

Sifting Weeks

Informational Packet

We are thrilled that you will be joining us during one of our Sifting Weeks! These weeks are very strategic to our ministry as we send out large numbers of volunteers to highly unreached areas of the city to sift for Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and Sikhs who are being drawn to Christ by the Holy Spirit. You will greatly multiply our efforts to look and find people who desire to know more about Jesus. As you begin putting your team together, the following information will be helpful to you.

Project

The Sifting Week project will run for 5 days (from morning to evening). We have scheduled 1 day for sight-seeing (usually day 3 or 5 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 10:00 AM each day and not finish up until late evenings. We 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 Lunch/Rest/ Transportation to your Sifting site

3:00-dark Sifting (prayer walking, manning Bible tables, meeting people, sharing Christ with them).

Day 3 or 5 (please confirm with your Global Gates missionary host)

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

Your schedule may change, so we ask you to be flexible. Basically, our week will entail morning large group meetings where we will worship and train for effective outreach. We will break around lunchtime, at which time participants will divide themselves into groups of around 3 people each who will go into the community 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 neighborhood restaurants and utilize this time to make new friends and share the gospel with restaurant workers. 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 evangelism. 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. You will prayer-walk, and we will

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instruct you in a variety of ways to engage people (going in shops, door to door with free materials, giving out things in the subway, sports, getting henna for your hands, Bible tables, etc.). We will meet 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 to meet together again (bringing their family/friends) to talk more. We hope to form some groups of seekers/new believers gathering together to study about Jesus 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 in helping you be effective once on the ground here.

A Few Logistics

- * Team members can use their smart phone or contactless credit card to enter the subway and ride buses (If a team member does not have these things, they can purchase a subway pass to use upon arrival). Plan on each team member spending \$32 for public transportation costs (after \$32 on the same card, all other entry fees are free within a 7-day period).
- * Ensure everyone has some cash on them at all times. A lot of street vendors and some stores do not accept credit cards here. ATM's are plentiful.
- * 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 Hindus, and they will be dressed nicely and conservatively.

Lodging

There is dorm-style, hotel, and AirBnB lodging available.

Dorm-Style (rooms of 4 bunkbeds that sleep 8 people)

- * 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 purchase a meal plan, as you may be out in the city during other meal times. (<https://nysum.org/schedule-your-training-and-stay/>). Costs are approximately: \$45/person/night (no meal plan).

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Hotels

Hotels will cost approximately \$165-\$300/night/room. 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. When searching for hotels, please ensure that your hotel is:

- * In Queens, NY (Jamaica, Flushing, Long Island City, Woodside, or Jackson Heights)
- * Within walking distance (no more than ½ mile) from a subway stop.

AirBnB

Some teams have found AirBnB to be a great way to house themselves while on a Sifting Week. If you do choose to use AirBnB please ensure that you follow the same guidelines for hotels above.

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

\$150- project fee/participant (covers stipend for missionaries assisting with training/follow-up, renting space for trainings, and materials). **Mail this at least 1 month prior to your arrival to:**

Global Gates
236 W 72nd St.,
New York, NY 10023
(Please put **Wall/Sifting Week** in the memo line).

\$32- weekly unlimited Subway

\$45-\$60/person a night for hotel or dormitory housing (you should be booking at least 6 nights stay for each participant)

\$35/day for food (you 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 City!

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