

GO TRIP RESOURCE GUIDE

HOW TO DECIDE WHETHER TO TAKE A GO TRIP:

PRAY AND SEEK OUT DISCERNMENT AND DIRECTION:



Ask God to show you if this trip is where He wants you to serve. Invite Him into the process, asking for clarity, wisdom, and peace as you consider the opportunity. Trust that He will open and close doors according to His will and guide you toward where you can bring the most impact for His Kingdom.

Prayer Prompt: “God, help me to hear Your voice clearly. Give me peace if this is where You want me to go, and close the door if it is not. I want to follow Your will and serve where You lead.”

CLARIFY YOUR MOTIVATION:



Healthy motives come from a desire to love, learn, and support God’s work, not just to travel or have an adventure. Take time to examine your heart and ask whether your reasons for going align with God’s purposes rather than personal gain.

Prayer Prompt: “God, purify my heart and my intentions. Help me to desire this trip for the right reasons—for Your glory, for the good of others, and for the growth of my faith.”

SEEK WISE COUNSEL AND ASK QUESTIONS:



Talk and pray with mentors, pastors, or others who have been on mission trips or to the country you’re planning to visit. Listening to their experiences can provide valuable insight, encouragement, and even caution that helps you discern if this is the right step for you.

Prayer Prompt: “God, thank You for placing wise people in my life. Give me humility to listen well, discernment to receive godly advice, and courage to act on the wisdom You provide through others.”

PRACTICAL READINESS:



Do you have an adequate margin of time? Are you willing to raise and contribute financial support? Do you feel physically and emotionally ready for travel, new environments, and possible challenges? Taking an honest inventory of these areas will help ensure you are prepared to serve well and not stretched beyond what is wise or healthy.

Prayer Prompt: “God, help me to see clearly where I am ready and where I need Your provision or growth. Give me wisdom to prepare well, courage to step out in faith, and trust that You will provide what is needed for this journey.”

HOW WILL YOU GROW IF YOU GO ON A GO TRIP (GAINS AND GROWTHS):



GAIN A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Mission trips expose you to different cultures and levels of poverty that may be very different from what you're used to in the U.S. Seeing joy from people who have very little challenges how we define contentment and pushes us to root our happiness in Jesus, not circumstances.

Philippians 4:12-13 (NIV), "...I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation... I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Prayer Prompt: "God, teach me to find joy in You alone. Help me to see contentment not through possessions or comfort, but through Your presence."



GAIN RELATIONSHIPS

You'll form deeper bonds with your team and build genuine connections with the people you serve. These relationships reflect God's design for His family to be united in love and purpose.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV), "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

Prayer Prompt: "Father, give me a heart that encourages and uplifts others. Help me to be open, kind, and intentional in every relationship You place in my path."



GROW IN CROSS-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Stepping outside your comfort zone helps you better understand, respect, and love different ways of life. You'll also experience how other cultures worship, celebrating both the differences and the shared unity of praising the same God.

Revelation 7:9 (NIV), "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb."

Prayer Prompt: "God, open my eyes to see the beauty of every culture You created. Teach me to love and respect people the way You do, celebrating our unity in Christ."



LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD'S HEART

Seeing His creation and His children across the globe expands your view of God's kingdom. You'll witness His care for all groups of people and see how He weaves together a bigger story than what we see in our own context.

Psalms 96:3 (NIV), "Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples."

Prayer Prompt: "God, reveal more of Your heart to me. Let me see Your love for the nations and help me join in Your mission to declare Your glory everywhere."

GROW IN YOUR FAITH

Serving in a new environment often deepens your dependence on God as you experience His provision, presence, and love in fresh ways. Your obedience to go might even inspire others to follow His call.

Ephesians 3:20 (NIV), “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.”

Prayer Prompt: “God, stretch my faith and grow my trust in You. Help me to rely on Your strength and believe that You can do more than I could ever imagine.”