



Inca Link International

Family Global Outreach Guide



"Do nothing out of rivalry or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. Everyone should look out not only for his own interest but also for the interests of others."
Philippians 2:3-4 ESV

02

Family Global Outreach Ministry

We're excited for your family to come and be a part of the larger Church movement happening in Latin America. South America is a diverse place with jungle, coastal, and mountainous terrain, large urban cities and rural villages full of people who need Christ. Inca Link is focused on reaching the 300 million youth in Latin America with Christ's irresistible love. We do this through discipleship and evangelism, training leaders, connecting people, and compassion ministries. We are devoted to helping others and we need you!

One GOAL: Glorify God

Why did Jesus Christ care for and love people? To be a witness of the glory of God. The entirety of our trip from planning and preparation, to being on the field, and ultimately to returning home for post-field growth needs to be solely and centrally focused on the Glory of God.

Everything else will be a by-product of that-how you grow, to the glory of God; the good works that had been done, to the glory of God; the people who heard the good news of the Gospel, to the glory of God; the impact on our sending church, to the glory of God. All that we do needs to be focused on and pointing to that end.

Meet the team

The Awesome people behind The Scenes



**Rich & Elisa
Brown**
Founders



**Luke
Schriefer**
Developer of North America
Operations



**Stacey
Pope**
Global Outreach Ministries
Teams

RICH and ELISA BROWN The Browns are the co-founders and presidents of Inca Link. They serve as regional missionaries with the Christian and Missionary Alliance and are currently on furlough in the US. They were youth pastors in Trujillo for 10 years, and served in Ecuador for 14 years. They have a passion for training youth leaders and have four awesome kids and one grandson.

LUKE SCHRIEFER Luke works as our director of ministry development. If you want to learn more about long-term partnership and supporting Inca Link ministries, please connect with Luke. Luke, his wife Jessica and their daughter, Ezra, currently reside in Pennsylvania.

STACEY POPE Stacey is the Global Outreach Team Coordinator. She got connected to Inca Link after returning stateside following seven years of ministry in the Dominican Republic. Stacey and her husband David are based out of the Brunswick County, NC area. She serves to oversee the pre-field preparation of the teams.

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Why Family Missions?



Family life is such a poignant representation of the Gospel being lived out day by day. Serving together not only demonstrates Christ's love to the nations, but also brings his truth alive to your family in so many unimaginable ways. Living abroad takes you out of your comfort zones and forces you to rely on God and on one another which can strengthen your relationships and grow your faith. Sometimes this happens through discovery and celebration and other times through struggle, challenge and hardship; all of it leading to an enriching, unforgettable experience.



Family Mission Trips: Why You Should Take Your Kids Overseas

Family Mission Trips: Going Overseas Together



WHAT CAN MY FAMILY EXPECT?

Think about the excitement and the stress that goes into moving to a new home, now multiply that exponentially!

Traveling or moving internationally, even if only for a short time, will challenge (and bless) your family in so many ways.

Remember, difficult doesn't mean bad. God often teaches us the most during our struggles and while serving as a family will not be easy, it will be so worthwhile.

Some of the things that I have experienced and/or walked with other families who have experienced are as follows, whether considered good or bad, they are all used by the Lord in growing and transforming our lives and the lives of our children.

- The first few days will be exciting, overwhelming and disorienting! Make sure you stay well-rested and hydrated. Pack a few homey items in your carry-ons, to have easy access in the first hours/days after your arrival.
- Things may be incredibly good and incredibly difficult...both are "normal".
- The adjustment and "culture shock:" Your family will be adjusting to their new setting throughout your stay. This often moves in a pattern of waves, with each trough of time moving into a crest of emotion and then recycling over gradually longer periods of time.



07



It is important to note: These phases come and go at different time variables for each individual!

The first part of the adjustment will be a period of excitement, or honeymoon stage where everything is new and exhilarating. You may have lots of energy and want to do and try everything at once. Take it slowly and don't wear yourselves out.

The second phase in your adjustment will be a period of frustration. This will manifest itself in many ways, depending on the individual and their age.

This may include a general frustration with the language, with a mental block in comprehension of the new language. It often includes a critical view of cultural norms, functions (that is not the correct way to do it) and a general desire to isolate oneself from the new culture and its people.

Children can begin to display behavior that is not typical for them (meltdowns, language outbursts, stealing objects, being argumentative or aggressive). It is important to remember that this is not a sign of who they are becoming, but simply a way of communicating the frustration they are feeling, and it will pass.

As parents, it is important to recognize this phase, especially in the midst of your own adjustment and provide reassurance and encouragement (and a whole lot of patience and grace) to your family members. **DO NOT HESITATE TO SEEK THE SUPPORT OF OTHER MISSIONARIES DURING THIS TIME!** This is not a sign of weakness, inexperience or inability, it is a normal part of adjusting to life overseas.



The adjustment phase is a period when you will begin to feel “normal” in your new setting. During this period, you will find it easier to establish relationships with your neighbors, find your way around town and build routines for the day to day living and work you will be doing. The more genuine interest you show in the local culture in your interactions with people, that stronger your adjustment and your ability to build cross-cultural relationships will be.

Acceptance is the final (but not ending) phase. It doesn't signify that you are completely adjusted and assimilated into the new culture, but rather you have adjusted to the idea that you can function and even thrive in the new culture without a complete understanding or adjustment. This period could come weeks, months or even years following a move.

It is important to note, that like waves on an ocean, there will be periods of time when you can re-enter various stages, especially as a holiday nears or when leaving and then returning to the new culture.

You and your family members will never be the same. You may all experience change in different ways, but your view of the world and of God will expand. Your understanding of what it means to serve, to live in community, to be served and to depend on Christ and fellow believers will be transformed.

ministry opportunities:



Inca Link provides various forms of ministries in each of our Latin America host countries.

We are working to restore families through ministries for pregnant teens, after-school programs and youth activities including sports and entrepreneurialism.

We work in recycling centers and “trash-mining” communities to provide dignity and opportunity.

We train new missionaries and Bible teachers to spread the Gospel to unreached people groups.

We work to end human trafficking, love refugees and immigrants, provide for orphans.

Many of our ministries focus on breaking the cycle of poverty through education, children’s ministries and a restoration of hope.



How can we prepare?

Resources:

Preparing the Children

Family Mission Trips: Preparing to Go with the Whole Family

A Parent's Guide to Moving Abroad with Kids

Preparing Kids for a Relocation- A Moving Story

The Trials and Tribulations of Growing Up as a Third Culture Kid

Culture Shock

The 4 Stages of Culture Shock

The Return

Family Mission Trips: Staying on Mission When You Come Back Home



What about the return?

The return from serving overseas can be reminiscent of the stages of adjustment found in adjusting to a new culture, a reverse-culture shock in some ways. Many people find themselves going through a time of adjustment called the five stages of re-entry.

5 STAGES OF RE-ENTRY (The 5 F'S)

The following list is the process you may go through emotionally, and the stages of adjustment as you re-enter your home culture.



- Have Fun (honeymoon)
- Flee (avoidance)
- Fight (anger, criticism)
- Fit In (tolerance of differences)
- Be Fruitful (creative engagement)

Fun

"I can't wait for a hot shower," "I really missed you," "I never thought a hamburger would taste so good!" You're glad to be home. It's great looking at pictures of your trip. You feel changed in your life, your relationship with God, and your vision of the world. You're ready to do things differently.

Flee

"Everyone here is so busy. Life seems so fast," "No one seems to be interested in my experience. They only ask me, 'How was your trip?'" You're discouraged by how materialistic, impersonal and busy life seems to be. You feel alone and miss the community you experienced abroad. People seem to be preoccupied with petty concerns and easily depressed by silly issues compared to the faith in God, joy and community you witnessed on your trip. You wish you could return. Somehow life felt more real, more solid, more significant there than it does here.

Fight

“People seem to take their faith much more seriously over there,” “My church service seems so passionless,” “People are more interested in their savings account than in saving the lost.” You find yourself actually feeling depressed about life here. People seem indifferent to the real issues in life. Even the church seems to foster a self-indulgent, self-preoccupied spirituality. Money dominates everything. You’re becoming highly critical of life in your home context and speak out against what you see. When you’re silent, you find yourself feeling spiritually superior, as if you understand better than others.

Fit In

“I can’t live here like people do there. I tried to live differently but it’s impossible,” “The cost of living is so much higher here. I have to accept it,” “I’m losing all my friends because they view me as a ‘mission fanatic.’” Now you find yourself simply seeking to fit in. The pressure of responsibilities has taken hold and it’s simply too hard to keep focused on your experience over there. The memories are beginning to fade and you haven’t been able to find ways to live differently in light of what you’ve experienced. You find yourself longing to go on another trip. Maybe that will help you recapture the feeling of your life counting for the Kingdom. That might stimulate your spiritual growth and draw you back into a sense of community. Unfortunately, many people stop here. This ends their re-entry process. Their time remains a distant memory.

Fruit

It should be your goal from the moment you begin the process of preparing for missions to work toward this stage in the re-entry process. How is your life going to be different for having gone on mission? What is God working on in you through this experience that will change how you live for the Kingdom afterward? This is where the vocabulary can change from ‘spending/wasting’ money through mission trip, to ‘investing/multiplying resources’ through missions.

(Adapted from Lisa Espineli Chinn, “Reentry Guide for Short Term Mission Leaders,” Orlando: Deeper Roots Publications p. 14, used by permission of the author)



13 Frequently Asked Questions:

IS THERE AN AGE REQUIREMENT? We encourage family missions experiences! Children ages 10-13 years old require one parent on the team; 9 years old and younger must be accompanied by both parents on the team.

WHAT ARE THE LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS? This will depend on the size of the group and time of year. You may be staying in a house or at a church, or perhaps in a retreat center.

CAN YOU FLUSH THE TOILET PAPER? Most of the plumbing used in Latin America is too small for paper waste and toilet paper will clog the drains. A small trash can is typically found next to each toilet, please use that for all toilet paper and other products.

WHAT WILL THE MEALS BE LIKE? You will get to experience some of the best food in the world! Latin American food is delicious! Meals are prepared with the utmost care. You will have opportunities to try food that is typical to the country you will serve in. If you have any dietary restrictions please inform us before you arrive in Latin America so that we can be as prepared as possible for your needs.

IS THERE A WAY TO CONTACT HOME? Wifi will not be available for the team members. The Internet can be made available to team leaders for updating families and churches. We encourage you to "unplug" while serving. (Note: Contacting home is available if there is an emergency.)

14

Volunteer/Team Safety, Security & Resiliency

This information applies to Inca Link staff, interns and other short-term volunteers. Whether traveling with a team or alone, it is crucial to prepare properly and follow the following procedures to make your time as productive as possible.

Passports and Visas

You need a valid passport good for at least six months after your planned return trip. Do not pack your passport in your luggage; you will need it during your travel. More than likely, the country you are visiting will not require you to obtain a visa. Instead, your immigration form will act as your visa.

Make two copies of your passport: one to carry with you at all times and one for another team member to keep.

You should also have at least two blank pages in your passport. Some countries will not allow you to enter without two blank pages.

Immigration and Customs

You'll first need to clear immigration by speaking with immigration officials. Have your passport, visa or tourist card ready (if applicable).

Consult your team leader for how to answer these questions:

- What is the purpose of your trip?
- How long will you be staying?
- Where will you be staying?

Answer questions honestly, but do not offer additional information. The immigration officer will stamp your passport and return it to you along with your immigration form.

Immediately fold your immigration form and place it in your passport. You must have it to depart most countries.

Proceed to the baggage area to collect your luggage.

Customs

Before departing the airport, you'll need to clear customs. If you are asked any questions, answer them with a smile. Answer all questions but do not offer additional information.

Your luggage could be selected for inspection. Do so graciously knowing airport personnel are doing their jobs. If you are asked questions, answer in English. You are responsible to know the contents of your luggage and why you are bringing them into the country.

15

Volunteer/Team Safety, Security & Resiliency

Traveling As A Group

- Thoroughly read your group's trip manual and all communications sent by your leader.
- Listen to your leaders and follow their instructions.
- Stay together as a group unless your leader gives you permission. If you must leave the group, let others know where you are going.
- Stay in groups of 3 or 4.
- Respect airport security and never make jokes about bombs or terrorist activities.
- Never leave your luggage unattended.
- Know where your travel documents are at all times.
- Remain aware of those around you.
- Don't count money in public or leave valuables exposed.

Watchperson

We recommend groups designate an individual as the team's "watchperson". This person reports to and assists the team leader by making sure the group observes security protocols. Using a watchperson does not absolve the need for every person to follow safety protocols.

- The watchperson helps by doing head counts to make sure the group remains intact.
- The watchperson helps observe team luggage, backpacks, etc.
- The watchperson observes other people not with the group for possible ill intent.

Traveling Alone

When traveling alone it is important to prepare in advance, anticipate obstacles and delays, and share your itinerary with your host(s). Many rules for traveling as a group apply.

- Keep the phone numbers of your host/supervisor handy so you can communicate problems.
- Stay in public spaces and do not go with individuals alone.
- Upon clearing customs, only depart the airport with your host.

Best Practices While Traveling

- Learn the latest luggage requirements of the carriers you will be flying.
- Don't pack tools in your carry-on luggage. They may be mistaken for weapons.
- Use a unique identification mark (ribbon, etc.) to help find your luggage quickly.
- Use an address other than your home address on your luggage tag for security purposes.
- Dress conservatively. Don't wear shirts/hats with wording that could be inflammatory.
- Avoid discussing politics or sharing personal information about your home, finances, etc.
- Avoid confrontations. Remain calm and allow group leaders to resolve conflicts.
- Allow your local host/team leader to represent you while in-country to avoid cultural mistakes.

16

Volunteer/Team Safety, Security & Resiliency

In-country travel reminders

- Bring passports and other documents you may need if stopped by authorities.
- Do not post your itinerary or exact destination on social media.
- Be selective in the photos and updates that you post.
- As you reach each travel stop, designate a secure meeting spot and make sure all team members can identify it in the event your team becomes separated.
- Prepare your team with the proper responses to questions asked at immigration and customs.
- Make sure all team members have a backup copy of their passport and visa (if required).
- Go through security, baggage and other checkpoints together.
- Remind your team you are guests in another country and are subject to their laws and customs and need to observe them. Be humble, gracious and inconspicuous.
- Make sure each team member has a written copy of the name and address of your in-country host, and the team leader's contact information.
- If an unplanned event does occur in a foreign country, even if it appears to be minor, document and share it with your host in case it becomes an issue later in your trip.

Evacuation

In the event an evacuation of a team or interns is called for, evacuees must follow the direction of the Inca Link International Coordinators and Resident Director to evacuate, as directed. Teams and Interns will assume the expense of the evacuation transport/flights, which may or may not be covered by their travel insurance. Teams/interns may need to be placed on separate evacuation flights, based on the seats available. All evacuation needs/plans will be coordinated through the Inca Link staff as designated.

SPANISH PHRASES

BASIC CONVERSATION

Gracias (gra-syas)
 Por favor (por fa-vor)
 Buenos días (bwe-nos dee-as)
 Buenos tardes (bwe-nos tar-des)
 Buenas noches (bue-nas no-ches)
 ¿Hablas inglés? (a-blas een-gles)
 ¿Cómo se dice...? (ko-mo say dee-say...)
 ¡Hola!
 ¿Como estas? (o-la ko-mo e-stas)
 Estoy bien (e-stoy byen)
 Estoy cansado/a (e-stoy kan-sa-do)
 Estoy enfermo/a (e-stoy en-fer-mo/a)
 Tengo hambre (tan-go am-bre)
 Tengo sed (tan-go sed)
 Me llamo _____ (may ya-mo)
 Mucho gusto (moo-cho goo-sto)
 ¿De dónde eres? (de don-de e-res)
 Soy de los Estados Unidos (soy de los e-sta-dos oo-nee-dos)
 ¿Qué te gusta hacer? (ke te goo-sta a-ser)
 Me gusta jugar el fútbol (me goo-sta hoo-gar el foot-bol)
 Me gusta cantar (me goo-sta kan-tar)
 Me gusta tocar la guitarra/ el piano (me goo-sta to-car la gi-tar-a)
 ¿Cuántos años tienes? (kwon-tos on-yos tye-nes)
 Tengo _____ años (tan-go _____ on-yos)
 Disculpa (dis-cool-pa)
 Con permiso (con per-mee-so)
 Lo siento (lo syen-to)
 ¡Chao! (chow)
 ¡Cuidate! (kwee-da-te)

ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE

Clavo (kla-vo)
 El martillo (el mar-tee-yo)
 El balde (el bal-de)
 La carretilla (la ka-re-tee-ya)
 El cemento (el se-men-to)
 Construir (con-stroo-eer)
 La pared (la pa-red)

IN CHURCH

La iglesia (la ee-gle-sya)
 La alabanza (la al-a-ban-sa)
 Dios/Senor (dyos/ sen-yor)
 Jesús (he-soos)
 Orar (o-rar)
 Dios te bendiga (dyos te ben-dee-ga)

PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS

¿Cómo va el día? (co-mo ba el dee-a)
 Estas trabajando tan duro (es-tas tra-ba-han-do tan doo-ro)
 ¿Puedo orar para ti? (pwe-do o-rar pa-ra tee)
 Oraré para ti (o-ra-re pa-ra tee)

Thank you
 Please
 Good morning
 Good afternoon
 Good evening
 Do you speak english?
 How do you say...?
 Hello!
 How are you?
 I am good
 I am tired
 I am sick
 I am hungry
 I am thirsty
 My name is _____
 Nice to meet you
 Where are you from?
 I am from the United States
 What do you like to do?
 I like to play soccer
 I like to sing
 I like to play the guitar/ the piano
 How old are you?
 I am _____ years old
 Excuse me/ Pardon me/ Forgive me
 Excuse me
 I am sorry
 Bye!
 Careful!

Nail
 Hammer
 Bucket
 Wheelbarrow
 Cement
 To construct/build
 Wall

Church
 Praise/Worship
 God
 Jesus
 To pray
 God bless you

How is your day going?
 You are working so hard
 Can I pray for you?
 I will pray for you

Resources

Family on Mission February 13, 2015,
Mike Breen, Sally Breen
ISBN-10: 0985235160 ISBN-13: 978-0985235161

The Mission-Minded Family: Releasing Your Family to God's
Destiny September 8, 2008
Ann Dunagan
ISBN-10: 0830857052 ISBN-13: 978-0830857050

The Mission-Minded Child: Raising a New Generation to Fulfill
God 's Purpose July 2, 2007
Ann Dunagan
ISBN-10: 1932805885 ISBN-13: 978-1932805888

Serving with Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with
Cultural Intelligence April 1, 2006
David A. Livermore
ISBN-10: 0801066166 ISBN-13: 978-0801066160

When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting
the Poor . . . and Yourself February 1, 2014
Steve Corbett
ISBN-10: 0802409989 ISBN-13: 978-0802409980