

Dear Parent,

Your son or daughter has just experienced an incredible Mission Trip. For months they prepared, prayed, support raised, and they finally made it, and NOW they are *coming home*. So how can you help them adjust to coming back to what feels *'normal'* but *'different'* because of their experiences?

If you're like me, you want to be your kids' biggest cheerleader and help them keep their experiences with Christ alive and active. Here are a few tips that might help you, help them....

1. Allow them to share their God stories. Be there to listen. Even if they are repetitious, be there to give focused attention, withholding any judgment and without interrupting.
2. Avoid asking general questions e.g. "*How was it?*" Try the following questions:
  - *Which part did you like best?*
  - *What was the hardest part for you?*
  - *Would you do it again? Why?*
  - *Tell me about... (the ministry sites, divine encounters you had, what it was like to use a translator, how did you feel sharing your testimony, etc.)*
  - *What did you learn about God, yourself or others through the experience?*
3. Understand that in some cases, they may just want to rest and sleep.
4. Pray for the appropriate time and times to listen and ask questions. Allow them to open up without being too inquisitive.
5. Better yet, take your kid out to a meal and give her/him your listening heart and ear.

God is doing a great work with young people across the world, and your kid is one of them. Encourage them to keep being in the Word daily, to connect with their team-mates, and to pray about where God may want to send them next.

All for His Glory,

Peggy Nunley, *President*

Awe Star Missions