The “Be Attitudes”
Of Short-Term Missions

Be Flexible!

Remember our theme song – “Flex and Obey.” The best-laid plans are often changed by outside influences. Be prepared to go with “Plan B” or even “Plan C” or “D.”

Be Aware!

Do not leave anything of value unattended. Cameras and personal effects can go missing. Pickpockets are active in crowds.

Be Discreet!

Be discreet in showing your money. Your spending money could be a month’s wages.

Be Smart!

Avoid foods cooked by street vendors. The rule for fruit and vegetables is, “If you can peel it, you can eat it.” Otherwise, it needs to be cleaned. Avoid drinking non-purified water.

Be Careful!

Scrapes, cuts and rashes should receive immediate attention. Your body has not built up immunity to foreign bacteria. Wash your hands often. Carry a small bottle of hand cleaner with you and use it often, particularly before you handle or eat any food.

Be Wise!

For safety and protection from loss or damage, leave jewelry and unneeded personal documents (credit cards, SS card, voter registration card, etc) at home.

Be Advised!

Toilet facilities may be scarce and toilet paper is rarely provided. Plan ahead. If a wastebasket is beside the toilet it is usually an indication that the TP is not to be flushed.

Be Attentive!

When exploring away from the main group, stay in groups of 3 or 4. Women should always be accompanied by at least one man.