sell for walk-ins and to go orders.

### RUMMAGE SALE

You can use just your own stuff or sell spots to the public. We do a white elephant sale inside our church at the same time we do the bazaar each fall. A big key to this is having things well labeled, organized, and a strong set up and clean up team. We load everything not sold by closing time and have it all packed to be taken to Goodwill the following day.

### COUPLE WITH A LOCAL VENUE

We are very blessed to have a minor league ball park in our area as well as Blossom Music Center, Jacobs Field, and the Quicken Loans Arena. All of these venues let trained nonprofit groups come in and work their concessions for a percentage of their sales for the night.

### SET UP AN E-BAY STORE

This we have not done yet but is an idea we have tossed around in committee. An E-bay store would take some planning to maintain and there are some fees involved.

CONTINUED

## SILENT AUCTION

You can do well at this but you need people to go out and procure good things. We had a team that went with letters of introduction and intent to many of the businesses in our community. We also had church members who put up Major Sports Team Game Tickets, antiques, use of a cottage, etc... If you decide to do an actual verbal auction in the state of Ohio you must have a state licensed auctioneer — it is a state law. Again promoting this to the community is key. You not only want to bring outside money in but get your church name and mission out there.

## CLASSIC CAR SHOW

We have not done this one yet but it is on our list. Have a classic car show in your church parking lot. Charge an entry fee, have trophies, prizes, and have a separate section where food is served. Burgers, fries, root beer floats, etc....and music. We had thought of youth serving as car hops too.

## RECYCLE RECLAIM

Check into setting up recycling of newspapers, cans, or old cell phones for cash.

## OTHER IDEAS FROM TODAY ~

Cookie walk	Candy store	Walkathons
Donation only dinners	Auction youth for jobs	Ice cream socials
Sunday breakfast/lunches	Auctions	Pies
Coffee / tea between services	Valentine's Dance	Elderly Prom
Bazaars	Basketball tournaments	Euchre Tournays
Superbowl sub sale	Basket auctions	Movie night
Chili (Superbowl)		

**A GOOD WEBSITE** for additional fundraising tips is  
<http://www.groupworkcamps.com/youth/resources/fundraising/>

**ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS? IDEAS?** Share them on Epworth Center's website by visiting <http://www.epworthcenter.org/fundraisingideas.htm>

**THANK YOU** to Penny Roberts-Kandiko from Green Valley United Methodist Church for sharing their church's fundraising successes!

# "TEN COMMANDMENTS" FOR MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS

1 You shall not forget that you represent your home and the Lord.

2 You shall not expect that things will be the same for you as they are at home, for you have left your home to find different things.

3 You shall not take minor things too seriously. Accepting things as they are paves the way for a good mission trip.

4 You shall not judge those you are assisting or the community in which they live.

5 You shall not let other group members get on your nerves. You have set aside this time. So, enjoy yourself!

6 You shall not be overly worried. Few things people overly worry about are ever "fatal."

7 Remember to take breaks while on the worksite! Drink plenty of water.

8 Blessed is the person who says "thank you." Remember that verbal gratefulness is very important.

9 When in \_\_\_\_\_ (Rome), do as the \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans) do. If in difficulty, use common sense.

10 Remember, you are a guest to the area. He or she who treats his/her host with respect shall be treated as an honored guest.

# TEN WAYS TO RUIN SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIPS

## Unhealthy attitudes on short-term mission trips

### #1 Keep narrowly focused on “spiritual” activities.

Since you want to show Christ’s love, focus on only the loftiest of things. Avoid menial work like loading trucks or working on buildings. Such things will distract you from your primary task of showing Christ’s love.

### #2 To tighten up your schedule, eliminate breaks and devotions.

You will be so consumed with getting tasks completed that you probably won’t have time for breaks or devotions anyway. Besides, you can relax at the end of the day... right?

### #3 Stay organized and on schedule.

Set detailed goals before you go. Strictly adhere to these goals. Establish schedules and refuse to deviate from them. Do not accept delays, last-minute changes, impromptu visitations or weather conditions like rain.

### #4 Help mission site coordinators by pointing out their mistakes.

Bring them up-to-date on what you’ve heard are the latest trends in missions. Some mission site coordinators are stubborn, so you may need to do this over and over and over again to make them understand your views about how things should be run.

### #5 Don’t bother making personal connections.

Since you will only be around these people for one week anyway, why waste your time in building relationships within your group or with the people you are helping?

Continued —>

# TEN WAYS TO RUIN SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIPS

## Unhealthy attitudes on short-term mission trips... continued

**#6** Don't embarrass yourself by trying to understand local culture.

The way you do things is always the right way. There can be no other way to do or say anything.

**#7** Immediately begin pointing out your team members' faults.

Time is short. It will be difficult for you to get your project done if someone isn't doing it right. Focus your helpful criticisms on both team members and team leaders.

**#8** Don't get dirty while on the jobsite.

You want me to do WHAT?? If you think a task requires you to get a little sweaty or dirty, just don't do it. You wouldn't want to mess up your clean jeans or nails, now would you?

**#9** Keep your distance from team members who couldn't raise their full support.

They may try to mooch off you. Don't give in. Just avoid these people!

**#10** When you return home, scold your church and friends for their lack of participation or commitment to the task.

This may be one of the few times you will have their full attention, admiration, and respect. Make the most of it.