

Why I Participate in Short-Term Mission Trips

Chiropractic is my life. My mission is to share the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ with those I come into daily contact. Following a heart condition at age 52, the Lord impressed on me the transitory nature of this life and existence with the encouragement that we are to number our days. What did my days have to do with the process of eternity? I recognize and acknowledge all material possessions and things held so dear to me paled in reality that life is fleeting and God has placed His hand on mine for a purpose. I have watched over my 32 years of practice as new doctors graduate and, with agony, as some have been unable to pass their boards for license. I thank and praise the Lord He has called me and led me to this point.

I want to serve the Lord with chiropractic and in a missionary work. I am not good at construction, electrical work, or evangelism, but I am good at my chosen profession of chiropractic.

The Christian Chiropractors Association was a campus club I attended while at Palmer College. I was a member of the organization for years and paid my dues. Following attendance at a couple of conventions, my wife Connie and I decided on a short-term mission trip to Jamaica in 2004.

We contacted the CCA Home Office in Fort Collins, Colorado and signed up for the dates that fit our

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schedule. The Home Office sent a letter and the Team leader contacted us. I knew I would be adjusting school students in the 90-degree heat. I was to bring a portable table, headrest paper, and pencils to give to

the kids. We were asked to bring some food items for the group and some gifts to give the teachers and high school girls. We scheduled our own airplane itinerary and paid for our own supplies and plane fare. The fees paid to the CCA would be used for our food, lodging, transportation and driver while in Jamaica.

Our day's activities were pre-planned as to the schools, churches, and clinics we would visit and minister. We had the last day for free time and sightseeing.

We worked hard in high humidity to adjust students and teachers. The non-DCs helped with traffic flow and presentation of the gospel message and much needed assistance at times. Comfort wasn't really an issue. It was truly awesome to see God work through the hands of the chiropractors and through the hearts that were open to the Holy Spirit's direction.

We serve an Awesome God who is full of grace and mercy. My prayer is that our lives and our mission bring glory to Him now and forever.

Dr. Larry Hirschy practices in Chariton, Iowa. He has been a member of the CCA since 1977 and currently serves on the Board of Directors.

