

Trip Guide Dominican Republic



NEUMISSIONS #GOTEAM



TRIP GUIDE

GOTEAM NEWMISSIONS

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Name: _____

The dates of my trip are: _____ to _____

Name of my sponsored child and sponsorship number: _____

Passport #: _____ Place & date of issue: _____

P.O. Box 2727 • Orlando, FL 32802 • Phone: 407-240-4058 • Fax: 407-240-1962
E-mail: info@newmissions.org • Web site: www.newmissions.org

CHECK LIST - Travel to Dominican Republic

1. Make sure each team member has their passport on them and not packed in their checked luggage.
2. Someone from New Missions will meet you after you have claimed your baggage and gone through customs.
3. Important information to know while you're gone:
 - New Missions in the Dominican Republic is located in Sosua. The main campus is approximately 15 minutes from the airport. The physical address is La Mulata 1, Sosua.
 - Your team will be staying at Sosua by the Sea (sosuabythesea.com). It is a safe hotel with around-the-clock security.
 - Each person traveling to the Dominican Republic with New Missions is registered with the State Department. New Missions receives regular communication and updates from the U.S. Embassy in the DR regarding conditions and concerns for U.S Citizens traveling to the DR.
 - Each person traveling to the Dominican Republic is also issued a Volunteer Missionary Travel Insurance policy. This is a supplemental health insurance policy that includes assistance with early departure from the country for medical emergencies.
 - Calling the Dominican Republic is generally very expensive. Internet is available at the hotel for \$25 for the week. Prior to your departure, it is advisable to check with your cell carrier for international texting rates or plans. Downloading WhatsApp is also a good alternative for staying in touch with family in the states. In extreme emergencies, here are some contact numbers:
 - Heather Williams, Dominican Republic Field Director 1-809-868-0190
 - Rob Arms, Mission Team Leader 1-260-249-8989

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NEW MISSIONS

History: Since 1983, New Missions has brought hope and joy to the country of Haiti. New Missions began in five tents with founders George and Jeanne DeTellis, who left the United States after 25 years in the pastorate to pioneer a church and school in Haiti.

In October 2000, George and Jeanne DeTellis moved to the Dominican Republic to pioneer a church and school on the other side of the island of Hispaniola.

Today, those five tents are a distant memory. As of this publication, New Missions has 35 schools, 35 churches, and two medical clinics.

Where: New Missions works in Haiti—just 700 miles off the Florida coast. The New Mission Training Center is located on the Leogane Plain, about 25 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince, Haiti’s capital.

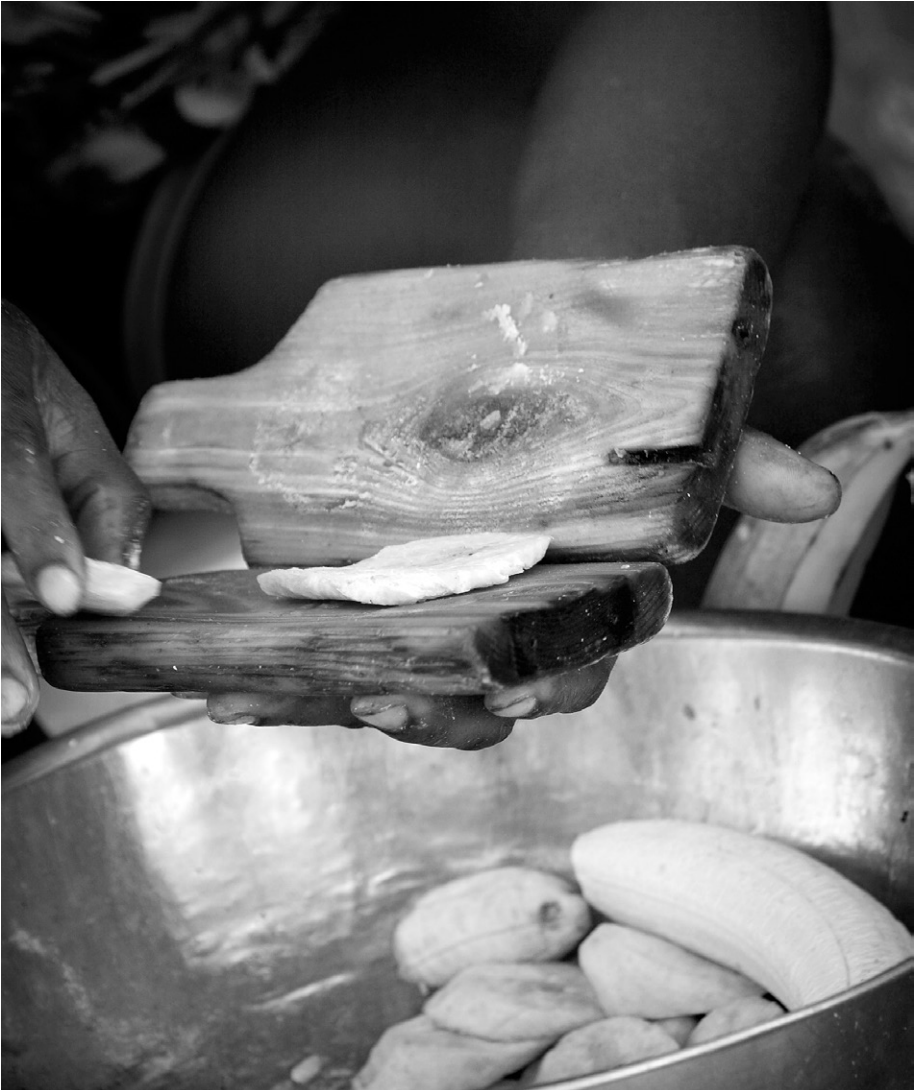
New Missions in the Dominican Republic is located in Sosua, Puerto Plata, on the north coast —only eight miles from the Puerto Plata airport. Visiting missionary teams are hosted at an oceanfront hotel in the center of Sosua, within walking distance to most of New Missions’ ministries.

Who: Each student attending a New Missions school receives a Christian education and a chance to respond to the love of God. Thanks to the child sponsorship program, these children also receive medical care. Students in Haiti receive a hot meal each day. Over 1,000 people are cared for each month through our medical clinics. We also employ over 500 Haitians and Dominicans.

Why: *“The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brother of Mine, even the least of them, you did it for Me.’” (Matthew 25:40)*

DR

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

Travel Arrangements

You are responsible for round-trip airfare from your point of origin. You are welcome to use Stow Travel (978) 897-2810 to book your travel. If you choose a different way to book your flights, please use the New Missions number 753650. There are recommended flights listed on your confirmation letter. Should you desire to explore other flight options, please get flights approved through the New Missions Office before booking (407) 377-0477.

Passports

A valid passport is required to travel into the Dominican Republic. On the days you are traveling in and out of the Dominican Republic, be sure to have your passport with you at all times. Once you arrive at the hotel, room safes are available to lockup your passport. If you lose your passport while traveling abroad, immediately report the loss to the nearest U.S. consulate or embassy. You can get a three-month temporary passport directly from the consulate, but you must fill out a “loss of passport” form—following the same application process, and pay the same fees as the original passport. We recommend you make a photocopy of your passport and keep it in a location separate from your passport.

U.S. passports are now valid for 10 years from the date of issue. The expired passport itself is not renewable, but must be turned in along with your application for a new and valid one. Passport renewal can be done by mail, but anyone applying for the first time or anyone under the age of 18 renewing a passport must do so in person. If possible, you should renew your passport approximately nine months before it expires. Some countries require that your passport be valid at least six months beyond the dates of your trip. Certain airlines will not allow you to board if this requirement is not met.

For more information such as application forms and fees, call the Washington Passport and Visa Service at 1-800-272-7776, or visit www.wpvs.com. You can also find information at www.travel.state.gov/passport—the U.S. Department of State.

Health

You are encouraged to visit your personal physician before traveling outside the country. Visitors must have a current tetanus booster. Some visiting the Dominican Republic opt to take malaria pills. You will receive an email with the current **Covid-19** instructions for travel to the DR one week prior to departure. Please be sure to carefully read it and follow all instructions.

New Missions covers all mission team members with trip insurance. The cost of insurance is included in your fee for the trip. Trip insurance supplements your personal health insurance coverage, and only covers mission trip related medical needs.

Packing

The airlines charge for checked luggage. Check the airline website for the cost. It is okay to gather donated items to give away on your mission trip. However, please allow New Missions first priority for items necessary to the mission. The U.S. office will contact you regarding the need to have you transport items. Should you encounter additional charges for the New Missions items, New Missions will reimburse you for this expense.

Clothing and Personal Items to Bring

Lightweight cotton clothing is best to wear. Modesty is encouraged to reflect a Christian witness. Please do not wear expensive watches or jewelry during your visit. Do not bring expensive electronic items. Please wear your New Missions T-shirt on the day of departure, so the team will be easily recognized by the missionaries picking you up.

Here is a recommended clothing list for your trip:

Church Clothes – 2 sets

Ladies: Blouses with skirts or short-sleeve dresses or pants

Men: Collared shirts, polo or button-down, with long pants

Work Clothes – 5 sets

Ladies: T-shirts with shorts (long)

Men: T-shirts with shorts

Both: Heavy-duty sneakers, hats/bandanas, rain poncho

Casual Clothes – 4 sets

Shirts and shorts

Sandals and lightweight sneakers

Bathing suits (modest, please)

1 pair of pants

- Clothing should be lightweight material.
- It is recommended that you bring 10-12 sets of socks and undergarments.
- No mid-riffs, low-cut shirts or hi-cut shorts.
- Please wear closed-toe shoes when going out to the villages.

Here is a helpful checklist of other supplies to bring.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Passport | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash in small bills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower shoes/flipflops | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Swim wear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries | <input type="checkbox"/> Journal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day pack | <input type="checkbox"/> Team Travel Guide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bug repellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand sanitizer |

ARRIVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Immigration

When you arrive at the Puerto Plata airport, you must pass through immigration. You will go to a window that is handing out visa applications. There are tables where they have sample visa forms filled out in different languages. Thousands of tourists from around the world pass through the Puerto Plata airport every day. Therefore, the procedure is simple. You will write that you are staying at Sosua By the Sea in Sosua and that the purpose of your visit is pleasure (tourist).

Luggage

Once you arrive at the luggage carousel, porters will want to carry your luggage for you. You must decide whether you want to hire a porter or not. If you allow a porter to pick up your luggage, he will expect a tip. We recommend \$1.00 (U.S.) per bag.

If you do not receive all of your luggage, you need to go to the claims counter in the baggage area to inform them that your luggage is lost. **Do not give away your luggage claim tickets for luggage you do not receive.**

When you exit the airport door, a representative of New Missions will be waiting to meet you.

Currency

Most stores accept US dollars. If you want to change money, you may do so at the hotel.



LIVING AND WORKING AT NEW MISSIONS

We trust your time spent in the Dominican Republic will be a rich and meaningful spiritual experience. Your time here will bless the people and strengthen the mission. We hope the following information will help you feel at home with us.

Prayer Time

We advise you to plan your own group devotions during the week.

Meal Times

The hotel offers buffet meals 7:00-10:30 a.m., 12:00-2:00 p.m. and 6:30-10:15 p.m. Our activities will be planned to allow you plenty of time for meal service.

Church Services

Transportation will be provided to attend church services. Be prepared to give a word of greeting, minister in music or drama, puppets, etc. Offerings are taken at church services. Please be willing to give an offering as a Christian witness. Evangelistic services on the beach are within walking distance.

Swimming

It is always best to use the “buddy system.” The hotel asks that you not come to the dining room in your swimsuit.

Fellowship

The hotel does not allow outside people you may meet to come onto their property. There are hotel guards stationed at entrances to check for guests wearing “hotel bands.” If you leave the hotel grounds at night, be sure to stay in a group and remain on the lighted streets.

Mission Policy

- Always let someone know where you are going.
- Do not travel alone; always go in groups of two or more.
- Be back before dark.
- Do not swim alone.
- No smoking or drinking of alcoholic beverages is allowed.

LEAVING THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

You will need the following:

- The immigration card you received on the airplane
- Airline ticket or e-ticket
- Negative Covid-19 Test
- Passport



NEEDED SUPPLIES FOR NEW MISSIONS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

First Aid/Medical Supplies

Band-aids, antibiotic ointment, hydrocortisone cream, children's and adult Tylenol, Advil, Motrin, children's and adult vitamins, antacid, eye drops, cold/flu medicine, mosquito repellent, parasite treatments for children, antibiotics for ear infections, pneumonia, bronchitis, exam equipment – otoscope, blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes

School/Craft Supplies

Colored pencils, white printer paper, coloring books, gluesticks, scissors, construction paper, pipe cleaners, puff balls, beads, yarn, scraps of fabric, ribbon, play dough, craft project kits, school backpacks

Decorations

Balloons, crepe paper, curling ribbon, artificial flowers, school classroom decorations

Hygiene Products

Bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, washcloths, combs or brushes, feminine products

Office Supplies

Staplers, staples, tape, pens, sticky notes, colored printer paper

Miscellaneous

Large Ziploc bags, notebooks (composition), black shoes, white tennis shoes (these are part of the school uniforms and we have students from ages 3-18), new clothing for poor, small toys or jewelry that can be handed out when we go into the different villages, children's books in Spanish, CD's and DVD's in Spanish, Bibles in Spanish.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FACT SHEET

Area:	18,704 square miles (48,443 sq km)
Population:	11,014,501 (2022)
People:	83% Hispanic 17% Euro-American and African-Haitian (Haitian 500,000)
Religion:	93% Roman Catholic; 6.1% Protestant
Language:	Spanish
Literacy:	93.78% (2016)
Capital:	Santo Domingo
Government:	Democratic Republic
Time Zone:	Atlantic
Currency:	Pesos
Employment:	Half of the people are engaged in agriculture - exporting sugar, tobacco, cocoa, coffee and rum
Tourism:	Largest foreign exchange earner. Most tourists come from the U.S., Europe and Canada.
Puerto Plata:	The name means “Silver Port.” The Spaniards sailing toward the harbor saw what looked to them like a lake of silver. Puerto Plata is located 130 miles northwest of Santo Domingo.
Electricity:	110 volts, 60 cycles AC.
Immigration Requirements:	Proof of U.S. citizenship (passport) and return or through ticket are required.

History and Government

The Dominican Republic occupies the eastern two-thirds of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with the nation of Haiti. Christopher Columbus sighted Hispaniola in 1492. Four years later his brother, Bartolomé, founded Santo Domingo, the present-day capital of the Dominican Republic and the oldest city in the Western Hemisphere. Due to its strategic location in relation to the other trading ports in the Caribbean, the Dominican Republic came under the rule of a succession of foreign powers, including France and Haiti, as well as Spain.

Under the leadership of national hero, Juan Pueblo Duarte, independence was declared in 1844, but the government remained unstable, with power passing into hands of a series of dictators. In addition, the nation reverted to Spanish rule for four years between 1861 and 1865. The United States occupied the Dominican Republic from 1916 to 1924, and in 1930 the 30-year reign of Rafael Trujillo began. Although Trujillo expanded industry and introduced economic reforms, his regimes suppressed human rights, engaging in blackmail, torture and murder to ensure his hold on power.

Trujillo was assassinated in 1961, and writer Juan Bosch came to power briefly before being ousted in a 1963 military coup. After a period of instability that included U.S. military intervention in 1965, former Trujillo appointee Joaquin Balaguer was elected president. Despite some instability and periodic election related violence, the country has essentially been governed democratically since the 1960s.

Today the Dominican Republic is progressing as a free and democratic nation. Political demonstrations take place openly and freely in the main streets, and politicians are able to campaign without being censored. Dominicans are involved in the political arena, and newspapers provide a comparatively free and open flow of information for the people.

Climate and Weather in the Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic is considered to be one of the most beautiful places to visit, with its breathtaking sandy beaches, mountainous interior, and gorgeous weather. The weather in the Dominican Republic is tropical year-round, with slight variations dividing it into basically two seasons—summer and winter. The average annual temperature is around 77°F (25°C).

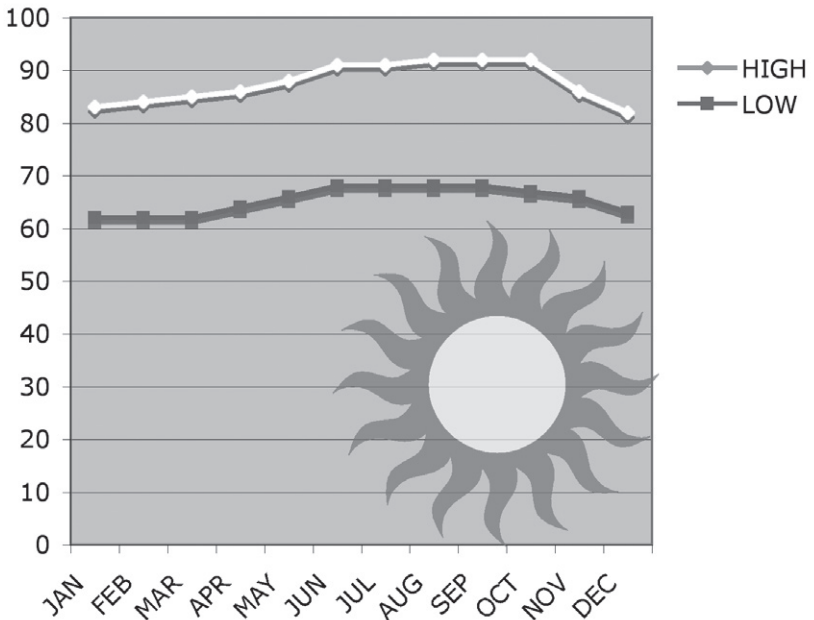
DR

The summer months begin in May and end in October. During this period the average temperature is 77°F (25°C) during the evening, and 87°F (31°C) during the daytime. Along with the warmer weather there is higher humidity causing the temperature to feel “HOT.” It rains more during this season than during the winter, especially in August.

The winter season begins in November and ends in April. This time of year is considered to be pleasantly warm, with low precipitation and low humidity. The temperature ranges from 68° to 84°F (20° to 29°C). However, in the mountainous regions of the interior, the weather is always cooler.

The differences between the two seasons are not always consistent. Sometimes, regardless of the season, there are periods of weeks without any rainfall. Visitors coming to the Dominican Republic at almost anytime can experience blue skies and gorgeous weather.

CLIMATE AVERAGES FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



CULTURE OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Typical Foods

The popular Caribbean dish of rice and beans (arroz con habichuelas) is a staple in the Dominican Republic, where it is nicknamed “the flag” (la bandera) and served with stewed beef. Another favorite dish is sancocho—a meat, plantain, and vegetable stew. Plantains, common throughout the Caribbean, are especially popular in the Dominican Republic. Fried ripe plantains are called amarillos; fried green plantains are called patacón pisao—they become tostones when fried and mashed. Popular snacks include chicharrones (pieces of fried pork) and empanadas (tangy meat patties). Puddings, including sweet rice, corn, and banana pudding, are popular desserts.

Some people think that Caribbean cooking is all the same, but this is not so. Dominican cooking has evolved over the years and from many influences to produce a wonderful, yet simple style of delicious food. Many people have said it is the best food in Latin America. The plain truth is Dominican Republic cooking is simple, wholesome and has a style that is unique to this wonderful island nation.

Music

Music and dance are at the heart of Dominican culture. The most popular form is merengue, which will be blasted full volume almost anywhere you go in the country. A tad more pastoral is bachata—Dominican country music with plenty of songs about heartbreak and loss. Salsa probably takes the third favorite musical genre in the Dominican Republic, though you will find plenty of jazz, rock, hip-hop and just about anything else that will keep your feet moving.

Religion

The importance of religion in the Dominican Republic is reflected in the cross and Bible at the center of the nation’s coat of arms. A significant portion of the money Dominican immigrants send back home is sent to their churches. While approximately 93% of the population is Roman Catholic in name, most do not attend church regularly. Religious customs among observant Catholics include rosarios, processions organized to pray for intercession from a patron saint or the Virgin Mary. Evangelical Protestantism has become increasingly popular in recent years.

Language

Spanish is the official language of the Dominican Republic. English is widely spoken, especially in tourist areas. Traffic signs and most menus in restaurants are in Spanish, although menus in tourist regions tend to be multilingual. Dominican people greatly appreciate it if you speak Spanish. If you mangle the language, they are extremely patient.

When addressing each other, Dominicans use the formal pronoun *usted* instead of the familiar form *tu*, unless the relationship is a very close one. Next, you will find some basic lessons that offer useful Spanish words and phrases.

BASIC SPANISH LESSON

Lesson One – Getting to Know You

Hi, Hello	* Hola	girl	* niña
How are you?	* ¿Cómo estas?	boy	* niño
I'm fine	* Estoy bien	woman	* mujer
Very well	* Muy bien	man	* hombre
And you?	* ¿Y tu?	wife	* esposa
So, So	* Así, Así	husband	* esposo/marido
Thank you	* Gracias	mother	* madre/mama
You're welcome	* De nada	father	* padre/papa
Good morning	* Buenos días	daughter	* hija
Good afternoon	* Buenas tardes	son	* hijo
Good night	* Buenas noches	friend(f / m)	* amiga/amigo
Welcome	* Bienvenidos	teacher (f / m)	* maestra/maestro
Goodbye	* Adiós	pastor	* pastor
See you later	* Hasta luego	worker	* trabajador

Lesson Two – At the Airport

airport	* aeropuerto	customs	* aduana
suitcase	* maleta	money	* dinero
need	* necesito	help	* ayuda
yes	* sí	no	* no
where	* donde	slowly	* despacio
fast/quick	* rápido	wait	* espera
understand	* entiendo	English	* ingles

Lesson Three – Addressing Someone

I	* yo	you (formal)	* usted
you	* tú	you (plural)	* ustedes
he/him	* él	she/her	* ella
they/them (mixed)	* ellos	they/them(f)	* ellas
we/us	* nosotros	everyone	* todos
Mrs.	* señora	Miss	* señorita
Mr./sir	* señor		

Lesson Four - Days of the Week and Seasons

Monday	* Lunes	Friday	* Viernes
Tuesday	* Martes	Saturday	* Sábado
Wednesday	* Miércoles	Sunday	* Domingo
Thursday	* Jueves		
Spring	* Primavera		
Summer	* Verano		
Fall	* Otoño		
Winter	* Invierno		

Lesson Five - Months

January	* Enero	July	* Julio
February	* Febrero	August	* Agosto
March	* Marzo	September	* Septiembre
April	* Abril	October	* Octubre
May	* Mayo	November	* Noviembre
June	* Junio	December	* Diciembre

Lesson Six - Numbers

zero	* cero	sixteen	* dieciséis
one	* uno	seventeen	* diecisiete
two	* dos	eighteen	* dieciocho
three	* tres	nineteen	* diecinueve
four	* cuatro	twenty	* veinte
five	* cinco	twenty-one	* veintiuno
six	* seis	thirty	* treinta
seven	* siete	forty	* cuarenta
eight	* ocho	fifty	* cincuenta
nine	* nueve	sixty	* sesenta
ten	* diez	seventy	* setenta
eleven	* once	eighty	* ochenta
twelve	* doce	ninety	* noventa
thirteen	* trece	one hundred	* cien
fourteen	* catorce	two hundred	* doscientos
fifteen	* quince	one thousand	* mil

Lesson Seven - Food & Useful Words

soft drink	* refresco	sugar	* azúcar
coffee	* café	salt	* sal
cream	* crema	pepper	* pimienta
milk	* leche	bread	* pan
juice	* jugo	eggs	* huevos
tea	* té	oil	* aceite
water	* agua	vinegar	* vinagre
menu	* menú	glass	* taza
plate	* plato	fork	* tenedor
knife	* cuchillo	spoon	* cuchara
small spoon	* cucharita	napkin	* servilleta
good	* bueno	bad	* malo
more	* mas	less	* menos
much	* mucho	a little	* un poco
large	* grande	small	* pequeño

Lesson Eight

Here are some useful phrases along with a Christian song:

English-Spanish

I do not speak Spanish well.

No hablo bien español.

Do you understand?

Usted entiende?

I do not understand

No entiendo. OR No comprendo.

Do you understand English?

¿Entiendes el inglés?

How do you say . . . in Spanish?

¿Como se dice . . . en español?

"I Have Decided"

I have decided to follow Jesus.

He decidido seguir a Cristo.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

He decidido seguir a Cristo.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

He decidido seguir a Cristo.

I won't turn back, I won't turn back.

No vuelvo atrás, no vuelvo atrás.

I won't turn back, I won't turn back.

No vuelvo atrás, no vuelvo atrás.

No, no, I won't turn back.

No, no, no vuelvo atrás.

LIVING LIFE ON THE MISSION FIELD EVERYDAY

Excerpt from *“The Power of One”* ~ by Tim DeTellis

Still Significant?

“Oh, God, why did I leave the mission field?” a former missionary said with anguish. Once they returned to “normal” life, they often faced a subtle, though excruciating, self-accusation: I have stopped being significant.

Yet I saw missionaries in Haiti who seemed to be trying to find that significance merely in the results of their efforts and ending up feeling incomplete. They had built an orphanage, schools, homes for widows, or they had helped the local people set up small businesses. These missionaries were able to see incredibly worthwhile projects come into reality.

But then something would get them discouraged, and they would come to our mission and tell us they were going home. They would lose their feeling of significance.

Over and out.

I recall being at church in the States as a young child, and watching couples walking down the aisle. The pastor would introduce them as missionaries to some far away country. Wow! God has called them? What about me?

Even in Haiti, I knew there were other missionaries living on the north side of the island where it’s more arid, and there is a lot less vegetation. I wondered, “Could I go suffer more there and have a greater significance? Or if I were to go work in Port-au-Prince where the population is dense, disease so rampant, and the living conditions are so cramped, would I have a more significant impact?”

Have you ever thought, “If God would call me to the altar like those missionary couples to work overseas for Him, would God some day say, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant?’” It seems there’s no end to the human desire for significance—no matter what great works we have left along our journey. But, I wonder if my life is not significant here and now, will it be “over there?”

Returning Home

Some people who ended up working in Haiti had simply gotten tired of their lives in the States, tired of their routines and their jobs, and one day they said, “I’m going to the mission field. I’ll breathe fresh air and live a life of significance and make an impact on the world!” They arrived overseas, and their habits and disciplines remained the same. So did their problems, disappointments and frustrations. So did their emptiness.

It helps to remember we’re all missionaries, all mentors of somebody, no matter where we are. For some of us, it means being a missionary to our family, our siblings, or our children.

I also think of the business person quite a bit, because as a missionary kid I met many great people who support the work of missions. The money comes from people who have jobs, after all. (If all business people sold everything they had and left their jobs to work overseas, who would give them the funding to be there?) Everyday professionals—doctors, teachers, secretaries, business owners, investors—all have genuine callings.

The home, school, office, backyard, the neighborhood basketball court... where is your mission field? Where are you being significant?

It’s not that our mission field needs to be overseas; the whole world is our mission field. Wherever we stand, may we be a servant leader and bring hope and joy.

Your mission field is wherever you are standing.
What are you waiting for?



COMMUNICATING YOUR MISSION EXPERIENCE IN A PRESENTATION

Hopefully you will have an opportunity to share about your experience in Haiti or in the Dominican Republic. If you are not asked to do so, take the initiative and ask about opportunities to share at church, school, and community clubs. Perhaps your local newspaper would be willing to do a story about your trip and the needs of children in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Here are a few tips for communicating your mission trip experience:

- Use your journal to refresh your memory when planning a presentation.
- You won't be able to tell about everything that happened. Pick a few highlights to share.
- Name one way that you are different now than before going to the Dominican Republic.
- Tell what you want to do as a result of the trip.
- Name one thing that God taught you.
- Share how your understanding or attitude has changed.
- If people informally ask about your trip, instead of saying, "It was good," be prepared to tell a one-minute story about your time in Haiti or the Dominican Republic.

In his book, *Stepping Out - A Guide to Short-Term Missions*, Ron Blue offers 12 ways to help communicate your experience:

1. Record your stories while on the mission field—memory does fail.
2. Be ready to share—have a quick story ready for when someone asks about your trip.
3. Take initiative—schedule presentations, etc..
4. Speak up and speak clearly.
5. Start strong—your opening sentence ought to have a hook in it with bait that arouses curiosity.

Returning Home

6. Paint verbal pictures—help listeners visualize your stories.
7. Illustrate your story—if you use slides, select only top-quality images and keep them moving quickly.
8. Focus on people—use stories that touch the heart.
9. Convey important lessons.
10. Accentuate the positive—try to relate everything positively.
11. Encourage interaction—save time for questions.
12. Stop on time.

Notes on Keeping a Spiritual Journal

By Howard and Bonnie Lisech

Congratulations on your decision to travel, serve, and minister in another culture and location. What a tremendous opportunity to grow and mature. Keeping a journal will help you remember some of the things God does in your life.

Make a conscious effort to listen to and be open to whatever God wants to teach you. Use the journal pages to record your thoughts. Try to focus on and answer one or more of the following questions:

- What is God teaching me about Himself in terms of who He is?
- What is the Lord using to encourage me about His love and care for me?
- What is God teaching me about His purpose and plan for me?
- What is God teaching me about myself?
- What is God doing that is causing me to re-evaluate my life goals and values?
- What person or concern is the Lord leading me to pray for?
- What attitude changes or actions of obedience do I think God wants me to make?

(Used by permission of the authors.)

You are on the team. Join the conversation.

 facebook.com/newmissions

 instagram.com/newmissions

 twitter.com/newmissions

Be an Advocate of Hope and Joy

Now that you have returned from the mission field you may be asking...what's next?

Every day New Missions is faced with the needs of children we have not yet reached. Our calling is to bring hope into the lives of those in need, and hope is found in knowing Jesus. New Missions strives to bring joy into the lives of those in need. Joy brings strength. Each child deserves to experience this great blessing.

This is where you come in. As a New Missions' Advocate, your involvement will make a life-changing difference. Your vital efforts will bring a miracle to the life of a child, and a change for eternity. As we launch a variety of campaigns at New Missions, we welcome your involvement in spreading the news.

Here are ways you can become involved as a New Missions' Advocate:

1. Speak out about the children of New Missions in your church, office, school and community.
2. Speak out about the children of New Missions at events, conferences and concerts.
3. Speak out about the children of New Missions by telling your family and friends.

Here are a few ways you can get involved with New Missions:

⇒ Sponsor a Child - You can personally support a child in one of our schools, and enjoy sharing letters and photos throughout the years. Your sponsorship helps provide education, food and medical care. Most importantly, a local church is part of your child's school and serves in their community.

⇒ Shoebox Drive - You can host a Christmas Shoebox Drive collection at your church, school, or office. Invite others to join you in giving the gift that opens the heart.

⇒ Church & School Construction - Each year, we identify several locations where we will build churches and schools. Construction of these buildings is completed by an all-Haitian crew—providing jobs in their communities, which strengthens families and supports the local economy. Your entire donation, no matter the amount, will be used toward building these facilities to impact communities long-term.

It is that easy, yet so vital. Again, many thanks for being a New Missions Advocate. I believe that we will celebrate together in heaven one day for all of the lives reached due to our combined efforts.

Serving together,



Timothy DeTellis
President, New Missions
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