

January 6, 2025

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

*Colossians 4:2**

Dear Texas Mission Partners.

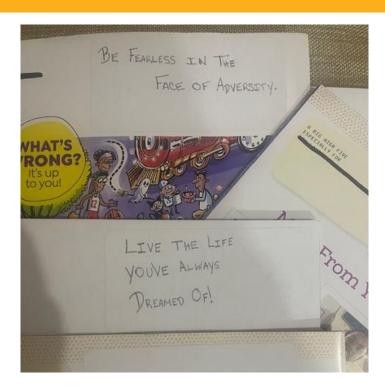
Mission Prayer calls you to prayer. Jesus tells us to ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers into the harvest. In this, we see the heart of God, the mission of Jesus, and the initial action of disciples in the building of the Kingdom, namely prayer. This is counter to the cultural context that insists we take action and stop thinking. Will you assist in building the Kingdom? Sit down and make prayer for the mission a priority in your life of faith.

Mission Stories



Evangelist Training

Operation 600 Houston,TX



Operation 600: A Story of Simple Blessings

Chelsea and Devon Washington from SOON Church started

the Texas District Evangelist Training Series in August 2024 and were sent on December 1st. They have four children that they homeschool, and Devon ended up having some major health issues requiring hospitalization during the training. Yet they were able to faithfully complete the training and their ministry plan. Fasting and praying (Module 2) and listening (Module 3, Engaging Your Community) were the most impactful competencies in the evangelist training. Those two modules reignited everything. Chelsea said it's easy to homeschool four kids and live in her little bubble. But if she hadn't tried to get out and converse with her community to know their needs, they would not know they were loved. They want to reach the people who are struggling, angry, and wavering in faith.

The family started Operation 600 in 2023 as something God inspired them to do. Their mindset was that the care packages needed to be something big and perfect that required more money than they had, so they only completed 100 of them before the evangelist training. During their training, they were reminded that even the smallest things can demonstrate to people that God often loves and cares for them through other people. So after the training, they prepared and gave out 500 more care packages to finish Operation 600! The whole family was involved. Their 8-year-old daughter took it upon herself to make cards to give out to people. The card had a Bible verse on the front, and inside was a simple message about God or baby Jesus.

Most packages went to Sunnyside Community Center, which had over 600 items like clothes, books, art supplies, and more. What they added to many of the items were inspirational quotes. What they learned from this is to show you care; it does not have to be anything significant. They prayed over every single item and could see the joy each would give a teacher or kid. Thank you, God, for the reminder of the simple, small blessings. But you know what inspired Chelsea the most - there is more to come!!! They look forward to sharing more and encouraging others to do more.

The goal in 2025 is to continue making and distributing care packages as God leads them each month to different people who need to feel His love. They ask for prayers for a listening ear to where God wants them to go and for the resources for the care packages. They pray that the recipients receive all the joy they need, the exact items they need, and that people are out there showing the love of Christ. This month, they are going to nursing homes! To God be the glory as He continues His work through the Washington family.

Read More Stories

Mission Prayers

- Pray for God's direction and His Spirit to move as we launch our family discipleship effort
- Pray for God's continued work in growing and equipping staff and students to share the Gospel with students who do not know Christ
- Pray for our fundraising efforts toward our next building phase through a capital campaign



Veritas Community

Wylie Rev. Mark Hotopp

Lutheran Schools

Zion Lutheran School Abilene

Messiah Mother's Day Out Corpus Christi

Evangelists

Noemi Guerra Hope, Lubbock

David Baldner Hope, Lubbock

James Lee Brooks
Hope, Lubbock

Next Steps For Partners



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Visit the <u>Evangelist Training Series</u> for more information and to register.



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