

DAY 5

When a tornado or massive flood hits a community, we grieve over the devastation. One group of Arkansas Baptists choose to act, too. As response efforts are coordinated, these Arkansas Baptist Disaster Relief teams are there to offer hot meals while trained clean-up crews help deal safely with fallen trees or flooded homes.

As these crews work to meet immediate physical needs, they also recognize deeper and more urgent pleas for hope and healing that can only be received through Jesus Christ. Physical aid of meals and clean-up provides an avenue through which Disaster Relief teams share the Gospel with people in desperate need of true, eternal hope.

- As you pray today, ponder the difference between grieving over the spiritual and physical devastation we see around us and acting to meet the needs caused by that devastation.
- Pray for more volunteers to join the Disaster Relief teams.
- Over the past three years, an increased emphasis has been placed on chaplaincy within Disaster Relief. Pray for this element of the ministry to continue to grow.
- What is your role? Surrender to the Lord's leadership with a willingness to go above and beyond in whatever way He leads.



Melanie Rothwell
First Baptist Church
Arkadelphia

DAY 6

Two E4Call interns from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff learned about the “four ones” challenge during their summer of ministry at First Church Gould. Pastor Larry Toller taught the interns, as he had taught others during his years of ministry, to pray for one person for one minute at 1:00 for one month. Latravius “Tra” Hill and Sanorris Garrett took this challenge to heart. They made prayer a focus of their ministry. They even led the boys and girls they were working with to stop everything and pray at 1:00 each day. In the midst of hot and tiring days, Tra and Sanorris found the strength to persevere and saw God work in mighty ways during the course of the summer.

The purpose of the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and the wide range of state ministry opportunities is not simply to see physical work completed. It is to see lives changed for eternity. As you pray today, think of the people around you who are in need of salvation. Praying for individuals by name makes us sensitive to the Lord's work in that person's life.

- Pray for your heart, the hearts of your fellow church members, and Arkansas Baptists to be burdened for the lost in our state.
- Ask the Lord to lay one person on your heart to pray for at 1:00 every day for the next month.
- Pray that the Lord will send you partners in the “four ones” challenge. Ask Him to open your eyes to who those partners might be—whether in your family, your church, at work, or elsewhere.
- Pray for boldness to share the love of Christ with the person for whom you are praying as the Lord opens opportunities.

DAYS 7 + 8

So often the Holy Spirit places a desire for ministry into our hearts and minds, but we have no idea where to begin. The good news is that ministry opportunities abound in Arkansas. You do not have to travel far to help with a block party, teach English as a second language, serve through a hunger ministry, counsel in a pregnancy care center, participate in construction and repair projects, or even help conduct door-to-door surveys. You can serve locally and beyond, on your own, with your family, or as a church. There is always a need you can meet!

There is also an urgency. Each day, we draw nearer to Christ's return, and so much work remains to be done. This work is not just for missionaries, church planters, trained pastors or summer interns. Instead, every believer is commanded to abound in the work of the Lord. What is your work? Are you sensing a call to full-time missions or vocational ministry? Is God nudging you to follow in obedience right where you are?

Let that be the focus of your prayers as you wrap up this week of prayer. End this week as you started, with a full commitment to go above and beyond in whatever way the Lord guides.

 **Arkansas**
BAPTISTS
ABSC.ORG/DIXIEJACKSON



Reagan McCormick
Crosspointe Church
Bryant

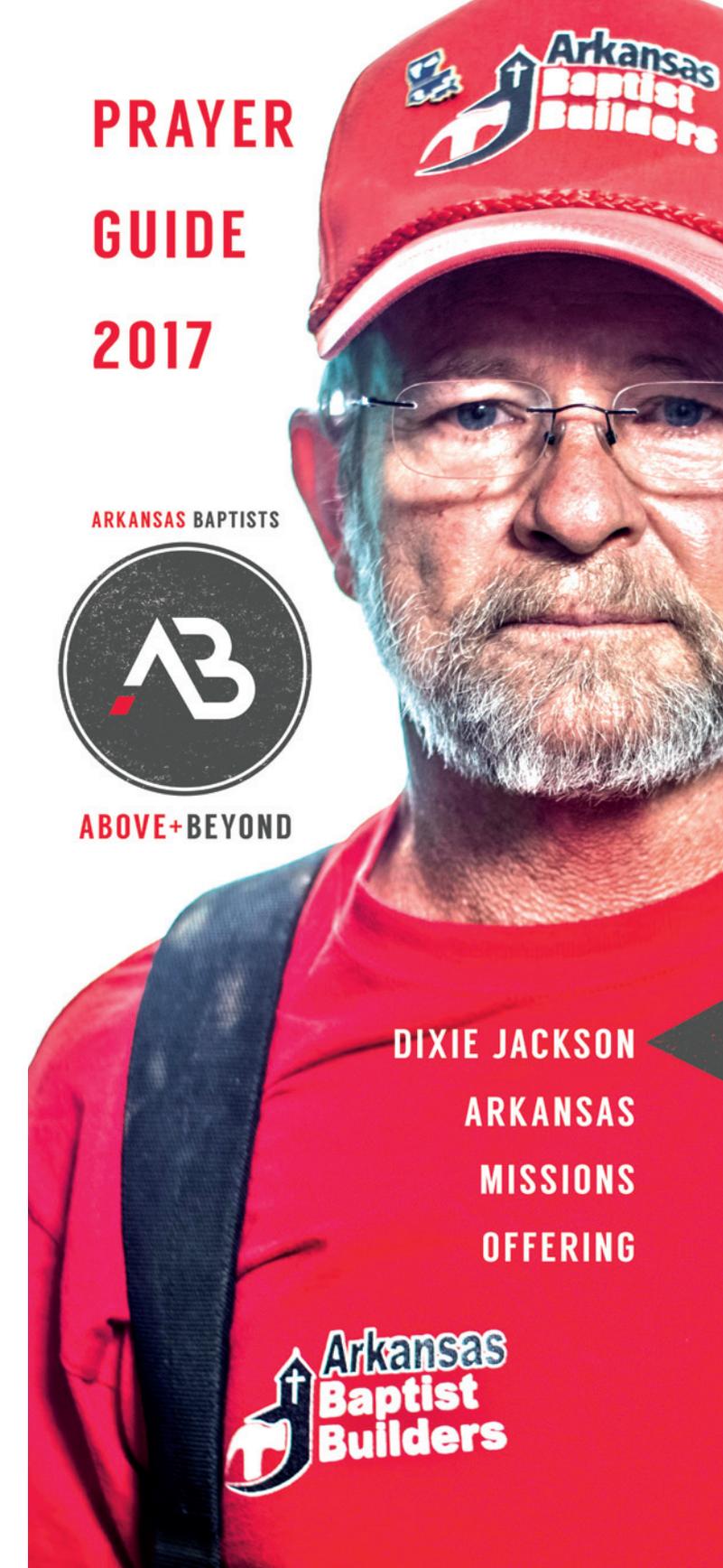
PRAYER GUIDE 2017

ARKANSAS BAPTISTS



ABOVE+BEYOND

DIXIE JACKSON
ARKANSAS
MISSIONS
OFFERING



DAY 1

As we launch this Week of Prayer, our attention will turn to specific ministries that impact our state and our world. None of these ministries exist outside of believers submitting to the leadership of the Holy Spirit. As Arkansas Baptists receive direction, they choose to go above and beyond in service to the Lord Jesus Christ. You and I can do the same, some as missionaries and some in local ministry. No grand, large-scale dream is required to step out in service. We simply have to begin right where we are.

This week, let's make two commitments: to support Arkansas ministries and missionaries through our prayers and financial offering; and to join in the work, prayerfully submitting ourselves to the Holy Spirit's guidance to go above and beyond.

- Ask the Lord to break down any barriers in your own heart that might keep you from listening to His guidance.
- Start this week with a prayerful commitment to go above and beyond in every way the Lord guides.
- Pray for your fellow church members and for churches throughout the state to join together in praying, giving, and serving.



COVER
Jackie James
Highland Drive Baptist Church
Jonesboro

DAY 2

This year, many Arkansas Baptists will take their first step toward becoming active in state missions as they learn that prayer and action go hand in hand. The Acts 1:8 One Day Mission Trip provides a perfect starting point by offering a glimpse into ministry opportunities available to them around the state. This annual event opens doors for follow-up ministry by local churches, while also giving participating churches a template for service in their own communities. After seeing what amazing work can be accomplished in one day, individuals and churches begin to understand just how much of an impact they can make in their own communities.

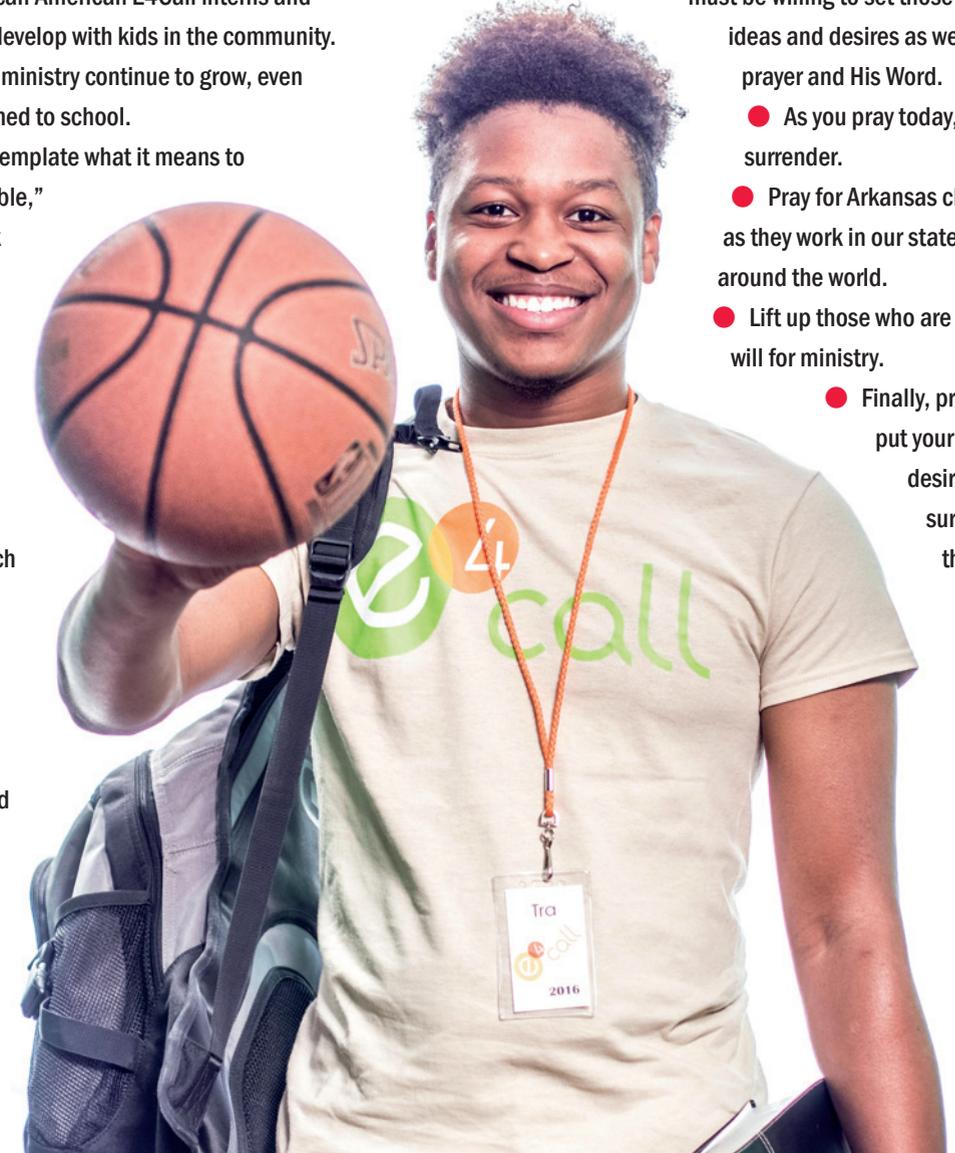
- Pray today for individuals and churches in need of a ministry starting point.
- Pray for those who are getting their first taste of missions through One Day missions opportunities. Ask the Lord to show them how these experiences can translate into service at home.
- Pray over every detail of the One Day event on October 7 in North Little Rock: the teams working behind the scenes to pull everything together, those traveling to serve, and the preparation of hearts in advance to receive the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.
 - Ask the Lord how you can be involved in an Acts 1:8 One Day Mission Trip.

Oleta Raines
Military Road Baptist Church
Jacksonville

DAY 3

What does a willingness to go above and beyond look like for individuals and for churches? When we surrender in prayer to follow wherever the Lord leads, we don't know what challenges may come our way. The all-white congregation of First Church Gould experienced this when they determined to walk through whatever doors God opened. Sensing direction from the Lord, the church worked to begin a ministry crossing racial barriers in their community, but one challenge after another kept the ministry from progressing. Refusing to give up and prayerfully seeking God for the next step, their perseverance paid off as they partnered with two African American E4Call interns and began to see relationships develop with kids in the community. Those relationships and the ministry continue to grow, even after Tra and Sannoris returned to school.

- As you pray today, contemplate what it means to "be steadfast, immovable," persevering in the work of the Lord.
- Commit to the Lord to follow wherever He leads, even if it is outside your comfort zone.
- Pray that the Lord will prepare you, your church and other Arkansas churches to stand firm in the face of inevitable challenges that come when we commit to go above and beyond.
- Pray for wisdom to know how to move forward in the face of any challenge.



Latravius Hill
Watson Chapel
Pine Bluff

DAY 4

Church planter Steven Bell knows what it means to go above and beyond in response to a call of the Lord. After two years of praying and seeking the Lord's direction, he rejoiced to see Otter Creek Community Church open as a joint ministry between his small Bible study group and the former members of Otter Creek First Baptist Church. Now, just three years later, the church is sending out missionaries and church planters and is partnering with City of Refuge to replant Unity Bible Baptist Church in Little Rock.

This church's story offers a critical reminder for all who are stepping out to serve in any area of ministry: We must be willing to set those aside our own ideas and desires as we spend time in prayer and His Word.

- As you pray today, focus on surrender.
- Pray for Arkansas church planters as they work in our state, our nation, and around the world.
- Lift up those who are seeking God's will for ministry.
- Finally, pray that you will put your own ideas and desires aside and surrender fully to the ministry God is laying before you.