**Security Guidelines**

1. Allow the person who meets you upon your arrival in country to start and lead topics of conversations, especially while in transport to your destinations.
2. Assume all taxi drivers and others in close proximity to your conversations understand English.
3. Allow the partner to lead conversations of sensitive topics in the partner’s home. Follow the partner’s direction regarding security.
4. Whenever you speak on the telephone, assume you are being heard by others.
5. Ask if it is okay to take pictures of people at other times before doing so.
6. Do not bring missionary newsletters into the country.
7. Do not identify yourself with Lightbearers or partners on the field at any time, including while in transport to the country of destination.
8. Do not carry any item that identifies you with Lightbearers or partners on the field.
9. Don’t mention specific ministries.
10. If communication back home is necessary, realize that anything put into print is considered public domain.
11. Do not place Christian stickers or tracts on any material, luggage, mail, etc.
12. Do not make comments about the religion, its founder, religious leaders, or the holy writings of the people group.
13. Never discuss or write about confidential information.
14. Only share information on a “need to know” basis. Ask, “Why am I telling this? What difference will it make?” When in doubt, don’t share information.
15. Once back in the United States, never use the real names of national believers or display photographs of them during public reporting opportunities (worship, Sunday School, etc.).
16. Remember that any lack of vigilance in observing these security guidelines could do untold harm to national Christians as well as established and future ministries.
17. Use the name of the region (i.e., Southeast Asia) rather than the name of the country.

In some cases, you will never see a Christian worker during your visit. That may be because there is a lack of Christian workers there, or because it is best that Christians not be seen in contact with you. Even in these instances, many of the above guidelines must be followed so as not to jeopardize your trip or future ministry opportunities.

What can I do and not do to witness while I am in this country?

This is determined by each ministry partner. Generally in the 10/40 Window…

You cannot:

* Pass out tracts on street corners
* Go door to door and witness
* Carry large quantities of Bibles for distribution

You can:

* Respond to any questions individuals ask you
* Create witnessing situations

Are there words I should avoid?

Avoid these words in your speech, any e-mail and written correspondence while you are in a security-restricted country:

* Missions
* Missionaries
* Ministry
* Converts/Conversions
* Religion
* Evangelize/Evangelism
* Lightbearers
* Do NOT talk about politics or criticize the government

Try substitutions for our church word vocabulary:

* Church = meeting place
* Salvation = found the Way
* God = Father
* Missionary = overseas worker
* Bible = the Book
* Pray = think or remember
* Christian = brother or sister

I want people to pray for me as I go. How much can I tell them about where I am going and what I will be doing?

Until you have communication from us, keep your information to others general. You can say something like:

“I am going to South Asia for two weeks this summer. Pray for me that the Lord will give me many opportunities to share my faith.”

I am going on a mission trip … what do I write on my visa?

Tourism

Is this lying?

As Americans, we struggle with anything but “the whole truth and nothing but the truth,” yet we see Biblical examples of not answering questions (Jesus, Moses’ mother, Joseph, etc.).

What about Facebook? Pictures?

Do not ever post the names of partners.

You may not post the name of the country, but you may post pictures IF the partner gives approval. Do not tag the partner or anyone who lives in the country.