



Camp Penuel Costa Rica Mission Trip Covenant

I realize that the following elements are crucial to the effectiveness, quality, and safety of our trip. As part of this mission team, I agree to:

1. Remember I am a guest working at the invitation of the local mission. If my hosts are offended by bare arms, shirtless backs or exposed legs, I'll cover them. If they offer me goat meat stew, I'll try it! I'll remember the missionaries' prayer: 'Where You lead me, I will follow; what they feed me, I will swallow!'
2. Remember that I have come to learn, not to teach. I may run across procedures that I feel are inefficient, or attitudes that I find close minded. I'll resist the temptation to inform our hosts about "how we do things". I'll be open to learn other people's methods and ideas. I will come UNDER the missionary.
3. Respect the host's view of Christianity. I recognize that Christianity has many faces throughout the world, and that the purpose of this trip is to witness and experience faith lived out in a new setting.
4. Develop and maintain a servant attitude toward all nationals and my teammates.
5. Respect /obey my team leader(s) and his or her decisions.
6. Refrain from gossip. I may be surprised at how each person will blossom when freed from the concern that others may be passing judgment.
7. Refrain from complaining. I know that travel can present numerous unexpected and undesired circumstances, but the rewards of conquering such circumstances are innumerable. Instead of whining and complaining, I'll be creative and supportive.
8. Respect the work that is going on in the country with the particular church, agency, or person(s) with which I am working. I realize that our team is here for just a short while, but the missionary and local churches are here for the long term. I will respect their knowledge, insights, and instructions.
9. Attend and be prompt to all team preparation classes, on-site studies, and follow-up meetings.
10. Fulfill all logistical requirements and comply with all requirements regarding passports, finances, etc.
11. Refrain from negative political comments or hostile discussions about our host country's politics.
12. Remember not to be exclusive in my relationships. If my sweetheart or spouse is on the team, I will make every effort to interact with all members of the team, such as sitting next to a different team member each time I am in the car or van. If I am attracted to a teammate, I will not pursue a relationship until we return home.
13. Refrain from any activity that could be construed as romantic interest toward a national. I realize certain activities that seem innocuous in my own culture may seem inappropriate in others.
14. Abstain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages or the use of tobacco or illegal drugs.
15. Contribute my share of work toward the project we came to do, and be thoroughly prepared for what I have been asked to present. I will be prepared and punctual in my work and my presentation.

Should I fail to meet the terms of this covenant, I realize it will be brought to my attention. If I continue to persist in noncompliance, I am prepared to face the consequences of my actions, which could include being asked to return home early at my own expense, if deemed necessary.

Signature: _____ Date: _____