Short Term Missions
Share Your Faith
“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”

This was the final command that Jesus gave His followers. It is the mission statement of the church, more commonly known as the Great Commission. As Christians, we are called to work together for the sake of fulfilling this mission. We do this in the context of a local church because the local church is God’s long term plan for reaching the world.

Word of Life Short Term Missions exists to come alongside and partner with the local church to help fulfill this mission. We want everything we do to directly and ultimately bless the local church, both across town and across the globe. How do we do this? We help people find opportunities to share their faith and serve others. It is our joy to help the church mobilize more people to take the gospel to all nations.

Where do we focus our efforts? We focus on mobilizing people to share their faith and serve in cross-cultural settings. God often uses new places, cultures, languages, and routines to awaken us to a clearer vision of what He is doing around the world and what He wants to do in our lives. We pray that you, your family, your friends, and your church will find an opportunity to share your faith and serve on one of our trips. Thank you for partnering with Word of Life Short Term Missions!
Student Trips

Are you a high school or college student trying to discern God’s best for your life? Are you willing to take one to two weeks – or even up to two years – to use and develop your gifts and skills in a different culture than your own? Are you ready to take the gospel of Christ where it is not already known? We have seen God use our Student Trips to provide clarity and instill passion in young people who are ready to follow Him wherever He leads. It doesn’t matter if you are in high school, college, or a recent graduate, we have a way to give you a taste of what God is doing around the world.

• Student Fusion
• Spring Break and Missions Reality
• Cross Cultural Internship
Student Fusion

Student Fusion is a two week missions trip for people ages 14-22. This is an opportunity to learn how to raise support for missions and experience what God is doing in a culture and language different than your own. You will have the opportunity to use and develop ministry skills such as music, drama, sports, and many others for the spread of the gospel and to get a vision for how to best live your life in obedience to the Great Commission. High school Juniors and Seniors also have the opportunity to earn a scholarship to Word of Life Bible Institute for participating in one of these trips. Come join one of our Student Fusion teams and get ready to make lifelong friends while serving God around the world!

For more information and to learn how to apply,
visit: wol.is/studentfusion
email: missions@wol.org
call: 518.494.1420
Spring Break and Missions Reality trips are for current Word of Life Bible Institute students. Spring Break trips are optional for both freshmen and sophomore students. Missions Reality trips are part of a Spring Semester missions course for all sophomore students. You will receive training about multiple aspects of missions all year long. These trips will utilize the Bible knowledge, discipleship experience, and ministry skills that you gain as a student at Word of Life Bible Institute. Missions Reality will be one of the biggest highlights of your time at Word of Life Bible Institute!

For more information,
visit: wordoflife.edu
call: 518.494.1420
Cross Cultural Internship

For college students or recent college graduates, the Cross Cultural Internship could be the next step in discerning if long-term, vocational missions work is where God wants you. This is a two-year internship in a cross-cultural context with the opportunity to use your spiritual gifts and natural abilities on a regular basis and to be part of a missionary team as well as a local church. Usually the Cross Cultural Internship provides an opportunity to learn a second language and complete your Bachelor’s degree at one of the many colleges and universities who offer scholarships to Word of Life Bible Institute graduates. We will partner with your local church to equip you and send you where God wants you to go!

For more information and to learn how to apply,
visit: wol.is/cci
email: missions@wol.org
call: 518.494.6355
Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Matthew 9:37-38
Peter’s Story

Cross Cultural Internship

After a loaded week of ministry, I had a bunch of homework to complete on the weekend. I was hoping to work on it after church until going to bed. But, of course, I shouldn’t have expected such plans to actually happen; this is Latin America after all!

After dropping another intern off at the bus station, running errands, getting lunch and picking up and dropping off people, we went to get a locksmith to help us get some students into their house. For some reason the lock on their door just wouldn’t turn. While I was watching and holding the light for the locksmith, the Holy Spirit convicted me to share the Gospel with him.

I was super nervous, but I shared the Gospel anyway.

I started by asking his name and then launched into sharing the Gospel, using a lock and key analogy, telling him how Jesus is the only key that can fit our hearts. I can only give God the credit for giving me the words to say.

Miguel was Catholic and didn’t want to accept the possibility that Jesus alone could pay for his sins. But my breath was not spent in vain, for Miguel’s son, who had tagged along, trusted in Jesus alone for salvation! Now I know why the lock wouldn’t turn! In this respect, it was all totally worth the “loss” of “my” time.
Melissa’s Story
Cross Cultural Internship

I wouldn’t describe my Cross Cultural Internship experience as “typical”. However, I’m not sure if there is a typical Cross Cultural Internship experience. I say this because God works in and through each of us in different ways, and because of that each person’s journey looks a little different.

One of the biggest things I learned throughout my time is that God cares about growing my personal relationship with Him more than anything I can do for Him. The truth is that He doesn’t need us at all. Instead, He chooses for us to be involved in what He is doing. What a privilege to be involved in souls coming to know Christ!

The Cross Cultural Internship is an opportunity to be involved in the big picture of God’s kingdom work in the world. And while we think we are doing so much for the big picture, God is actually working in the little things of our hearts and changing us to be more like Jesus Christ in the process.

You leave the Cross Cultural Internship changed, not because of all the ministry opportunities, cool life experiences, culture and language learning, finishing your degree, or making new friends (although all of that is involved and awesome!), but because God is so gracious to facilitate growth in the lives of His children. That is the most exciting part. All of the other things are just added bonuses of God’s grace.
Adult Trips

Do you have a heart to serve? Do you see the connection between meeting physical needs and spiritual needs? Do you want to use your life experiences to see God glorified around the world? We have seen God use people of all ages on our Adult Trips to complete behind-the-scenes projects, fill strategic ministry roles, and participate in many creative ministries to further the spread of the gospel. It doesn’t matter if you are a graduate, a professional, or a retiree, it’s never too early (or too late!) to participate in God’s work around the world.

• Launch
• Work Trip Adventures
• Healthcare Teams
Launch

Launch trips are customizable missions experiences lasting anywhere from two weeks to two years. They are tailored to your spiritual gifts, skills, experience, interests, and desired timeframe. Often these trips can be bridges into long term vocational missionary service as they allow you to serve in a place long enough to really see what life and ministry are like for full time missionaries. We will partner with your local church to equip you and send you where God wants you to go!

For more information and to learn how to apply,
visit: wol.is/launch
email: missions@wol.org
call: 518.494.6355
Work Trip Adventures

Do you have experience in construction or general maintenance? Are you willing to learn and serve? Work Trip Adventures are much more than work. They are real adventures in serving! We have opportunities to serve in several countries using our talents and abilities to build resources. These resources will be used by our Word of Life missionaries to bring hope to a needy world. Consider going with us for an amazing adventure of a lifetime. Come as an individual and join others to become an amazing team!

For more information and to learn how to apply,
visit: wol.is/worktripadventures
email: ronmorton@wol.org

Building Resources
Creating Hope

A Word of Life Ministry
Healthcare Teams

If you are healthcare professional or willing to help with behind-the-scenes tasks, Word of Life’s Healthcare Teams are designed to meet physical needs as a tool in sharing the gospel with those who have never heard it before. These trips will allow you to get to know, serve alongside, and encourage missionaries meeting the nationals’ physical needs, many of whom are unable to seek treatment on their own. Come as an individual and join others to become an amazing team!

For more information and to learn how to apply,
visit: wol.is/healthcare
email: palindblom@wol.org
call: 518.494.6365
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Psalm 96:3
Marilyn’s Story

Launch

It was 2005 and I was widowed and retired from teaching in a Christian school. I had a desire to continue serving my Lord and He opened the door for me to serve in the Word of Life English discipleship school (SYME) in Korea. It was one of the most enjoyable and fulfilling things I had ever done!

It was such a joy to pour myself into the wonderful students He sent to us. After that, I was eager to do it again! Since then I have been privileged to serve as a teacher in Japan, Taiwan (6 times!), Nicaragua (E4L), and Poland (E4L).

In the spring of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, I was challenged to stretch my learning curve again by teaching a Bible class through Zoom for the school in Poland. Most of them were my English students from the fall and they were patient as this old lady learned new skills! I am so thankful to have been blessed to teach and gain wonderful young friends on three continents. God is so good!
Chad’s Story

Work Trip Adventures

I was headed out in two weeks to go on a backpacking adventure when I sat down with my uncle for what I thought was our normal breakfast. I thought he’d be excited to hear that I’d planned another solo hike, this time in Costa Rica. The words and the wisdom of my uncle that morning fell profoundly on my heart. His words, “With all that schooling and Bible training, how are you going to use it in your travels?” That struck me, and I was convicted to the core that I needed to do more on my trip than just ‘see the world and explore.’ I needed to take my resources and training that I was profoundly blessed with and use them to share Christ with others. Yes, I wanted to make a difference.

I have been able to serve on two exciting work trips with Word of Life Short Term Missions. In the summer of 2016 I spent two weeks at Word of Life Costa Rica, and the following summer I served with Word of Life Chile for two weeks in Santiago. I also served with Word of Life Kenya in the summer of 2019. All of these trips were labor-intensive, Christ-centered and life-changing. Where I thought I was setting out to hopefully change someone’s life, it was mine that has been changed! Great lifelong friendships were made in a short time. Short Term Missions truly has impacted my life and has allowed me to show compassion on others as Jesus has done for me. These work trips were certainly adventures!