



CAPTURING CONTENT

We are so excited to see how God works in and through you on your AIM Trip. We would love to share your story on our social media account and other avenues. To ensure we capture your story in the best way possible, we've put together a "shot list" for you. As you look to share content with us, feel free to use this as a guide and checklist.

Regarding quality of photos, if you're using an iPhone, please watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nt9htV3CKjE>. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- When taking pictures (or video), hold the phone horizontally rather than vertically. Landscape pictures are preferred over portrait pictures. Additionally, the camera lens should be on top, not on bottom.
- Turn on the camera grid if it's not already on. Settings > Photos & Camera > Grid. Typically, you'll want to line up your subject with one of the four intersections.
- When in camera mode, change HDR from "Auto" to "On."
- To focus the image, tap the subject you're wanting to focus on (most often a person's face).
- Do NOT put a filter on the picture or crop it in any way. Our team will take time to ensure each photo looks right for a cohesive theme.

If you follow our picture-taking guidelines, it helps our team share your story in an inspirational way. In addition to the quality of photos, we are looking for a few certain photos—a checklist if you will. Though we only list a few photos, we usually take a lot of pictures to get one or two good ones. If you want to send us a few options for each shot, we would be more than happy to sift through the group.

- Picture Ideas and Tips
 - Entire youth group – posing with a smile
 - In front of your form of transportation (bus, horse, etc.)
 - In front of local housing (where you're staying, where the nationals live)
 - With the community
 - In any beautiful landscapes, in nature
 - In front of or inside the Church
 - With the missionaries
 - With some of the people you're serving with
 - Candid photos
 - During free time
 - While serving
 - Serving with kids
 - During a church service
 - Of the stage
 - Of the congregation
 - During worship

- While talking with nationals
 - While praying
 - While playing
 - While eating local cuisine
- Creative pictures—use your imagination!
 - Student holding up your youth group's logo for example
- Videos Ideas and Tips
 - Backdrops for Interviews
 - Avoid noisy environments for best sound quality
 - If there is activity, have it be in the distance so audio isn't compromised
 - Choose an attractive background (nature, a church, etc.)
 - For lighting, outside is usually best (if you can get cloud cover, that provides the softest lighting for pictures and video)
 - Can be inside if windows provide good lighting
 - B Roll (extra footage captured to enrich the story you're telling)
 - Where you're serving
 - While playing
 - During prayer
 - Worship service
 - Getting on/off the plane
 - Packing up
 - Reconnecting with families after the trip
 - While on local transportation
 - During free time
 - Reaction shots during play
 - Trying local cuisine that might be unappetizing (for a humorous shot)
- Interview Questions Ideas and Tips
 - Things to consider
 - Err on the side of too many details. Details about you, your story, the actual trip, the value of it, and how it impacted you and those around you.
 - If you don't know an answer to a question or haven't considered it, that's okay.
 - We want you to be honest, but include what you're thinking/hoping/considering now that you've been asked the question.
 - When you answer a question, please state the question in your answer. You're telling a story, so we want it to flow and sound like one rather than fragments and incomplete sentences.
 - Examples:
 - What is your name?*
 - No: John.
 - Yes: My name is John.
 - What would you tell someone who has an idea and a passion or desire to do something about it?*
 - No: Pray about it. Talk to your pastor. Ask your parents for help.
 - Yes: If someone had an idea and wanted to get started, I would tell them...

o Student questions

- Please tell us about yourself.
 - Include your name, age, grade, hometown, home church, and any other details you feel are important or necessary to who you are and your story.
- Tell us one funny story or memorable moment from this trip.
 - It can be something that happened with your team, while you were serving, or even during your travels.
 - Please be considerate with the story you share. If it might embarrass or upset someone, choose another story.
- Can you describe the moment you felt God speak to your heart about serving on this mission trip? What made you want to come?
- What did you do to prepare for your mission trip?
 - Briefly describe anything from conversations you had with people who helped and supported you, to how you raised money to get here.
 - Also include how you prepared spiritually and emotionally through prayer, meeting with your team and pastor, etc.
- What are some of the things you have been doing to serve the national people and to serve the missionary you're working with?
- What has stood out to you the most regarding the culture and environment of the place you're serving?
- What were you expecting and how was it different?
- What has been the easiest part and the hardest part about adjusting to a different culture?
 - Think about cuisine, living arrangements, language barriers, etc.
- How did you encounter God while on this trip?
 - Was there a specific moment and/or location where you could look back and recognize that as when you encountered God?
- To what extent did you experience a personal transformation?
 - Include the effect(s) on your spiritual growth, your relationship with others, how the support of other people impacted you, your perspective/view of missions, etc.
- Tell us about someone you met or served on your trip. How did they impact you?
 - This can be changing your perspective of different cultures to challenging your personal walk with God to simply encouraging you during this experience.
- How is your life going to look different back in the US after serving on this trip? How do you hope it will look different?
- What would you tell someone who has a passion for missions and a desire to serve on a mission trip?
 - This can include practical advice, encouragement, or something specific that worked for you as you went through your experience.

o Leader/missionary questions:

- Please tell us about yourself.
 - Include your name, home church, what role you serve in (pastor/youth leader/missionary), how long you've been in that role, and any other details you feel are important or necessary.

- What did you do to prepare for your mission trip?
 - Include conversation(s) you had with the missionary you're serving with, parents, and your church leadership.
 - Also include how you prepared spiritually and emotionally through prayer, meeting with your team, etc.
- What were your hopes, expectations, and/or goals for this trip?
- Personally, how did you encounter God while on this trip?
- To what extent did you experience a personal transformation?
 - Include the effect(s) on your spiritual walk, your view on leadership and influence, your perspective on missions, etc.
- **For youth leaders:** What impact did your students and this trip have on your youth group or your church as a whole?
 - The effects can be tangible or spiritual.
- **For missionaries:** What impact did the students and leaders have on your ministry?
 - The effects can be tangible or spiritual.
- How have your students changed throughout this process?
 - Consider development in their spiritual growth, maturity, obedience, generosity, etc.
- What's next?
 - **Youth leaders:** This can refer to how you hope life in the US will look different after this trip, plans for your youth ministry to stay involved, or a new course of action God has revealed to you.
 - **Missionaries:** This can refer to upcoming missions trips you have planned, how you're continuing the work of the students, how you are growing your ministry, or a new course of action God has revealed to you.

When you are finished with the pictures, please upload the video to our Dropbox account. To do so, you'll need to create an account at dropbox.com if you don't already have one. Please put your files in one folder with your church and district name. Then, please share the file with us at aim@ag.org. We can't thank you enough for sharing your story with us.