

THE CORNERSTONE MEXICO MISSION TRIP

NEED TO KNOW LIST

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WHAT TO BRING

- Clothes/toiletries/other personal items in one packed bag per person (see below for details on what clothes to bring)
- Pillow
- Sleeping bag *and* a blanket unless your sleeping bag is rated for 40° or lower (we are sleeping inside a school on concrete floors)
- Bed roll or cot
- Towel
- Bible & pen for quiet times
- Hand sanitizer
- Games for van time
- Snacks for van trip
- \$\$\$ for fast-food meals on the way there and back (all food in Mexico will be covered)
- EITHER: Drivers license and certified copy of birth certificate; OR a current passport
- Prayerfulness and a readiness to serve
- A high expectation to be used by God!

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Personal headphones or other one-person items for the trip down such as books, magazines, etc. These are okay for a little down time in the rooms or for your quiet time, but we want to spend as much time on the trip connecting as we can.

WHAT'S PROVIDED

- Water for the trip
- Breakfast food for when we meet to leave from the church
- Transportation and trip leadership
- Food/lodging while in Mexico
- Ministry supplies

WHAT TO WEAR WHILE DOING MINISTRY

The heart behind dress on a ministry trip is that we represent both our church and the ministries we partner with, which vary from trip to trip, all of which represents a much longer term relationship than our team and trip. So, we shoot for the conservative, modest end of dress in order to avoid any distractions from our purpose, which is to serve people in the Name of Christ.

Men

- Shorts and pants are okay
- Comfortable shoes for lots of walking
- T-shirts okay, but try not to be overly casual, use discretion. Avoid sarcastic or offensive designs or sayings, political statements, or things like beer brand shirts, etc. If the weather is cold, bring layers and at least a light jacket or heavier coat as many of the places we will minister will be windy.

- No open toed sandals or flip flops (the places we will go will often have broken glass, rusty metal or other hazards on the ground)
- If we attend a church service, pants and button up shirt or polo.

Women

- No midriffs, low-cut tops, really tight t-shirts, or any torn clothing that shows skin
- Shorts are okay as long as they are knee length or longer
- Pants are okay even jeans as long as they are not too tight or low at the waist
- No open toed sandals or flip flops (the places we will go will often have broken glass, rusty metal or other hazards on the ground)
- For any church services we may attend, pants or skirts are appropriate.

WHAT TO EXPECT AND PREPARE FOR

On the way down and back up

- Between eight and eleven hours of driving
- Up to two stops to eat each way, depending on scheduling (team members are responsible for their own food at these stops)

In the school

- Concrete floors and minimal access to showers. We will shower in shifts. Make sure to bring a sleeping bag, something soft to lay it on, and a blanket to go over it in case the weather is chilly at night.
- Window unit A/C and heating

Ministry in Reynosa

- Mornings: We receive ministry so we can pour out ministry. Worship, prayer, and a word from a local pastor.
- Afternoons: This will be a time focused on the families of the three colonias that surround the school we are staying in. So we will have simple activities (such as soccer balls, beads, jump ropes, Frisbees, etc.) prepared that do not require language to help us connect with the children and families there. On the second and third ministry days, we expect a spill over from the outreaches of the previous nights and may be involved in visitations or praying for people for specific things.
- Evenings: each night we will set up in a different location and put on an evangelistic program consisting of worship, a drama, a dance, and a short presentation of the gospel. Then every member of the team will talk with people and be prepared to walk people through a tract we will all be trained to use and ask people if they would like to receive salvation through Jesus.
- Some of the areas we will go are extremely impoverished, without electricity, running water or sewage. There is no health risk in the activities we will be doing. We will have hand sanitizer as a precaution.
- At some of the areas we visit, there will be people from local churches or other ministries present to help us. Jose Iglesias, Grace Community Church's Pastor of Hispanic Ministries, is our trip leader and will prearranged this.

MISC.

Emergency Contact while we are across the border for your family to contact in case of emergencies is Jose Iglesias at 817-300-0269. Also if you have Sprint your cell phone will work across the border.

Come prepared on this trip for God to use you in incredible ways. Be prepared to be uncomfortable, but push through it and know that God is going to do incredible things. Just the fact that you are going on this trip pleases God. Remember that even though you might not be able to speak their language you can still show love, that is universal. Let's have a blast serving our awesome Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Serving Joyfully,
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