

Los Angeles Ministry



Our Mission . . .

To provide youth groups with urban, multi-ethnic, and homeless ministry experiences that will:

- ◆ Expand students' global perspectives,
- ◆ Soften their hearts, and . . .
- ◆ Equip them to make a difference in their own world!

Questions That Parents May Ask . . .

What is this ministry in LA about?

Our desire is to link students to the world through Los Angeles. The experience will include opportunities for ministry with various socio-economic and ethnic groups as well as community service agencies. It will also include opportunities to learn about other cultures and their religions. Each student will be exposed to and learn about the different cultures that make the city of Los Angeles a "melting pot". Students will be challenged to see the people of Los Angeles (and therefore, the world) the way Jesus sees them . . . in desperate need of a Savior!

Is it safe?

The media image of inner-city Los Angeles often gives us a poor picture of what it is really like. Certainly, there are incidents of violence in the city; however, there are plenty of hard-working, decent, law abiding people who live and work in Los Angeles that make it a pleasant place to develop relationships and make an impact for Christ! The leadership are knowledgeable and experienced in working in Los Angeles, which also helps to insure the safety of the students who participate.

Where will the group stay?

We will be housed at a church located in the city of Los Angeles that has partnered with us to make an impact on their community by allowing us to stay in their church. We have strict policies in place during our stay at the church. Students are not allowed to wander or hang-out outside without an adult, and not at all after dark. The church that we are currently partnering with where students will likely be housed is Temple Baptist Church, which is located near the LA Convention Center.

Who leads the trip?



Jeff Bell will be leading the students and staff of your church as they encounter Jesus Christ through their ministry in Los Angeles. Jeff has worked with students as a Youth Pastor in a local church for 17 years. Since 2000, he has been a full-time missionary with Reign Ministries. He has led student ministry teams in over 25 different countries; and is uniquely experienced for this ministry, having taken many teams to inner-city LA for 25+ years.

What Students Should Not Bring . . .

- ◆ Valuable or Irreplaceable items
- ◆ Weapons of any kind
- ◆ Appliances (Hair Dryers / Curling Irons etc. will not be needed)
- ◆ Hats (Plan on not wearing a hat, at some locations they might be stolen or present a difficulty)
- ◆ Students do not need their cell phones during this trip. We understand that parents may desire that students have their phone for communication purposes. If they do bring a phone, we will ask them not to use it at times. The adult leaders will have cell phones when they are needed or in case of an emergency. The cell phones can be a distraction and can easily be lost or stolen. The group leadership will take pictures at the ministry sites (when appropriate) which can be shared with students.

What Students Should Bring . . .

- ◆ Sleeping Bag, Camping Mattress Pad, and Pillow
- ◆ Bible, Pen, Notebook
- ◆ A sweatshirt or light jacket. (Will be cool in the evenings – be prepared)
- ◆ Personal Toiletry Items (Hand towel, tooth brush . . . etc. - No showers will be available)
- ◆ Sun Screen

Dress Code

We work with a number of ministries and organizations within the Los Angeles area. Our desire is to provide a unique ministry experience in which students will interact with people of different ethnic groups and cultures. Therefore, we may work with people who have varying styles and standards of dress. In order to insure that you have a positive and safe experience during your ministry in L.A.; we have established the following guidelines in order that we do not draw attention to ourselves by our clothing and/or appearance. We believe that these guidelines will enhance the ministry possibilities and increase the safety of our time together.

- **No Sandals / Flip Flops (Closed toed shoes must be worn at all times)**
- No Makeup or Jewelry (simple watches or small stud ear rings are OK)
- No Clothing with sports team logos on it
- No T-Shirts with negative/questionable messages
- No Overly Baggy Pants
- No Shorts
- No Overly Tight Pants / Shorts / Tops
- No Tank Tops / Crop Tops / Sleeveless shirts or blouses
- No Gang Colors (All red and/or All blue clothing)
- Avoid any clothing that draws extra attention to yourself

Clothing for work in the Missions :

We will likely serve at a mission/shelter in downtown LA. They require us to wear pants or jeans.

Appropriate TShirts are OK.

No Shorts are allowed while volunteering in the missions.

Closed-Toed Shoes are mandatory (Tennis Shoes are the best choice)

Clothing For Church Services :

If your group is with us on a Sunday, you will likely be attending a local church service. These congregations may vary in style and type of dress. Therefore, we ask you to bring the following clothing:

Guys : Casual slacks (nice denim is OK).
Buttoned or Polo Shirt with collar.
No T-Shirts.

Girls : Modest Dresses or Modest Skirts and Blouses.
No tight clothing and/or low-cut tops.
We may serve at missions on Sun. AM, if so
girls will be OK dressed casual for church.