

-
- Refrain from giving gifts, such as money, clothes, jewelry, etc. Although the intent of the giver is good, the result after we leave has caused problems for our host, and jealousy and bitterness among the locals who received no such gifts. If I feel compelled to give a gift to someone I have met, I will consult with the team leader before I promise to give the gift, and I promise to let him or her make the final decision on this matter. This covenant does not apply to small fellowship tokens we will discuss and have approved before leaving home.
 - Act as a servant-disciple of the local pastor or mission organization. I will respect the advice I am given concerning attire, eating and drinking, and other such traditions which will help me to assimilate into the local community.
 - Understand that every member of this group is expected to share freely from their particular blessings and talents, whether that is skills such as music, art, carpentry, or basic hard work. I agree to participate in these ways as fully as possible.
 - I agree that in the event my conduct is considered so unsatisfactory that it jeopardizes the success of the trip, and that mediation during the trip has failed to correct my behavior, that my services in connection with this mission shall end and I shall return home immediately at my own expense.
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**Please sign the insert and return
to the Missional Living office
or to your trip leader.**

**Short Term
Missions**

**Personal
Covenant**



Ridge Point
Community Church

Short Term Missions Personal Covenant

The guidelines listed below are recommended for those participating in Ridge Point Mission Experiences. You go not as a tourist, but as a guest of another country or part of this country.

Some countries or areas of the United States are less developed and do not have the same conveniences you are used to at home. It is very important to be flexible and willing to adjust to the expectations of your host.

I recognize and accept the following conditions which will further the usefulness and safety of our short-term mission.

As a member of this team, I agree to:

- Adopt an attitude that I am on this team to try to understand the host culture, not to convince them of my own viewpoint or style. I go knowing that there are many different ways to accomplish the same objective, and know that my way is not necessarily the best.
- Abstain from making derogatory comments or arguments regarding people, politics, sports, religion, race, or traditions.
- Go as a servant-disciple of Jesus Christ and will adopt that attitude when dealing with my fellow team members and the people I meet during the trip.
- Accept and submit to the leadership role and authority of the team leader and promise to abide by his or her decisions as they concern this mission trip.
- Acknowledge that by engaging in this journey, I am subjecting myself to certain risks voluntarily, including and in addition to those risks that I normally face in my personal and business life, including but not limited to such things as health hazards due to poor food and water, diseases, pests, and poor sanitation; potential danger from lack of control over local population; potential injury while working; and inadequate medical facilities.

- Understand that our team's work is but a tiny speck on the bigger picture that our mission partners are trying to accomplish. I promise not to be overly demanding, to do my best not to offend or cause embarrassment for the local mission host, and to do my best to help them attain their long-term goals.
- Attend all team meetings both prior to departure and during the mission trip.
- Expediently follow up on all requirements for passports, visas, financial obligations, vaccinations, travel insurance, etc.
- Refrain from meddling, complaining, and obscene or insensitive humor. I realize that others on my team, during the journey, and while onsite will look at me for an example of how a Christian acts, and will not treat that responsibility lightly.
- I understand that travel, especially to remote locations, can be difficult, and I promise to adopt a flexible attitude and be supportive as plans may need to be changed. I understand that I must travel with the rest of the team.
- Regard the differing styles of worship with respect. I promise that where I see the need, I will witness my faith, but without a superior attitude.
- If a loved one or dear friend is traveling with me, we agree to interact with all members of the team, not just one another. I promise not to initiate or seek new romantic relationships with team members during the trip.
- Avoid any actions which might be perceived as romantic attentions toward indigenous people I meet.
- Refrain from using tobacco or alcoholic beverages while in the host country. Abstain from any illegal drugs or prohibited activity while on this trip.
- Remember we are Christians from another part of the world and will be watched very closely. I will not take lightly this important responsibility of setting an example.

Short Term Missions Personal Covenant

I have read and will follow the Short Term Missions
Personal Covenant.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Trip participating on:

Short Term Missions Personal Covenant

I have read and will follow the Short Term Missions
Personal Covenant.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Trip participating on:
