



INCA LINK INTERNATIONAL

2021-22

COLOMBIA WELCOME GUIDE



AND THE KING WILL ANSWER THEM, "TRULY, I SAY TO YOU,
AS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE MY BROTHERS, YOU DID IT TO ME."
-MATTHEW 25:40

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SHORT-TERM MISSIONS GUIDE

A place where forgotten, lost and thrown away people are being transformed by Christ's love every day. Come and be part of the larger Church movement happening in Latin America. Inca Link is focused on reaching the 300 million youth in Latin America with Christ's irresistible love. We do this through discipleship and evangelism, training leaders, connecting people, and compassion ministries. We are devoted to serving the least of these and we need your help!

ONE GOAL: GLORIFY GOD

Why did Jesus Christ care for and love people? To be a witness of the glory of God. The entirety of our trip from planning and preparation, to being on the field, and ultimately to returning home for post-field growth needs to be solely and centrally focused on the Glory of God. Everything else will be a by-product of that- how you grow, to the glory of God; the good works that had been done, to the glory of God; the people who heard the good news of the Gospel, to the glory of God; the impact on our sending church, to the glory of God. All that we do needs to be focused on and pointing to that end.

MEET THE TEAM

THE AWESOME PEOPLE BEHIND INCA LINK COLOMBIA



**RICH & ELISA
BROWN**
FOUNDERS



**PAUL & LINETH
OVERMOYER**
MISSIONARIES



**LUCY LANCHEROS &
RICARDO
RODRIGUEZ**
OASIS DIRECTOR

RICH and ELISA BROWN and FAMILY The Browns are the co-founders and president of Inca Link. They serve as regional missionaries with the Christian and Missionary Alliance and are currently on furlough in the US. They were youth pastors in Trujillo for 10 years, and served in Ecuador for 14 years. They have a passion for training youth leaders and have four awesome kids and one grandson.

PAUL and LINETH OVERMOYER Paul and Lineth both grew up in Colombia; Paul as a missionary kid and Lineth as a rola (a Colombian from Bogota), but they didn't meet until the Lord brought them together in Cedartown, Georgia in 2009. Missions have been a part of their relationship from the very beginning. Their first joint mission trip was an Inca Link trip to Quito, Ecuador, in 2010.

LUCY LANCHEROS and RICARDO RODRIGUEZ Lucy is married to Ricardo and has four grown kids. Her heart is to serve the least of these through social work projects in the impoverished sectors of Bogota. She leads the OASIS program and serves as a leader with pastoral functions in the Alliance Church. Ricardo is an expert in construction. He has led the construction of the majority of the projects and serves to meet the manual labor needs of the ministries..

MEET THE TEAM STATESIDE

THE AWESOME PEOPLE BEHIND THE SCENES



**LUKE
SCHRIEFER**
DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY
DEVELOPMENT



**STACEY
POPE**
TEAMS
COORDINATOR



**RACHEL
FORMAN**
INTERN
COORDINATOR



**NICOLE
HIGGINS**
FINANCE OFFICER



OLIVIA JONES
COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER

LUKE SCHRIEFER Luke works as our director of ministry development. If you want to learn more about long-term partnership and supporting Inca Link ministries, please connect with Luke. Luke, his wife Jessica and their daughter, Ezra, currently reside in Pennsylvania.

NICOLE HIGGINS Nicole is our Finance Officer. Nicole and her husband Robert moved to Boone, North Carolina after working for Samaritan's Purse in Haiti. They both have a heart for missions and seeing God's truth brought to the nations.

STACEY POPE Stacey is the Team Coordinator. She got connected to Inca Link after returning stateside following seven years of ministry in the Dominican Republic. Stacey and her husband David are based out of the Brunswick County, NC area. She serves to oversee the pre-field preparation of the teams.

OLIVIA JONES Olivia is our Communications Manager. As the daughter of Rich and Elisa Brown, she has been involved with Inca Link since it started but officially joined the team in September 2016. Based out of Maryland, Olivia uses her Spanish and journalism degrees to promote Inca Link on social media and is happy to be working with an organization she is so passionate about. After your trip, please email Olivia your pictures at ojones@incalink.org.

RACHEL FORMAN Rachel is the Intern and Member Care Coordinator. She met Rich and Elisa Brown while living in Ecuador and began serving with Inca Link in 2012. Rachel, her husband, Dalton and their children live in sunny Southern California.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Lucy Lancheros

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Stacey Pope (Stateside)

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email: spope@incalink.org

Embassy in Bogota**United States**

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Phone: (+57) (1) 275-2000
Consular Section phone: (571) 275 4900
Citizen Services inquiries: ACSBogota@state.gov.
For emergencies involving a U.S. citizen please see
<https://co.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/emergency-contact/>.

Canada

Carrera 7 #114-33, Bogotá, Colombia
Tel: (57-1) 657-9800
Email: bgota@international.gc.ca
Emergency Services for Canadian citizens 24/7. During working hours call 571+ 657-9800 dial 1 for English and then 2 for transfer to the consular or call the Emergency Watch and Response Centre in Ottawa after hours +1 613-996-8885 (collect calls accepted). Emergency Watch and Response Centre in Ottawa: sos@international.gc.ca

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MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES:



OASIS Our sponsorship program enables children from the local community of Santa Cecilia to attend the children's program at the church five days a week. Children receive lunch, academic help, and most importantly, receive daily Biblical teaching and a beautiful glimpse of Christ's love for them. Teams will have the opportunity to partner with the nationals in leading these programs.

CHURCH PARTNERSHIP Teams will fellowship with the church of Santa Cecilia, helping with the services (preaching, worship, and prayer) and entering into the lives of the nationals.

SKILLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS Weekly workshops generate space to identify, develop and utilize the abilities and talents of youth and women, many of whom are struggling with delinquency. These ministries offer precious time to form relationships and share the Gospel, while learning of their immeasurable worth as children of God.

SOUP KITCHEN Holistic formation is the goal of these kitchens, aiming to meet the nutritional, academic, and social needs all routed through meeting the core, foundational spiritual need. Children come and receive their daily bread not only in the food provided but in homework help, mentoring, and discipleship.



SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Based on your team's goals and Inca Link's needs, we believe the Lord will direct us in designing a unique trip for you. Some of this planning may be done after you arrive in the country—the needs of the local church change frequently! We ask that you come open and ready to serve. This is an idea of what a schedule may look like—most days will involve construction and children's ministries.

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
FRIDAY (ARRIVAL DAY)	FLIGHT TO BOGOTA TRAVEL TO MINISTRY SITE	DINNER ORIENTATION WORSHIP DEBRIEF
SATURDAY (DAY 2) LEADER MTG, & DEVOTIONS BREAKFAST MINISTRY	LUNCH TOUR VISION CASTING	DINNER WORSHIP DEBRIEF
SUNDAY LEADER MTG, & DEVOTIONS BREAKFAST CHURCH	LUNCH FELLOWSHIP	DINNER WORSHIP DEBRIEF
MONDAY-FRIDAY LEADER MTG, DEVOTIONS BREAKFAST CONSTRUCTION	LUNCH OASIS MINISTRY	DINNER WORSHIP DEBRIEF
SATURDAY LEADER MTG, DEVOTIONS BREAKFAST	LUNCH TOURISM/SHOPPING	DINNER WORSHIP FINAL DEBRIEF
SUNDAY TRAVEL HOME		

Your days will usually start at 7:00am for leaders and 7:30am for the rest of the team. Most days will go until 9:30 – 10:00pm. This means that you and your team will get tired. We do plan in downtime in the middle of the day for some rest and relaxation; we suggest you use this time well. The better rested you are, the better you can partner here in Colombia.

PREPARING

FOR YOUR TRIP

WHAT VACCINATIONS/MEDICATIONS DO WE NEED? We require that all short-termers have Hepatitis A and B and an up-to-date Tetanus shot. We highly recommend a Covid-19 vaccine. We recommend bringing some sort of stomach/diarrhea medicine. *Inca Link has set a rule that until a cure is found, pregnant woman should not participate in trips this year due to the danger of the Zika virus. We're sorry if this causes any inconveniences for your team.

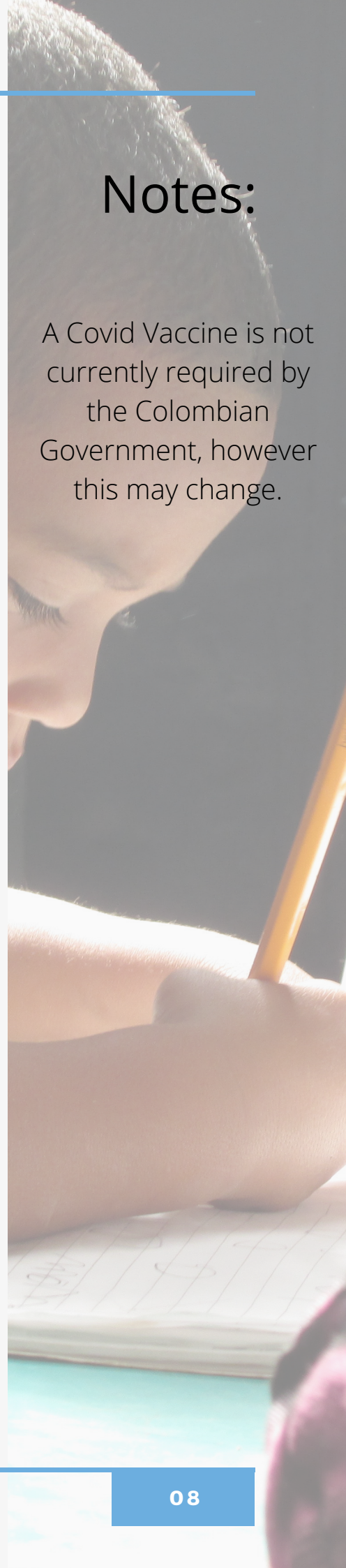
WILL WE NEED TO PREPARE A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM? We recommend that your team be prepared for a children's program or VBS. The team will be responsible for providing curriculum and all materials needed to do the program, including: crafts, prizes, etc. There will be daily opportunities to serve with Oasis, so we suggest that you prepare five lessons if your team is staying for the week. It is always appreciated to have the teams lead music, skits and games. We encourage your team to learn some songs in Spanish. If dramas or skits are used, please make sure they are in Spanish. Be as creative as you would like. This also is a great team building activity as you prepare for your trip!

Important to remember for you children's programs:

Your team will be responsible for providing curriculum and all materials needed to do the program, including: crafts, prizes, etc. The best crafts and activities that teams have done in the past are things that the kids can keep and use. An example of this is one team made pillows with the kids, and another team brought individual chalkboards.

Notes:

A Covid Vaccine is not currently required by the Colombian Government, however this may change.



PACKING

PLANNING ON WHAT TO BRING

WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE? We recommend you check the weather online before you come down. During June, July, and August, it is winter time in Colombia, which means the high could be 70 and low could get down to 40. It is usually overcast during the summer months

IS THERE A DRESS CODE? People in Colombia are more conservative than in North America. To be effective in ministry, we want to respect our Colombian brothers and sisters while in their country by striving to imitate their dress customs.

Women: Church attire - pants, skirts or dresses are acceptable for women but no flip flops or shorts. Bring some flats. A sweatshirt or warm jacket is recommended for the cool evenings. Wear protective clothing on work sites. Shorts are not generally worn, but a pair of long, soccer-type shorts are okay for some activities. You will also need at least one pair of work jeans (to wear multiple times).

Men: Guys must wear pants or nice jeans to church. No shorts or flip-flops. A sweatshirt or warm jacket is recommended for the cool evenings. Wear protective clothing on work sites. Shorts are not generally worn, but a pair of long, soccer-type shorts are okay for some activities.

Packing List

- Passport
- Personal Medications
- Masks & Sanitizer
 - Work clothes
- Comfortable clothes to wear during VBS/ministry time
 - Church outfit
 - Warm jacket and pants
 - Toiletries
 - Bible
 - Journal
- Reusable water bottle
 - Work gloves
 - Closed-toed work shoes (tennis shoes are fine)
 - Shower shoes
 - Sunscreen
 - Flashlight
- Camera (optional)
 - Hat
 - Towel

*You DO NOT need to bring pillows or bedding (those will be provided)

TRAVEL

PREPARING FOR THE JOURNEY

WHAT AIRPORT SHOULD WE FLY INTO? You will need to fly into Bogota, Colombia (BOG).

DO WE NEED A VISA? You will only need a valid passport to enter Colombia. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months from your departure date, or the airlines will not allow you to fly out. You do not need to apply for a visa before coming down. Once you arrive in Colombia, you will be given a tourist visa for 30-90 days for free.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT UPON ARRIVAL? Someone with Inca Link apparel will be at the airport to pick you up. If we are not there, do not walk outside. We will be there shortly. Feel free to contact anyone on the list that was provided for you.

ARE THERE AIRPORT TAXES? Unfortunately, if you are traveling from Canada, there may be airport taxes. For teams traveling from the USA, there shouldn't be any airport taxes.

Notes:

All teams will need to fly to Bogota.

Currently a negative Covid-19 test is required to enter Colombia and to return to the USA or Canada.

1 1 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

IS THERE AN AGE REQUIREMENT? We encourage family missions experiences! Children ages 10-13 years old require one parent on the team; 9 years old and younger must be accompanied by both parents on the team.

WHAT ARE THE LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS? You will be staying at the church in Santa Cecilia, on top of a beautiful peak in North Bogota. You will be sleeping on twin bunk beds.

WHAT WILL THE MEALS BE LIKE? Meals are prepared with the utmost care. You will have opportunities to try food that is typical to Colombia, but also food that you recognize and will enjoy. If you have any dietary restriction please inform us before you arrive in Colombia so that we can be as prepared as possible for your arrival.

WILL THERE BE SNACKS TO PURCHASE? We recommend that you bring snacks from home (to leave with the missionaries), but we also recommend you be ready to try new and different snacks from Colombia.

IS THERE A WAY TO CONTACT HOME? The Internet is available at some locations, but not all. We encourage you to “unplug” while serving. (Note: Contacting home is available if there is an emergency.)

ARE THE ELECTRICAL OUTLETS THE SAME? Yes, the outlets are the same as they are in North America.

WHAT TYPE OF CURRENCY IS USED IN COLOMBIA? Colombia uses the Peso. You will want to bring clean cash (not torn and no markings). Smaller bills (\$20 or less) are required. Credit and Debit cards are accepted, but you will usually find a small international fee for using it. We do not recommend checks, travelers’ checks or money orders, because they are very difficult to use!

WHAT ITEMS CAN WE BRING TO DONATE? Email info@incalink.org for an updated wish list from each ministry.

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VOLUNTEER/TEAM SAFETY, SECURITY & RESILIENCY

This information applies to Inca Link staff, interns and other short-term volunteers. Whether traveling with a team or alone, it is crucial to prepare properly and follow the following procedures to make your time as productive as possible.

Passports and Visas

You need a valid passport good for at least six months after your planned return trip.

Do not pack your passport in your luggage; you will need it during your travel. More than likely, the country you are visiting will not require you to obtain a visa. Instead, your immigration form will act as your visa.

Make two copies of your passport: one to carry with you at all times and one for another team member to keep.

You should also have at least two blank pages in your passport. Some countries will not allow you to enter without two blank pages.

Immigration and Customs

You'll first need to clear immigration by speaking with immigration officials. Have your passport, visa or tourist card ready (if applicable).

Consult your team leader for how to answer these questions:

- What is the purpose of your trip?
- How long will you be staying?
- Where will you be staying?

Answer questions honestly, but do not offer additional information. The immigration officer will stamp your passport and return it to you along with your immigration form. **Immediately fold your immigration form and place it in your passport. You must have it to depart most countries.**

Proceed to the baggage area to collect your luggage.

Customs

Before departing the airport, you'll need to clear customs. If you are asked any questions, answer them with a smile. Answer all questions but do not offer additional information.

Your luggage could be selected for inspection. Do so graciously knowing airport personnel are doing their jobs. If you are asked questions, answer in English. You are responsible to know the contents of your luggage and why you are bringing them into the country.

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VOLUNTEER/TEAM SAFETY, SECURITY & RESILIENCY

Traveling As A Group

- Thoroughly read your group's trip manual and all communications sent by your leader.
- Listen to your leaders and follow their instructions.
- Stay together as a group unless your leader gives you permission. If you must leave the group, let others know where you are going.
- Stay in groups of 3 or 4.
- Respect airport security and never make jokes about bombs or terrorist activities.
- Never leave your luggage unattended.
- Know where your travel documents are at all times.
- Remain aware of those around you.
- Don't count money in public or leave valuables exposed.

Watchperson

We recommend groups designate an individual as the team's "watchperson". This person reports to and assists the team leader by making sure the group observes security protocols. Using a watchperson does not absolve the need for every person to follow safety protocols.

- The watchperson helps by doing head counts to make sure the group remains intact.
- The watchperson helps observe team luggage, backpacks, etc.
- The watchperson observes other people not with the group for possible ill intent.

Traveling Alone

When traveling alone it is important to prepare in advance, anticipate obstacles and delays, and share your itinerary with your host(s). Many rules for traveling as a group apply.

- Keep the phone numbers of your host/supervisor handy so you can communicate problems.
- Stay in public spaces and do not go with individuals alone.
- Upon clearing customs, only depart the airport with your host.

Best Practices While Traveling

- Learn the latest luggage requirements of the carriers you will be flying.
- Don't pack tools in your carry-on luggage. They may be mistaken for weapons.
- Use a unique identification mark (ribbon, etc.) to help find your luggage quickly.
- Use an address other than your home address on your luggage tag for security purposes.
- Dress conservatively. Don't wear shirts/hats with wording that could be inflammatory.
- Avoid discussing politics or sharing personal information about your home, finances, etc.
- Avoid confrontations. Remain calm and allow group leaders to resolve conflicts.
- Allow your local host/team leader to represent you while in-country to avoid cultural mistakes.

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VOLUNTEER/TEAM SAFETY, SECURITY & RESILIENCY

In-country travel reminders

- Bring passports and other documents you may need if stopped by authorities.
- Do not post your itinerary or exact destination on social media.
- Be selective in the photos and updates that you post.
- As you reach each travel stop, designate a secure meeting spot and make sure all team members can identify it in the event your team becomes separated.
- Prepare your team with the proper responses to questions asked at immigration and customs.
- Make sure all team members have a backup copy of their passport and visa (if required).
- Go through security, baggage and other checkpoints together.
- Remind your team you are guests in another country and are subject to their laws and customs and need to observe them. Be humble, gracious and inconspicuous.
- Make sure each team member has a written copy of the name and address of your in-country host, and the team leader's contact information.
- If an unplanned event does occur in a foreign country, even if it appears to be minor, document and share it with your host in case it becomes an issue later in your trip.

Evacuation

In the event an evacuation of a team or interns is called for, evacuees must follow the direction of the Inca Link International Coordinators and Resident Director to evacuate, as directed. Teams and Interns will assume the expense of the evacuation transport/flights, which may or may not be covered by their travel insurance. Teams/interns may need to be placed on separate evacuation flights, based on the seats available. All evacuation needs/plans will be coordinated through the Inca Link staff as designated.

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SPANISH VOCABULARY

SPANISH PHRASES

BASIC CONVERSATION

Gracias (gra-syas)
 Por favor (por fa-vor)
 Buenos días (bwe-nos dee-as)
 Buenos tardes (bwe-nos tar-des)
 Buenas noches (bue-nas no-ches)
 ¿Hablas inglés? (a-blas een-gles)
 ¿Cómo se dice...? (ko-mo say dee-say...)
 ¡Hola!
 ¿Como estas? (o-la ko-mo e-stas)
 Estoy bien (e-stoy byen)
 Estoy cansado/a (e-stoy kan-sa-do)
 Estoy enfermo/a (e-stoy en-fer-mo/a)
 Tengo hambre (tan-go am-bre)
 Tengo sed (tan-go sed)
 Me llamo _____ (may ya-mo)
 Mucho gusto (moo-cho goo-sto)
 ¿De dónde eres? (de don-de e-res)
 Soy de los Estados Unidos (soy de los e-sta-dos oo-nee-dos)
 ¿Qué te gusta hacer? (ke te goo-sta a-ser)
 Me gusta jugar el fútbol (me goo-sta hoo-gar el foot-bol)
 Me gusta cantar (me goo-sta kan-tar)
 Me gusta tocar la guitarra/ el piano (me goo-sta to-car la gi-tar-a)
 ¿Cuántos años tienes? (kwon-tos on-yos tye-nes)
 Tengo _____ años (tan-go _____ on-yos)
 Disculpa (dis-cool-pa)
 Con permiso (con per-mee-so)
 Lo siento (lo syen-to)
 ¡Chao! (chow)
 ¡Cuidate! (kwee-da-te)

ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE

Clavo (kla-vo)
 El martillo (el mar-tee-yo)
 El balde (el bal-de)
 La carretilla (la ka-re-tee-ya)
 El cemento (el se-men-to)
 Construir (con-stroo-eer)
 La pared (la pa-red)

IN CHURCH

La iglesia (la ee-gle-sya)
 La alabanza (la al-a-ban-sa)
 Dios/Senor (dyos/ sen-yor)
 Jesús (he-soos)
 Orar (o-rar)
 Dios te bendiga (dyos te ben-dee-ga)

PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS

¿Cómo va el día? (co-mo ba el dee-a)
 Estas trabajando tan duro (es-tas tra-ba-han-do tan doo-ro)
 ¿Puedo orar para ti? (pwe-do o-rar pa-ra tee)
 Oraré para ti (o-ra-re pa-ra tee)

Thank you
 Please
 Good morning
 Good afternoon
 Good evening
 Do you speak english?
 How do you say...?
 Hello!
 How are you?
 I am good
 I am tired
 I am sick
 I am hungry
 I am thirsty
 My name is _____
 Nice to meet you
 Where are you from?
 I am from the United States
 What do you like to do?
 I like to play soccer
 I like to sing
 I like to play the guitar/ the piano
 How old are you?
 I am _____ years old
 Excuse me/ Pardon me/ Forgive me
 Excuse me
 I am sorry
 Bye!
 Careful!

Nail
 Hammer
 Bucket
 Wheelbarrow
 Cement
 To construct/build
 Wall

Church
 Praise/Worship
 God
 Jesus
 To pray
 God bless you

How is your day going?
 You are working so hard
 Can I pray for you?
 I will pray for you