



ZION EVANGELICAL MINISTRIES OF AFRICA

FOCUS ON SHORT-TERM MISSIONS

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Why Do Short-Term Missions Trips?

By Jon Emanuelson

If approached with much prayer and consideration, short-term mission trips can serve a noble purpose. The following are a few of the ways short-term trips can have a positive impact.

When a team visits the field, the sharing of the gospel can multiply. Many young people can be reached through a Vacation Bible School, for example, but this usually requires the help of a well-trained team. Therefore, each team member must have a close walk with the Lord and a clear understanding of the gospel.

When a short-term team visits and holds up the inspiration and authority of the Bible alone, credibility is gained for the full-time missionary in the eyes those being ministered to. With this in mind, the team should be made aware of commonly asked questions in the culture they are entering so they can be ready with applicable Bible passages.

When a team visits, the full-time missionaries can be encouraged and strengthened. This happens if the



Jon and Lauren Emanuelson live and minister in King William's Town, South Africa, with their daughter Liesl. This summer was full of short-term missions trips and internships, and Jon and Lauren had opportunity to work intimately with some of our short-term missionaries. We asked Jon to weigh in on why this aspect of ZEMA's ministry is so important.

hosting missionaries provide a healthy environment and schedule for the team and if the team comes to serve alongside the missionaries.

When short-term teams are sent, the Lord may use it to challenge a team member to consider full-time missions. Therefore, the local sending church should look carefully for potential full-time

missionaries whom God may be calling to that ministry.

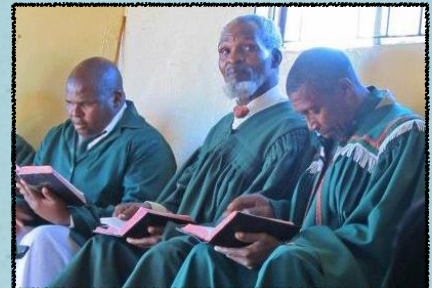
To sum it up, short-term mission trips need to be approached positively but not lightly. When they are planned and carried out with this mind-set, as a fellow ZEMA missionary put it well: "the devil doesn't stand a chance!"



KRUGERSDROF, GAUTENG The short-term team from Christ Community Church kicked off their trip with a youth camp in Gauteng province: three days packed full of intense Bible study, worship, and fellowship with amaZioni youth.



JOHANNESBURG, GUATENG The team followed the youth camp with a Holiday Club for children, ministering alongside the Kuehls and the Seelhammers with games, snacks, and Bible lessons for the local children.



EAST LONDON, EASTERN CAPE The team ended their time with the Emanuelsons and Goosens in East London, visiting Zionist homes and churches, and hosting another holiday club.



**Leo Barnes—CGC Team Leader
South Africa**

Three weeks. Twelve team members. Four missionary families. Eight villages. Two youth camps. Two holiday clubs. Three amaZioni churches. Hospital visitation. Home visitation. How does one summarize such an experience? All I can say is, if God gives you the opportunity to go... go! Go, in order to understand more thoroughly. In order to pray more intimately. In order to have your eyes opened to the deep centrality of the gospel in ALL things. In order to be graciously challenged in unexpected ways. In short... go to be made more like Christ, and to know the privilege of being His ambassador in forgotten places to forgotten people alongside missionaries who are pouring out their lives to do the same. What a privilege!



**Matthew Kuehl—MBI Intern,
Swaziland**

One memory that I have of my summer internship that really touched me was a trip that didn't go according to plan. But as often is the case, the more unexpected things that happen on a trip the more room God has to work. Dudley Donaldson and I drove out with a local pastor, Sifiso, to visit some Zionists and minister to them, but as the day progressed, we found no one home! Later, however, we came across a large group of people working on a road. It turns out that many of these were the Zionists we had intended to visit! And they didn't want to leave without first hearing a word from the Lord. I was able to give the gospel message to a large portion of the community, and still visit the Zionist homes later. This humbled me. I woke up thinking I knew just how the day was supposed to go, but God's plans are so much better!



**Jessica Allen—MBI Intern,
South Africa**

As part of my summer internship I tutored 1st-5th grade Zulu children in English. Their excitement over small successes and propensity to learn was a contagious joy. On one occasion, when I told my class we were going to play a game, a boy named Sfiso got so excited he jumped out of his chair and started dancing with genuine glee. That's why I love it here. Moments like that: those snapshot occurrences of joy or comprehension. Each one makes it worth it; whatever I may "give up" to come here is made up for - in overcompensation - by abundant joy. Such joy characterizes the life of one given over to God's service in any capacity.

SAVE THE DATE!

We hope you will join us for our annual ZEMA banquet, on Friday, November 16, at 6:00 PM. The banquet will be held at Midlane Golf Resort, in Wadsworth, IL. Call our office or check our facebook page to Rsvp.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Person: Christine Pinter
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Leadership Training Internship:

The intern would shadow a missionary whose primary ministry is teaching in Zion Evangelical Bible Schools (ZEBS), Sunday School, and/or Youth Leadership training.

Camping Ministry Internship:

The intern would be involved in all of the various ministries of Sunbury Christian Camp in Gauteng, SA, shadowing ZEMA's various partners employed there.

Children's Ministry Internship:

The intern would live in Mthatha, work at the pre-school, help with missions week, and possibly host Holiday Clubs.

"Look and See" Internship:

For interns considering career service with ZEMA. The intern would shadow multiple missionaries in multiple areas of southern Africa, experiencing various ministry settings where there is a need for a new mission partner.

