

Monthly Training Overview

Acteens Activators and Youth on Mission Point teams are some of the most well trained missions teams around. Activators and Mission Point teams are known for being ready for almost anything because of the training they complete before their trips.

Training for an Activators or Mission Point trip requires a lot of hard work, but it's worth it. Use the monthly training overview that follows to help you keep track of your progress. Don't forget that as an Acteens Activators or Mission Point team member, you have agreed to prepare yourself to the best of your ability for your assignment in serving God. Maintain a positive attitude and give 100 percent during your training. Get ready to make a difference in the world!

MONTH 1: MISSIONS VISION

What does the Bible have to say about missions? What is the Great Commission? What does the Bible say that we are supposed to do as Christians to carry out the Great Commission? Why do we serve? Do you have a daily prayertime? Do you spend time alone with God? How important is prayer to you?

1. List three reasons that you want to be an Acteens Activators or a Mission Point team member. What do you think you will gain from this experience?
2. Combine all of the reasons identified by your group members into one purpose statement for your team.
Suggestions: “The purpose of our Activators project is to . . .”
“At the end of our Mission Point experience we will . . .”
“Using our gifts and our training we will . . .”
3. Read and memorize the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18–20 and Mark 16:15. Also, read and memorize Romans 10:8–15. Write several sentences explaining why these verses are considered missionary verses.
4. Do you have a daily quiet time with God? If not, begin this month preparing yourself spiritually for your assignment. Develop your own personal prayer plan.
Example:

Monday	Pray for the unity of your team.
Tuesday	Pray for the missionary with whom you will work.
Wednesday	Pray for your team leader.
Thursday	Pray for the people with whom you will work.
Friday	Pray for God’s leadership in your assignment.
Saturday	Pray for each of your teammates.
Sunday	Pray for your own spiritual growth.
5. Participate in a ministry project this month.

MONTH 3: INTERPERSONAL/CULTURAL AWARENESS

God has created many different cultures within the United States and around the world. What is culture? What elements of your behaviors or worship are cultural, and which are universal (belonging to all cultures)? How can your team work together well in different cultures?

1. Attend a worship service of a church of a culture group that is not your own. After the worship service, identify three elements of the service that were different from the worship services at your church. Discuss these with your Activators or Mission Point team. Is the worship service at one church better than the other, or does each service simply represent a different culture? Write a few sentences about your experience.
2. Work with your missions team to identify five behaviors that are cultural and five behaviors that are universal. Discuss these.
(Examples: honoring your ancestors—cultural; sleeping regularly—universal.)
3. Read 1 Corinthians 3:5–9. Answer the following questions: What do I want to happen through our team during our missions trip? What is the purpose or goal that motivates our team? What are the strengths of our team? What weaknesses do we need to watch out for? Discuss your answers with your team.
4. Participate in team-building games with your missions team.
5. Continue your daily quiet time.
6. Participate in a ministry project this month.

MONTH 4: PERSONAL WITNESSING

How comfortable are you in sharing your faith with those you encounter? Can you tell someone how to become a Christian? Can you back up your words with Scripture?

1. Identify the first person who told you about Jesus. Who was the first person you told? Who have you told recently about Jesus? Begin praying now for God to place someone in your life during this training time to whom you can be a witness for Him.
2. Participate in a witnessing training workshop such as Share Jesus Without Fear.
3. Think about your salvation experience. Write your personal testimony. Make sure you include answers to these questions: Why did you need Jesus Christ? What made you realize you needed Jesus? How did you become a Christian? What if Jesus Christ weren't a part of your life today?
4. Memorize these Scripture passages describing God's plan of salvation: Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9–10; 10:13. Practice explaining these Scripture passages as if you were sharing them with someone who was not a Christian.
5. Continue your daily quiet time.
6. Participate in a ministry project this month.

MONTH 5: BIBLE STUDY AND PILOT PROJECT

How can you prepare for your trip through Bible study? What type of activities will you be leading during your trip? How can you prepare and practice leading these types of activities before you leave home?

1. Complete the 28-day Activators/Mission Point Bible study on the Book of John. Be sure to read the verses listed and fill in your thoughts every day.
2. Conduct a pilot project for your missions trip. Choose one of your main assignments for your trip and conduct a similar project in your own community. Afterwards, write down a few of your thoughts about the project. What worked? What didn't? What do you need to change or improve before your trip?
3. Let your friends and church members know about your upcoming trip. Participate in a commissioning service with other members of your missions team. Write a few sentences about the service and your feelings during it.
4. Make sure that you have completed training through your state WMU office and training in your specific area of ministry (drama, day camps, etc.). See "Additional Training Resources" for more information.

Additional Training Resources

There are two very important training resources for Acteens Activators and Youth on Mission Point teams. Make sure that your team takes advantage of both of these resources.

- **State Activators/Mission Point Training**
Your state Acteens/Youth on Mission consultant should send you more information about this required training event. All the student missions teams from your state will come together for a time of fellowship, Bible study, and training for your missions trips. You may be able to fulfill some of your monthly training requirements at your state training event, depending on what subjects are covered. Contact your state Acteens/Youth on Mission consultant for more information.
- **Volunteer Connection Ministry Guide**
This all-in-one ministry guide contains helpful information and resources for crafts, music, drama, Bible study, games, and more. Be sure and take advantages of the ideas it offers throughout your missions trip. Each group leader should receive a Volunteer Connection Ministry Guide with their Activators/Mission Point team confirmation letter. Extra copies can be obtained from Volunteer Connection, (205) 991-4097 or volconnection@wmu.org.