

**BETHESDA MISISON TRIP
TO
OUR LITTLE ROSES MINISTRIES
SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS**

1. All missions address the Spiritual and Physical needs of the hosts
2. This trip is foreign but mission trips could be domestic as well
3. This trip will be for 7 days
4. We plan to have 10 members on the team
5. Rick Miessau is our Team Leader, Trish Donnelley is our Finance Leader, Michael Sexton is our Project Leader and Cordella Miessau is our Craft Projects Leader
6. On this trip we will be doing light construction like painting, craft projects, going on a field trip and lots of fellowship with the children
7. **WHY DO WE GO ON MISISON TRIPS?**
 - a. God told us to “Go into the world”, Matthew 28: 16-20
 - b. We need them as much as they need us
 - c. True Spiritually comes only by sacrificial service, John 13: 12-17
 - d. Unconditional Love comes from Jesus and exhibited in Unconditional Service
 - e. Acts 22: 8-10 Saul asks, Who are you Lord? & What would you have me do, Lord?
 - f. A Servants Heart: Give 100 % and receive the greatest joy. Hold back and receive????? We are here to serve Christ and these children. Mark 9:35-37
 - g. *Frank Laubach wrote in Man of Prayer, “So if anybody were to ask me how to find God I shall say at once, hunt out the deepest need you can find and forget all about your own comfort while you try to meet that need. Talk to God about it, and – He will be there. You will know it.”*
 - h. Mission trips provide us an opportunity to see God at work. The face of God is often seen by looking into the soul of another. In this case, these beautiful children and the other people on our mission team.
 - i. You are the answer to their prayers
8. **Basic Elements of our mission to OLR:**
 - a. We are one with God by our participation in the one Spirit
 - b. The CALL – To whom & what is God calling you? What is your short-term and long-term purpose?
 - c. Intimacy with God, Others and Oneself – we must have a genuine, heart-felt desire to love, appreciate, discover, and work together and with our hosts. Intimacy cannot be achieved unless there is trust, hope and unity of purpose.
 - d. Respect and Honor Lead to Oneness – Great sensitivity needs to be given to the mutual contribution and benefit each partner in the mission brings to the mission experience. There is a common tendency on the part of North Americans to patronize our partners in ministry. Truly, as North Americans, we have been blessed. We must look beyond initial impressions of poverty and deprivation to the vast riches that dwell *within* our partners. The secret recesses of these children's lives and ministry may often reveal external riches that frequently humble and shame us. Jesus warned of this in Luke 12:15

- e. This mission will afford an opportunity of deep feelings of unity between the mission team and the girls. It is an environment in which you can see more clearly the varied dimensions of God that are not easily observable in one's home environment.
- f. Mission Work, and parish work, is too demanding to be sustained without 100% effort combined with 100% God's grace. Days are long, it's hot, work is hard, comfort zones are strained, fatigue and exhaustion claim everyone. We must remember that we are called and empowered by God to serve His people. Faltering in one's surrender to the "Servants Heart" will prove disastrous to you, the team, and the children. You have been chosen to be on this trip. He will sustain all of us but we must remember *whose we are* and *why* we are there. Mat. 10:37-39
- g. Continuous prayer –
 - a. Satan's purpose and intentions are to be respected but not feared. We fear only God and trust Him completely. Mission work can be dangerous. Without God's protection, mission/ministry would be impossible to sustain.
 - b. We are the answer to these little girls' prayers. This is incredibly humbling. They pray everyday; some for years, for God to bring someone like you into their little lives. God has chosen to answer their prayers through YOU. Awesome is too soft a word. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to unite with our *servant's heart* to answer the prayers of these children. What a supreme gift it is to be chosen for this ministry.
 - c. Maintain a continuous smile & persistent love for these children
 - d. Spiritual disciplines – Prayer, Bible meditations, study, journaling, intercession, meditation, Eucharist and evening "Christ Like Moments" where each of us saw Jesus during the day are part of our mission to Our Little Roses. Without God, this ministry cannot exist.
- h. Humor – can soften harsh realities. Humor has rules. Must be funny, clean, inconspicuous to our host's, limited to the mission period, and neither insulting nor degrading. Humor is a marvelous vehicle of communicating God's love.