



## INTRODUCTION

NEXT is our two semester discipleship and training program for college aged students. This program focuses on discerning God's calling and developing the practical skills to prepare you for what comes NEXT.

NEXT trains each student using a strong biblical foundation, to recognize opportunity and resources, to develop the leadership and organization skills to pursue their calling, and to strengthen them with the personal and spiritual disciplines to meet the challenges. The unique quality of the program comes from the serene location of Southern Oregon, and the personal connection between disciple and mentor in a relational setting.

The areas of training include inductive bible study and practical theology, on-site leadership training and development, community service, living in community with the other students, local work internships, and conclude with each student developing a plan for their own sustainable ministry.

By completing this program you will be further prepared for what God prepared for your future. You will be given opportunity to assess your gifts as well as calling, by taking on leadership responsibility, program development, bible teaching, administrative tasks and allow us to assist you in your NEXT steps. You will have also brought yourself into contact with other believers from all over the United States interested in pursuing similar callings, thus enhancing your practical as well as biblical support as you move on.

As you grow in a relationship with Christ, we know that He will direct your life in worship, service, ministry and godly living in this world. Our unique ministry allows us to customize the learning experience to help meet the needs important and relevant to you, the student.

The semesters are built upon one another, but there are some cases where you can attend just one semester to get some training before moving into the ministry that God has for you. There may also opportunity for you to pursue college credits, by enrolling in distance learning course at an accredited institution, but the program requirements must remain a priority.

Our campus is located in Williams, Oregon and surrounded by the peaceful Southern Oregon countryside and forests. Therefore, the student is given an atmosphere to focus upon the Word and work without the typical demands and distractions of daily living.



A Program of The Church Works

## CONTENTS

Steps to joining the program...

Tuition...

Upon arrival & during your stay...

Rules and guidelines...

Application form...

Reference forms...

Team Covenant...



## APPLYING FOR NEXT

The first step is to prayerfully consider whether you are ready to let God change you.... A firm foundation of faith as a Christian is a necessary ingredient to join the program. As a testimony to your maturity as a believer we will need you to submit three references in support of your application to join the program. The first reference should be from your pastor and the others should be from Christian friends, mentors or leaders who have known you for several years and can comment upon your walk with the Lord. While your reference forms are being completed, you will need to complete the NEXT application form.

Because of the time required to process an application and to make certain that housing accommodations can be made, we request that you submit your applications no later than SIX weeks prior to the semester's beginning. However, we will accept a "late application" on a case-by-case space-available basis.

If you are a first time (first semester) student at The Church Works you need to fill out an application and three reference forms and return it to us.

Send us your completed application and \$50 application fee, reference forms, and other information to our mailing address:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams Or, 97544

OR

Email the application to [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org) and we will send you information to submit your application fee and deposit online.

If you have already attended a program with The Church Works, then you need to request a returning student application. You can mail us your application along with your application fee of \$50 or email the application to [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org) and we will send you information to submit your payment online.

Once we receive the application materials you will usually receive a decision within a month. This notification comes by a letter in the mail or by email.

The Admissions decision is made on the following basis:

1. **Spiritual Maturity:** Information contained in the application, including the student's Personal Profile Sketch, Spiritual Life Profile, and Statement of Faith. The most important aspect is that the student has a heart to seek the Lord and a desire to grow.
2. **Personal References:** Recommendations from three sources, one of which must be a pastor.
3. **Academic Preparedness:** Evidence of completion of high school, a G.E.D. program, or proficiency exam.
4. If you are accepted you will receive an acceptance letter, program information, and class & book list. You will need to send a \$200 non-refundable deposit. This reserves a place at NEXT and confirms to us your intention to attend. This \$200 deposit will be applied to your overall tuition cost.
5. Once accepted you should make flight reservations as soon as possible.



## TUITION

Tuition per semester is \$4,200 per student.

Tuition includes:

- class registration fees
- rooming for one fifteen-week semester
- preset meals prepared at the house. (daily breakfast and dinner)
- internet
- Laundry facilities

Additional Costs:

Because some students will be paid for their internships, some of the additional costs may be offset by the money they earn during the program.

- Groceries or Meals not provided at the house.
- Outreach expenses. \$350 minimum for week long. Possible \$50 per local.
- Expenses related to local travel not covered by the program.
- Books
- Insurance. Each student must have their own health insurance and provide proof of insurance upon arrival.

Tuition Payments:

After you receive a letter of acceptance, we will need to receive \$200 non-refundable deposit to hold your reservation for the upcoming semester and to confirm your intention to come. The deposit is put towards the total cost of tuition. The remaining tuition must be paid in full before the beginning of each semester.

How To Pay Tuition:

Tuition can be paid by credit card or check made out to 'The Church Works'.

To pay by credit card either:

- #1.) fax it in using the credit card form, (at the bottom of the Application)
- #2.) email the credit card form to [application@thechurchworks.org](mailto:application@thechurchworks.org),
- #3.) you may call us with your credit card information at 1 (877) 484-8468

To pay by check: make it out to "The Church Works" and mail to:

The Church Works  
PO BOX 68  
Williams, OR 97544

Returning Student Discount

We offer discounts to returning students.

For additional details please contact us at [info@thechurchworks.org](mailto:info@thechurchworks.org).



## UPON ARRIVAL & DURING YOUR STAY...

The days following your arrival will be an opportunity to become accustomed with your. During your first full day here, we will have an orientation in which you will be introduced to the team and to the area in which you will be living and working, while still giving you some time to adjust. The program will begin the first Monday after your arrival. You should be ready to move full speed ahead into the program...

Each day begins with a personal devotion time followed by a group breakfast and prayer, which everyone is required to attend. During the day there will be a variety of scheduled activities and personal time. These will include class sessions (taught by Missionaries, pastors, teachers and guest speakers), study times, outdoor activities, and fellowship.

We'll be encouraging you to get to know the staff at the house, and any guests that come through. Some of the program may overlap with conferences and you will be able to mix and fellowship with the guests, and there are often great opportunities to sit in on the nightly studies taught by excellent guest speakers and pastors.

While attending classes you will be challenged in the personal application of what you're learning. Our desire is to equip you, through teaching and practical opportunities, to gain a mission & ministry perspective on life so that you can move into life as a ministering person with basic skills to study and share your faith.

We will encourage you to develop a servant-like attitude and each team member will be expected to serve, on average, one to two hours a day of servant-hood ministry. In addition we are all expected to work to keep our rooms and facilities clean.

During your stay at the campus, you will live in a house with the other students and staff members. Because you are sharing your space with others, be considerate of what personal belongings you bring with you. The house will have personal space, study areas, common areas, and shared facilities for you to take full advantage. And the serene location in the mountains allows for many great outdoor spaces for your own quiet times.

Mail can be received at the house address and it is common to get a PO Box at the local Post Office for a small fee to keep your mail separate and personal if you desire.

Our objective is for this program to be a great blessing to you, as well as an opportunity for you to grow in the Lord and in His grace. As you attend the program, it is important to keep in mind we are missionaries in our community and each person represents the message we share with our neighbors. Because you represent our ministry as a conduit for God's word, we ask you respect our position as mentor and elder while in attendance.

This program will be one of the most significant times of your life in developing your calling and ministry as a young adult. We look forward to serving you and making your time here productive and educational. We will work with each person as individuals and a group member to make sure we are meeting your needs and accomplishing your goals. Your full participation in this process is necessary to your own success. As you attend, come with a humble heart and mind to serve, learn, seek and discover God's calling. You will not be disappointed.



## RULES AND GUIDELINES

The following things are not permitted:

- Drinking of alcohol on or off campus.
- The use of recreational drugs.
- Smoking cigarettes.
- Dyeing hair unnatural colors.
- Unmarried students of the opposite sex living together.
- Student Relationships: We ask that you avoid making romantic attachments a focus while in attendance. It is our hope that you and the other students will not be distracted from your studies because of a priority on romance and flirting. If, however, you enter into a relationship please maintain a godly focus.
- Clothing: Dress appropriately and modestly. The staff reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of a person's dress. Do not wear clothing that will stumble your brother or sister or misrepresent Christ to the community.

### Why These Rules?

We know that some people feel at liberty to practice some of these things as a Christian. These rules are in effect, not because we believe you will be more righteous if you do or don't do these things, but so that we don't stumble others or draw undue attention to fleshly appearances. We want to draw people's attention to the beauty of Christ and His love and not hinder our witness as we study in a foreign culture by those who may not understand certain liberties.

The missionary / Apostle Paul said in 1 Cor 9:19,

“For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more”.

Please see the pages below for the Application and Reference forms.



A Program of The Church Works

Note: Data Protection Act (1988) Personal details supplied will only be used for the purposes of NEXT program and will not be divulged to any third party.

<b>APPLICATION</b>	Page 1 of 3
--------------------	-------------

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

1. Name (First and Last)

2. Email Address

3. Home Address <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Phone Number (    ) <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
--	--

4. Mailing Address (if different)

5. Age & Date of Birth: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Place of Birth: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
--	--

6. Marital Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> Single	<input type="checkbox"/> Married	<input type="checkbox"/> Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/> Separated	<input type="checkbox"/> Widowed
--------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------------------

7. Parent's Name (if still living at home)

8. Passport Number :	Date Issued:	Nationality:
Country of Issue <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Expiration Date <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	

9. Social Security Number:

10. Do you have a driver's license?  ID#  State/Country

11. Languages other than English ?  If so, which?   
 How well do you speak it/them?  Fluent  I get by  Only a few words

12. Can you live in dormitory style housing?

13. Are you able and willing to work hard?

14. Are you a High School graduate?  What year did you graduate?

15. If you are not, what school do you now attend?

16. How did you first hear about NEXT?  From my Pastor  From the internet  
 From a former participant Other:

17. Have you seen our :  Brochure  Video  Pastor's Presentation  
 Webpage



A Program of The Church Works

Application for NEXT

Page 2 of 3

**MEDICAL INFORMATION:**

We are not close to medical facilities, and the standard of care may be different, though not necessarily of poorer quality, than you currently experience.

Even simple medications can be difficult to locate and identify because of differing brand names and variations in local drug laws.

It is YOUR responsibility to ensure that you have made adequate provision to meet any known medical conditions. We will be happy to advise on any queries that you or your physician may have prior to your arrival, but we strongly recommend that you take out medical insurance to cover the period of the program.

For your peace of mind (and ours!) we feel it appropriate to ask you to provide the following personal details to allow us to meet your needs to the best of our ability.

1. Please describe any physical disabilities that you have

2. If you are now, or have ever been, under psychiatric care please describe the details

3. Please describe any medication, or treatment you are presently receiving

4. How would you describe your current health status?     good                       average                       poor

5. Please describe any special dietary needs that you require

6. Do you have Health Insurance that will cover you in Hungary?

Name of Insurance Company

Policy Number

7. Name of person to contact in case of an emergency:

Phone Number

Relationship



A Program of The Church Works

## Application for NEXT

Page 3 of 3

### CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE:

1. What church do you currently attend and how long have you attended?

2. Have you ever attended another church?  
If so, which one and for how long?

3. What is your present pastor's name?

Address

Phone Number

4. Please describe any responsibilities in your church

5. Please describe any experience you've had in Christian Leadership?

6. What are your future plans?

7. Have you ever considered missionary work?

8. If you have a desire for any place in particular, where?

9. On a separate sheet of paper (no more than one page), please describe how and when you became "born again", any subsequent spiritual experiences, and why you wish to come on the program

### RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

I hereby release The Church Works, its agents, employees, and volunteer assistants from any liability whatsoever arising out of injury, damage, or loss, which may be sustained by said applicant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature (if under 18)

Date

By signing, you are agreeing with us to recognize the leadership and oversight of the pastoral team at The Church Works, as well as to abide by the operational regulations and requirements.

The program is intended to provide encouragement, guidance and teaching for those with a genuine desire to grow in their walk and seek the Lord's direction for their life. To ensure that this remains the objective, we do reserve the right to remove from the program any one who chooses not to support these intentions.

Revised : November 30, 2009



Please have the three reference forms filled out and send to us as well.



A Program of The Church Works

### NEXT PASTORAL REFERENCE FORM

**To the applicant:** Print your name and address on the lines below. Provide your "Referee" with a stamped envelope addressed to:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams, OR 97544  
**or email to [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 permits students the right to inspect their files. Because of the importance of preserving the confidentiality of a reference, the Act permits an applicant to waive his right of access to the reference. By signing below, the applicant willingly waives his right of access to see this recommendation knowing that this waiver is NOT required as a condition for admission.

Note: Data Protection Act 1998 (UK) Personal details supplied will only be used for the purposes of NEXT program and will not be divulged to any third party.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To the "Referee":** The above named applicant has applied to join NEXT program this year. Only those Christian men and women who are seeking to grow and mature in their walk will be considered for this program. We have found that the nature of the program may not be appropriate for everyone – being away from home and familiar things can be a breaking experience for some. Though this can be a wonderful opportunity to grow closer to the Lord, it's really only for those who have a solid foundation to build on. Our heart is to work with the Holy Spirit and invest in lives, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, rather than make life unnecessarily hard for anyone! We do ask that you consider this carefully before recommending anyone whom may need a firmer foundation to build on.

1. How long have you known the applicant?

2. How long has the applicant been an active Christian?

3. Describe the evidence you see in the applicant's life of his or her commitment to follow Christ

4. What gifts or ministries do you feel God has given the applicant?



A Program of The Church Works

**NEXT PASTORAL REFERENCE FORM**

Page 2 of 2

**Character Assessment**

Please rate the applicant in the following areas on a scale of '1-10,' with '1' being low, and '10' being high. Please mark with a '?' if you have no way to judge the particular characteristic.

Responsibility	Ability to faithfully assume and carry out duties or obligations	<input type="text"/>
Adaptability	Ability to adjust to changes in circumstances	<input type="text"/>
Perseverance	Ability to move ahead in the face of adversity	<input type="text"/>
Decisiveness	Ability to synthesize information and choose a direction	<input type="text"/>
Social Poise	Social demeanour or confidence	<input type="text"/>
Co-operation/Teamwork	Ability to work with other people	<input type="text"/>
Communication	Ability to present, evaluate, and exchange thoughts with clarity	<input type="text"/>
Spiritual Maturity	Demonstrates maturity and consistency in Christian walk	<input type="text"/>
Church Involvement	Relationship with local church	<input type="text"/>
Emotional Stability	Response to stressful situations	<input type="text"/>
Personal Ministry	Active, positive influence on others for Christ on a personal basis	<input type="text"/>
Leadership (demonstrated)	Real evidence of ability to direct, guide, or influence people	<input type="text"/>
Leadership (potential)	Abilities and skills necessary for development of quality leadership	<input type="text"/>

Please provide any additional information you consider important for us to review regarding this applicant on the back of this form.

Pastor's Signature

Date

Church

Mail To:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams, OR 97544

or email: [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org)



A Program of The Church Works

### NEXT PASTORAL REFERENCE FORM

**To the applicant:** Print your name and address on the lines below. Provide your "Referee" with a stamped envelope addressed to:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams, OR 97544  
**or email to [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 permits students the right to inspect their files. Because of the importance of preserving the confidentiality of a reference, the Act permits an applicant to waive his right of access to the reference. By signing below, the applicant willingly waives his right of access to see this recommendation knowing that this waiver is NOT required as a condition for admission.

Note: Data Protection Act 1998 (UK) Personal details supplied will only be used for the purposes of NEXT program and will not be divulged to any third party.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To the "Referee":** The above named applicant has applied to join NEXT program this year. Only those Christian men and women who are seeking to grow and mature in their walk will be considered for this program. We have found that the nature of the program may not be appropriate for everyone – being away from home and familiar things can be a breaking experience for some. Though this can be a wonderful opportunity to grow closer to the Lord, it's really only for those who have a solid foundation to build on. Our heart is to work with the Holy Spirit and invest in lives, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, rather than make life unnecessarily hard for anyone! We do ask that you consider this carefully before recommending anyone whom may need a firmer foundation to build on.

1. How long have you known the applicant?

2. How long has the applicant been an active Christian?

3. Describe the evidence you see in the applicant's life of his or her commitment to follow Christ

4. What gifts or ministries do you feel God has given the applicant?



A Program of The Church Works

**NEXT PASTORAL REFERENCE FORM**

Page 2 of 2

**Character Assessment**

Please rate the applicant in the following areas on a scale of '1-10,' with '1' being low, and '10' being high. Please mark with a '?' if you have no way to judge the particular characteristic.

Responsibility	Ability to faithfully assume and carry out duties or obligations	<input type="text"/>
Adaptability	Ability to adjust to changes in circumstances	<input type="text"/>
Perseverance	Ability to move ahead in the face of adversity	<input type="text"/>
Decisiveness	Ability to synthesize information and choose a direction	<input type="text"/>
Social Poise	Social demeanour or confidence	<input type="text"/>
Co-operation/Teamwork	Ability to work with other people	<input type="text"/>
Communication	Ability to present, evaluate, and exchange thoughts with clarity	<input type="text"/>
Spiritual Maturity	Demonstrates maturity and consistency in Christian walk	<input type="text"/>
Church Involvement	Relationship with local church	<input type="text"/>
Emotional Stability	Response to stressful situations	<input type="text"/>
Personal Ministry	Active, positive influence on others for Christ on a personal basis	<input type="text"/>
Leadership (demonstrated)	Real evidence of ability to direct, guide, or influence people	<input type="text"/>
Leadership (potential)	Abilities and skills necessary for development of quality leadership	<input type="text"/>

Please provide any additional information you consider important for us to review regarding this applicant on the back of this form.

Pastor's Signature

Date

Church

Mail To:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams, OR 97544

or email: [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org)



A Program of The Church Works

### NEXT PASTORAL REFERENCE FORM

**To the applicant:** Print your name and address on the lines below. Provide your "Referee" with a stamped envelope addressed to:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams, OR 97544  
**or email to [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 permits students the right to inspect their files. Because of the importance of preserving the confidentiality of a reference, the Act permits an applicant to waive his right of access to the reference. By signing below, the applicant willingly waives his right of access to see this recommendation knowing that this waiver is NOT required as a condition for admission.

Note: Data Protection Act 1998 (UK) Personal details supplied will only be used for the purposes of NEXT program and will not be divulged to any third party.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To the "Referee":** The above named applicant has applied to join NEXT program this year. Only those Christian men and women who are seeking to grow and mature in their walk will be considered for this program. We have found that the nature of the program may not be appropriate for everyone – being away from home and familiar things can be a breaking experience for some. Though this can be a wonderful opportunity to grow closer to the Lord, it's really only for those who have a solid foundation to build on. Our heart is to work with the Holy Spirit and invest in lives, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, rather than make life unnecessarily hard for anyone! We do ask that you consider this carefully before recommending anyone whom may need a firmer foundation to build on.

1. How long have you known the applicant?

2. How long has the applicant been an active Christian?

3. Describe the evidence you see in the applicant's life of his or her commitment to follow Christ

4. What gifts or ministries do you feel God has given the applicant?



A Program of The Church Works

**NEXT PASTORAL REFERENCE FORM**

**Character Assessment**

Please rate the applicant in the following areas on a scale of '1-10,' with '1' being low, and '10' being high. Please mark with a '?' if you have no way to judge the particular characteristic.

Responsibility	Ability to faithfully assume and carry out duties or obligations	<input type="text"/>
Adaptability	Ability to adjust to changes in circumstances	<input type="text"/>
Perseverance	Ability to move ahead in the face of adversity	<input type="text"/>
Decisiveness	Ability to synthesize information and choose a direction	<input type="text"/>
Social Poise	Social demeanour or confidence	<input type="text"/>
Co-operation/Teamwork	Ability to work with other people	<input type="text"/>
Communication	Ability to present, evaluate, and exchange thoughts with clarity	<input type="text"/>
Spiritual Maturity	Demonstrates maturity and consistency in Christian walk	<input type="text"/>
Church Involvement	Relationship with local church	<input type="text"/>
Emotional Stability	Response to stressful situations	<input type="text"/>
Personal Ministry	Active, positive influence on others for Christ on a personal basis	<input type="text"/>
Leadership (demonstrated)	Real evidence of ability to direct, guide, or influence people	<input type="text"/>
Leadership (potential)	Abilities and skills necessary for development of quality leadership	<input type="text"/>

Please provide any additional information you consider important for us to review regarding this applicant on the back of this form.

Pastor's Signature

Date

Church

Mail To:

The Church Works  
PO Box 68  
Williams, OR 97544

or email: [next@thechurchworks.org](mailto:next@thechurchworks.org)



A Program of The Church Works

## Credit Card Transaction Information

Today's date:

### Student Information

Name of student 

First:	Middle:
Last:	

Home Address:

Phone Number

Semester Date      Fall:       Spring:       Summer:

### Credit Card Information

Credit card      MasterCard       Visa

Name on the card 

First:	Middle:
Last:	

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

Amount of transaction

The three or four digit security code (either on the front or back of the card)

*By submitting this information I hereby give The Church Works authorization to receive payment with this credit card.*



A Program of The Church Works

## **MEMBER COVENANT**

The following Covenant is an agreement between each member, one to another, and the leaders:

### **PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

Our purpose is to allow God to work through us to glorify Himself, and demonstrate His love to others.

### **FLEXIBILITY:**

I Corinthians 9:9 states, *"For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more."* We agree to be flexible in our attitudes, actions and circumstances as we allow Christ's purposes to be carried out through us. *"To the weak I am weak; I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some."* I Corinthians 9:22.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY:**

Philippians 2:3 states *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself."* In all our actions in this program, we are individually accountable to God first of all. We agree to be accountable to the leaders, supervisors and other members of our group. We also agree to encourage each other to be faithful servants of God. Hebrews 10:24 states, *"But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called 'today' lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."*

### **RESPONSIBILITY:**

Philippians 2:4 states, *"Do not merely look out for your personal interests, but also for the interests of others."* As members, we pledge to carry out our tasks in a responsible and timely manner. We will handle all ministry equipment and assignments as tools and gifts in which God has entrusted to us. *"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."* Colossians 3:23.

### **TIME/PUNCTUALITY:**

Philippians 2:3 states, *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself."* We agree to exhibit respect to members and others by arriving on time and carrying out tasks on time. If a situation arises which causes one to be late, we agree to inform leaders and/or members right away. We agree that time is given to us for God to accomplish His purposes and being punctual is an outward display of using God-given time wisely.

### **CULTURE:**

As a group, we realize that we are entering other cultures as guests. We will, to the best of our ability, refrain from passing judgment on customs that are foreign to us because they are simply different. We realize that we answer first and foremost to God, therefore we will refrain from any activities that violate God's Word. If this occurs, we will be sensitive as to how we approach this, explaining to the best of our ability the reason for our inability to participate in whatever activity is presenting itself. As a team, we will strive to show respect to those who are native to the country we are ministering by learning their customs and culture as well as living as they do. We hope that we may gain credibility as people with a genuine love for them as we labor to present the news of Christ to them.



A Program of The Church Works

**TRAVEL:**

Before planning any trips outside of our pre-scheduled group itinerary, we will discuss it with the leader. We agree to stay together in a group wherever we may go, unless given permission to be apart from the group.

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION:**

As a group, we agree that when we have conflicts and differences among ourselves, we will, first through prayer and time in the Word, examine ourselves for selfish motives and unrealistic expectations of the other person. We will take responsibility to approach or confront the other person if it is appropriate. We will do this in love, for the purpose of restoring unity. We will forgive one another and pray together. We will not discuss the matter with other members of the team, causing them to become involved in the conflict. *"In your anger, do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold."* Ephesians 4:26-27. If a conflict cannot be settled among the two parties, they will then seek council from the group leader.

**TEAM UNITY:**

We agree that being united as a team means that as in Philippians 2:1-2, we must be *"like minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose."* We will accomplish this as outlined in Philippians 2:3-8: *We will do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility, consider others better than ourselves. We will look not only to our own interests, but also to the interest of others.*

We realize that each member is vital and has something unique to contribute; he or she should be encouraged and given opportunity to develop and utilize his/her spiritual gifts. Romans 12:4-6 states, *"For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. And since we have gifts that differ, according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly."*

**GOSSIP:**

As a group we agree to speak only words to and about each other that will serve to build up and encourage. We will refrain from remarks that would hurt or tear down. *"With the tongue we will praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?"*

James 3:9-11.

**RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD:**

Luke 10:27 states *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and love your neighbor as yourself."* As members, we agree to seek out an ever-increasing dependence and deepening relationship with God through Christ by setting personal devotions as a priority and humility before God in all communication and circumstances.

**RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS:**

God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble. Proverbs 3:34 states, *"Though He scoffs at the scoffers, yet He gives grace to the afflicted."* We also seek to place other team members needs ahead of our own and seek out understanding in all relationships. We will respect each other by submitting to one another out of reverence to Christ. Ephesians 5:21 states, *"...and be subject to one another in the fear of*



A Program of The Church Works

*Christ.*" This includes listening to each other's opinions, ideas and needs, and respecting time, property, and sleep.

***RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCALS:***

In our relationships with locals we will be obedient to the absolute truth of God and be women and men of integrity in our behaviors and motives. We will respect any cultural differences we may encounter. In all circumstances, we will seek to glorify God. We will demonstrate our love for God and others to the community, educational leaders and guests by respecting their opinions and differences. We will support their endeavors by coming alongside of them with servant hearts and teachable spirits. I Peter 4:8-10 states, *"Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."*

***RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX:***

We will uphold the directives of The Church Works by maintaining relationships with other members as brothers and sisters in Christ and friendship. We will not engage in dating relationships with each other or locals. We will also respect other cultural values of relationships with the opposite sex.

***RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEAM LEADERS:***

In light of Romans 13:1, *"Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities,"* we will respect our God-given leadership by understanding their responsibility, accepting their decisions, and praying before we approach them with our disagreements. While submitting to and obeying their authority, we will treat them as friends and give them privacy at the proper times.

***THE CHURCH WORKS SHORT TERM POLICIES:*** As a short-term missionary participating with The Church Works short-term missions, we are reminded that we are ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we go to minister, we do not only represent Him but also The Church Works. This is a tremendous responsibility; consequently we confess our dependence on the Holy Spirit that we will be above reproach in our actions and attitudes as stated in the above Covenant.



A Program of The Church Works

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Why do you think it is important that each member agree to the member Covenant?
2. Was there anything in the Covenant that you would not be able to agree to?
3. What areas do you think will be the most challenging for you during your time in the program?
4. What area(s) do you think will be the easiest to follow during your time in the program?

## AGREEMENT TO TEAM COVENANT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a member of a program with The Church Works, have read this member Covenant and promise before God to abide by all of the policies and statements contained therein by the grace of God.

If at any time in my service during this program, my behavior constitutes a problem, The Church reserves the right and authority to return me home. Any additional costs incurred as a result of this action will be at my expense.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign and date this form and return it to The Church Works.**