



Volunteer Institute of Missions International

Note: For the most effective presentation, you will need the presenter to be an energetic person who will present this like a stereotypical infomercial host. To add to the excitement, have a sound effect of a watch ticking playing softly in the background and have the sound person increase the volume just a bit after the last line.

Are you at a point in your life where you are looking for something new and exciting in your life? When you were a young child, did you often say, “When I grow up I want to be a doctor, a nurse, a mathematician, a banker, or a scientist?” Have you often wanted to go back to school for further education and just don’t have the time? Are you lacking something in your life and just can’t quite put your finger on what it is?

Well, I have the perfect answer for you and the New Year that lies before you. Why not enroll in the Volunteer Institute of Missions International? It is a local community college that can brighten your day, fulfill your expectations for life, give you something new and exciting to look forward to, lift your spirits, and most of all encourage and help others.

You might be saying to yourself, “Well, I would love to enroll in the Volunteer Institute, but I don’t have any extra funds in my budget for this year.”

I say to you, “No problem! This institute of education is absolutely, positively, totally FREE! Yes, you heard me right—FREE, F-R-E-E! There is none other like it anywhere in (*your location*) and this deal is only good for today!”

Anyone who wants to enroll in the Volunteer Institute of Missions International can do so...here...today! Applications are forthcoming. Diplomas and crowns are offered on the other side—the other side in heaven that is. Why not start with your giving today?

It’s official! I am enrolling each of you in this free class through the Volunteer Institute of Missions International right now, and your learning begins...**now!**

Samarinating

Let’s get started with tonight’s first lesson. A new word I would like you to add in your “thinking dictionaries” is “Samarinating.” **Samarinating**—“*thinking about what it means to be a Good Samaritan.*” Let’s think of a few great reasons you should samarinate:

1. Human need is incredibly great and growing. The economic strain on people is at its highest in years, and people need the Lord more than ever before.
2. People’s lives can be changed and transformed by gestures of kindness and caring.

Samarinating

“thinking about what it means to be a Good Samaritan.”

3. The message generosity conveys is consistent with our Church's heritage.
4. Money is not the centerpiece; it is one resource of many that we can offer. Sometimes your time means more than a wealth of money.
5. Gifts (money and otherwise) are handled with integrity.
6. Sharing with others in greater need than yourself is at the core of the Gospel.
7. Caring for others is a gesture of fairness; redistribution is biblical.
8. Volunteering opens new opportunities for public witness and testimony.
9. Giving is a central gesture of Christian obedience.
10. The mechanisms of giving are easy: we make a living by what we do; we make a life by what we give and the compassion we show.
11. You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you. Jesus came to die for our sins, something for which we can never repay Him. He did it because He loves us and paid the ultimate sacrifice in doing so.

If we search out our own hearts and seek God's will for our lives, each of us can make a difference in a small way through volunteering and can find ways to help that will make our efforts worth the time and trouble we invest in them.

Benefits

- Volunteering makes you feel needed.
- Volunteering can help you learn new skills.
- Volunteering may help you face personal problems.
- Volunteering introduces you to new people and breaks down barriers of misunderstanding, mistrust, and fear.
- Volunteering can create new contacts which may help your business or career.

Volunteering Through Missions

You may be asking how you can volunteer through missions at your stage in life. Following are opportunities for any person in the congregation:

- **Youth in Mission**—an eight-week summer ministry for college/university students to engage to serve God and others through a mission experience. For more information, visit www.youthinmission.org.
- **Youthserve**—short-term mission experiences for high-school students. Youth will receive training, nurturing, and equipping before they embark on a mission trip and follow-up after the trip. For more information, visit www.nazareneyouthserve.org.
- **Work & Witness**—short-term mission experiences of three weeks or less for a variety of church groups and people of all ages. Teams are connected with needs. To learn more, go to www.workandwitness.org.
- **Mission Corps**—designed for people who want to serve cross-culturally for three months or longer. Volunteers fulfill specific assignments that match their skills and gifts. See www.missioncorps.org for more information.



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- **Tentmakers**—People’s secular vocations sometime lead them to different cultures. As tentmakers, their jobs support them while they help the Church of the Nazarene. To learn more about tentmaker possibilities, go to www.missioncorps.org.
- **JESUS Film Ministry Trips**—participants purchase and deliver JESUS Film equipment to a Nazarene team in a priority location. Visit www.JFHP.org/getinvolved/trips.cfm for information on JESUS Films trips.
- **Medical Trips**—Nazarene Medical Organization links Nazarene medical professionals to each other and to medical ministries around the world. Interested medical professionals may visit www.ncm.org/learn/healthcare/nmo to learn more.
- **Extreme Nazarene Missions**—Extreme Nazarene finds unmet, complex, global needs and matches the needs with the talents and resources available throughout the worldwide church. For more information, click on www.extremenazarene.org.
- **Local or District Opportunities**—opportunities that may be filled by local or district teams on the local or district level are usually available. Contact your pastor, district NMI president, district superintendent, or district office to learn where you can serve.
- **Praying**—participants in the previously mentioned ministries always need prayer support. You may not be able to go, but you can pray.

You are now a graduate of the Volunteer Institute of Missions International.

So what are you waiting for? The church and God’s kingdom needs you like never before. There is no better time to serve the Lord than now.

Try it out; we will guarantee you 100 percent satisfaction or your money back! Get on board and get involved today! Time’s a tickin’...

Delilah Johnson (adapted)
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