

## **FPCOS MISSION TRIP 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 Belize Mission team, I agree to:

1. Go as a servant. I will endeavor to exhibit a Christ-like attitude at all times, especially when dealing with my fellow team members and others I meet during the trip.
2. Adopt an attitude that my way is not necessarily the best way and to be respectful of the host country/culture and their ways of doing things.
3. Accept and submit to the leadership role and authority of the team leaders, the host missionaries, and promise to abide by his/her decisions as they concern this mission, even if their decisions are not in keeping with my personal preferences.
4. Acknowledge that by engaging in this ministry, I am subjecting myself to certain voluntary risks, including but not limited to such things as health hazards due to poor food and water, diseases, pests, and poor sanitation, potential danger from lack of control over the local population, potential injury while working, and inadequate medical facilities.
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 demanding, to do my best not to offend or cause embarrassment for the local mission host, and to help them achieve their long-term goals.
6. Abstain from making derogatory comments or arguments regarding people, politics, socially sensitive topics, sports, religion, race, or traditions.
7. **Attend at least 80% of team meetings and missions prep classes prior to departure.** I understand that if I cannot attend the agreed upon amount, I will need to cease being a part of the team for this year.
8. Expeditiously follow up on all requirements for passports, financial obligations, and other required paperwork by the appointed deadlines.
9. Refrain from meddling, complaining, and obscene or insensitive humor. I realize those on my team, locals during the mission, and others while onsite will look at me for an example of how a Christian acts. I will not take that responsibility lightly.
10. I understand that travel can be difficult. I promise to have a positive, flexible attitude and be supportive as plans may need to be changed. I understand that I must travel with the rest of the team, unless other prior arrangements have been made and approved.
11. Regard differing styles of worship with respect.
12. If a loved one or close friend is traveling with the team, we agree to interact with all team members, not just with each other. Also, I promise not to initiate or seek any romantic relationships with team members or locals during the trip. I promise to avoid any actions that might be perceived as amorous toward a team member or local person while on this trip. I will graciously accept my team leader's directives to me in this area.

13. Refrain from giving gifts such as money, clothes, jewelry, and personal items unless our hosts and team leaders explicitly approve such activities. Although the intent of the giver is good, the result after we leave can cause problems for our hosts and jealousy, bitterness, or attitudes of dependency amongst locals. If I feel compelled to give a gift to someone I have met, I will consult first with the team leader before I promise or give the gift, and I promise to accept his/her decision on the matter.

14. I agree to dress modestly and appropriately.

15. I understand that this is a working mission trip. I promise to work diligently without complaint. I understand that I will likely be uncomfortable and staying in accommodations that are unlike what I am used to in the U.S.

16. I agree that in the event my conduct jeopardizes the success or safety of the mission, and that mediation during the trip has failed, that my services in connection with this mission shall end and I shall return home immediately at my own expense.