

Instructor Preparations

Fellow Instructors: here are a few tidbits and thoughts about traveling for ITEM that you may or may not find all that helpful. Probably many of these things you've already known or discovered but it there's something helpful here for you, great. Thanks for traveling for ITEM. – Will

- Get airline tickets well in advance. Check with your host on what he recommends as to best and most economical carriers.
- Have your passport and visa (if needed) up to date. I use "It'sEasy.com" to get mine.
- Get your shots well in advance. Check with your doctor as to what is needed for the place you're traveling to. Shots such as hepatitis, tetanus are always a good idea. The local health department usually has the cheapest shots. Malarial pills are needed in certain areas. Check with host on that.
- Check if your phone carrier offers international calling. Also, be sure when you're on the plane to put your phone in airplane mode so you don't get charged for roaming calls.
- Maybe get a "burn phone" from your host.
- Get the phone numbers at the location that you will need and your family will appreciate.
- Make extra copies of your itinerary and leave several at home for your family.
- Make copies of any charge cards you are taking and keep in a safe place at home and with you in case they are lost or stolen.
- Take about \$500 in cash (some in American Express Travelers Cheques if the host says they are usable in the location).
- Take whatever medicines you usually take or might need – allergy medicines, sleep aids, ibuprofen or pain meds. Carry these with you in your carryon luggage.
- Travel size toothpaste, deodorant, GermX, shaving cream, aftershave and put this also in your carryon.
- A change of clothes should be in your carryon in case luggage is lost.
- Take reading materials with you for in the airports and in the evenings to pass time.
- Send your notes ahead for them to have and duplicate. Take two sets of notes with you in your carryon.
- Wear comfortable clothes while traveling including slip on shoes in the airports.
- Take one nice set of clothes in case you're called on to preach.
- Ask your host ahead of time for any "dos and don'ts."
- What translation of the Bible do they use and take that.
- Take some favorite snacks with you to munch on. Not a lot.
- Eat whatever is put in front of you on the field. If necessary, take some heartburn meds with you.
- On the field, spend as much time with the students as you can. Get to know them.

- Arrange for someone to check on your family while you are gone. Arrange for someone to mow your lawn while you're gone.
- Take a laptop with you in your carryon.
- Get good luggage, preferably one large check in bag with 4 swivel wheels, a large carryon with swivel wheels, and a shoulder carryon also. An extra check in bag will cost you.
- Check with host if there's something from the states they'd like for you to bring with you and that you can give as a gift.
- Be flexible. Other than airline schedules, nothing happens on time in other countries, including pickup at the airports.
- Don't go out alone unless your host says it's okay.
- Be careful but not paranoid.