



# SPRING BREAK

## 20 REYNOSA 10

Join us this Spring Break (March 13-18, 2010) as we travel to Reynosa, Mexico to serve the children of Rio Bravo Ministries, a faith-based non-denominational ministry to the orphans of their community. We will help out wherever needed during the day (e.g. digging trenches, pouring concrete, cleaning the grounds, etc.) and serve the children that live at the mission during the afternoons and evenings.

The cost is \$300 per person. However, you don't have stop raising money at just \$300! Anything we raise over this amount will be either used to help another person go with us to Reynosa or will be donated directly to Rio Bravo Children's Home once we get there.

### **Step One**

Talk with your family about the possibility of going to Reynosa, Mexico over Spring Break. Once you get a "Yes" from this conversation, proceed to Step Two.

### **Step Two**

Fill out the enclosed *Spring Break: Reynosa Registration Form and Waiver\**. Turn in the completed documents with your \$50 non-refundable deposit at the studentImpact check-in table on Sunday mornings, or mail them to the church office: PO Box 1027, Buda TX 78610.

### **Step Three**

Fill out the enclosed *United States Passport Application\**. Currently passport applications are taking up to six weeks to be completed, so please don't put this off very long or you'll have to pay extra to have them expedite it.

### **Step Four**

Read and modify the enclosed *Sponsor Letter\** to suit your taste and send a copy (via mail or email) to your friends and family. Please understand that not everyone is going to be able to help financially. However, we are serving the God who "owns the cattle on 1,000 hills."

### **Step Five**

Begin memorizing the enclosed *Memory Verses\**. Before each meal we will have to recite verses from memory, so if you're interested in eating while you're there you might want to start memorizing some verses. The ones we've provided are just suggestions. If you'd rather find some on your own – great!

### **Step Six**

Mark your calendar for a group meeting on February 21 at the Church Office from 5:30-8p. This will be a great time of encouragement and information as we meet together to pray, eat, discuss the logistics of the trip, train, etc. Your parents are also invited to attend this meeting, as they are a huge part of your being able to go. Besides, they will most likely retain more of the information than you anyway.

### **Step Seven**

Pack your bags according to the enclosed *Packing List\**.

*\*Items with an asterisk denote documents enclosed in this packet for your convenience. Aren't we thoughtful?!*

## FAQs

### Is it safe?

**Lodging:** In their 19 years, Rio Bravo Ministries (RBM) has never experienced an incident that would imply or involve any danger to its guests or residents. Their campus, located in the suburbs of Reynosa, is securely surrounded by a cinder block wall. On one side of the property is an industrial complex. The other sides are surrounded by a residential area. Their neighborhood is not considered a high risk area.

**Transportation:** Once through the brand new Anzalduas International Bridge into Mexico, our drive to the RBM campus is approximately 15 minutes. We do not traverse the area(s) of Reynosa where violence and deprivation are typically seen. Our route consists of roads and highways that are major arteries in this metropolis.

### What if there is an emergency situation?

The children's home has first aid materials and access to physicians that care for their own children. In the event of a medical emergency, immediate needs will be taken care of on site, and if necessary subsequent care will be sought at a healthcare facility in Texas.

There are several hospitals in Mission (Mission Hosp, 12.7 km or 17min from bridge and Meadows, 11.2 Km or 19 min from bridge) and many others in McAllen (Rio Grande Regional Hosp, 19 min from bridge, TX Children's, Driscoll Children's Hosp, Las Palmas, Family Specialists Med. Ctr, Good Samaritan Ctr, McAllen Med. Ctr, 17 min from bridge, etc.)

### Are passports needed?

Yes. Passports are necessary for you to re-enter the United States. We have enclosed application documents in this packet for your convenience. However, applications are also available at post offices or can be downloaded from the internet at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html).

Keep in mind that for a minor, both parents will have to be present to submit the application. The Manchaca post office no longer accepts them, but on the website there is a link to find the post offices in our area and their hours for passport acceptance. Oak Hill, Austin South East and San Marcos post offices are included on that list.

The total cost for an adult (16 years+) passport book (remains active for 10 years) is \$100, and one for a minor under 16 (active for 5 years) is \$75. Please make your application as soon as possible to avoid having to pay extra to expedite the processing, which is currently stated to be 4-6 weeks.

### What will the 6 days of the trip look like?

Here is a basic itinerary for the week:

Sat. – Travel to Reynosa, orientation and settling in

Sun. – activities and time with God, each other, the kids and staff

Mon.-Wed. – WORK and after dinner, activities/playtime with kids, then group time

Th. – Travel to Austin

### What will the work consist of?

We don't know exactly what type of work we will be doing until we get there, but generally it is an assortment of construction and remodel projects throughout the campus. In the past, we have painted, scraped, sanded, put up drywall, shoveled gravel, moved dirt, installed baseboards, laid paving stones, etc. No specific skills are needed as we will learn on the job. We do, however, expect all participants to put forth their *best* effort.

### Is there proper sanitation and clean water?

Yes. The campus has its own water purification system and does not contain the amoebas that cause gastric discomforts. The water is purified and the facilities are clean with more than adequate septic systems for each building.

### Can the food that will be served be trusted?

All food is cooked in-house in clean kitchens using purified water and is perfectly safe for our consumption.

### How many Bible verse does each participant need to memorize?

Though each person will be allowed to enter Mexico without memorizing scripture, he/she will not be allowed back into the United States without having at least two verses memorized. Just kidding! We ask that each participant memorize several verses (3-4), because Rio Bravo Ministries holds a tradition of having one verse recited *per table* before every meal. We expect everyone to have at least one turn. Oh yeah, and verses already recited can not be repeated. We've included a *Memory Verse* document to help you get started. Feel free to find some on your own, too!

### Where can I find out more information on Rio Bravo Ministries?

Please visit [www.rio-bravo.org](http://www.rio-bravo.org) for more information about this ministry.

### Who should I contact if I have additional questions about this trip?

You can email your questions to either of the following people:

Steven Gunter – [sgunter@fcsouthwest.com](mailto:sgunter@fcsouthwest.com)

Lynette Petrie – [bcpetrie@aol.com](mailto:bcpetrie@aol.com)



---

**Registration Form**

March 13-18, 2010      Reynosa, Mexico      \$300

*Please write clearly so we will know what in the world you were trying to write!*

**Name:**

**T-shirt Size:**      S      M      L      XL

**Your Email:**

**Your Phone Number:**

**Parent's Names:**

**Parent's Email:**

**Parent's Phone Number:**

**Tell us why you have decided to be a part of this trip:**

Dear Family & Friends,

I am excited to tell you about an amazing opportunity I have to participate in a mission trip with the student ministry of my church! Our group plans to go to Reynosa, Mexico (just across the border from McAllen, TX) during Spring Break. We will stay on the campus of Rio Bravo Ministries ([www.rio-bravo.org](http://www.rio-bravo.org)), where their children's home and Christian school minister to over 70 abandoned or abused kids.

Our work will consist of assorted construction, landscaping, and grounds work as well as being God's hands and feet to the kids by playing and sharing together with them. I will get to tangibly love and impact the lives of orphans!

*"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* Matthew 25:40

I invite you to be part of this. First, please pray for me and our group. Pray that the area continues to remain safe for our travel, that we will be well prepared to serve, and that God will work in and through our group in amazing ways. Secondly, please consider if you might be able to help financially. I need raise just \$300 to pay my way, and no amount will be too small. If you feel led and able to do so, I will be grateful for any contribution you make. Checks can be made payable to Fellowship Church Southwest (FCSW) with Spring Break: Reynosa on the note line and should be mailed back to me. If you would like a tax receipt, please let me know and make sure I have your correct mailing address.

I look forward to telling you all about the trip once we return and thank you for partnering with me to serve and bless the children in Reynosa!

God Bless,



# **student!mpact**

## MEDICAL RELEASE FORM 2009-2010

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Co. \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of last tetanus shot \_\_\_\_\_

List any major illnesses within the past year \_\_\_\_\_

List any medications you take regularly \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Note: Be sure to take an ample supply if necessary

List those things to which you are allergic \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student \_\_\_\_\_

### **PARENT/GUARDIAN RELEASE**

As the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I agree to the following:  
In an emergency that requires medical attention, I give my permission to Fellowship Church/student!mpact/Rio Bravo Ministries, its representatives and all attending health care professionals (defined as including, but not limited to nurses, licensed practicing nurses, physicians' assistants, doctors and paramedics) to hospitalize, anesthetize, or perform surgery on my child named above. I understand that efforts will be made to contact me before these actions are taken.

I also do release, acquit, discharge, and covenant to hold harmless Fellowship Church/student!mpact/Rio Bravo Ministries and its representatives, from all actions, damages, or liabilities arising out of treatment of an sickness or accident incurred by my child's participation on any trip. It is the intention of this release that the above Fellowship Church/student!mpact/Rio Bravo Ministries and its representatives incur no liability whatsoever while attempting to meet all medical needs that my child may require.

I also understand that if my son/daughter willfully demonstrates conduct inappropriate to the stated rules and guidelines, I will support Fellowship Church/Student student!mpact/Rio Bravo Ministries staff and their designated consequence, to the extent of my child being sent home at my expense.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Participant \_\_\_\_\_

**Memory Verses**  
**Spring Break: Reynosa**



**\*Team Verse\***

**Everyone memorizes this one!**

**James 1:27**

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

**Galatians 6:9**

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

**Colossians 3:2**

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

**Micah 6:8**

He has showed you, O man, what is good.  
And what does the LORD require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.

**Deuteronomy 3:24**

O Sovereign LORD, you have begun to show to your servant your greatness and your strong hand. For what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do the deeds and mighty works you do?

**Hebrew 10:24**

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

**Philippians 2:3**

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

**Philippians 2:4**

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

**Colossians 3:17**

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Colossians 3:23**

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.

*Note: These are just a few suggested memory verses. However, there are thousands more to choose from in your Bible! Before each meal one person from each table will have to recite one verse from memory, so we suggest that you start memorizing verses now.*

## Packing List

### Spring Break: Reynosa



- Passport
- Bible, Pen, and Journal
- Pillow and twin-sized bedding
- Towel and washcloth
- Watch (You will not have your cell phone)
- Alarm clock
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Work gloves
- Flashlight
- Hat (for working in the sun)
- Refillable water bottle
- Work clothes for 3 days
- Casual clothes for 5 days, which doesn't include your travel home duds
- Clothing for "Village Service" (Girls must wear a very modest skirt or dress, Boys must wear long pants)
- Laundry bag or trash bag, because your clothes will probably smell ripe
- Toiletries and necessary medications
- Money for lunch on the way down there and lunch on the way back

Please pack as light as possible since there's limited amount of trunk space. Also, remember that you will most certainly be getting dirty. So, don't feel that you have to wear the nicest clothes you own.

### Snacks

There will be no food allowed in our guest rooms! If you would like to bring snacks to *share with the whole group*, they will be kept in a vehicle or in the kitchen for scheduled snack times. Please keep these snacks in an airtight container. Pre-packaged single-serving snacks are a great option.

### Electronics

Electronics will be allowed for the ride down there and back. However, once we get to Rio Bravo we will collect them from you.