

# Acts 1:8

## One Day Mission Trip

NORTH PULASKI BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

# 21 DAY PRAYER GUIDE

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” – Acts 1:8*

### A beginning word...

Scripture is filled with encouragement to pray. The Lord has invited us to pray continually, specifically, boldly, and with faith. He listens to every prayer and answers every prayer. His answers are always in line with His unfolding will. Believing that God hears and answers our prayers according to His will encourages us to petition without reservation because we know He will only do what is best for us. Such understanding encourages us to pray with boldness concerning the things He has clearly revealed are part of His unfolding will.

Concerning praying specifically, Matthew records Jesus' heart as it relates to those who are disconnected from Him. **Matthew 9:35-36** states *“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.”* Jesus then declared *“the harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”*

Jesus' observation concerning the multitudes is still valid today. Those disconnected from Him, lost in their sin, and without hope in the world are in desperate need of a “Shepherd.” They need a Savior! They need Jesus! His second observation is also valid today. There are more people needing salvation and ready to respond to the gospel than there are people ready and willing to tell them how to be saved. That leads to His instruction concerning praying for the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to share the gospel.

That is what this one-day mission event is all about. It is sending people into the ministry footprint of the fifty-seven churches of North Pulaski Baptist Association to share the gospel with people that are ready to listen and respond. Imagine 3,000 people gathering in one place to be scattered all over our association to share the gospel. The potential is beyond calculation. In order to prepare for the incredible opportunity, we must PRAY! **James 5:16** declares *“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”* For the next twenty-one days we are asking you to immerse this event in prayer. Each day you will be praying for specific ministry projects taking place on October 7. You will pray for specific churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association. You will pray for God to send laborers into the fields that are ready to harvest. And you will pray for God's Spirit to move in powerful ways so that people might be saved.

Thank you for joining in this event through prayer. Thank you for having a heart for our fifty-seven churches and our ministry field. Thank you for believing that God is ready to save, people are ready to be saved, and if we go and tell they will be saved!

*“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” – James 5:16b*

*“Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully.” – Psalms 24:3-4*

If we desire for **James 5:16b** to characterize our praying, then we must seek to have clean hands and a pure heart. We must be engaged in an intimate relationship with the Living God through His Son Jesus. We must confess any sin in our lives and make sure that there is nothing in our lives that would inhibit that intimacy or limit the Holy Spirit’s activity. Begin this prayer journey by preparing your heart to engage the Lord. Make sure there are no personal obstacles to engaging in fervent prayer on behalf of others. We suggest you consider praying Paul’s prayer as recorded in **Ephesians 3:14-19** on your own behalf.

*“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” – Ephesians 3:14-19*

Pray also for...

- God to send laborers into the harvest.
- God to prepare the hearts of those lost and disconnected to receive the good news of Jesus Christ.
- The following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Amboy Baptist Church – Pastor, Larry Miller
  - ▶ Baring Cross Baptist Church – Pastor, Marty Watson
  - ▶ Bayou Meto Baptist Church – Pastor, David Talbert

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” – Acts 1:8*

The good news of Jesus Christ was always intended to spread to every corner of the earth. The unfolding plan of God had to begin somewhere, however, and that somewhere was Jerusalem. Those 120 believers gathered in an upper room waiting for the Holy Spirit to come upon them could not have imagined what would happen when He finally arrived. They were literally compelled to go into the streets of Jerusalem and begin speaking. The result was 3,000 people were saved! On October 7, we are believing God for 3,000 people to descend upon North Pulaski Baptist Association and share the gospel with the same boldness and passion that those 120 believers did in Jerusalem. Our fifty-seven churches represent fifty-seven Jerusalems that need Jesus. Please join us in praying...

- For God to send laborers into our Jerusalem.
- For people’s hearts to be open to the gospel message.
- For individual churches in our association to be encouraged.
- For hundreds to be saved that day.
- For effective follow-up to all those saved or expressing interest in hearing more about Jesus.
- For the following churches in our association:
  - ▶ Berea Baptist Church – Pastor, Ronnie Rudd
  - ▶ Bethany Baptist Church – Pastor, Rex Pilcher
  - ▶ Bethel Baptist Church – Pastor, Joe Manning

*“Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.’” – Luke 14:23*

The parable of the “great supper” is a powerful reminder that Jesus came to reach all people with the good news. The fact that those who should have readily and quickly responded to the invitation to attend the banquet were busy and apathetic is an indictment of the religious leadership who rejected Jesus. The passionate appeal to compel those who were outcasts and insignificant in the eyes of the religious leadership speaks to the heart of Jesus for all men. On October 7, there will be at least fifteen block parties in various locations around the association. These events will feature bounce houses, games, free food, music, and other things designed to gather people together. Each will be family friendly and encourage families to have fun together. At a specific time in each location, the folks gathered will hear a presentation of the gospel. People will be saved at these events. Pray today for these block party events.

- Pray for the preliminary promotion around each location. Hundreds of flyers will be handed out door-to-door in the weeks before October 7 inviting people to the event.
- Pray that the weather is good for October 7.
- Pray that the hundreds of conversations that take place at these events will allow the gospel to be shared one-on-one.
- Pray that families who attend become connected to the church hosting each event.
- Pray for those passing by to stop and participate.
- Pray for that moment when the gospel is shared that the Holy Spirit will draw people to Jesus.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Calvary Baptist Church, Rose City – Currently without a pastor
  - ▶ Cedar Heights Baptist Church – Pastor, Chuck Winters
  - ▶ Central Baptist Church, NLR – Pastor, Wyman Richardson

*“Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.” – Acts 4:19-20*

The occasion for these words spoken by Peter and John to the religious leadership came after their arrest and after they were told to no longer speak about Jesus. The impact of God’s Spirit and the relationship these two disciples possessed with Jesus made such a request unreasonable. While the religious leaders did not believe in Jesus and considered Him a threat to their status and authority, Peter and John had walked with Jesus and been transformed by His Spirit. The message of Jesus burned in their hearts. They could no more keep quiet than they could stop breathing. They had to share the good news of Jesus Christ, and they were willing to pay the price to do so. On October 7, there will be over one hundred evangelism teams personally sharing the gospel in neighborhoods all over our association. They will engage people with the message of God’s mercy and grace. They will guide people to faith in Jesus. Please pray for these teams. Pray that they have boldness to share the gospel. Pray that they encounter open hearts. Pray that those resistant will nevertheless have the seed of the gospel planted in their heart. People will be saved on October 7. Pray for these evangelism teams as they seek out those ready to respond.

- Pray for each evangelism team to possess boldness through the power and presence of God’s Spirit.
- Pray that God’s Spirit will direct them to those open to the gospel.
- Pray for many such conversations to take place.
- Pray the enemy will be limited in his schemes and stripped of any influence.
- Pray for seeds to be sown for future conversations.
- Pray that each person saved will find a connection with a local church that can guide them in their new faith.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Christ Centered Fellowship Baptist Church – Pastor Johnny Hill
  - ▶ Crystal Valley Baptist Church – Pastor, Paul Loyd
  - ▶ Disciples in Christ Ministries – Pastor, Calvin Marbles

# Day Five: September 20

*“You shall rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man, and fear your God: I am the Lord.” – Leviticus 19:32*

*“Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.” – James 1:27*

Some of the most neglected people in our world are the elderly. Far too many elderly people have been abandoned and cast to the side. Some with little or no family find themselves longing for something as simple as conversation and attention. One of the ministry areas on October 7 will focus on Senior Adult ministries. Visiting local nursing homes, engaging residents in conversation, singing songs with them, doing crafts, and delivering goody bags are activities that serve to remind these precious people that they still matter and someone cares for them. Oftentimes the most precious gift they receive on any given day is someone’s attention. Other senior adults are living alone in their homes or in a senior adult residence of some kind and may need some personal care or follow-up in the days to come. These Senior Adult ministry teams will provide valuable ministry and gather information that our follow-up efforts can address. Pray today for the senior adults you know that may be in a nursing home or may be living alone. Pray for the teams going out on October 7 that they might be able to bring joy and encouragement to those often neglected and forgotten.

- Pray for those who are lonely and feel forgotten.
- Pray that they may be encouraged by the warmth of God’s Spirit and the interaction with those reaching out to them.
- Pray that needs may be discovered that can be addressed that day as well as later.
- Pray for the physical and spiritual needs of the elderly.
- Pray that those who do not have a relationship with Jesus will be open to the gospel. No one is too old to be saved! No one is too hidden for God’s Spirit to locate.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Epoch Church – Pastors, Nathan James and Grant Harrison
  - ▶ Evangelistic Baptist Church – Pastor, Charles Gatlin
  - ▶ Fellowship Baptist Church, Cabot – Pastor, Terry Lynn Fortner

*“Then Moses called Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whose heart the Lord had put wisdom, everyone whose heart was stirred, to come and do the work.” – Exodus 36:2*

Bezalel was a man whom God had filled “with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.” When the time was right to build the tabernacle God gave Moses instruction and called those gifted in craftsmanship to go to work. The ability to work with one’s hands to design and build buildings is truly a work of art. On October 7, there will be numerous home repair teams working in our association to do basic home repairs. Residences will be identified by local churches and permission will be sought to bring in a team to do work that otherwise would not get done. The focus will be on those who are not members of a local church. The goal is to connect them to a church by offering tangible ministry at no cost. The gospel will be shared in each instance. We can be thankful for those gifted in building and home repair. Please pray that we have a substantial number of homes to work on that Saturday. Pray for teams to make significant connections that can be followed up on in the days after October 7.

- Pray for a substantial number of homes to work on.
- Pray for volunteers to fill the teams needed to do the work.
- Pray for good weather so that projects can be done.
- Pray for people to be open to the gospel as it is presented.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ First Corinthians Baptist Church – Pastor, Robert Green
  - ▶ Forty-Seventh Street Baptist Church – Pastor, Ted Grove
  - ▶ Friendship Baptist Church – Pastor, Roy Thompson

# Day Six: September 21

*“But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” – Luke 10:29*

The man asking this question of Jesus desired to test Jesus. He wanted to push Him into a corner so that he could discredit Him. The conversation began with the man asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus turned the question back to the man and asked him what scripture said one must do. He rightly answered that one must “love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.” Affirming his answer, Jesus instructed the man to fulfill those words. Realizing he had backed himself into a corner, he sought to have Jesus define a neighbor. Jesus’ response is the familiar Parable of the Good Samaritan (Reference: **Luke 10:25-37**). Jesus asked the man to identify the neighbor from the three who interacted with the man beaten by the thieves. Again, he correctly identified the Samaritan who showed mercy toward the man in need. The focus of this parable is about being a neighbor, not identifying a neighbor. The obvious instruction therefore is to be neighborly. Find those in need and meet the need. On October 7, there will be numerous yard work teams going into various neighborhoods seeking to identify homes in need of basic yard work. Mowing, clearing debris, cutting hedges, or even washing windows may be needed. In each case, the team will do something that otherwise would not get done. In each case the gospel will be shared. Our yard work teams exemplify what being a neighbor looks like. Pray for these teams as they seek to tangibly share the love of the Lord.

- Pray that many homes will be identified as potential ministry sites.
- Pray that numerous people will volunteer to serve in this area.
- Pray that the weather will allow these projects to be done.
- Pray that the gospel will find receptive ears and hearts and people will be saved.
- Pray that numerous connections will be established with local churches for follow-up in the days that follow.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Grace Baptist Church – Pastor, Brad Vaden
  - ▶ Grace Inter-City Spiritual House of Prayer Baptist Church – Pastor, Edward Paige
  - ▶ The Connection Church of Sherwood – Pastor, Tim Reed

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– Acts 1:8

On Day Two you prayed for the fifty-seven “Jeruselems” represented by our member churches. God’s plan was for what first took place in Jerusalem to spread beyond the city into the countryside and beyond. The local ministry that takes place on October 7 will have far reaching impact. Not only will individuals be impacted with the gospel but whole families will also be touched. The reach of the gospel that day will not be confined to our association. It will spread out from our association into neighboring associations and into church ministry fields that surround us. It will also make an impact on those participating in the event. Volunteers from all over the state will return home with a renewed vision and passion for reaching their community. The gospel ripple created on October 7 will continue for days, months, and even years to come. Pray for the extended impact of this one-day mission event. Pray that what is begun on October 7 will continue to grow and spread.

- Pray for the impact of the gospel on those engaged on October 7 to be passed on to their families and friends.
- Pray that the excitement generated by the event continues to grow and spread beyond our association.
- Pray that those participating in the event will return home with a renewed vision and passion for reaching their own community.
- Pray for those saved on October 7 to get connected to a local church.
- Pray that these new believers grow quickly and steadily in their faith belief so that they become disciples.
- Pray for our churches to embrace and disciple these new believers.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Graves Memorial Baptist Church – Pastor, Travis Matthews
  - ▶ Highway Baptist Church – Pastor, Doug Applegate
  - ▶ HisChurch, Sherwood – Pastor, John Sammons

*“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men...” – 1 Timothy 2:1*

We have already noted the scripture declaration that the “effective, fervent prayer of a righteousness man avails much.”

**Dr. A. J. Gordon** once stated, “You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed.” **E. M. Bounds** has written, “Prayer is no fitful, short-lived thing. It is no voice crying unheard and unheeded in the silence. It is a voice that goes into God’s ear, and it lives as long as God’s ear is open to holy pleas, as long as God’s heart is alive to holy things.” Surely the movement of God’s Spirit is influenced by the pleading of God’s people. God has invited us to plead for the salvation of men and women lost in sin. He has promised to hear and to send laborers into His field that is ready for harvest. On October 7, there will be hundreds of volunteers walking and driving through neighborhoods, praying for the homes and families in those neighborhoods. They will pay close attention to details such as evidence of children in the homes or senior adult occupants. They will petition the Lord to have mercy and extend grace to each home. They will have conversations with those outside as they pass by. Some will accompany evangelism teams and pray for them as they engage people with the gospel. Some will be stationed at food distribution sites to share spiritual food as well as physical food. Some will gather in prayer meetings and spend the day petitioning the Lord for all the activities of the day. These teams will be an extension of the effort to bathe this event in prayer.

- Pray that many will volunteer to walk and drive through neighborhoods praying for those in each neighborhood.
- Pray for good weather so that prayer walking teams can walk through those neighborhoods.
- Pray for people to be outside so the teams can engage them in conversation.
- Pray for a heightened awareness of details that will guide their praying.
- Pray for stamina as the teams spend several hours walking through numerous neighborhoods.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Holy Souls International – Pastor, Clyde Boatright
  - ▶ Iglesia Bautista Betel – Pastor, Ali Velasquez
  - ▶ Indianhead Lake Baptist – Pastor, Mike Bowien

*“And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.’” – Matthew 4:18-19*

Jesus’ invitation to Peter and Andrew to follow Him was couched in terms they could understand. Fishermen by trade, Peter and Andrew spent their lives catching fish for food and for market. They would have been skilled in finding fish, determining the best time to fish, and using their nets to catch the fish. Jesus offered them the opportunity to use their knowledge of catching fish to pursue those lost in sin. He would teach them how to find people in need of salvation, how to determine the best time to engage those people with the good news, and how to bring those people to salvation. He offered them an opportunity to fish for men. He offered them the opportunity to make an eternal difference in people’s lives. On October 7, there will be several Children’s Fishing Derbies as part of the activities. All the fishing equipment will be provided for children and families to participate. Volunteers will help teach children how to fish and at the same time engage them in conversation about Jesus Christ. What more appropriate activity could be associated with sharing the gospel than a fishing derby? These will be fun and filled with opportunity.

- Pray for many children and families to participate in these fishing derbies across the association.
- Pray for good weather so these events can take place.
- Pray for those leading these events that they are able to share the gospel with those attending.
- Pray that those participating will respond positively to the gospel.
- Pray for many connections to be made that our local churches can follow-up with in the days to come.
- Pray that the children will catch fish!
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Jacksonville First Baptist Church – Pastor, Mark Smith
  - ▶ Jacksonville Second Baptist Church – Pastor, David O’Dell
  - ▶ Korean First Baptist Church – Korean Pastor, Hak Soo Kim; English Pastor, Mark Overman

*“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” – Matthew 9:35-36*

Jesus was constantly on the move. He went from place to place engaging people with the “gospel of the Kingdom.” That gospel, or “good news,” focused on Him. He was God’s Son. He was the promised Messiah. He was God’s final and definitive revelation, affirming God’s love for all men and women. Jesus pointed the people to His Father and challenged them to accept Him, Jesus, as the Father’s answer to their need. In that process, His preaching was often accompanied by miraculous demonstrations of God’s power through the healing of sickness and disease. These demonstrations of God’s power were not the focus of His message, however. They were meant to affirm His identity as God’s Son, the Messiah. Ministering to the physical needs of people creates an especially significant opportunity to share the gospel. On October 7, there will be several medical and dental clinics operating in our association. These will be offered in places where medical and dental care is not easily available and where people often cannot afford such care. Hundreds of people will have access to doctors, dentists, and nurses that otherwise would not have such access. And each of them, while getting their physical needs met, will also hear the gospel story. This will be a very significant part of our one-day ministry event.

- Pray for adequate numbers of doctors, dentists, and nurses to volunteer for the clinics that day.
- Pray that people will take advantage of the opportunity to receive care they otherwise would not receive.
- Pray that existing serious needs will be discovered so that further care can be rendered.
- Pray for open hearts when the gospel is shared.
- Pray that ongoing depression and hopelessness be lifted as people receive care for their physical need.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Levy Baptist Church – Pastor, Steven Tiner
  - ▶ LIFE Fellowship, Jacksonville – Pastor, Scott Martin
  - ▶ LifeSource Church – Pastor, Randy Norman

*“Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah saying: ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.’ – Jeremiah 1:4-5*

The cultural discussion concerning the point when life begins is a hot topic. It has been for years. The laws that address this issue are contradictory to say the least, and the rhetoric surrounding the issue is heated and often contentious. The declaration from the Lord to Jeremiah clearly indicates that his life was purposefully and carefully planned. Even before he was conceived, God knew Him. Before he was born, God set him apart for His purpose and His Kingdom. On October 7, we will have a **pregnancy care site** for the purpose of providing information about pregnancy, providing counseling, and providing needed essentials to moms and babies. It will seek to establish a relationship with young moms who need support and ongoing help. Crisis pregnancy centers in Arkansas provide an invaluable service to those searching for answers and alternatives to abortion. The pregnancy care ministry on October 7 will operate from an established site already providing care and support to young moms. Please pray for those searching for answers and alternatives to abortion. Pray that many connections will be made that will encourage and facilitate healthy babies being born.

- Pray for the many young moms and families who are dealing with crisis pregnancy issues.
- Pray that many connections will be made that offer support and encouragement.
- Pray that immediate needs be met on October 7.
- Pray that when the gospel is shared that it be received with an open heart.
- Pray for churches to embrace those in need with love and support.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Lighthouse Christian Fellowship – Pastor, Ken Bunch
  - ▶ Living Waters (Korean) – Pastor, Sun K. Kim
  - ▶ Maddox Road Baptist Church – Pastor, Cory Platt

*“Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, ‘Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?’ But this He said to test him for He Himself knew what He would do.” – John 6:5-6*

Jesus’ question set the stage for His feeding five thousand people with two small fish and five small barley loaves of bread. Philip and the other disciples learned a valuable lesson that day about God’s ability to do more with our meager resources than we can. This miraculous demonstration by Jesus also created the opportunity to share with the crowd the reality of spiritual food that brings eternal life. While most there that day were content with having their physical hunger satisfied, Jesus came to give them so much more. On October 7, there will be several food distribution sites set up across our association. There are already over 100,000 meals packaged and ready for distribution. Above that figure will be thousands of non-perishable food items collected from those participating in the one-day event. At each station the gospel will be shared with those receiving food. They will hear about the life-changing salvation that is available through Jesus Christ and have opportunity to accept His offer of eternal spiritual food.

- Pray that many people will take advantage of receiving the gift of physical food on October 7.
- Pray that each person who receives physical food will be open to hearing the gospel of Jesus that promises them spiritual food.
- Pray that many will be saved.
- Pray that connections will be made with people so that a local church can follow-up and continue meeting their needs.
- Pray for the ongoing ministry of our six association caring centers that distribute food each week.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Maumelle First Baptist Church – Pastor, Chris Larmoyeux
  - ▶ McAlmont First Baptist Church – Pastor, Eric Howard
  - ▶ Midtown Baptist Church – Pastor, Jeff Breeding

*“Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’” – Matthew 19:13-14*

The multitudes that gathered to hear Jesus always included children. Such was the case when Jesus fed the five thousand. It was a young boy’s lunch that Jesus used to feed the people. We should never underestimate the capacity of children to grasp the truth of God’s word. We must remember that any understanding of God’s word is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit. Whether we are an adult or a child, the revelation of God’s truth is by the Spirit. On October 7, there will be numerous children’s activity sites throughout the association. These sites will provide backyard bible club experiences for children in the neighborhood. There will be games and bible stories related to sharing the gospel with the children participating. These will most likely take place at the homes of local church members or in parks relatively close to a local church. We anticipate many opportunities to share the gospel in these settings.

- Pray that many sites can be identified for the clubs to take place.
- Pray that adequate volunteers will be available to lead these events.
- Pray that children will not only have fun but hear and respond to the gospel of Jesus.
- Pray that local churches will make connections with children and families identified through these events.
- Pray that the weather will allow these outdoor events to take place.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Military Road Baptist Church – Pastor, Ron Raines
  - ▶ Morrison Chapel Baptist Church – Pastor, Mike Smith
  - ▶ Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church – Pastor, Craig Collier

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On Day Eight of our prayer effort, we focused on praying for the impact of sharing the gospel on October 7 to reach beyond the local ministry sites. You were encouraged to pray that the gospel would spread through entire families and communities and indeed around our state because of what God has done. Today you are encouraged to pray for an even broader impact of what will take place on October 7. On Friday afternoon prior to October 7, a huge cookout will take place on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock. Hundreds of students will be fed and the gospel shared with each of them. Collegiate ministers from around the state will engage with these students. Central Arkansas is filled with students and families from around our world. On October 6 and 7 we will have opportunity to show them we care about them and offer them not only physical food but spiritual food. Imagine the impact of someone from another country being saved while in our country, and then returning home with a new heart and new life. Please pray for these international students and families as we seek to build bridges of friendship that will enable us to share the gospel with them.

- Pray that hundreds of college students will be engaged on Friday October 6.
- Pray that when the gospel is shared, hearts will be responsive.
- Pray that connections will be made with international students so that our local collegiate ministers can follow-up with them.
- Pray that the international families that are reached on October 7 will clearly hear and understand the gospel message.
- Pray that the personal impact of being a part of this one-day mission event will spur the volunteers to go home and seek ways to take the gospel to the end of the earth.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ New Covenant Family Ministries – Pastor, Barnard Baker
  - ▶ New Creation Baptist Church – Pastor, Daryl Dandridge
  - ▶ North Hills Baptist Church – Pastor, Jim Ward

*“Now in the church that was in Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.” – Acts 13:1-3*

Barnabas and Saul could not have imagined where this call from God’s Spirit would take them and what things they would see and do. As a result of the commitment and obedience of those men in Antioch, the gospel would spread across the world and thousands of people would be saved. Gentiles would hear the gospel and give their lives to Jesus Christ. Delivered from pagan backgrounds and empowered to live godly lives, these new believers would be a part of turning the world upside down. On October 7, an estimated 3,000 people will gather to spread the gospel throughout our association. These 3,000 people will come believing that God has called them to serve Him in our association. From all across our state, churches will organize their members to train for, travel to, and participate in this one-day mission event. While most of the sign-up for volunteers has already taken place and ministry assignments have already been made, please pray for those committed to participating. Pray that at the last minute someone may hear God’s call to serve and will respond accordingly. Pray for safe travel for the hundreds that are coming. Pray that each of them will be spiritually prepared to share the gospel. And pray for some who are coming because they were invited to come but do not have a relationship with Jesus. Pray that they may be saved!

- Pray for those that God calls to be a part of this event will hear His call.
- Pray for churches across the state to embrace this one-day opportunity to get their members involved in missions.
- Pray for safe travel for each group both to and from the event.
- Pray that each person to be spiritually prepared to serve the Lord.
- Pray that those coming who do not know the Lord will hear the gospel and respond to the gospel message.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Oasis Church – Pastor, Todd West
  - ▶ Park Hill Baptist Church – Pastor, Ken Shaddox
  - ▶ Remount Baptist Church – Currently without a Pastor, Interim Pastor, Luke Flesher

*“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he might devour.” – 1 Peter 5:8*

*“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.” – Ephesians 6:10-11*

There is no question that we have a powerful adversary. There is no doubt that he does not want God to be honored and the gospel shared on October 7. He will do everything in his power to try to inhibit the movement of God’s Spirit. It is imperative that we remember, however, that our enemy may be powerful, but he is already defeated. His schemes may be appealing, but his reach is limited by the presence and power of God’s Spirit. Our enemy cannot stop the movement of God’s Spirit. He cannot quench the fire of God’s message. He cannot negate the redemption God brings to those He transforms. Even now our enemy is working to minimize the impact of 3,000 people sharing the gospel on October 7. We must pray diligently that his schemes will be thwarted and his efforts unsuccessful.

- Pray that each person participating will clothe themselves in the armor of God.
- Pray that the schemes and plans of the devil will be unsuccessful.
- Pray that God’s Spirit will block the devil’s activity in the days leading up to October 7, as well as on that day.
- Pray that an overwhelming victory over his efforts would be evident.
- Pray that whatever distractions he might attempt to create would be ineffective.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Rowe Baptist Church – Pastor, Elbert Warren
  - ▶ Runyon First Baptist Church – Pastor, Scott Hinton
  - ▶ Sherwood First Baptist Church – Pastor, Ricky Lee
  - ▶ Sylvan Hills First Baptist Church – Pastor, Keith Brickell

*“Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers...so continuing daily with one another in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” – Acts 2:41-42, 46-47*

The influx of people saved on the Day of Pentecost is amazing. Growing from 120 believers gathered in an upper room to pray for the Holy Spirit to come upon them, to a number exceeding five thousand in just a few weeks is growth only possible through the Spirit of God. Were those 120 ready for such an influx of people? Probably not. Did they have a plan for how to handle the crowd? Not likely. So what did they do? They gathered where they could. In the temple compound and in individual homes around the city they continued to share the gospel and pass along the teaching of Jesus. The result was even more people were saved as God kept adding them to the church each day. One of the exciting aspects of the one-day mission events is the number of people who visit a local church the following day. People disconnected from the Lord but now connected through salvation seek out other believers. People who have not given much thought to attending a local church become interested because of the connection made the day before. Please pray that those saved on October 7 will seek out a local church to attend. Pray that churches will be prepared to receive them and minister to them.

- Pray that those saved will connect with a local church the next day.
- Pray that those not attending church anywhere will be compelled by God’s Spirit to attend the next day.
- Pray that local churches be ready for those visiting.
- Pray that visitors are treated graciously and are warmly welcomed.
- Pray that churches will follow-up not only with those who attend but also with those identified as living in their area.
- Pray for the following churches in North Pulaski Baptist Association:
  - ▶ Urban Harvest Fellowship – Pastor, Jason Vaden
  - ▶ Victory Baptist Church – Pastor, Michael Branscum
  - ▶ Zion Hill Baptist Church – Pastor, Terry Fortner

*“Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, ‘Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing.’” – Acts 15:36*

After their first missionary journey was completed and the results of that journey reported to the church leaders in Jerusalem, Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch teaching and preaching the word of God. During that period, the Lord moved Paul to suggest they revisit the places they had preached the word on that first journey. The purpose was to see how those who had been saved were doing spiritually. Staying in contact with new believers is essential to helping them develop as disciples. It is through this process that they are taught how to be obedient to the Lord’s commands and they have opportunity to see such obedience lived in front of them. On Saturday evening, October 7, after the ministry activities of the day are over and people are headed home, the follow-up with those saved and those who expressed a desire for more contact begins. Phone calls will be made immediately encouraging them to attend a local church the next morning. On Monday an intensive effort will be made to place the names of those identified on Saturday with a church committed to following up with them. This is a massive effort that seeks to solidify decisions made and purposefully connect people with specific churches.

- Pray that adequate contact information will be gathered from those who make decisions for the Lord and express interest in further contact.
- Pray that immediate connections be made on Saturday evening.
- Pray for the churches of North Pulaski Baptist Association to seize the opportunity to follow-up with people as quickly as possible.
- Pray that what begins on Saturday will continue in the days to come.
- Pray more people will be reached through the follow-up process.

*“After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying: “Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them ... Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, “Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, ‘Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you to possess.’””– Joshua 1:1-2, 10-11*

Entering the Promised Land would take planning and preparation. Something of this magnitude would not just happen. Each tribe, family, and individual would need to prepare for the journey. Attention would need to be paid to gathering provisions, packing up belongings, and making sure each detail was covered. Even when we think we are completely prepared, there are often things that come up along the way that cause us to adjust. For the past year, plans and preparations have been made for Saturday, October 7. It has been an enormous task. We stand just two days from 3,000 people spreading across North Pulaski Baptist Association to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is likely, however, that after all the planning and preparation there will be adjustments that will be necessary on Saturday. There will be issues that could not have been predicted that will have to be addressed. Please pray today that the plans and preparations that have been made will unfold smoothly. Pray that any last minute details or challenges will be handled quickly and easily. Pray that the enemy will not be able to take advantage of any unforeseen issues. Pray that everyone involved will maintain his/her focus on the task at hand—sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ!

- Pray that plans and preparations will unfold smoothly.
- Pray that any adjustments that need to be made will be quickly handled and easily addressed.
- Pray that the enemy is not able to frustrate or inhibit the ministries taking place.
- Pray that each volunteer missionary will stay focused on the task of sharing the gospel.
- Pray for God’s Spirit to saturate every ministry site and every conversation.
- Pray for God to be honored in everything that takes place on Saturday.

# Day Twenty-One: October 6

*"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever." – Psalm 136:1*

*"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him." – Psalm 28:7*

*"Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations." – Psalm 100:1-2, 4-5*

Tomorrow is the day. After all the planning and preparation, the time has come. For the last twenty days, you have prayed for the Holy Spirit to sweep across the North Pulaski Baptist Association, drawing people to salvation through His power and Word. You have prayed for hearts to be open, servants to be bold, and opportunities to be seized. On this day before the event it seems appropriate to express our deep gratitude to the Lord. We can offer our thanksgiving for our own salvation. We can express appreciation for His continued demonstration of mercy through the application of His grace. We can thank Him today for what He is going to do tomorrow. We can demonstrate our faith that He tells the truth and keeps His promises by offering Him praise today. Lift up your voice to the Lord and thank Him for the victory that will be realized tomorrow.

- Praise the Lord for His goodness!
- Praise the Lord for His mercy!
- Praise the Lord for His grace!
- Praise the Lord for your salvation!
- Thank the Lord for what He is going to do tomorrow.
- Thank the Lord for what He has already done in the lives of those who have prepared to share the gospel tomorrow.
- Thank the Lord for souls that will be saved, families that will be encouraged, hope that will be restored, and opportunities that will come later.
- Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



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