



# **Mission Trip Manual**

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# Code of Ethics:

All Mission Trip participants are expected to abide by the following code of ethics during their travel with God's Chosen Ones Ministry.

- ☐ Travel in a spirit of humility and with a genuine desire to meet and talk with the local people.
- ☐ Be aware of the feelings of other people, thus preventing what might be offensive behavior. Remember this especially with photography.
- ☐ Cultivate the habit of listening and observing, rather than merely hearing and seeing.
- ☐ Realize that people in the country you visit often have time concepts and thought patterns different from your own. - not inferior, just different.
- ☐ Discover the enrichment that comes from seeing another way of life, rather than looking for the 'beach paradise' of the tourist posters.
- ☐ Acquaint yourself with the local customs. Respect local customs; people will be happy to help you.
- ☐ Cultivate the habit of asking questions instead of knowing all the answers.
- ☐ Remember that you are one of thousands of visiting tourists.  
Do not expect special privileges.
- ☐ Spend wisely. Remember when shopping that the bargain you obtain is only possible because of the low wages paid to the maker.
- ☐ Make no promises to local people unless you are certain you can fulfill them.
- ☐ Reflect daily on your experiences; seek to deepen your understanding. "What enriches you may rob or violate others."
- ☐ Choose to be surprised, not disappointed, when places and people do not match your expectations.
- ☐ We are here to serve, not vacation. Please work hard with a servant's heart.



# About Haiti:

Haiti, located in the Caribbean, is a vibrant and culturally rich country that is known for its resilience, spirit, and natural beauty. It shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic. Despite facing numerous challenges, including political instability, poverty, and natural disasters, Haiti's people possess a strong sense of community and a deep-rooted cultural heritage.



Haiti's history is marked by its role as the first independent black republic in the world, achieved through a successful slave rebellion in the early 19th century. This legacy of revolution is evident in the country's art, music, and folklore, which celebrate the strength and resilience of its people.

The natural landscape of Haiti is stunning, with mountain ranges, waterfalls, and picturesque beaches. Visitors can explore the historical Citadelle Laferrière, a UNESCO World Heritage site, or relax along the sandy shores of Labadee and Jacmel. The country is also home to unique wildlife and diverse ecosystems, making it a destination for eco-tourism and outdoor enthusiasts.

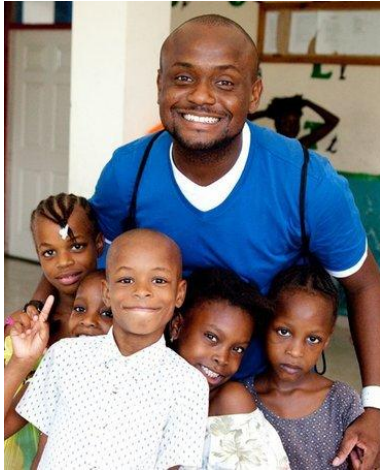
Haitian cuisine is a delicious blend of African, French, and Caribbean influences. Dishes like griot (fried pork), diri ak djon djon (rice with black mushrooms), and pikliz (pickled vegetables) offer a tantalizing taste of the local gastronomy.

However, it is important to acknowledge and address the challenges Haiti faces, such as poverty and access to basic services. Non-profit organizations and humanitarian efforts play a significant role in providing aid and support to the Haitian people, making volunteering and mission trips common experiences for those seeking to make a positive impact.

Haiti's beauty, vibrant culture, and resilient people make it a captivating and rewarding destination to explore, while also serving as a reminder of the importance of compassion, understanding, and support in helping its communities thrive.



## About GCOM:



God's Chosen Ones Ministry is a non-profit organization founded in 2003 to serve the people of Haiti. GCOM was founded by 3 Haitians: Garry Destin, David Adrien and Lesly Louissaint. As natives of Haiti; Garry, David and Lesly have a deep and profound understanding of the plight facing their Countrymen as well as an understanding of how to operate within the systems that are in place in the County.

At our core, we are an organization that seeks to help the Haitian people with the most basic of needs; such as food, clean water, school supplies and tuition, medical help, and Christian guidance. To achieve this purpose, we seek help from supporters across the globe, to be a part of this noble cause.

### **Our Vision:**

To create a world where every individual experiences God's unconditional love, discovers their unique purpose in Christ, and lives a life transformed by faith, hope, and compassion. We are dedicated to empowering children and their families to thrive by providing them basic necessities on a rolling basis. We seek to witness families break the shackles of the restavek system, earn wages and the respect they deserve, instead of being treated like pests. We envision a fully developed Haiti; accomplished by freeing families from poverty, ignorance, and oppression, where even the poorest are empowered to become leaders.

### **Our Mission:**

To spread the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, empowering individuals to embrace their divine purpose, and transforming communities through acts of compassion, faith, and discipleship. Our ministry is committed to empowering individuals to discover their God-given purpose, develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and live transformed lives. Through various platforms, programs, and services, GCOM seeks to inspire, equip, and encourage individuals to live in practical ways. We aim to nurture spiritual growth, provide biblical teachings, and foster community engagement. Our ministry endeavors to build strong, authentic connections among individuals and to reach those who are searching for spiritual meaning and fulfillment.

At GCOM, we value integrity, compassion, and inclusivity. We strive to create an environment where everyone feels accepted, loved, and embraced for who they are. We are dedicated to demonstrating God's unconditional love through acts of kindness, serving the less fortunate, and being a source of hope and restoration. GCOM seeks to impact lives, transform communities. We are driven by the belief that every person has inherent worth and potential, and that through the power of Christ, lives can be changed and destinies fulfilled. GCOM aspires to be a beacon of light, shining the love of God into every corner of the world, touching hearts, and inspiring lasting transformation.



# A Letter From Our Executive Director:

Dear Friend,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! I hope this letter finds you filled with joy and anticipation as you prepare for your mission trip to Haiti. As the Executive Director of God's Chosen Ones Ministry and someone who was born and raised in Haiti, I am thrilled to have each one of you joining us on this meaningful journey.

Haiti holds a special place in my heart, and I am excited to share the beauty, resilience, and rich culture of my homeland with you. Together, your team and our volunteers will have the incredible opportunity to serve the Haitian people, witness their strength amidst adversity, and embrace the love of God in action.

During your time in Haiti, you will engage in various projects, which will include building homes, providing medical assistance, organizing educational programs, and spreading the life-changing message of the Gospel. Your presence and the compassionate efforts of your team will make a tangible difference in the lives of those you serve.

I encourage you to approach this mission trip with an open heart and a willingness to learn from the Haitian people. Embrace the beauty of their culture, their vibrant spirit, and their unwavering faith. Each interaction and experience will be an opportunity for personal growth, transformation, and a deeper understanding of God's love for all humanity.

In the midst of your tireless work, do not forget to take moments of reflection and gratitude. Keep a journal, capture memories through photographs, and share your stories with one another. This journey will undoubtedly shape your lives and leave an indelible mark on your hearts.

As you embark on this mission trip, I want to remind you that you are not alone. God's Chosen Ones Ministry stands alongside you, supporting and praying for you every step of the way. Let us lift one another up in prayer, seek God's guidance and strength, and walk in faith as we serve the Haitian people with humility and love.

May this mission trip be a transformative experience for you, deepening your connection to God, strengthening your bond as a team, and leaving an everlasting impact on the lives you touch.

In His service,

*Garry*

Garry Destin  
Executive Director  
God's Chosen Ones Ministry



# Preparing for Your Trip:

Are you ready to take the journey of a lifetime? Our goal is to make this process as seamless as possible for you. Here we will break down the process for you step-by-step.

1. Complete an Application:
2. Submit Application Fee:
3. Get Your Passport
  - a. USA
  - b. Canada
4. Make sure you have all REQUIRED Immunizations:
5. Research Optional Immunizations
6. Discuss Anti-Malaria Medications with your Physician
7. Make Sure Your Health Insurance Covers International Travel to Haiti
8. Purchase Travel Insurance
9. Purchase Tickets to Miami (Roundtrip)
10. Purchase Tickets to Port-au-Prince (Roundtrip), check with your team lead for specific flight #'s
11. Pay Balance of Trip Fee
12. Pack your bags!



## **Day of Departure:**

Are you ready to take the journey of a lifetime? Our goal is to make this process as seamless as possible for you. Here we will break down the process for you step-by-step.

Meeting in Miami

Arriving in Haiti

Transportation