

Sifting Weeks

Informational Packet

We are thrilled that you will be joining us during one of our Sifting Weeks for 2019. These weeks are very strategic to our work as we send out large numbers of volunteers to strategic areas of the city to sift for Muslims, Hindus, and Sikhs who are being drawn to Christ by the Holy Spirit. You will greatly multiply our efforts to look and find these people hungry for the gospel. As you begin putting your team together, let me give you some helpful information.

Project

The Sifting Week project will run for 5 days (from morning to evening). We have scheduled 1 day for sight-seeing (Day 3 of the project). You will need to arrive in NYC at least the day before the project date and plan to leave at least a day after the project date. We will begin around 9:30 and not finish up until evenings. We will need your full participation throughout the project.

Here is a tentative schedule of the week.

Days 1, 2, & 4, 5

10:00-12:00 Training

12:00-3:30 Rest/ Transportation to your Sifting site

3:30-9:30 Sifting (prayer walking, meeting people, sharing Christ with them)

Day 3

Free Day for sight-seeing or whatever you want to do

Obviously, this is missions work, so our schedule can change at any time. Basically, our week will entail morning large group meetings where we will worship and train you to be effective here. We will break around lunchtime, at which time participants will divide themselves into groups of around 3 people each who will go out together. The team leader from your church/university will be responsible to divide up your team and give logistics to the team members. Team leaders will be the point of contact for team members. Groups will be in the communities to meet, pray with people, share the gospel with people, etc. It is encouraged that groups also eat in the restaurants of the target populations. We will then debrief each day's activities the next day at our large group meeting. However, we do encourage teams to meet together at their hotel in the evenings to pray for people met during the day and to celebrate the work God did through their team. Our prayer is that you will gain something during this trip that you can return home with and be more effective in your own personal ministry.

Finally, this trip is very heavy in prayer and personal EV. We are asking our volunteers to come and help us search out people of peace, and the only way to find people of peace is to try to share Christ with people. So, I just wanted to let you guys know this is what we will focus on. You will prayer-walk, and we will let you have a lot of freedom in

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how you can engage people (sports, going in shops, door to door with free materials, giving out things in the subway, getting henna for your hands, etc.). We will engage people, learn about them, offer to pray for them, and then seek to share the gospel with them. The goal is to find people that the Holy Spirit has been at work in, share Christ with them, and then ask them if you can meet together again with their family/friends to share more. We hope to form some groups of people studying about Jesus together as a result of our Sifting Weeks.

Pre-trip Training Modules

Everyone who participates in a Sifting Week project **MUST** complete the required pre-trip training modules. These are designed to be covered in 4 meetings, with times to practice what you are learning. We recommend doing these every other week for 2 months. This will allow time to read and practice what you are learning. Please don't wait until the last minute to begin these trainings. They are crucial to your understanding of our goals and being effective here.

A Few Logistics

- * Please have everyone **purchase their own** 7-day unlimited subway/bus card (\$30). You can purchase these at any subway station. Card dispensers will only allow you to purchase 2 cards per credit card within a 24-hour period, so the leader will not be able to purchase 15 cards on the church's credit card. It's easier if people purchase their own card.
- * Ensure everyone has some cash, as a lot of street vendors and some stores do not accept credit cards here. ATM's are everywhere, though.
- * Bring comfortable shoes, water bottle, sunscreen, and a backpack for everyone
- * Please **NO SHORTS**, tank tops, tight, or revealing clothing while doing ministry. We are sharing primarily with Muslims, and they will be dressed nicely and not in shorts/tanks.

Lodging

There is hotel and dorm style lodging available. If you book a hotel, please ensure that the room can hold the number of people you are planning for. Some hotels in NYC only hold a maximum of 2 people, so just check with the hotel. Below are a few options for lodging.

- * New York School of Urban Ministry offers dorm style housing and is very convenient. They offer a meal plan as well, but we suggest only getting the breakfast, if you plan to do this, as you may be out in the city during other meal times.
(<http://nysum.org/lodging/>)
- * Ramada Inn in Jamaica (on Hillside Ave.)- I checked online and rooms here (with tax) run just over \$100/night and include breakfast (this price is for Spring, not sure about

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summer). If your teammates are open to sleeping 2 people per bed, this might be the cheapest accommodations, AND it is right in the area where a lot of our work will be.

- * Quality Inn, Woodside NY (53-05 Queens Boulevard, Woodside, NY)
- * Hotels in Downtown Flushing (this is a little far out, but is right in the middle of a huge China Town and has subway access)
- * Clarion Hotel (138-05 Jamaica Avenue , Jamaica, NY, US, 11435)
- * Any hotel within walking distance of a subway station in Queens (Please confirm with me before you book if you are booking a hotel not listed above.

Anticipated NYC Costs (transportation to NYC is in addition to these costs:)

\$150- project fee (covers stipend for national believers who will follow up on contacts you make, renting space for trainings, and materials). **Mail this ASAP** to Global Gates, 236 W 72nd St., NY, NY 10023 (please put Sifting Week Project Fee in the memo). This also helps us know how many people to prepare for from your group.

\$30- weekly unlimited Subway Pass

\$30-\$40/person a night for hotel

\$25/day for food (can eat cheaper than this, but this is a safe bet)

Contact us with any questions/concerns. We look forward to working with you to build the kingdom of God among the unreached people groups of Metro New York.

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