

## **Mission Adventures Introduction**

Mission Adventures is a dynamic short-term opportunity designed specifically for youth groups (14-18 yrs). Our aim is to assist the local church in fulfilling the Great Commission through short-term missions, by instilling a passion in each participant for a lifetime involvement in World Missions. Mission Adventures is an international ministry of Youth With A Mission (YWAM), and has been running for 10 years. It is currently operating out of 46 YWAM bases worldwide. Check out [www.missionadventures.net](http://www.missionadventures.net)

The idea is that a whole youth group would come together for the training, mission trip and debrief, with their own youth leader/s to oversee the pastoral care of the group, and then you would be assigned at least one YWAM member of staff to join the mission trip and assist in the running of the outreach. In our experience teams of ten work really well in most outreach locations. For Mission Adventures we therefore recommend teams of 8 young people with two youth leaders. However this is not condition only a recommendation for youth groups interested in Mission Adventures!

Mission Adventures starts with a four day training camp at our centre (Holmsted Manor) before we send out the teams, the training being based around a unique theme each year. The teams will then be sent on a 10-day outreach and return to Holmsted for debriefing at the end.

The dates for Mission Adventures 2009 are Saturday 25th July – Monday 9th August. For a break down of the dates and more information on each part of the Mission Adventures experience keep reading!

*"Taking youth on mission was a scary vision given to us by God. But YWAM helped us to put this vision into reality. Helping/supporting/encouraging us all the way. We strongly recommend Mission Adventures to any youth leaders that want to take their young people further than they have ever gone, in distance and spiritually. It was a mind blowing experience, that we will keep taking our young people on!"*  
Becky (Youth Leader, Mission Adventures 2008)

## **The Training Camp**

Each year the training camp has a central theme and the daily meetings are focused around these four threads: Purity, Passion, Purpose and Proclamation.

Each participant will receive a 'Mission Adventures Kit', which has previously included a jam-packed journal, T-shirt, commitment card, badges, key ring, stickers all based on that year's particular theme.

Our training days will have a variety of content. The morning sessions will include a devotional time, sung worship, teaching (focused on one of the threads) and a time of response.

Each afternoon there will be a workshop-style session designed to equip the young people with tools to take on their mission trip. These will include: 'How to share your testimony', 'How to share the Gospel', Drama/Dance workshops and team-building activities. Our hope is that the youth group will continue to use these tools to impact their local community when they return.

The evening session will take on a similar format to the morning sessions.

*"I prayed for a miracle whilst on Mission, and the miracle I saw was the spiritual growth of our youth group. I'm closer to God now, and hear Him more."*

Nathan (a Mission Adventures 2008 participant)

## **The Mission Trip**

The aim behind the 10-day Mission trip, is to see the young people 'DOING IT!' - sharing their lives with the people that they meet, using the tools that they have learnt from the workshops, getting excited about how God can use them as an individual and a group, and seeing people come into a relationship with Jesus.

We are currently in communication with several YWAM locations/ministries in the UK and Europe. These include Russia, Poland, Hungary, Spain, France and London.

Each YWAM location runs different ministries with whom we will be partnering. Our short-term opportunities include:

**Practical serving** - cleaning up areas of a town/city, washing cars for free, painting a school, providing fun activities for local children (such as running a football tournament)

**On the street Evangelism** - drama/dance 'open-air', prayer stations, prayer-walking

**Caring for others** - visiting orphanages or old people's homes, homeless ministry, random acts of kindness.

At the time of printing we have confirmed locations including Latvia, Bosnia and Albania where our contacts can offer a range of different missions experiences. We want to work with youth leaders to create a mission trip with a focus which will suit their particular group.

Part of our YWAM experience is in leading short-term mission trips, which is why we are able to send a member of YWAM staff with you to your mission trip location to work with you and your team.

We'll take care of the details: food, accommodation, ground transportation, training, coordinate the outreach and everything else so you can focus on your youth. We'll do the work so you can do the ministry with your group.

*"It was an awesome experience which taught me loads about myself and about a world which was totally different to my own. It changed my life and I would recommend it to anyone."*

Paul (a Mission Adventures 2008 participant)

## **The Debrief Day**

The idea behind the 'debrief day' is for all the youth groups to return to Holmsted and share the stories of their mission trip.

Our experience of debriefing teams helps us to recognise the importance of coming together at the end of a project, allowing time to think through the highlights and challenges of the mission trip in order to get the most out of it.

A couple of the questions that we would encourage the individual participant and youth group as a whole to ask themselves are: 'What have I learnt from this experience?' and 'What can I take home with me from this?'

## **Practical notes**

The cost of Mission Adventures ranges from £500-£600 depending on your chosen location. (This does not include travel insurance, visas or vaccinations.)

From the moment you arrive here at Holmsted all your food and transportation will be arranged by the Mission Adventures Team. Accommodation for the training camp and debrief days will be either in tents on our grounds here at Holmsted Manor, or inside the Coach House and Manor House itself. Confirmation on accommodation will be communicated by the end of March. You will need to bring your own tent and bedding if we go with the camping option, but we will provide the toilets and showers!!!

During the mission trip all your transportation, accommodation and food will be provided.

## **Break down of dates**

### Training Camp

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July

### Missions Trip

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August

### Debrief Day

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August

### Pack up & Leave

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August