



TRAVEL TIPS

Tips for While you Travel

- Ensure every youth has a photo ID on them at all times.
- Clearly label your luggage with your full name, Church name, and location.
- Try rolling your clothes when packing; they are easier to find and won't wrinkle as much.
- Waiters and waitresses should be tipped minimum of 15%. You should have plenty of food money!
- Be familiar with your surroundings and be aware of strangers.
- Program your adult leaders' cell phone numbers into your phone. Or better yet, make a phone wallpaper graphic for your phone with their # on it in case you misplace it or in emergency situations.
- It is strongly encouraged to keep gaming devices and other extensive technology at HOME! You will not have the time to play them during the day and you will need your sleep at night also you would not want them lost, stolen, or broken.
- Prepaid credit/debit cards are a good way to carry money. Check out options offered by [Lutheran Church Extension Fund](#). However, these cards should be treated like cash and not all money should be carried in this fashion.

Tips for Hotels

- Be sure that every adult in your group has a list of room numbers and who is in each room.
- Tip the maid service (\$3-4 each day, more if you are messy).
- Bottled water in the rooms is NOT free.
- Remember the hotel will be filled with non-Gathering guests. Please make sure you are on your best behavior. Remember we have opportunity to show Christ as well as share Christ.

Tips for during the Gathering

- All medical forms also need to be on your body at all times—great to keep in front pocket of Gathering backpack. A designated adult leader should also carry copies of each group member's medical forms.
- Just because it is raining does not mean the Gathering activities stop, so be prepared for a change due to weather. Carry an umbrella or a poncho in your backpack!
- All buildings in the convention center are air conditioned. Consider bringing a sweatshirt to wear inside.
- Houston is a very busy city, so please observe crosswalks. DO NOT cross the street randomly. Local police will enforce this rule.
- You'll be walking a lot and temperatures will be hot, so drink enough water. Make wise choices for meals—not just a large soda and fries!
- Provided Gathering backpacks are encouraged when traveling to and from the convention center, stadium, and other Gathering events. Non-Gathering backpacks are subject to search.

Helpful Items to Pack as a Group

- First aid kit with basic care items
- Sunscreen
- Hand sanitizer



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- Emergency debit cards/gift cards
- Portable chargers
- Large sign (poster board size) or another appropriate item to assist your group in locating your leader in the crowd
- Sharpies to label Gathering backpacks – Never put personal information like cell phone numbers or social media information on the outside of the backpack or where easily viewed by strangers.
- Box of safety pins, and a roll of duct or Gorilla tape for incidentals.
- Extra ponchos and/or t-shirts for use in rainy situations!