

# The Mississippi Baptist

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## NEW PRESIDENT FOR SOUTHEASTERN

DR. ELWIN "DOUG" LEE NAMED PRESIDENT OF SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST COLLEGE

On May 20, 2025, Dr. Elwin "Doug" Lee was elected president of Southeastern Baptist College. Dr. Lee, a native of Pearl River County, MS, has a rich and diverse background, making him a formidable addition to the college's governance and administrative teams.

Dr. Lee began his study of music at the age of seven. After graduating from Pearl River Central High School, he dedicated two years of service to the US Armed Forces, with one of those years spent in Vietnam. He later graduated in 1968 from Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, MS, with an Associate of Arts degree in Business, marking the beginning of his distinguished academic career.

His academic pursuits led him to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Church Music, a Master of Business Administration degree, and two PhDs — one in Philosophy with an emphasis in Communications and another with an emphasis in Christian Counseling, all from Louisiana Baptist University in Shreveport, LA.

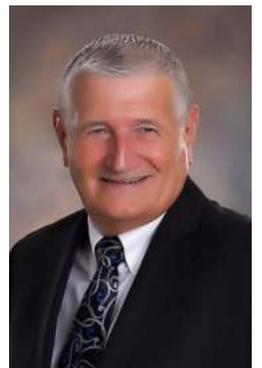
Dr. Lee's impact in the field of music ministry spans several decades, including several years with the Gospel Continentals Evangelistic Team, and a remarkable twenty-six-year tenure as Minister of Music at Lee's Chapel No. 2 Baptist Church in Picayune, MS.

His commitment to music ministry extended to roles at Mill Creek Baptist Church in Picayune and as a commissioned Missionary to the Philippines through BMA Global of America, where he played a pivotal role as a church planter and music professor, later serving as Director/President of the BMA Bible College of the Philippines for eight years.

Dr. Lee married Diane Marie Husser in 1969, and the couple recently celebrated 55 years of marriage. Diane, a graduate of Southeastern Baptist College, has been a significant contributor to the church community, serving as a singer, musician, Sunday School teacher, church pianist, and organist. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education from Louisiana Baptist University and dedicated thirteen years to serving as an English professor at the BMA Bible College of the Philippines.

Their son, Jarrad Douglas Lee, pastor of Lee's Chapel No. 2 of Picayune, MS, is married to Christy Lumpkin Lee. They have five children, one son-in-law, and three grandchildren.

With his experienced background in music, ministry, education, and business, Dr. Lee will bring a wealth of experience and dedication to his new role as president of Southeastern Baptist College.



**SOUTHEASTERN  
BAPTIST COLLEGE**

4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440 - 601.426.6346

Serving Christ With A Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

## ISSUE IN BRIEF

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS MONTHS ISSUE

Did you know Southeastern has a new President!! Look up to see all about it. To the right, you will find information on an inductive Bible study workshop.

Page 2 has announcements and an article from the Commission on Senior Adults. Don't miss the Upcoming Events section. It's kinda sparse this time! Am I missing something? Help me make sure all relevant events are included. Don't miss the announcement for the State WMA project.

On page 3, the Youth Department tells us about their camps. Learn about the lives touched and pray for those who may still need to make a decision.

Bro. Chris Yager tells you to get some glasses (or something like that!) on page 4. He also reports on Missions and Revolving Loan. Missionary reports start on page 4 and continue to page 5. You will also find an article about GMA camp on page 5.

On page 6, Bro Dwight Lindsey tells about summertime at the Children's Home. Then Bro. John Adams has an article on "Voluntary School Prayer."

A retired teacher shares advice on how you (yes, you!) can teach kids in your church on page 7.

Page 8 is an ad for the Counselor Workshop on July 26th.

Pages 9-11 are from our National Missions Department. We have an article about "Building From The Ground Up" by Dr. John David Smith on page 9. Additionally, we feature Missions in Cambodia on page 10 and South Africa on page 11.

And we wrap up on page 12 with Lifeword "Reaching The World With The Gospel."

Check it all out! And enjoy!

May God bless

Scott Kirkland, Editor

### **Sunbeam, GMA, and Galilean Counselor Workshop**

A Workshop on Inductive Bible Study

**SATURDAY, JULY 26  
BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.**

**PARAMOUNT BAPTIST CHURCH  
63 PARAMOUNT CHURCH DR.  
PERKINSTON, MS 39573**

Mrs. Becky Farmer will lead a deeper dive into the DiscipleWay Bible Study Method for our ladies—focusing on observing, interpreting, and applying Scripture.

Bro. Sidney Farmer will also be teaching the DiscipleWay Bible Study Method for Galilean leaders and men's groups.

Open to all men and women, whether or not your church participates in auxiliary programs. Sunbeam, GMA, and Galilean counselors are especially encouraged to join.

After lunch, we'll have breakout sessions for Sunbeam and GMA counselors. This will be an opportunity to share ideas, learn new things, and fellowship with fellow counselors.

For more information, contact Lakelan Jenkins at 601- 517-1476.

# The Mississippi Baptist

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi



Scott Kirkland  
Editor

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## AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Bro. Chris Floyd

After 15 years of service, Chris Floyd has resigned Broadmoor Baptist Church in Meridian, MS. His resignation is effective the end of May. He has been used in pastoral ministry as well as revivals. He is available to go anywhere the Lord leads. To reach him call 601-323-4400 or chfsoso@yahoo.com.

Bro. Zechariah Rogers

I am a licensed and ordained minister, and I have been in the ministry for 10 years. I am married, I have two children, and I live in Purvis, Mississippi. I am available for pastoral ministry, interim pastorate, or fill-in preaching as the Lord leads. You can reach me at 662-372-5730. Thank You.

BRO. JASON HOWARD

I was saved in 2002, baptized and became a member of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. Surrendered to the call to preach in 2003 and ordained in 2004. I served for 10 years at my first church and 11 at my second. I graduated from Southeastern Baptist College with a Bachelor degree in Church Ministries. I am the founder of Antioch Christian Academy, a ministry of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Lucedale, Mississippi. I have served as the Director of the Commission on History and Archives, Church planter and Missions Coach with the BMA of Mississippi. I have been married for 25 years, have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. If I can possibly be a blessing to your church please feel free to contact me by phone at 601-689-1491 or by email Jasonowenshoward@gmail.com

## CHURCHES SEEKING PASTORS

**The First Baptist Church of Taylor, Arkansas** is seeking a full-time pastor. Resumes may be emailed to Gary Hines at jgaryhines54@gmail.com or mailed to PO BOX 56, Taylor, AR 71861. Call or text 870-510-0828 for more information.

**Good Hope Baptist Church, Stringer** is prayerfully searching for a part-time Youth Minister. Resumes can be sent to 1067 County Road 19, Stringer, MS 39481. Bro Corbey Jones' phone number is 601-337-8886.

**Oakland Baptist Church** In Vicksburg, Mississippi, is seeking a full-time pastor. Inquiries should be made to Joshua Webb of the church's pulpit committee. He can be reached by phone at:479-747-9132 or by email at josh.webb15@gmail.com.

**First Baptist Church** of Calhoun of Laurel, Mississippi, is seeking a pastor. Anyone interested please contact them at 601-426-9721.

**Wilderness Baptist Church**, 5415-C Gibson Road, Vicksburg, Ms 39183 is seeking a pastor. Those interested should contact Dewayne Trest at 601-415-1103 or via email at darwin.trest@outlook.com .

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Gus and Judy Biggers In Concert:** Everyone is cordially invited to Pine Grove Baptist Church, 860 Purvis Ohlo Rd 39475, July 19th at 3 pm for a concert with Gus and Judy Biggers of We Will Testify. A love offering will be taken, and there will be an ice cream fellowship to follow. Call 601-467-7082 for more information

**Bus For Sale:** Big Creek Baptist Church is seeking to sell her bus. It is a gas powered 2006 Ford Econoline E450 with just over 30,000 miles. If you are interested, please contact Adam Sloan by phone at 601-323-4531 or by email at bro.sloan@gmail.com.

## Upcoming Events

Bible Study Workshop	July 26
BMA of MS Annual Meeting	October 21
RENEW 2025	Dec. 28-30
<b>2026</b>	
National Association Meeting	April 21-22
Find more event information at <a href="http://bmamstogether.org/events">bmamstogether.org/events</a>	

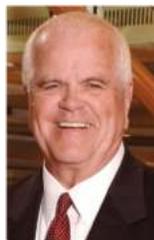
## SPECIAL EMPHASIS A MUST!

Your Senior Adult Commission Special Emphasis period has passed. The Association designated June of each year as the time to encourage and support this work with your prayers and a special monetary offering. I hope each church allowed their members the opportunity to give that special support offering. Some churches just vote to give a certain amount during June. Did your church give? Our needs are great, and our mission is important to all our 'senior saints' across the state.

I want to encourage churches to send in their offerings soon. Plans are being made for our 2026 conferences, and financial support is vital to their success. If you have suggestions about any aspect of our senior adult conferences, we hope you will share them with this director or one of our commission's trustees. Our desire is to minister to our seniors and to be a source of inspiration to each one as we continue our efforts to support various mission projects across the BMA.

Regular budgeted support is so important to this work. Is your church one of those who support us monthly? Our goal is to have each church put us in their monthly budget for a minimum of \$25.00 per month...some give much more. Would you ask your church to join this effort? A little from many can make this effort a great success.

Pray for this work as we strive to uplift our Savior and continue to serve those folks who have been so faithful to the Lord and His church. May the Lord's blessings be upon you all.



Don Brown  
Director

## Senior Adult Ministry

Commission on Senior Adults - 8 Reagan Lake Road, Laurel, MS 39443 - 601-425-1258

## Mississippi WMA State Project

Just The Crumbs Disaster Relief

### HELP!

This is what you want after being struck by disaster.

Just the Crumbs will be there!

With all the recent storms in our state & neighboring states, Just the Crumbs is in need of support. Therefore, the state WMA has chosen this as our project for another year.

Please encourage the ladies in your church to participate in raising funds. Even if your church has never given, consider setting aside a Sunday for a special offering. Please pray about it and especially pray for the men & women that make up Just the Crumbs.

Send funds to:

Theresa Reus

1264 Dean Nursery Road

Lucedale, MS 39452

Make checks out to:

WMA of MS (with Project on the memo line)

# TEEN CAMP FILLED WITH BLESSINGS



901-343-3293

ANDERS.LEE571@GMAIL.COM



ANDERS LEE  
DIRECTOR

bmamsyouth.org

Unless you go to camp, it is hard to put into words how it was and what God did. I'm going to try to enumerate the blessings...

First, it never got over 72 degrees in the sanctuary this year! WOW!!! Now, you might say, WHAT? Why is that a thing? In 2023, we couldn't get the temperature under 79 degrees, and in 2024, it never got under 78 degrees, no matter what we did. Pine Ridge is where we meet. In the last two years, the AC at Lake Tiak O'Khata had problems. It just could not keep up. After talking to them about it and insisting it be fixed, they took our hints (finally) and had new ACs. We had 50+ more people in there than the last two years, and it was actually GREAT!!! We had kids saying they were cold! Mission accomplished! HA!



Second, we camped 353 total. We had preregistered 368, which was incredible. There will always be losses when camp opens. I told the trustees I predicted 350, and that was almost correct. WOW! Folks!!!! 353 at Teen Camp. It has been a long time since we saw that happen! We had just enough chairs and room. We had 363 chairs ready, and it worked perfectly! Hallelujah!!! My heart was overwhelmed to see that place packed!

Third, we saw 12 professions of faith at camp! Praise God!!! God was truly at work in hearts! That may not seem like much in a camp of 353. The last two years we have seen 41 saved in this camp. Many of the same churches and teens were in attendance. With that being true, there weren't as many this year. This field of teens had been harvested over



the last two years, so to speak. The first night we saw 2 saved, the second night 1, then 9 on the final night. There was a group of younger kids, about 30, who had not been to camp and with them, seeds were planted. Lots of our leaders were giving feedback about this group, saying they were asking questions and



discussions were being held. So this was a huge matter. Fourth, and probably the biggest thing in this particular camp, was 31 teens who got the victory over their struggle. Michael Miller, from Shiloh Mt Olive, taught a Breakout Session called "Lies of Satan." The ole Devil wants people not to have assurance in their salvation, and these teens got peace at camp. One girl came up to me crying and hugged me and said, "I know now!" I said, "You know



what?" She said, "I know I'm saved. The Devil has just been messing with my head." I rejoice in this group of teens at camp. There was joy and peace in their hearts, and that made my heart sing praise to God. Teens often struggle because many make decisions as kids, and later, they doubt them for various reasons. We walked many through the scriptures, and it led to peace. It was not an easy task, but it was worth the time and effort! I think I quoted 1 John 5:13 over 15 times at camp to kids in doubt. Many leaders worked with their kids to bring them to peace. So this was indeed a huge victory at camp.



Fifth, the Breakout Sessions were incredible! Our leaders, Larry Barker, Justin Burdick, Alan Carlson, Noah Ivy, Clif Johnson, Reagan Lee, Scott Lee, Dwight Lindsey, Michael Miller, Donny Parrish, Julia Ross, and Kelly Ross, were exceptional! The topics were so needed, and the leaders did a phenomenal job teaching and leading! Some of them were TOUGH! How to deal with teen suicide, broken homes, dating, lies from Satan, end times... WOW!!! Lots of discussions were held because of these breakouts! I cannot go into details on this, but some teens are getting much-needed help in some critical areas!!!



Sixth, it is evident that over the last three years, a bond has been established among all our teens. In 2023, they were all standoffish, but slowly, they came to know each other so well that this year at camp, there were no walls or barriers. Fellowship was exciting and sweet! That

didn't exist in early 2023. It thrills me to know that there is a close community now among our groups!

Seventh, we did have four new churches join in camp this year! I was thrilled to have Living Hope, Good Hope, Magnolia, and New Sardis with us. Once again we had one church from the BMA of Louisiana with us, Calvary in Valdalia, LA.

It is hard to thank everyone in this article. Everyone helped, and it was a huge team effort! Our trustees all helped in various ways behind the scenes! Everyone did their part, and it was truly teamwork! So, my thanks to all our trustees, they are a great group of leaders! I could not do camp without them!

The registration team was incredible again this year! Bro. Greg Medenwall and Brett Stewart were our camp pastors, and they were a huge blessing. Kari Stewart organized shirts and team flags. She is a go-getter!!! Dave Albert headed up housing again, and with



Glen & Kelly Ross and Julia Ross, they all nailed that job! Brad Scott and Amy Kuykendall served as our medical staff, and they were busy this week with scrapes, cuts, and some sickness (unfortunately), but it all worked out. Our thanks to them for their skills and love. My wife, Carla, and Lisa Albert were the bad guys; they had to say, 'Pay up!' HA! Justin & Holly Burdick and Mindy Scott were doing so many things! Their help was huge. Becky Windham headed up the canteen area. Zac Lee, Brody McCool and Reagan Lee all headed up Rec time and Late night! ... gosh... I can tell I'm gonna forget someone in saying thank you. Truly, there were so MANY

doing so much. I appreciate the work and labor of love by so many. THANK YOU ALL!!!

Bro. Sam Yager was a great blessing to the camp. HA... these Mississippi kids found out how fast a New Yorker could talk! All I heard was he is an amazing preacher and...

HOW DOES HE TALK THAT FAST??? HA! Sam did an incredible job and impacted so many! Thank you, SAM!!! Once again, the Max Sullivan band was such a huge blessing! We are pleased to be in a partnership with them! They inspire the teens, and the teens feel free to worship under their leadership.

Up next... KIDS CAMP in one week... phewww ... here we go... oh yeah... I came home with Strep Throat... I gotta get better fast!



# WHERE THERE IS NO VISION

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION  
**MISSIONS**  
 OF MISSISSIPPI

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 Laurel, MS 39440  
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 Chris Yager, Director



Chris Yager

Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

So many recognize that this verse has been taken out of context often to validate a man-centered idea in the church. Leaders and Christians will use this verse to prove any idea or goal that pops into their head as God-inspired. As a reaction, many sensitive and Bible-centered Christians have avoided asking God for vision or goals for their ministry or church. This avoidance results in dysfunction and destruction for lack of vision and the unity that comes from God-inspired vision.

To avoid misusing this proverb, one only needs to dive into the context of this verse. Remember, Proverbs is inspired by the Holy Spirit's collection of true and wise sayings. They are truths that are not only logically and practically true, but they are also given by God for the believer's spiritual profit according to 2 Timothy 2:15-16. Each proverb, whether it is one verse or a few verses long, is capable of being studied individually in context. For this proverb, the keywords that help to frame the context are vision and law. The first part of the proverbs states the thesis: "Where there is no vision, the people perish." The vision that the writer is referencing is the same as a prophet hearing from God. The Old Testament prophet would hear from God and communicate God's truth, plan or desire



for the people. Without that vision, like 1 Samuel 3, the people perish or spiritually waste away. The second half of the proverb is intended to frame the whole of the context. It states, "But he that keepeth the law, happy is he." This framing teaches the reader that the God-given vision aids the individual in keeping the law of God which produces a happiness that only comes from following God's Word.

How does this apply to the BMA of MS churches today? First of all, every church must realize that any vision or goal that we have MUST come from God's Word. This frames the ministry goals of a church within the parameters of God's Word. Therefore, all the numbers and goals should flow through the biblical plans of evangelism, discipleship and training in using one's spiritual gift for the benefit of the Lord and His church. Secondly, the vision from the Holy Spirit, who reveals God's desire for the church through His Word, is paramount to the happiness and unity of the church. It is the obedience to God's direction through His Word that will bring each church a happiness and unity that cannot be manufactured. This affirms the necessity of gaining a true vision from the Lord for the individual church and ministry.

The Lord desires to lead His churches specifically and individually through His Word. Detailed direction brings an enthusiasm that is unparalleled and a unity of direction that is unmatched. The struggle is that many churches today have no vision. They are preaching God's Word in general. But there is no openness or allowance for the Holy Spirit to guide the leadership of the church into a Biblical, God-inspired vision that unifies the church. Because of this, the people and the ministry are without restraint or direction, and they ultimately perish!

What is the vision the Holy Spirit has led your church to embrace? Could you articulate the vision in a few sentences or a paragraph? Is it being communicated to the church? Vision is never ambiguous or unspoken! It is known and shared as openly and often as possible. Ask the Lord to give you a vision for your ministry and church! Let Him renew your passion for what He wants to accomplish through your church. His Word is the basis, and His Spirit is the leader; let Him direct you.

**The phone APP is operational!** (But still has a lot more coming)

At the missions office, we are beta-testing an app that will allow us to share videos, pictures, reels, etc. Before it is launched as a full App, we are testing it with a PWA (or a personal web app that acts like an App) that is downloaded from a website. You can find this app at [ImmerseMs.com](http://ImmerseMs.com). At this site, you can link it to your phone's home screen, and it will act just like any other app on your phone. Our goal is to share podcasts, idea forums, training videos, Bible studies, ministry helps, and so much more. We are currently working with our departments and commissions to get as much of their material on this app as possible in hopes of making it easier for you to find Associational helps. In July, we will be meeting with the WMA, GMA's and others to see how we can use this app effectively for their ministries. The app is free! Please feel free to download and follow it as we build this app to bring glory to God and be a help to His churches.

## Coming Soon!

At the RLF, we have added Certificate of Deposits (or CDs), and now we are working on IRA CDs and Money Market accounts. Please pray with us as we work out the legal details of adding the IRA side of the RLF. We pray that this opportunity will be another way that you can "invest in eternity". Our hope is to have these accounts available by September of this year; more information to come.

## Missions:

As you read about our missionaries and missions works, please be in prayer for your missionaries (state missionaries and Hispanic). Please pray for more laborers in the field. Pray for the missions committee as we finalize plans to update and strengthen our missions program. Continue to pray for the process of getting Bro. Oscar here from Guatemala. And let us not fail to pray for souls to be saved and discipled, for favor, and for God's grace to be on missionaries and mission plants.

Thank you for the honor to serve you! May the Lord continue to do great things through our association of churches!

# A WORD FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

## Salt Light Baptist Mission Bro. Doyle Moore

We are filled with gratitude as we reflect on the abundant blessings that God has bestowed upon us at Salt Light Baptist Mission. Our hearts rejoice as we celebrate the recent transfer of five letters and an additional ten individuals who have taken the significant step of baptism. It is truly inspiring to witness the ways in which God's presence becomes evident, especially when we find ourselves in need. The arrival of these new members has brought a renewed sense of energy and encouragement to our congregation, and we are thrilled to welcome them into our church family.

In addition to these wonderful developments, we are also looking forward to making improvements to our church facilities. One of our immediate goals is to construct a cover that will provide shelter for our congregation as they arrive at the church building. We recognize that some of our members may have mobility



Doyle Moore

challenges or may simply need a little extra time to navigate the entrance, and this added protection would be a tremendous help, especially during inclement weather. We are committed to ensuring that all our members feel comfortable and safe as they come to worship and fellowship together.

On a personal note, both Linda and I have recently experienced another bout with Covid-19, marking our fifth encounter with this virus despite having received vaccinations. It has been a challenging time for us, but we are grateful for the support and prayers from our

church community. Your kind thoughts and intercessions have been a source of strength for us during this time. We kindly ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers as we navigate this situation and seek to recover fully.

In conclusion, we are excited about the growth and changes happening at Salt Light Baptist Mission. We are blessed to be part of a loving community that supports one another through joys and challenges alike. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey, and we look forward to all that God has in store for us in the future.



# A WORD FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

## Hispanic Missions

### Bro. Estuardo Marroquin

We thank God for Hispanic missions in Mississippi. In recent weeks, activities have been carried out in the different mission fields and churches, with great results. Churches in southern Mississippi held the "Freedom" themed youth camp based on John 8:36. More than 50 young people from the churches of Laurel, Hattiesburg and Canton attended this camp where God did great things in the lives of many young people. Two of them were baptized. It was a good time of joy, and they were strengthened by the preaching of God's Word.



Estuardo Marroquin



The Hispanic churches of Northern Mississippi also held an activity for all women that included girls and young women. More than 50 women from Ripley, Oxford and Tupelo attended this great activity where God was exalted and received great teachings from the Word of God. The theme was "Flourish in the Wilderness," based on Isaiah 35:1. We continue to ask for your prayers so that God continues to open doors and the gospel of Christ is preached in the Hispanic community of Mississippi, thank you for your prayers and your support, In Christ



## Canaan Land Baptist Church

### Bro. Scott Brocius

Greetings from Canaan Land Baptist. In the past few weeks, we have been busy. We had our Revival in April. Bro Charlie McNeil was the visiting preacher. We enjoyed being in services with him. We are excited to say the Lord continues to bless! Out of the blue, one Wednesday evening, I received a phone call that our sign had been paid off in FULL! That's a blessing. We are now debt free! It's amazing to watch the Lord work within our church.



Scott Brocius

Summer has started and so has our outreach planning. We are hosting an outreach on June 18. We will have free Chick-fil-a sandwiches, and a movie will be playing. We are looking forward to meeting new people within the community. At the end of Summer, we are planning a back-to-school bash. No date has been set yet, but it will be in the beginning of August.

This month makes a year since we organized as a church. The Lord has been so good to us. We have grown so much as a church family. It has been a great year. We ask that you keep us in your prayers as we continue serving the Lord.

## Living Hope Baptist Mission

### Bro. Samuel Yager

As many of you know, we have been working towards obtaining a church van for the mission. The goal for this has been to facilitate bringing several families and kids to church that otherwise would not be able to come.



Sam Yager

I am glad to report that because of your generosity and God's provision, we have purchased a used 15 passenger van for the church. Your generosity was so great that the mission only had to pay \$400 to purchase the van. Thank you for allowing God to meet our need through you!

This van has already been put to use by taking our teens to teen camp at Lake Tiak-O'Khata and by bringing youth to our Teen Night. We are so grateful for the tool to bring people to Jesus that this van can be. Thank you again!

## National GMA

The National Girls Missionary Auxiliary (GMA) Retreat 2025 was held on June 10-13 at Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment in Gary, Texas. This year's theme, "Garden in Manhattan," inspired by Romans 12:2, emphasized transformation through the renewing of the mind. The camp was a blessing to many, offering a space for spiritual growth, new friendships, and deepened faith. This year, five of our state churches were represented, and attendees engaged in various activities designed to foster spiritual and personal development.

The retreat featured breakout sessions focusing on topics such as leadership, missions, and personal growth, providing campers with tools to strengthen their walk with Christ. Worship sessions, led by Bro. Jonathan Montgomery, were a highlight of the retreat. On the first day, he spoke on, "Jesus is the only living water that can quench our thirst," reminding attendees of Christ's sufficiency. The second day focused on "Surrendering to Christ by denying ourselves, taking up our cross, and following Him," challenging campers to have more of Jesus and less of ourselves. On the third day, Bro. Montgomery addressed "How we have been sent to harvest in the missions," inspiring attendees to actively participate in spreading the Gospel. Not just missionaries are called to serve, but all of those who believe have also been sent.

The retreat also provided opportunities for fellowship and fun, with activities that encouraged the building of new friendships and the strengthening of existing ones. Team games, sessions, and outdoor adventures added a layer of fun and fellowship, fostering unity among the attendees. These moments of connection were invaluable, creating unity among the attendees. (This is a repeat of the line above. I would take it out and end with "invaluable.")

In conclusion, the National GMA Retreat 2025 was a transformative experience that left a lasting impact on all who attended. Through worship, teaching, and fellowship, we were equipped and encouraged to live out our faith boldly and with purpose. This retreat brought a lot of fellowship between all the churches, ending with encouraging words to the girls present and the girls going on missionary trips to let the girls light shine and to work together as a big family to spread the Gospel in different ways using our talents. Additionally, the GMA would like to invite Sunbeam, Galilean, and GMA teachers to join us for a teacher workshop on July 26 at 9:00 at Paramount Baptist Church near Wiggins, MS. For more information, contact Lakelan Jenkins at 601-517-1476.

# SUMMERTIME IS HERE!!!

Greetings from the Children's Home. We have kicked off the summer with a packed schedule to keep our kids busy. We aim at not just busyness for busyness' sake but edifying activities to help their spiritual growth. We pray that just as grass and gardens grow in the summer, we will see fruits of faith and repentance in their lives. Our prayers echo 2 Peter 3:18, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."

Spiritual growth, first and foremost, comes from God. We are saved by the grace of God, and we grow by the grace of God. God gives us spiritual disciplines as vehicles of His grace. Bible study, Prayer, Worship, Service, Giving, and Disciple Making are these vehicles of His grace growing our sanctification. As I write, we have completed a VBS that has focused our kids on worshiping God for His goodness and glory. They have also attended Teen Camp at Lake Tiak-O-Khata, where they were challenged to follow Christ in faith for salvation and to commit to that following as they grow in their faith. Three of our kids were deeply moved by the Word of God, and we hope to be sharing the fruits of those stirrings in the near future. Over the next several weeks, pray with us that



our kids will continue to answer God's call as they hear the Word on a more concentrated scale. With Kid's Camp, Covenant Camp, and other VBS opportunities, they will have opportunities to respond to God that do not come as often during school time. It is a wonderful time of year for spiritual growth and commitment. We look forward to seeing many of you at these coming events. If you are a pastor who has a vacation coming up, we would be glad to come and fill the pulpit and give a personal report from the Children's Home. Pray for the children that God sends our way in the future and the circumstances that they are currently experiencing that will lead them to us. We are thankful to serve a God who knows all things and works through our current and future circumstances.



Mississippi Baptist Children's Home



Dwight Lindsey

118 Lowe Road, Laurel, Mississippi 39443 - (601) 426-3928  
Dwight Lindsey - Director

# VOLUNTARY SCHOOL PRAYER

Public expression through prayer of our faith in God is a fundamental part of our American heritage. Nearly every President has proclaimed an annual day of public prayer to acknowledge Almighty God. We acknowledge God's guidance on our coinage, in our national anthem, and in the Pledge of Allegiance. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas stated in 1952, "We are a religious people whose institutions pre-suppose a Supreme Being."

If the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives, all state legislatures, and even the U.S. Supreme Court can begin each day with prayer of religious invocations, why aren't public school children allowed the same privilege?

## A Word from Our Nation's Capitol

After three years of effort, the Reagan administration, in early 1984, got its voluntary school prayer amendment before the U. S. Senate for a vote. The prayer amendment had popular support. A June 1982 and January 1984 Gallup poll showed an average of 79 percent of the American public wanted to allow prayer in public schools, yet only 56 of 100 senators voted for it, 11 votes shy of the required two-thirds majority.

The major purpose of the prayer amendment was that the courts could not forbid children from voluntary vocal prayer in their school. It reasserted their liberty of free religious expression. It would ensure that no child would have been forced to recite a prayer.

A Supreme Court decision, *Widmar vs. Vincent*, upheld the right of religious persons to meet on college campuses, but that right has not been expanded to high school and elementary students.

Madalyn Murray O'Hair was the one lady who challenged and won in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1963, and its ruling was directly responsible for abolishing school prayer. Since then, her son has disclaimed her devilish efforts against God.

President Ronald Reagan, in an address to broadcasters, stated, "Neither should the freest country on earth ever have permitted God to be expelled from the school classrooms. When the Supreme Court ruled that school prayer was unconstitutional, I believe it ruled wrong." Americans can be heard by writing your representatives to let them know how you feel.



## A Word From Our States

A. A Texas school was deluged by several tornadoes, and to protect themselves, teachers and students were herded into the school gym, where they prayed out loud for their lives.

The school was entirely destroyed except for the gym, but the school principal was strongly reprimanded for praying aloud because school prayer in Texas is unconstitutional.

B. One New York (along with dozens of other states) lower court overacted, holding the following verse recited by kindergarten children to be an establishment of religion: "We thank you for the flowers so sweet. We thank you for the food we eat. We thank you for the birds that sing. We thank you for everything."

C. Students at Guilderland High School near Albany, New York, sought to use an empty classroom for a voluntary prayer meeting room before class day began. The Second Circuit Court of Appeals said "No" claiming it could be a bad influence on other students if they were "to see the captain of the football team or the student body president participate in communal (school) prayer meetings."

## A Word from Heaven

Luke 18:1 declares that flesh will faint and become wearisome apart from prayer to God. All our children are made in God's divine image and should have a time to talk to the Heavenly Father. How absurd and bizarre are our times when the First Amendment is invoked to allow Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan to march on public property and urge the extermination of Jews and the subjugation of blacks and yet prevents children from Bible study and prayer in public schools.

Solomon, the great King, declared: "The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is his delight," Proverbs 15:8. The entire division of Psalms 5 relates to God honoring those who pray.

Permission for such school prayer exercises are urged through such Bible Passages as I Timothy 2:1, Matthew 19:13-15, and Romans 13:1-4. Permission for such exercises for those who want them is necessary if the schools are truly to be neutral in the matter of religion, and a refusal to permit students to pray is seen not as neutrality but rather as the establishment of a religion of secularism. God restore again thysself before our children!

## MORAL ACTION

Baptist Missionary Association of America

Dr. John M. Adams, Director

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Dr. John Adams

# YOUR CHURCH MAY NEED YOU!

From Mary Kirkland

This article is for those of you who want to help out at church, but are afraid to teach a class. You may fear making a mistake, lack content knowledge, grow anxious speaking in front of people, or any number of other reasons (excuses, sometimes). It can also help those of you who want to try again after a bad experience, or give experienced teachers new ideas.

Let's start by talking about the youngest class at your church. Nursery, two-year-olds, four-year-olds, think about children you know who are that age. This is the easiest--and the hardest--class to teach. They will wring you out and hang you up to dry if you let them! But they'll also give you more love and kindness than you ever imagined.

How are you going to keep children that young settled and listening for 30, 45 minutes or more? Don't try it, it's a trap! But if you want to teach the students while everyone has a good time, I have ideas! This is actually my favorite age, but that's probably because I taught high school mathematics for twenty-five years. I did NOT want more teenagers on Sunday or Wednesday night! It was always far easier for me to do a teacher's primary job--sharing the love of God--with little kids than it was to deal with teens!

## PREPARATION

To prepare for your lesson, the first thing you should do is read the literature your church provides. Sometimes, that literature is amazing. Sometimes, you'll wonder if the writer has ever met a two-year-old. The teacher's book may be a gold mine or useless. I've seen very different quality levels. If no literature is provided, you can find Bible storybooks and activity books fairly easily and inexpensively. Even Walmart and dollar stores carry some, and I like to encourage them to continue to do that. If you have trouble finding something, try Christianbook.com. But don't forget, our own Baptist Publishing House has literature for all ages. You may need to talk to your church leadership about beginning to use it. If money is a problem, see if another church will give you their unused literature from the previous quarter. My church has done that to help smaller churches.

## THE STORY

Wherever you find your story, I always like to lead with telling it. You may prefer a different activity first, but I'll start this "lesson" with the story. You can plan to read it to the students, but be sure to make it fun. Use a different voice for each character. Ask questions like, What do you think happened after that? Hide dolls of the main characters and have the children find them. Dress in costume. Act the story out. Anything to keep their attention. One good thing is that you don't need to share deep truths of the Bible with this group, although it is a good idea to have that knowledge. It keeps you from saying things that are incorrect for one thing. So read the entire chapter (or even book) the lesson is taken from, especially if it's unfamiliar to you.

Unfortunately, telling the story usually doesn't take long. Young children aren't interested in the complexities of David following God and learning to trust God while watching and protecting sheep. You'll have to find a way to teach them that we are supposed to trust and obey without getting too theological.

For example, I once taught a lesson about David killing a bear and a lion while watching sheep. I emphasized that God was preparing him for greater things. That his obedience to his father and dedication to his job made him a better leader and king later. I had even provided leather "slings" so the children could act out the story. I understood just what they had heard me say when a three-year-old boy gleefully grabbed his sling and said, "You be the bear. We'll kill you." The life of a Sunday School teacher!

I have dressed in Bible times costumes many times and acted out the story. I'll admit, though, I think it was the novelty of the costume that caught the children's attention more than any real interest in or understanding of first century fashion.

## ACTIVITIES

In addition to the story, I always liked to have a variety of activities planned. Make a list, get your supplies together, but be flexible. You're not going to be able to stick to a strict schedule, and you may as well expect that you won't usually finish all the activities before time runs out. That is SO much better than running out of activities with time remaining! Be flexible. You can always plan to use any leftover activities for future lessons.



What activities are appropriate? Here are a few suggestions, but you'll think of more.



## MUSIC

Sing a song. This can be a song that goes with the lesson, like "Only a Boy Named David," in my example. It can also be any good song, like "Jesus Loves Me." Children love to sing, and you don't need to have a decent voice to lead them. I've only had a child tell me to hush on rare occasions. They usually drown me out, which is a blessing! You can bring in music using your phone, a CD player, portable speaker, whatever, but it isn't really necessary. You can also have basic musical instruments available, and your only concern will be disturbing other classes!

## ART

Coloring is another fun idea. A few boxes of crayons and a copy machine to run copies of pictures you find online will work. Coloring books are fine. The pictures in the provided literature may work. Remember that the skill level and attention to detail will vary widely at this age. There's a precious little girl at my church who doesn't like to leave the room until she has colored her pictures completely. Others will run a crayon across the page and yell, "I'm done!" You'll soon get a feel for how well this activity works for your group.

## CRAFTS

Cut and paste activities work well for some groups. I had two- and three-year-olds once who loved to glue, but they couldn't use scissors well at all. I always gave them the chance to try, but I had to cut out the pictures in advance for this group. One day, the story was about the Apostle Paul being shipwrecked. The book had a beautiful scene of the shipwreck, with desperate men in the water. I had cut out the pictures of logs that were provided, and I told the children to glue the logs where the men could use them to float to shore. One normally patient child was rushing, and I wondered why. Then she told her friends, "Hu-wee! Hu-wee! They's gonna drown!" Ah, the imagination of the young!

## MEMORY WORK

Many believe that very young children cannot learn memory verses. This is not true. They won't learn entire chapters, or maybe even entire longer verses. I was visiting my only great-great-niece the day I wrote this. She turned two in April. When I started to leave, her aunt told the child, "Say 'bye to Aunt Mary.'" The little girl doesn't see me often, doesn't really know my name, but she kept repeating, "Bye, 'bye, Aunt Mary." After being told once. She can also learn to say, "Ye are the light of the world," (Matthew 5:14) in Sunbeams. So make it a game, a song, have fun with it. But learn some verses.

## PRAY

Along the same lines, try a few simple prayers. When my daughter was three, she named every person present and asked God to bless them every time she prayed. It's a good thing she was never asked to pray before a fellowship meal!

## ALTERNATIVE TEACHING METHOD

Another way to teach, especially very active children, is to set out blocks, toys, whatever, sit in the floor with them, and let them play. As they play, tell your story. Use the blocks to represent people or buildings in the story, take breaks as children want to tell you what they're doing, sing a song when you think that's best, but tell the story. Will they remember it? Maybe. Some research suggests that children (and adults!) remember details better when their hands are busy.

## THE IMPORTANT THINGS

More importantly, they'll think of church as a fun place to go. They'll learn that their teacher cares about them more than about having students sitting in neat rows. They'll believe what you say about Jesus because they see you following your Master. So my last advice is, share the love of God at every opportunity. That's better and more rewarding than trying to teach a perfect lesson. Because we all know that only one person ever did that.

Mary Kirkland Retired after 28 years teaching in public schools. She has a Masters in Education and National Board Certification. She continues her lifetime as an educator at church teaching nursery, the adult women, and everything in between.



# ***Sunbeam, GMA, and Galilean Counselor Workshop***

A Workshop on Inductive Bible Study

**SATURDAY, JULY 26  
BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.**

**PARAMOUNT BAPTIST CHURCH  
63 PARAMOUNT CHURCH DR.  
PERKINSTON, MS 39573**

**Mrs. Becky Farmer** will lead a deeper dive into the DiscipleWay Bible Study Method for our ladies—focusing on observing, interpreting, and applying Scripture.

**Bro. Sidney Farmer** will also be teaching the DiscipleWay Bible Study Method for Galilean leaders and men's groups.

**Open to all men and women**, whether or not your church participates in auxiliary programs. Sunbeam, GMA, and Galilean counselors are especially encouraged to join.

After lunch, we'll have **breakout sessions for Sunbeam and GMA** counselors. This will be an opportunity to share ideas, learn new things, and fellowship with fellow counselors.

**For more information, contact Lakelan Jenkins at 601- 517-1476.**

# mission:world

## NEWS

## BUILDING FROM THE GROUND UP!

By Dr. John David Smith  
President  
bmaglobal.org

In global missions, we often celebrate the fruit—churches planted, believers baptized, lives transformed. But every harvest begins with soil, seed, and sweat. The reality is that gospel work among the nations almost always begins from scratch. Missionaries enter with empty hands and full hearts, building from the ground up in foreign soil, often with nothing but a burden from God and the power of the Spirit. The biblical mandate is clear, and the strategy must reflect both Christ's model and the New Testament pattern: humble beginnings, patient labor, and incarnational living.

This year's World Missions Day theme, "Send Me," resonates deeply with the legacy of BMA Global Missions. For 75 years, BMA missionaries have left home and comfort behind, embracing the unknown for the sake of the gospel. From small villages to crowded cities, they have obeyed the call to begin where no church existed. Their sacrifices form the backdrop for this article series, rooted in the biblical call to build Christ's Church, one life, one disciple, one gathering at a time.

The apostle Paul's words still anchor our purpose: "No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11). True mission work does not export a cultural package—it exalts Christ. Cultural anthropology reminds us that every people group already has a worldview, traditions, and patterns of behavior. Our task is not to replace their culture but to redeem it with the truth of the gospel. This means moving slowly, listening carefully, and communicating in ways that make sense within their context.

Missionaries must become students of the culture. Cultural assumptions, when unchecked, can smother rather than serve the gospel. From language learning to worldview analysis, a faithful ground-up approach requires deep contextualization and humility.

The model of Christ—the Word made flesh who dwelled among us—is the heartbeat of incarnational missions. Missionaries don't work above or apart from the people they serve; they live among them, suffer with them, and grow alongside them. This incarnational posture—"Send Me!"—requires surrender, discomfort, and a long-term vision.

Suffering is not incidental to mission—it is often the soil in which the gospel takes root.

From the apostolic age to modern missions, we see again and again that "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Tim. 3:12). Whether through political instability, disease, or rejection, missionaries often face the reality that the path to planting a church is paved with personal sacrifice.

And yet, there is joy in the struggle. As Jesus taught, the kernel of wheat must fall and die to produce a harvest (John 12:24). Each difficulty faced is a chance to join Christ in His suffering and to trust in God's redemptive power to bring fruit.

The end goal of ground-up missions is not simply evangelism—it is the birth of a local, mature, and multiplying church. As the BMA's "Mature Church Model" outlines, these churches are marked by gospel clarity, spiritual vitality, indigenous leadership, and contextualized worship. We are not just spreading beliefs; we are establishing communities of believers who live out the gospel in their own heart language and cultural forms.

### Looking Ahead

This series will highlight stories and strategies from missionaries who are planting gospel seeds where there was once no witness. Their lives testify that the Spirit still works in new soil, that the Church still grows from nothing, and that the gospel still transforms. May we be inspired to say with Isaiah, "Here am I. Send me."



# mission:world

## NEWS



## TAKING THE GOSPEL TO CAMBODIA

By David Perez and Juren Mamon  
ChangeMaker Missionaries in Cambodia  
bmaglobal.org

**W**hen God calls, we often begin with a simple “yes.” For Pastors David Perez and Juren Mamon, that “yes” became the first step toward a bold mission: taking the Gospel to Cambodia. What began as a short-term exposure trip soon became a clear and compelling call to build something from the ground up: a Christ-centered ministry among one of Asia Pacific’s spiritually hungry nations.

### A Burden for Cambodia

During a visit to Cambodia, Pastor David Perez witnessed something that changed his life forever. He saw the deep spiritual hunger of the Cambodian people—communities with little to no access to the Gospel, yet full of openness and yearning for hope. That moment became a turning point. “The Lord was clear,” he said. “I must go.”

Pastor Juren Mamon, similarly, never imagined that his background in motorcycle repair and vocational skills would one day play a central role in foreign missions. Yet in Cambodia, he saw a way to connect deeply with young men, offering training, mentorship, and ultimately, the Gospel. “I realized all of my education, experience, and training were God’s preparation for this very work,” Juren shared. “Now I can use those skills to point others to Christ.”



### From Preparation to Launch

The path to the mission field wasn’t immediate. It took months of spiritual, emotional, and practical preparation. Both men dedicated themselves to prayer, studying God’s Word, and seeking counsel. “Crossing cultures isn’t just about packing bags,” David noted. “It requires a surrendered spirit, a renewed mind, and a heart anchored in God’s Word.”

Leading up to their departure in April, the pastors traveled across the Philippines, sharing their vision with local churches. These visits not only built support but also sparked a shared passion for missions. “We were overwhelmed by the generosity and encouragement,” Juren said. “Seeing churches catch the vision reminded us we are not alone.”

### A New Beginning in Cambodia

Now on the ground in Cambodia, Pastors David and Juren are beginning their ministry at the grassroots level, literally. Their initial focus is on building relationships and trust among locals, especially in rural provinces. They visit villages, bring food and toys to children, and share the love of God in practical ways.

Language remains a key hurdle. Khmer is complex, but both pastors are committed to learning it completely—reading, writing, and speaking. “We can’t explain the Gospel clearly unless we understand their language and culture,” David emphasized.

They are also partnering with Filipino teachers renovating a rural school, providing not only physical help but spiritual encouragement to the community. Opportunities like these serve as open doors for the Gospel and allow the pastors to live out their faith in action.

### Long-Term Vision: Discipleship and Development

The ultimate vision is discipleship. Both pastors dream of seeing young Cambodians come to know Christ, be trained in Scripture and life skills, and return to their villages equipped to lead. “We want to raise up local disciples who will carry the Gospel to their own people,” Juren said.

They are praying for a mission house in Phnom Penh, a hub that would serve as both a discipleship center and a temporary home for rural youth studying or working in the city. There, these young people would receive pastoral care, vocational training in small engine repair, and English lessons, all grounded in the Gospel message.

### Strengthening the Work at Home

Even as they invest in Cambodia, the pastors have ensured that the work they helped build in the Philippines remains strong. With outreach ministries, ALS programs, and churches continuing under local leadership, they leave behind a legacy that will flourish. “This is the fruit of years of Gospel labor,” David said. “We believe God will sustain and grow it.”

### Faith for the Journey Ahead

The road ahead is filled with challenges, including language barriers, cultural adjustments, and spiritual warfare, but these men are undeterred.

They rest in Christ’s promise in Matthew 28:20: “Lo, I am with you always.” That assurance propels them forward with faith.

“We are truly building from the ground up,” David reflected. “There’s very little here, but we trust God to accomplish something magnificent.”

“This is more than a mission,” added Juren. “It’s a partnership... with God, with the church, and with everyone who prays and supports this work.”

Together, these two men are living proof that when God calls, He equips—and when we say “yes,” He opens doors no man can shut. The journey has just begun, and by God’s grace, the fields of Cambodia will see a harvest—one soul at a time.

# mission:world

## NEWS

## STARTING FROM SCRATCH

By Jarred Etheredge  
Missionary to South Africa  
bmaglobal.org

**W**hen God called us to the valley we currently are serving in, it was a big step of faith. Not only was it in a new-to-us area, but there was also nothing on the land that had been given by the tribal authority. No municipal services or even any hope of ever getting them, no water, no road.

The first few weeks my wife and I slept in the back of our truck under a tree as we established a fence and began work on a long drop toilet. Thereafter we set up a 6x10 tent and our family of six moved on site. Life in the tent was interesting to say the least with many adjustments and a lot of grace needed. We cooked on fire, used heavy black plastic bags to heat water for baths, and learned to live in cycle with the daylight. Our water came by tractor from a nearby river into a 1,000 gallon tank we procured. During this season we continued to learn our new community and customs while building relationships and structures for the future.

Eight months later a wind event—we think it might have been a small tornado—destroyed our tents and forced us into the workshop we had only just finished. While in the shop we were able to get solar electricity, which, after a year of having none, was welcomed with tears of joy. Not long after that the Lord blessed us with a water well and additional larger water storage tanks.

Eighteen months after moving to the village we finally were able to move into our small house. The Lord taught us so much during that time and knit our hearts together with the community around us. They saw us live like they live. They watched us struggle and learn what village life is like. They would ask why we would stay and why we would do these things, when surely because of our nationality and skin color we could afford to go somewhere else. Some even offered to find us established homes in other more “easy” areas. This opened the door for great Gospel conversations and opportunities that the Lord is still reaping a harvest from to this day. We didn’t stay because we were stubborn or strong. We stayed because this is where God put us.

On some of the clear cool nights we would sit around the fire and watch the stars and count satellites that passed overhead. We would see the lights from the surrounding villages and try to learn what we could about them from our local friends. We found out that from our home we can see seven villages that have no Gospel presence at all. No church, no fellowship, nothing. This ignited our prayers for God to provide opportunities and pathways into these villages.



In early 2024 a door opened into a village about five miles from us, and in February we began holding meetings in a local community member’s garage. Though this village is a short distance away, a large river separates them from us. In the dry season our 4x4 truck can cross with little effort, but in the rainy season our trip extends by 70 miles to go around the mountain to the other side. On this longer drive we found other villages which we couldn’t see but must travel through on our way that also have no church. We now pick up people along the way as we travel, even having to make second trips to some villages to make sure we pick up everyone. To celebrate our first year of meeting together we held a special baptismal service where 14 people stepped into the muddy water for baptism.

Whether building a home site or planting a church where none existed previously, there will inevitably be great highs and lows. The peaks and the valleys go together in the building of God’s vision for His people. In all of them our focus remains on the call that God birthed in us and His desire to see His people saved. Hard days will come and go but the Kingdom of God stands forever. Most people will never see the places we live or know what joy and sacrifice went into establishing them, but I am fully assured of this: It is worth it.



# REACHING THE WORLD WITH THE GOSPEL

By Emily Brantley  
Lifeworld  
lifeworld.org

**A**s Lifeworld continues its mission to speak the gospel in the heart language of every person, teams around the world are expanding outreach efforts, training new disciples, and developing creative strategies to overcome obstacles. From Asia to the Americas, God is opening doors, and Lifeworld teams are walking through them in faith.

## Asia: Training, Tutorials, and New Frontiers

Pastor Pete in the Philippines is diligently following up with broadcasters across the islands, especially helping older pastors adapt to modern media tools. Though personal circumstances have limited his travel, Pastor Pete continues training online and is preparing new tutorials to support pastors and technicians across Asia-Pacific. Exciting developments include growing interest in Cambodia and Vietnam, where pastors are eager to launch gospel media broadcasts. These doors are significant opportunities to reach the unreached in Asia-Pacific.

In the Middle East, Bro. Joe Costa reported positive progress on four ministry pages, especially those reaching New Age and Muslim audiences. Engagement is growing, with open conversations taking place through the “Feast” program, which connects believers with the LGBTQ+ community in thoughtful, respectful dialogue. Despite the volatility of the region, there is great hope for gospel advancement.

## Africa: Overcoming Obstacles, Advancing the Gospel

In Africa, Brother Hayford is continuing his gospel work despite the technical challenges of limited internet access. He’s training to produce radio and streaming content and preparing to disciple others in video and audio editing.

Meanwhile, in Liberia, Bro. Abraham Cheyee reports exciting progress as the gospel spreads into rural and even Muslim communities. Many have come to faith, and Lifeworld is encouraged by the fruit of faithful ministry in hard-to-reach areas. The team continues

recording and distributing content while trusting God for more breakthroughs in infrastructure.

## Europe: Expanding Partnerships and Reaching New Audiences

Bro. Bogdan and the European team are building new partnerships and expanding their media platforms. A highlight this season was a baptism event, including the return of a former Gypsy speaker now living in Germany. With this momentum, the team is considering a new media project aimed at ministering to Gypsies in Germany or German-speaking Gypsy communities.

## Americas: Discipleship and Preparation for Colombia

Bro. Valmori recently began discipling a new believer and asked for prayer as he and Bro. Rigoberto work to continue to support Lifeworld’s vision by pairing media outreach with on-the-ground evangelism in their region.

## Conclusion

Lifeworld is pressing forward with over 200 monthly productions in 165 languages and planning to expand into 10 more. Whether it’s online tutorials, grassroots discipleship, or cross-cultural conversations, the global team is committed to sharing Jesus in every heart language. Please continue to pray for the teams, their families, and the people they serve. The harvest is plentiful—and Lifeworld remains on mission.

