



Nicaragua

Mission Trip Journal

Because We Care Ministries

...Es todo acerca de Jesús



GET READY!



CULTURE SHOCK

Every person traveling overseas experiences culture shock in one way or another. Culture shock isn't a bad thing. God uses it to stretch our view of the world, our view of people, and challenge our personal day-to-day values. Some people feel it while overseas, some upon returning home, and others in both environments. The lessons you learn from traveling will not end the moment you set foot on familiar ground. Be ready to have your life shaken up a bit. Get excited!

JOURNALING

This is your opportunity to process what God is teaching you through this trip. Each day you will have Scripture to read, and questions to answer. If you don't write it down, you will forget it! So write down the names, places, and things that you want to remember. Write down your feelings, thoughts, and emotions, and don't be afraid to hear the still small voice of God. Our prayer is that God will use this trip to spur you into a missional lifestyle, characterized by serving Christ in every area of your life.

YOUR TESTIMONY

You will need to be comfortable sharing your faith. Here are some things to think about as you share your story with others. Use the next page to write down some thoughts to help you as you briefly share how Christ has changed your life.

BEFORE I RECEIVED CHRIST.

- What were you like before you became a Christian?
- What were some of your actions, attitudes or thoughts?
- What would be a good example of this?

HOW I RECEIVED CHRIST.

(Be specific, but not wordy)

- How did you first hear about Jesus Christ?
- What was your initial reaction to what you heard about Jesus Christ?
- What were the circumstances that led to faith and repentance?
- Were there any struggles in coming to accept Him as your Savior?

AFTER I RECEIVED CHRIST.

(Put an emphasis here. Be honest, Christians have problems too.)

- How has my life changed? Focus on current changes.
- What actions, attitudes or thoughts listed in part one have changed? How?
- Has God completely removed any problems from your life? If so, what are they?

BEFORE I RECEIVED CHRIST.

HOW I RECEIVED CHRIST.

AFTER I RECEIVED CHRIST.

SHARING YOUR FAITH THROUGH GIFTS

When Jesus commanded his disciples to Go and Make Disciples, he established a purpose and a pattern for every church to follow. He gave every Christian a mission and He gave us the Good News of the Gospel to tell the world, a story of rescue and restoration.

Yet many people don't understand how their story intersects with God's story, and many people are unable to share God's plan of rescue and redemption through Jesus Christ.

BEFORE THE TRIP

- Familiarize yourself with the Gospel Story.
- Memorize verses that you can use to share the Gospel.

DIFFERENT METHODS OF SHARING THE GOSPEL

- Use the storyline of the Bible: Creation, Fall, Rescue, Restoration
- Use the Romans Road (Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9, 10:13, 5:1)
- Use the Wordless Book or Bracelet: Colors that correspond to the Gospel

The following pages share the Gospel message through the overarching story of the Bible and are adapted from <http://viewthestory.com/>

Recap



The Creation: In the beginning, God created everything to be perfect.



The Fall: Man rebelled against a loving God & believed Satan's lie. Sin entered into the world & into every human heart. Everything is now distorted & broken. Everyone is guilty before God.



The Rescue: Jesus, who is God, came to rescue people by His death & resurrection. By faith alone in Christ, everyone can have their sins forgiven & enjoy eternal life.



The Restoration: Everything will be restored to the way that it was supposed to be & those who trust in Jesus will get to enjoy eternity in the new heaven & new earth.

Would you like to begin your relationship with Christ now? Below is a simple prayer that, when spoken in sincerity and honesty, is the first step in a life-renewing relationship with Christ.

“Jesus, I know I have sinned and am in desperate need of being rescued and forgiven. I trust You alone to save me. Help me surrender my life to You and turn away from sin each day. I know true freedom can only be found in You. Please help me to realize the abundant love and life You offer me forever.”

"Truly, truly I
say to you,
whoever believes
has eternal life."
John 6:47 (ESV)

The **MOMENT** you trust Christ, the **Holy Spirit** BEGINS to *LIVE* inside of **you**. As a child of God all of your sins are forgiven and you find **TOTAL ACCEPTANCE** before Him. When you **begin** this relationship, Jesus PROMISES to be with you through all the **UPS** and **DOWNS**, the **joys** and *difficulties* of this life. He loves **YOU** with an **EVERLASTING, unchanging** love. And not only has He promised eternal life, but He came so that YOU could experience a life of purpose, fulfillment and FREEDOM.

TRAVEL DAY

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH ON THIS TRIP?

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST FEAR ABOUT THIS TRIP?

WHAT ARE YOUR MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES WHILE TRAVELING?

Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

DAY 1 SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE - READ ACTS 1:1-11

MEMORY VERSE - ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'VE READ

What gift from the father does Jesus promise His disciples? (v. 4-5)

What does Jesus tell His disciples they will receive when the Holy Spirit comes upon them? (v. 8)

Jerusalem = _____

Judea = _____

Samaria = _____

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH!!

DAY 1 REFLECTION

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE READ

If you could be guaranteed absolute success, what would you try to accomplish?

As believers in Jesus christ you have been given the Holy Spirit, and with that comes power. In light of this fact, do you believe God wants you to accomplish great things for the kingdom?

This week we will have the opportunity to accomplish great things in "Samaria" (A place that we don't live and in many ways is very different from our hometown) by the power we receive in the Holy Spirit. Take a few minutes and pray about the serving opportunities you will have this week and the type of witness God wants you to be..

GOD MOMENT FOR THE DAY

DAY 1 NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

[illegible]

DAY 2 SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE - READ ACTS 2:42-47

MEMORY VERSE - ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'VE READ

What four things had all the believers devoted themselves to doing? (v. 42)

What other things are mentioned in this passage that describe the community that the believers shared? (v. 43-46)

How did God bless their fellowship (their community)? (v. 47)

DAY 2 REFLECTION

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE READ

This passage describes what church life for the early believers looked like. What things characterize the type of fellowship and community we share as a church?

What are some of the things that we will do this week that will strengthen our fellowship as a group of believers?

Since prayer was such an important aspect of the early church's fellowship and community with one another, spend a few minutes praying for our team

GOD MOMENT FOR THE DAY

DAY 2 NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

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DAY 3 SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE - READ ACTS 8:26-40

MEMORY VERSE - ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'VE READ

Who prompted Philip to head south on his journey? (v. 26)

Who instructed Philip to go over to the carriage? (v. 29)

What was the end result of Philip's obedience to the Holy Spirit and conversation with the Eunuch? (v. 35-38)

DAY 3 REFLECTION

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE READ

Take a few minutes and pray about opportunities you could have today to be God's witness the same way Philip was a witness to the Ethiopian Eunuch. Ask God to clearly show you those opportunities and that you would have the courage to be obedient in those moments.

Can you explain the Gospel? Have you ever led someone to Christ? If this is an area in which you struggle, familiarize yourself with these verses and pray that God would give you a boldness to share your faith.

ROMANS 3:23

ROMANS 6:23

ROMANS 5:8

ROMAN 10:9 AND 10:13

ROMANS 5:1

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

GOD MOMENT FOR THE DAY

DAY 3 NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

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DAY 4 SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE - READ ACTS 9:1-19

MEMORY VERSE - ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'VE READ

How did Saul treat followers of Jesus Christ (v. 1-2)

What happened to Saul as a result of his encounter with Jesus? (v. 8)

Who did the Lord send to aid Saul? (v. 10)

What happened to Saul when Ananias prayed over him? (v. 17-18)

DAY 4 REFLECTION

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE READ

The power of the Gospel can change any life, even those who are adamantly opposed to God like Saul was. Write down a few ways you have already seen the Gospel change and impact lives this week on our mission trip.

Now think of someone back home in our "Jerusalem" whose life needs to be impacted by the Gospel. Write their name below and pray for them. Pray that they will have the opportunity to encounter the Gospel and that their lives will be flipped upside down the same way that Saul's was. Now, will you commit to take the Gospel to them?

GOD MOMENT FOR THE DAY

DAY 4 NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

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DAY 5 SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE - READ ACTS 10:34-45

MEMORY VERSE - ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'VE READ

What is it that Peter realizes that God doesn't do? (v. 34)

How are we restored to peace with God (v. 36)

What did Jesus order His disciples to do? (v. 42)

Whose sins will be forgiven? (v. 43)

DAY 5 REFLECTION

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE READ

Peter describes the responsibility he and the apostle had in sharing the Gospel with everyone and how amazing it is to see the Gospel at work in the lives of people who encounter it. Take a moment and think of the ways God has used you this week as His witness. Write down a specific story from this week where you saw the Gospel impact someone's life and the role God allowed you to play in that.

GOD MOMENT FOR THE DAY

DAY 5 NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

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DAY 6 SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE - READ ACTS 20:13-38

MEMORY VERSE - ACTS 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'VE READ

Who does Paul send for? (v. 17)

What is the one message Paul declared throughout his ministry? (v. 21)

Who is Paul being obedient to by returning to Jerusalem? (v. 22)

Why is Paul able to say that it isn't his fault if anyone suffers eternal death? (v. 26-29)

DAY 6 REFLECTION

APPLYING WHAT YOU'VE READ

Today is our last full day of service here. This may be the the last opportunity we will have to serve and share the Gospel here, because we don't know God's plans for the future. Reread Paul's words in verses 18-27, and meditate on them. Be inspired by the statements Paul made regarding his service toward the Ephesians and all believers.

How would you describe your week of service?

What are some things we can do when we get back home to share the Gospel and the love of Christ with our community?

GOD MOMENT FOR THE DAY

DAY 6 NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

[illegible]

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Write down the villages visited, the people you met, and any lessons that God showed you throughout the day

[illegible]