

# ASCEND internship

2024 INFO PACKET MISSIONS. FULL SEND.



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We're so excited to welcome you to the Ascend Internship at Within Reach Global! We believe God has great things in store, and we are here to help you thrive in your God-given missions calling. Here's what you'll find in this Ascend Internship Packet:

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## LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

Thank you for taking the time to consider joining the Ascend Internship program. It is truly an experience like no other!

Within Reach Global has been giving gospel access to unreached people in Asia for more than 20 years. The fruit that has come from this work has been life-changing. Today, the gospel is expanding into the most remote areas of the 10/40 Window through our indigenous missionaries. Their obedient response to Jesus' Great Commission command can become yours, too. Will you join us in taking the message of Jesus Christ to gospel-deprived communities?

You can play a significant role in expanding the kingdom of God throughout the earth. That's why we invite you to join us in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Joining the Ascend Internship is vital to creating a movement of new believers here in Thailand. Each day will bring new adventures, from sharing the good news with Buddhist Monks at the 700-year-old Chedi Luang Temple to launching new church planting programs in local Thai villages. But that's not all. Meet college students through our campus outreach, disciple them over coffee, share with Thai and Chinese young people, and join ministry through the all-new Fusion Center located nearby major universities. You may also have an opportunity to visit surrounding countries like Cambodia, Myanmar, or Laos.

Missions is not merely an activity on the field but a condition of the heart. Come spend time seeking God's heart and discover your unique gifts and calling while you submerge yourself into culture, adventure, prayer, and the redemptive plans of God!

**David Joannes** is the Founder/CEO of Within Reach Global, host of Missions Pulse video podcast, and the author of *The Space Between Memories*, *The Mind of a Missionary*, *Gospel Privilege*, and *See the City*. David resides in Chiang Mai, Thailand, where he extends the gospel to unreached communities with his wife, Lorna, and their two daughters.



## WHY JOIN THIS INTERNSHIP?

As an Ascend intern, you'll be trailblazing among gospel-deprived people. That means you will be on the frontier field, sharing the gospel with some of the most unreached people on earth.

The reality is that **Thailand is only 0.77% Christian**. This classifies the country as a gospel dead zone. It's been nearly 200 years since the first Protestant missionaries arrived in Thailand in 1828. However, less than one percent of the people have ever heard the gospel of Jesus. You may be the vessel God uses to bring the good news to them for the very first time!

**3.2 billion of the 8 billion people on earth are unreached.** Remember, Jesus said, "This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14). Sadly, one-third of the world still waits for an opportunity to hear the gospel message.

We believe these souls are now within reach! Romans 10:13 says, "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But the following verses hold us responsible as the messengers: "But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?"

In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus commissioned every Christian into this service. As an Ascend intern, you're going to be the mouthpiece of the gospel to those who need it most!



## WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

As an Ascend intern, you will not only be advancing the gospel but will also be developing God's unique calling on your life through advanced teaching and mentorship. You will be equipped through ministry opportunities, courses, and events in the following subjects.

Ministry Essentials - Course intensive on the crucial essentials of quality Christian ministry

- · Effective Personal, Ministry, and Corporate Prayer and Fasting
- · Being led by the Holy Spirit in Your Personal Walk and in Ministry
- · Hearing God's Voice for Your Unique Calling and in Ministry

**Thai Language** - Course in learning the local language of Thai. Language learning is key to unlocking the culture for Christ.

- Learn how to properly pronounce Thai
- · Learn effective greetings, questions, and sayings
- · Learn how to create sentences

**Worldview and Cultural Training -** Course in introduction to Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, and other worldviews and how to bridge the gospel with them.

- · History, Beliefs, and Rituals
- · Bridging the Gospel with the Worldviews
- Biblical Teaching and Tools for Sharing Your Faith

**Men's and Women's Program -** Course in men's and women's issues through practical coaching/mentoring meetings

- Develop Who You Are In Christ
- · Learn about Accountability & Mentorship
- Live in a Community of Like-Minded Believers

#### **Program Events**

- In-Country Excursions: Experience other places around Thailand as we partner with like-minded ministries to advance the gospel!
- Cross-Border Excursions: Participants will have the opportunity to travel across the border to one of the other surrounding countries at least one time during the program.
- Retreats: Opportunities for personal or team growth

This experience could be one of the greatest events of your life! By taking the plunge, you'll be submerged into the depths of God's heart for the nation. In the process, your walk with the Lord will grow to new heights as you spend yourself reaching the most gospel-deprived people throughout Thailand.

# HOW YOU'LL GROW

You will grow deeper in your relationship with the Lord as you serve directly in the ministry on a day-to-day basis. You will be part of a comprehensive program that gives you experience in the ministry as well as hands-on teaching and personal development.

You will live in housing with other interns who share a similar DNA of wanting to grow closer to God and pursue his calling for their lives. This environment is rich in faith and commitment to seeing God move in your life and the lives of others. You will be stretched as you learn about godly community, transparency, and accountability. This is not an easy process, but it is a life-changing one! As you are surrounded by other believers and mentors, you will be pushed out of your comfort zone and challenged to be who God has called you to be.

Each week will bring new adventures. You will be fully equipped through training in language and culture by experienced mentors who have gone before you through similar programs from across the globe. You will be trained in missions and cross-cultural communication in how to share the gospel effectively with multiple different worldviews. Each intern will have the opportunity to travel cross-border on excursions to countries like Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, and possibly more.

Here are a number of things you'll gain as an Ascend intern:

- · Your relationship with Jesus will grow
- You'll hone your ability to hear God's voice
- Your prayer life will deepen
- You'll grow in your ability to share the gospel
- You'll experience the presence of the Holy Spirit
- You'll grow in your understanding of world missions
- · Your passion for unreached & unengaged people groups will ignite

You can expect to be radically changed by God for his purpose as you discover your unique calling to advance the gospel throughout the world! We have a long history of hosting teams from around the world and leading internship programs, helping them catch the fire for reaching unreached people groups. Now it's your time!

But that's not the end of the story. As an Ascend intern, you will create a long-term impact in the lives of people you come in contact with. We make sure to link our interns and staff to our ministry goal of raising up locally-led church planting movements in Southeast Asia. The end result of all our ministry efforts is to see worship arise to the one true God in places that are still waiting for a gospel witness.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- **1. Send Internship Application.** The first step in joining the Ascend Internship is applying for the program using the link below.
- **2. Complete three recommendations.** The link for recommendations can be found at the end of the online application.
- **3. Interview.** After we have received your application and three recommendations, a Within Reach Global staff member will schedule an interview with you via Zoom.
- **4. Receive Internship Acceptance Packet.** After you are accepted, you will receive an internship acceptance packet listing all the details of your adventure in Thailand.
- **5. Send Deposit.** A \$350 deposit is due immediately upon acceptance to the program, securing your spot in the internship. Details of how to make this deposit are in the Acceptance Packet.
- **6. Begin Fundraising.** We're committed to helping you reach your fundraising goals and have included all the details you need in the Acceptance Packet.
- **7. Go to Thailand!** Are you ready for the trip of a lifetime? The Acceptance Packet will help you with many more details not listed here. Our staff are available to answer any questions and guide you along this journey.

#### **ASCEND INTERNSHIP APPLICATION**



# **DATES & COST**

\*The cost of this program covers Housing and utilities, Food, Local Transportation, International Flight, and all Program costs. It will not cover monthly Personal Expenses, Books, Laptop, or Start-up Expenses. You will have an additional estimated amount of \$940 to fundraise to cover personal items, international insurance, visa fees, program books, and personal spending.

\*\*You are required to pay 100% of the program cost prior to beginning the program according to the deadlines listed below. All donations are non-refundable under 501c3 non-profit law. You will be required to keep up with the following financial deadlines. Not meeting the below deadlines could jeopardize your acceptance to the program. An Acceptance Packet with more details will be sent to you once you are accepted to the internship. This will include tips and outlines on how to fundraise. You will also have access to experienced full-time missionaries who have fundraised for many years to gain support and wisdom.

#### **Financial Deadlines:**

#### Term 1: \$4,160

Deadline 1: (Due ASAP) \$350 Deposit - Goes toward 2nd deadline

Deadline 2: (Due January 10, 2024 ) \$1,730 (50% - Deposit)

Deadline 3: (Due Feb 10, 2024) \$2,080 (100%)

#### Term 2: \$4,560

Deadline 1: (Due ASAP) \$350 Deposit - Goes toward 2nd deadline

Deadline 2: (Due March 8, 2024) \$1,930 (50% - Deposit)

Deadline 3: (Due May 8, 2024) \$2,280 (100%)

#### Term 3: \$4,360

Deadline 1: (Due ASAP) \$350 Deposit - Goes toward 2nd deadline

Deadline 2: (Due June 22, 2024) \$1,830 (50% - Deposit)

Deadline 3: (Due August 22, 2024) \$2,180 (100%)



# MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Each trip is designed to do two things: advance God's kingdom among the unreached and create opportunities for the participants to have a life-altering experience while seeing God move in and through them.

Each day of your trip will start with a time of personal prayer and devotions, breakfast, and then team time. This will equip and prepare you for the day.

Each day will be full of new adventures waiting for you. Activities may include but are not limited to:

- Sharing the gospel cross-culturally in Thai villages
- Participating in Alpha Courses and ongoing discipleship at the Fusion Center
- Sharing the gospel with Thais and other Asian foreigners at the university

- Ministering at the Fusion Center House of Prayer
- Meeting people in the vast markets of Northern Thailand
- Exploring ancient temples and ruins while proclaiming the good news
- Learning more about prayer and the 10/40 Window at our House of Prayer
- Learning about unreached and unengaged people groups (UPGs and UUPGs)
- Learning about your involvement in the Great Commission
- Exploring God's calling and giftings for your life
- Learning about the Holy Spirit and hearing his voice in missions
- Ministering to local churches and believers
- Participating in discipleship and evangelistic outreaches
- And much, much more!

# **COUNTRY PROFILE**



## **GENERAL MORAL STANDARDS**

As an Ascend intern at Within Reach Global, you will be asked to adhere to the following standards. These standards are rooted in safety, biblical morality, ministry effectiveness, and/or cultural sensitivity.

As devoted followers of Christ, we seek to live by Philippians 4:8: "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things." As leaders in the body of Christ, we desire to live a life above reproach at all times (1 Timothy 3:2).

- Attitude: Maintain a respectful attitude toward all staff, interns, nationals, vendors, and the culture in general. Guard your heart from cynical and judgmental attitudes.
- General: The following things are not permissible: profanity, fighting, pornography (including graphic movies, comics, novels, or the like), stealing, fireworks, use or possession of illicit drugs, alcohol, tobacco, commission of a misdemeanor or felony, gambling (including lottery or scratch-and-win tickets).
- Secular Music: In your free time, you may listen to secular music privately. If you
  choose to listen to secular music, make it a "private" matter using headphones. No
  secular music is permitted while in ministry, when driving in ministry vehicles, or
  during any Within Reach Global initiative. Secular music is permissible as long as it
  does not violate a Christian worldview.
- Hair & Appearance: We ask that you avoid tight or revealing clothing. Although
  many tourists wear this type of clothing in Asia, it is widely frowned upon by locals.
  Please do not wear secular printed shirts (bands, alcohol, etc.). These can give a
  very confused message when in ministry. Hairstyles and clothing styles of almost
  any type are fine as long as it does not distract from ministry.
- Movies: R-rated movies movies may not be watched unless for an approved program activity (example: movie night). This includes movies on laptops and phones.
- Video Games: Video games are not permitted. We ask that you for the duration of your program you focus on seeking the Lord in community with your fellow interns.

## **GENERAL MORAL STANDARDS**

- Romantic Relationships: A trip to Thailand to pursue God's calling on your life is a
  great opportunity for you and the other mission team members. In order to ensure
  that your time is free of distractions, dating relationships are not permitted during
  your internship. (This includes fellow interns, mission team members, staff,
  nationals, volunteers, ministry partners, or individuals back home.)
- LGBTQIA+ lifestyles are not permitted, including promoting this lifestyle through written or vocal conversations, clothing, accessories, or flags.
- Non-Discrimination: Treat all individuals equally and without discrimination based on race, gender, age, or any other immutable characteristic.

Any violation of the above standards could result in being removed from ministry or being dismissed from the internship at the cost of the intern. These guidelines are set to protect the ministry that Within Reach Global has spent years cultivating in Asia and to ensure an atmosphere of people hearing from God and experiencing quality ministry.

Interns will need to sign a commitment form adhering to these rules as well as agreeing to the WRG statement of faith listed on the website.



# LETTER FROM THE INTERNSHIP DIRECTORS

Thank you for taking the time to consider applying to the Within Reach Global internship program. Your interest in joining us is deeply appreciated and fills us with excitement for the possibility of having you join us in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

At WRG, we believe that each step in your journey is guided by God through the unique calling he has on your life. As you contemplate this opportunity, remember that your unique talents and passions can have a profound impact on the lives of people here in Thailand.

We understand that this decision is significant, and we want to assure you that your journey, whether with us or elsewhere, is part of God's beautiful plan for your life. As you take this step, we encourage you to seek his guidance and listen to the Holy Spirit.

Your application reflects not only your qualifications but also your heart for service and your desire to grow in your faith. We're excited about the prospect of walking alongside you as you discover new dimensions of God's calling for your life.

Once again, thank you for considering the Ascend Internship. We eagerly await the opportunity to learn more about you and your aspirations. May your journey be filled with blessings and insights that draw you ever closer to the heart of God.

Blessings and prayers for the next steps!

Josh and Erika Shively are the Ascend Internship Directors at Within Reach Global. Josh and Erika reside in Chiang Mai, Thailand, where they impact a generation with the gospel of Jesus Christ alongside their two children, Elianah and Seth.







Missions. Full send.

LEARN MORE AT withinreachglobal.org/go

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