

MAG: A brief history

Mission Action Groups (MAGs) began in the 1970s after a plea for help of this kind came from some missionaries serving the Lord in Columbia. It was an effort to encourage young people yearning to serve the Lord with other like-minded Christians to go on short term missions trips stateside as well as abroad. Over the years the Lord has blessed and used this kind of service.

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them to the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have enjoined you. – Matthew 28:19, 20

And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. – Colossians 3:17

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men. – Colossians 3:23

Quote from a MAG participant:

“We worked together with the local saints so that they were fully aware of what was done. We would only be there for two weeks but they were there all year. We desired that what was done during the MAG weeks would be complementary to the work of the local saints.”



Mission Action Group

Revived

Participant's Guide

Introduction

If you are interested in serving the Lord on a short-term mission trip, and you do not know how or where to get started, this guide provides some help for what will be a life-changing experience. The approach to participating in a short-term mission trip—often called a Mission Action Group, or MAG team-- is summarized in the following steps: **Pray, Prepare, Plan, and Pray Again.**

Each step will be explained in this guide. May the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of the harvest, truly equip and send you into His field to work for Him.

Pray

The servant of the Lord's life must be marked by prayer. Pray and ask the Lord to search your heart so that you may be sure your motives are right before Him (Psalms 139:20). Pray for wisdom to be able to honestly assess your gifts and abilities and then dedicate them to the Lord (James 1:5). Pray for the Lord to show you where and when you can go on a short-term missions trip. Most of all pray this: "Your will be done" (Matthew 6:19).

Prepare

Explore the different opportunities to serve the Lord. Periodically check www.pbmag.org to see what has been announced and scheduled.

Read *Missionary Bulletin* to see what the Lord is doing in various parts of the world. Look for an area and work that is of interest; make calls to get information from the workers mentioned in that area.

Be involved at home! If you are interested in children's work, be involved with children's work at home. If your interest is in a work week, be involved in some similar work at home.

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it... Ezra 7:10

Plan

You will need to download and fill out the MAG Participant Information Sheet and Activity Check List, available online at www.pbmag.org/prepare.html.

Share your interest with your local assembly and secure a letter of commendation. Discuss the MAG Participant Information Sheet and Activity Check List in the conversation(s).

Communicate via email with the MAG contact person for the location of interest. (Send that person your MAG Participant Information Sheet and Activity Check List.)

Coordinate and complete all pre-trip preparation with the MAG team and the leader/host.

Make travel arrangements. Be sure all travel requirements are met such as passports, visas, immunizations, identifications, contact info, etc.).

Pray Again

Pray before, during, and after your service in total dependency on the Lord