

# **GNI Personal Covenant**

**I recognize and accept the following conditions which will further the usefulness and safety of our short-term mission. If accepted as a member of this mission team, I agree to:**

1. 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.
2. Abstain from making derogatory comments or arguments regarding people, politics, sports, religion, race or traditions.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 this local mission host, and to do my best to help them attain their long-term goals.
6. Attend all team meetings during the mission trip.
7. Expeditiously follow up on all requirements for passports, visas, inoculations, financial obligations, travel insurance, etc.
8. Refrain from meddling, complaining and obscene or insensitive humor. I realize that others on my team during the journey and while onsite will be looking at me as an example of how a Christian conducts himself 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.
9. Regard the different styles of worship with respect. I promise that where I see the need, I will witness my faith, but without a superior, colonial attitude.
10. If a loved one or dear friend is traveling with me, we agree to interact with all members of the team, not just deal with one another. I promise not to initiate or seek new romantic relationships with team members during the trip.
11. Avoid any actions which might be perceived as amorous attentions toward indigenous people I meet.
12. Refrain from using tobacco or alcoholic beverages while in the host country.
13. Remember, we are the new Christians from another part of the world and will be watched very closely. I will not take lightly this important responsibility of setting a good example.

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14. Act as a servant-disciple of the local pastor or mission organization. I will respect the advice I am given concerning attire, eating, drinking, and other such traditions, which will help me to assimilate into the local culture.
15. 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 areas as fully as possible.
16. I agree that in the event my conduct is considered so unsatisfactory that it jeopardizes the success of the trip, and/or that medication during the trip has failed to correct my behavior; that my services in connection with this mission trip shall end and I shall return home immediately at my own expense.
17. In signing below, I represent that I am 18 years of age and accept the above conditions. If I am under 18 years of the age, my parent must sign the additional form entitled: "Parental Statement of Permission".

**Participant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

*(If participant is under 18 years of age, additional form must be signed by parent/guardian)*

Participant's Name: (PLEASE PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_ \_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Cell  Other \_\_\_\_\_