

Season of Prayer 2018

For State Missions and the Janie Chapman Offering
For State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living

Family Missions Page Missions in 3D

Scripture: ³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God. ¹²Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel." Philippians 1: 3-12

Note: Obtain information about the missions topics and stories from the *Leaders Guide* and specific prayer requests for each day from the 2018 Season of Prayer for State Missions Prayer Guide. This information can be found on the DVD which has been sent to all pastors and WMU leadership in the church. The information can also be found on the South Carolina WMU website at www.scwmu.org.

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Introduction: The Great Commission (Matthew 28: 19-20) challenges us to "go and tell." As we think about where to go and whom to tell, we must take a 3D approach to effectively spread the gospel by using Discernment to gain an understanding of the needs of the people group we want to reach, embracing the Diversity of the people group and take any cultural differences into consideration when planning to share the gospel in a respectful way, and developing a Discipleship plan so that new believers can grow in their knowledge of God's love. As we SEND workers to assess the need, SHARE our beliefs with other people groups, START new congregations of believers, and STRENGTHEN existing work with people groups we are fulfilling God's plan to reach all nations.

Sunday, September 9

Discuss with your family how our offerings such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, and the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions provide support for missionaries who work in our state, the nation, and throughout the world to spread the message of God's love. Read Philippians 1: 3-8. The apostle Paul made great sacrifices in order to carry the gospel to as many people as he could. As a family, make plans to sacrificially give the amount that would have been spent on a snack, a restaurant meal, or a leisure activity during this month to the Janie Chapman Offering.

PRAY that each family member will be willing to pray for our state missionaries and sacrifice a family outing for missions to help the many people groups in South Carolina come to know Jesus.

Monday, September 10

Has your family ever seen a movie in 3D? Viewing the movie through 3D glasses allows you to feel like you're a part of the action taking place! Vision trips allow volunteers to better see the work being done by church planters. Discuss how a vision trip (**Church Sending** section of the *Leaders Guide*) by Pastor Bryant Sims led to a partnership between First Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, and church planters Brandon and Miriam Allison, who work with TrueVine Church in Boston.

PRAY for God to call more church planters to Boston and for continued growth of TrueVine Church.

Tuesday, September 11

How can a classroom be a mission field? From the **Sharing Hope** story (**Sharing Hope** section of the *Leaders Guide*), share about the partnership between area churches and schools in Barnwell, Bamberg, and Allendale Counties. Ask your children to share needs they notice among classmates or teachers. What can you do as a family to make a difference in the life of a needy student or to encourage a teacher that you know?

PRAY that every school will have a partner church to volunteer time with students and to encourage teachers. Pray that relationships built will help students and teachers come to know Jesus.

Wednesday, September 12

Have you ever planted a flower bed? Discuss decisions that must be made, such as where the seeds or bedding plants will be planted, how they will be spaced apart, and how often they must be watered or fertilized before they yield their beautiful blooms. Planting churches begins with a vision, a calling from God "planted" on the heart of an individual. Read Philippians 1: 9-10. As we grow in our understanding of God, we are better able to hear when He calls us to join Him in His work. Share from **Church Planting – Starting a Church** (*Leaders Guide*) how pastor Hank Williams listened to God's calling and involved his church in an effort to plant two more churches in our state.

PRAY for strong partnerships with church planters, existing churches, associations, and new church plants. Pray that staff living in apartments near their church areas will be able to make connections with neighbors.

Thursday, September 13

Talk with your family about how your community has changed over the years. Did more industry move in? Did factories close? Did a natural disaster change the community? Taking information from **reSTARTing a Church** (*Leaders Guide*), share the changes that led Sans Souci Church to seek help from another congregation to rethink its vision and to restart itself in order to have a more effective ministry to the surrounding community.

PRAY for members of Sans Souci Church to be sensitive to God's will and to have the courage to follow Him and to form relationships in their community.

Friday, September 14

Think about another family with whom you spend time. How did you meet? What interests do you share? Using the story of Casa de Alabanza and Poplar Springs Church in **Strengthening Churches** (*Leaders Guide*), discuss how two diverse groups were able to connect and build relationships. Is there a group in your community that your church could connect with?

PRAY that the Poplar Springs and Hispanic congregations will continue to find ways to connect with each other and to be equipped and willing to use their spiritual gifts to connect outwardly with the world.

Saturday, September 15

Discuss chores that are done at home. What chores are the children responsible for? Learning how to do the chore properly required watching the parent do the work and participating in the job as the parent supervised. Discuss the Journey Internship program in **Strengthening Churches** (*Leaders Guide*) and how job shadowing and on-the-job training are used to train college students to be future pastors, teachers, and youth leaders. Talk about your church - how are young people being trained to do jobs in your church? Are there any summer workers in your church? In what areas are they serving?

PRAY that God will continue to raise up college students that are hungry to take the gospel to the whole world and that church leaders will share their knowledge with future leaders.

Sunday, September 16

Reflect on all you've learned as a family this week about missions opportunities in South Carolina. Think about your community. What are needs that your family could help with?

PRAY that God will help you to see the needs of your community and to work as a family to be more actively involved in missions where you live.