

# MS 2010 — Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. How many bags can I bring?

Try to pack everything in ONE big bag, including your sleeping bag and air mattress; this makes van packing and travel much easier. If you can't, please try to have your sleeping bag and air mattress in a second small bag. This is MUCH better than loose sleeping bags and mattresses, which tend to unravel in the van.

## 2. What should I bring with me in van?

Bring a small bag/backpack that will hold your reading material, spending money, iPod, sweatshirt (recommended, as sometimes the air conditioning can make the vans pretty cold), snacks, etc. Also, you may want to have your pillow with you in the van, as you will most likely want to sleep.

## 3. Will we doing laundry in MS?

Yes. Toward the end of the week (probably Thursday, Evelyn will take a group with her to the local laundromat. Make sure ALL of your clothes (including EVERY sock, undergarment, etc.) is marked with your in permanent marker.

## 4. What about meals while on the road?

Breakfast and lunch are provided as follows: each van will have its own cooler filled with drinks, simple breakfast snacks, fruit and sandwiches. You will be responsible for dinners on the road, so bring enough spending money to cover this and don't blow it all on the way DOWN (or you'll be hungry on the way back)!

## 5. Can we sit in any van we want?

No. We assign seats for the trip down and back. This ensures that the drivers know who is in their van and can do head counts before leaving truck stops. The only people that will switch will be the drivers. Never switch to another van unless a leader has assigned you to do so.

## 6. How will things work at the motels?

Each motel room (we will have 8 rooms) will consist of either two or three youth and one adult. The youth must check in with "their adult" before they head down to the pool, go buy a can of soda, or go anywhere outside of the room; no student should ever leave the motel grounds unless accompanied by a leader.

Phil and Glenn will determine the time that all students must be back in their respective rooms; please adhere to these times strictly. In Roanoke we will be leaving very early in the morning (4:00 am), so it is important to be quiet and respectful of other guests when we are assembling in the morning.

## 7. Will we have access to a phone in MS?

Only cell phones—yours or a fellow teammate's. Your parents will be given a list of numbers at which they can reach you while you are away.

## 9. Can I listen to my music while in MS?

No. Your iPod (or any other multimedia device) is ONLY for the ride down and back. No computers, TVs, etc. should be brought — just music that you and your parents agree upon. One exception is that a group music device may be used on the work site; however, it will be used to play pre-determined Christian music to avoid offending anyone (in group or out).

### **8. What happens if I get hurt in MS?**

A team leader and a member of the In His Steps staff will accompany you to the hospital (assuming you don't need an ambulance; in 13 years we have only needed one). Your parents will be notified while we are en route and will have the opportunity to talk to the doctor who is caring for you. This year we have one EMT on the trip (Glenn). We also have a well-stocked first aid kit with us. You should report ALL injuries or illnesses to a leader immediately, no matter how minor.

### **10. What do I need to wear for church?**

Boys must wear nice slacks, cords, chinos, khakis etc. (NO blue jeans or shorts) and a nice, collared shirt (a polo is perfect). Girls need to wear a modest skirt (for the purposes of this trip, this is defined as a skirt that extends below the knee when you are seated) and a modest top with sleeves and no low necklines. Girls: if you have any questions about these requirements, there will be a chance to discuss them with Beverly and Diane at our June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **11. Is there a dress code while at VBS, work site, at IHS?**

We will be doing some grubby work, so there is no "nice" clothing requirement. However, modest clothing is required. Shorts should be at least halfway to the knee and not excessively tight. Girls may not wear tank tops or sleeveless shirts and "normal" tee shirts are requested (no low necklines). Guys may NOT be shirtless unless swimming or on the work site and engaged in work. Around IHS, men must wear shirts unless in the bathroom; remember that we are in someone else's house. Swimsuits should be modest and one-piece only.

We know there are many interpretations of what it means to be "modest," and we are not suggesting that the above requirements are the "right way" for everyone in every circumstance. However, as servants on a mission in another state and another culture, we are erring on the side of caution to ensure that nothing we do is an offense or stumbling block to those we are serving (including our teammates). If you have questions or concerns, PLEASE speak with us about it.