



NOW TO HIM
WHO IS
ABLE TO DO
IMMEASURABLY
MORE THAN ALL
WE ASK OR
IMAGINE,
ACCORDING TO
HIS POWER THAT
IS AT WORK
WITHIN US,
TO HIM BE
GLORY IN THE
CHURCH
AND IN
CHRIST JESUS
THROUGHOUT
ALL GENERATIONS,
FOR EVER
AND EVER!
AMEN.

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

**DIXIE
JACKSON
ARKANSAS
MISSIONS
OFFERING
2020**

PLANNING GUIDE

I AM DIXIE JACKSON

SHOW AND SHARE

FOUR DIXIE JACKSON PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS READY TO
SHOW AT YOUR CHURCH AND SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA



◀ 2020 Dixie Jackson videos and more also available online at absc.org/dixiejackson

Open flap for a list of more promotional resources ▶



See pages 5–8 for **special pull-out section** to help you pray for, plan, and implement the 2020 Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering. ▶

MESSAGE FROM DR. J.D. “SONNY” TUCKER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

ARKANSAS BAPTISTS,

2020 has definitely been a one-of-a-kind year for ministry! I've been very impressed by the incredible work our churches have accomplished despite the strange times. As we know, the need for ministry doesn't stop even when the world must take a break from business as usual, and that is why state missions continue to be a vital part of the work being done in Arkansas. The work may look a little different this year, but church planting, Disaster Relief, college ministries and community missions have continued on in this pandemic, supported by the Dixie Jackson Arkansas State Missions Offering.

It's important for you to hear what God is doing through Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions, and exactly what is being supported when people pray for and give to the state missions offering. We have the great pleasure of telling Dixie Jackson stories, and we have worked hard to make these stories easy to access and share with your people. The enclosed Planning Guide is designed to help you share about Dixie Jackson effectively in the time leading up to the Dixie Jackson Week of Prayer.

We have also produced several shareable videos, which are available on the enclosed DVD and can be downloaded online at absc.org/dixiejackson. I encourage you to show these videos over several weeks to help drive home the impact of Dixie Jackson ministry. If you need additional resources, you can also request them at absc.org/dixiejackson.

Thank you for your incredible faithfulness in ministering in 2020. Though it has been an unusual year, God wasn't surprised by the things going on in the world. He will continue to do **immeasurably more** than you can imagine through your ministry and through Arkansas missions. Thank you for being an Arkansas Baptist. You're the best folks in the world!

J.D. "Sonny" Tucker



USE THESE **DIXIE JACKSON PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES** IN YOUR CHURCH



VIDEOS

Four videos featuring the 2020 spotlight ministries made possible by the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering are on the DVD included in this packet. Or you can view, share, and download them online.



RESOURCE ORDER FORM

Order printed resources for your church including Prayer Guides, posters, ministry picture sets, offering envelopes, additional Planning Guides, and the DVD of videos.



PRAYER GUIDE

View an online version of the Prayer Guide designed for use during the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Week of Prayer, September 6–13, 2020.



TEACHING PLANS

The teaching plans are packed full of material that will help your church grasp the vision of the 2020 Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and encourage your church to be on mission. Plans are tailored for Preschool, Children, Students, and Adults.



DIGITAL PLANNING GUIDE

View and download the digital version of the piece you're holding, the Planning Guide for the 2020 Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.



LOGOS

View and download the official 2020 logos and social media cover image for the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.

More information about the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and the ministries it supports is available online at:

[ABSC.ORG/DIXIEJACKSON](https://absc.org/dixiejackson)



See pages 5–8 for **special pull-out section** to help you pray for, plan, and implement the 2020 Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering ▶

NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO
IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK
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GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST
JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS,
FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN. EPHESIANS 3:20-21

Immeasurable.

Stop and think about that word for a moment. How often do we glaze over words like this as we read God's Word, not really grasping the depths of what it means to be immeasurable? When we consider the force of Paul's statement that God is able to do **immeasurably more**, it can be overwhelming. Other translations use equally powerful words and phrases like "incomparable," "abundant," "infinite," "above and beyond," or "far beyond." But it's not just this verse. In the first three chapters of Ephesians, Paul describes God's incomparably great power (1:19), incomparable riches of grace (2:7), and boundless riches in Christ (3:8). Paul chooses words that show just how overwhelmed he is by the incalculable greatness of God and His character. We will never be able to measure who God is, what He can do, and how His love is lavished upon us.

Our theme verses for this year, Ephesians 3:20-21, offer a transition from the introduction of Ephesians to the body of the letter. The first three chapters talk about all that God has done and how limitless it all is. The chapters following this introduction point out ways the Ephesian church needs to continue learning and growing. But right here in the middle, Paul presents a reminder that the God who has done so much can also do **immeasurably more**.

When Arkansas Baptists consider the work of God in and through us, we too can claim this promise. The fact that God conquered death and lavishly poured out His salvation over us does not stop there. He keeps going. He sees our dreams and hears our requests, then goes far beyond. What would happen to our work in our churches, our communities, our state, and our world if we grasped the expanse of this?

There are those living and serving among us, fellow Arkansans on the front lines, who are already seeing this take place. As they step out in faith and in service, God's power is unleashed to take His work far beyond their expectations. He is doing **immeasurably more** through His people in Arkansas today.

This is such a fitting picture of what it means to be an Arkansas Baptist engaging with the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer, as well as in ongoing ministry throughout the state. When we participate together through praying, giving, and going, we acknowledge that God can take our offerings and turn them into something immeasurably more than we could ever ask or imagine. This happens first because we choose to work together instead of alone, combining our resources and talents. Then God takes that cooperation, performed in His Name and according to His will, and compounds it infinitely with His power.

As you interact with each story and consider each suggestion for engaging Arkansas Baptists in the work supported by the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering, never forget that the results are in the hands of a God who is able to do **immeasurably more** than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

As you explore the stories about ministries funded by Dixie Jackson, use the DVD in this Planning Guide and the resources available on absc.org/dixiejackson to discover how they can help motivate your planning team and congregation.

SERMON HELP FOR EPHESIANS 3:20-21

GENERAL CONTEXT

- Paul's doxology serves as a mid-point in the letter as Paul transitions his discussion from doctrine to ethics.
- Ephesians is a prayer-filled letter: begins with Paul's Trinitarian doxology to the praise of God's glorious grace (1:3-14); a prayer for spiritual vitality (3:14-21) at the midpoint; concludes with Paul's encouragement for the church to "pray at all times ... for all the saints ... pray also for me" (6:18-19).

IMMEDIATE CONTEXT (3:14-21)

The text is a doxology that concludes Paul's prayer for the church. Paul prays ...

- In humility (3:14-15)
- Out of God's abundance (3:16a)
- For spiritual strength (3:16b-17a)
- For a knowledge of Christ's love (3:17b-19a)
- That they might be filled with all the fullness of God (19b)
- Doxology that celebrates God's capacity to do way more than we ask or even think to ask (3:20-21)

SERMON TONE

- Joyful, confident, praise

BIG IDEA

- The God Who does immeasurably more than we ask or imagine is worthy of glory and praise.

SERMON GOAL

- To build faith and evoke praise to the God who is large and in charge.

POSSIBLE SERMON OUTLINE

- Praise to the God Who is able (v. 20a)
- Praise to the God Whose answers are bigger than our prayers (v. 20b)
- Praise to the God Who works his power in us (v. 20c)
- Praise to the God Whose glory lasts forever (v. 21)

IDEAS FOR INTERACTING WITH THE TEXT

- How is the God in this text different from the small, tame, unobtrusive, god-is-my-copilot theology of much of the American church?
- What are some examples you've seen in your life and in the church where God's answers were bigger than your prayers? (You could also use examples provided in the Dixie Jackson material.)
- What kind of prayer is Paul referring to in our text? Is this a Kingdom-prayer, or does it apply to the size of one's home or the expense of one's car? Is God calling us to pray larger prayers?
- What does Paul mean by "the power that works in us"?
- What are some ways you could illustrate "forever and ever"?
- How can you apply this text to the Dixie Jackson offering?
- Where else do we find biblical support that God can do the impossible?
- Where do you see the Gospel in this text?

IMAGINE

PROMOTING DIXIE JACKSON IN YOUR CHURCH

By John McCallum
Senior Pastor, First Baptist Hot Springs

First Baptist Church of Hot Springs talks a lot about missions. We are also a church that puts our money where our mouth is when it comes to the CP, Lottie, Annie, and Dixie. Our people hit our goals for three reasons: (A) We have a missions heart; (B) We have nurtured generosity in our people; and (C) We do a good job of promotion.

Here's how we have promoted the Dixie Jackson the last couple of years:

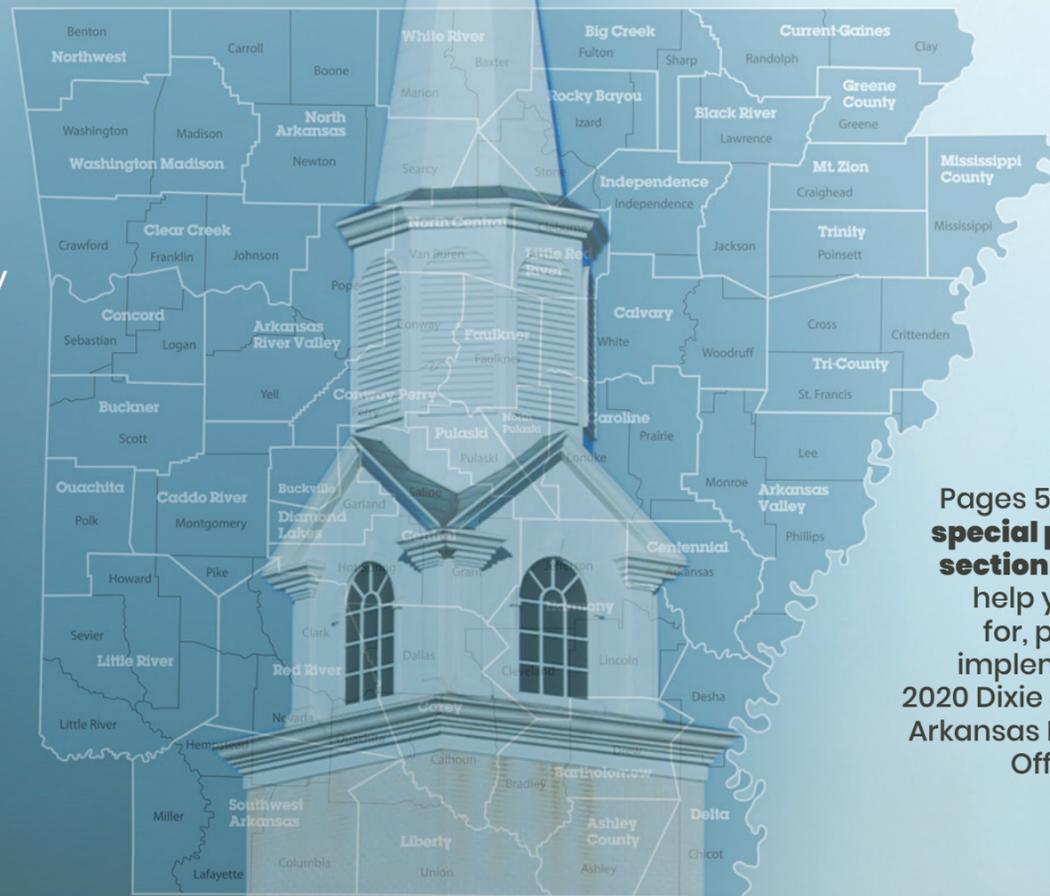
- 1. We set a goal.** We look at what we gave the previous year, and we typically raise it anywhere from 5–10 percent.
- 2. We distribute the Prayer Guide** and tell them where they can access it online.
- 3. We use the videos** produced by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Over the course of three Sundays, we

▲ Here's how one church successfully promotes the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.

show one of the video stories just before we receive our morning offering.

4. We then show a graphic of the state of Arkansas with its county outlines. We have already divided our offering goal by the 75 counties in Arkansas, so we know how much money we need per county. I say something about one or two counties and challenge people to give. Maybe the county has a prison in which we have a chaplain; maybe it's a county with poverty; maybe it's a county with universities; maybe it's a county with a number of new church plants; maybe it's a county that was home to a number of folks in the congregation. I mention that some can "give a county," but all can give something. I encourage them not to assume they should give what they gave the previous year but to ask God what they should give this year. I remind them that my wife and I have found that we can give more when we give to Dixie each September Sunday rather than giving one gift on one Sunday. And when I pray for the offering, I specifically pray for the Arkansas and the Dixie Jackson offering.

5. Each week when we show the graphic, we have **colored-in the number of counties equal to what's been given thus far.** Our state/county visual motivates giving and reminds them that we are not just collecting money, we are reaching into Arkansas with the Gospel. It's a real celebration when we reveal that all the counties are colored-in.



Pages 5–8 are a **special pull-out section** that will help you pray for, plan, and implement the 2020 Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering. ▶

DIXIE JACKSON ARKANSAS MISSIONS OFFERING

PLANNING GUIDE 2020

It's time to plan for the annual Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer, and this Planning Guide is designed to help you each step of the way. In the following pages and on absc.org/dixiejackson, you'll find ideas to spur your creativity as you engage your church in Arkansas Baptist missions efforts. This guide will also show that the theme of **Immeasurably More** applies to an immediate offering focus as well as to the partnership between your church and Arkansas Baptist ministries that stretch around the world.

Here are a few suggestions to help you get started:

PRAY

Before you dive into planning, spend time in focused prayer. Using the theme passage, Ephesians 3:20–21, pray that the Lord will ignite in your heart a passion to see how He can accomplish Immeasurably More through you and your church. Pray also for other Arkansas Baptists as they begin the same preparations during these weeks leading up to the Dixie Jackson Week of Prayer. Finally, pray that He will guide your preparations to fit the culture He has created in your church.

PLAN

Successful planning always starts well before an event takes place. Allow plenty of time to familiarize yourself with the resources both in the Planning Guide and online at absc.org/dixiejackson. Consider how much time it will take to recruit a team, implement promotion and engagement strategies, and lay a foundation of awareness in your church before the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer roll around.

IMPLEMENT

To put your plan into action, you will need help! Even in small churches, it's hard for one person to launch a successful Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering campaign alone. Just having one additional helper can make all the difference! You know the identity and culture of your church, and you know what is needed to help your congregation understand how closely they are connected to the stories they will hear during the Week of Prayer emphasis. Use that knowledge to recruit a team and present the information in a way that will educate and motivate your church.

The following pages offer guidelines and suggestions to help you get started. You probably won't incorporate all of these ideas, nor should you feel bound to follow them to the letter. Instead, let this be a guide. Feel free to chat with other churches for more inspiration or to contact the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Missions Team if you want additional help.

Above all, be prayerful and enthusiastic as you present this year's information, and watch to see how God can accomplish immeasurably more through your church.

DJ

A successful Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer campaign does not have to be complicated, but it does need to include the entire church. Below you will find some suggestions for engaging your congregation leading up to and during the Week of Prayer:

- Songs make information more memorable. As you promote the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer, choose a song that emphasizes the theme of *Immeasurably More*. This may be a familiar hymn, a contemporary song that is new to your congregation, or even an original chorus written by a church member for the occasion. In the weeks leading up to the Week of Prayer, use the song as special music, as soft background music for all presentations, on social media, and in any other appropriate slots. The goal is to cause your church members to think of Arkansas Baptist missions opportunities every time they hear that song.
- Host a fellowship potluck, progressive dinner, grounds party, or some other event to officially kick off the Week of Prayer. Set up displays highlighting the stories about Disaster Relief, BCM, church planting, and the prison seminary. During the event, either show the videos of each story or use the material from your Planning Guide to tell the stories. Divide into small groups or by table, and assign a prayer emphasis to each group. Allot time for focused prayer for each request. Wrap up the dinner with a unified commitment time as you enter the Week of Prayer.
- During the Week of Prayer, publicize a designated prayer time for each day, encouraging church members to set an alarm for that time and stop to pray for one to two minutes when the alarm goes off. Using social media or text messaging, send out each day's prayer emphasis about 15 minutes before the prayer time as a reminder.

- Using Wei Lun Tay's story as inspiration, connect with an international missionary who ended up serving overseas because of a ministry supported by the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering. For example, this could be someone who was introduced to international missions through a BCM-sponsored missions trip or was formerly a member of a multicultural church like Oasis. If possible, set up a Zoom Q&A session where the missionary can interact with church members and answer questions. If that's not possible, ask for a prerecorded testimony outlining ways the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering helped them to share Christ far beyond the borders of Arkansas. Use this as an example of how God mobilizes Arkansas Baptists to accomplish *immeasurably more* for the Kingdom, even reaching around the world!
- Use the information on the back of your Planning Guide to help your congregation set a tangible offering goal. For instance, encourage your church to focus on helping an inmate earn a bachelor's degree in Christian Ministry. Let that dollar amount guide your offering goal, your promotional emphasis, and even the displays you place around the church.



In advertising, a customer needs to see information about a product multiple times before making a decision to purchase. The ministry of the gospel is infinitely more important than a product or service, but the principle is the same: Your congregation needs to see information quite a few times before they will become convinced of the need to participate. This is why displays are integral in the weeks leading up to the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer. Given enough time and visibility, even the simplest of displays can make an impression on the hearts and minds of your congregation. Here are some suggestions to help you get started:

- Go to absc.org/dixiejackson and order posters to put on bulletin boards in the hallways, in Sunday school rooms, or even on an easel in the sanctuary or foyer.
- Collect pictures of church members engaging in Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions efforts, or go to absc.org/dixiejackson and order Ministry Picture Sets. On a sheet of poster board, write the words "Immeasurably More" in large block letters. Use the pictures to create photo montages inside the letters, showing Arkansas Baptists engaged in missions. Above the letters, write, "God can use our church to accomplish *Immeasurably More!*" At the bottom, write this year's theme verses, Ephesians 3:20-21.
- Using pictures and some poster board, replicate a Zoom meeting screen shot. Across the top, write "Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions." Fill the rest of the poster board with pictures of faces representing Arkansas Baptists involved in missions in Arkansas and around the world. Leave the center blank. In the blank space write, "Who's missing? You!"
- Create a visual to show how the simple act of giving to the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering can impact the entire world with the gospel. Use a world map or create a map of your own with Arkansas in the center. Draw roots over Arkansas, then draw four vines spreading out throughout the United States and around the world. Label each vine with one of the four focus ministries: Disaster Relief, BCM, church planting, and community missions. This display can also be used to show progress toward your offering goal. Find colorful push pins, and

create small image cutouts to represent each of the four ministries. For instance, Disaster Relief could be a tree or a chainsaw. Use a graduation cap for BCM, a Bible or church building for church planting, and a stack of books for the prison Christian Ministries program. Every time you reach a milestone toward your goal — every \$100, for instance — use a push pin to attach an image to one of the vines. When the vines are full, celebrate reaching your goal!

- God can accomplish much even with something as simple as loose change! Set up four clear plastic containers in strategic locations throughout the church, and encourage church members to drop in loose change even as they pray over their larger missions offering. Label the containers as follows:
 - **BCM:** Reaching the lost through life relationships.
 - **Disaster Relief:** Comforting the lost with tangible help and the hope of Christ.
 - **Church Planting (Oasis):** Reaching the world through Little Rock's international community.
 - **Prison Ministry:** Turning life sentences into ministry opportunities through solid, Christ-focused education.

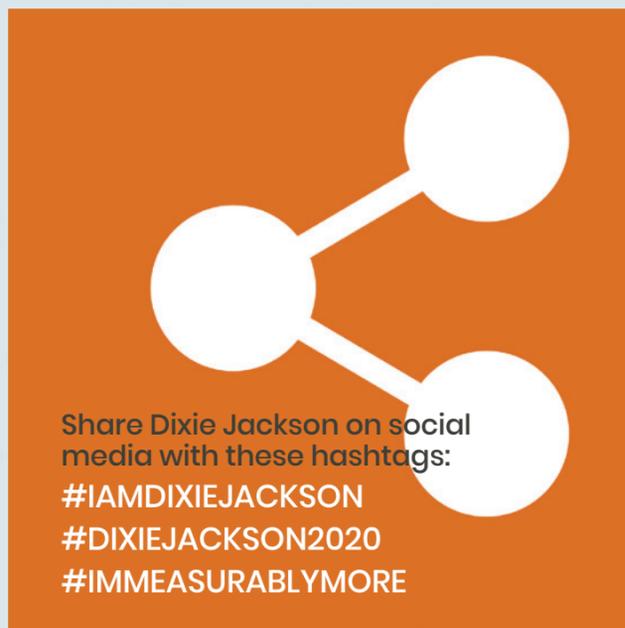


DJ SOCIAL MEDIA IDEAS

This strange year has taught many churches a great deal about engaging digitally. Take advantage of those new skills and forms of engagement as you promote the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer this year! Start by using some of the same principles applied during the spring months when churches were not meeting in person. What worked best for the unique personality of your church? Utilize those ideas again now, making use of the digital resources available at absc.org/dixiejackson.

Here are some additional suggestions to help engage church members during the promotion week:

- Find out where your church members primarily engage, and focus your social media attention there. Whether it's Pinterest, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or somewhere else, make sure to post something every day for at least a week leading up to the Week of Prayer. This could be as simple as a reminder that the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering Week of Prayer is coming soon, consistently highlighting Ephesians 3:20-21 and the *Immeasurably More* theme. During the Week of Prayer, make sure to share the prayer focus for each day.
- If your church does not already have one, create a Pinterest account. Build two Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer boards, one for planning and another for promotion. Invite planning team members to collaborate and share ideas on the planning board. Use the promotion board to share pins with church members.
- Start by visiting absc.org/dixiejackson to find a variety of pre-made pins to save to your board. Use pins to link the Planning Guide, Resource Order Form, and any other resources for quick access by all planning team members.
- Use additional pins from absc.org/dixiejackson to make resources such as videos and the Week of Prayer timeline available to your congregation.
- Create digital versions of any displays used around the church. This may be accomplished by taking pictures of the existing displays. Or, if you have someone in your church skilled in graphic design, ask them to create a special digital version. Post these to your Dixie Jackson promotion board.
- Create a pin for each daily prayer emphasis. Pin and share the relevant prayer focus each day of the Week of Prayer.
- Create a pin for the theme verse, Ephesians 3:20-21.
- Has your church been involved in ongoing Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions opportunities? Create pins with images from those missions opportunities or pins that link to posts on your website highlighting those experiences.
- Utilize Facebook Live, or record videos with short testimonies from church members who have been involved in Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions opportunities. Share one 2-4 minute testimony each day during the week leading up to the Week of Prayer.
- Using Zoom or Facebook Live, host a Q&A session with someone engaged in Disaster Relief, BCM, church planting, or prison ministry. You may choose someone connected to or known by your church, or call the Arkansas Baptist State Convention offices to set up a good contact. (Be sure to act early to both secure the interview and make sure church members set aside the interview time to be fully engaged in the Q&A session!)



Share Dixie Jackson on social media with these hashtags:
#IAMDIXIEJACKSON
#DIXIEJACKSON2020
#IMMEASURABLYMORE

DIXIE JACKSON-SUPPORTED MINISTRY

DISASTER RELIEF

Summer camp is a staple for many churches. In Arkansas, Camp Siloam in Siloam Springs has stood for years as a standard of that camp experience. But on the morning of Sunday, June 23, 2019, a fierce storm felled trees all over the camp property, blocking the entrance and resting on buildings and power lines. Unless director Jason Wilke and his staff could clean up the mess in the next 24 hours, there was no way they could welcome the 850 campers expected to arrive early Monday afternoon.



One volunteer suggested they call Randy Garrett to see if Disaster Relief could help. Within three hours, crews from Siloam Springs, Clarksville, and Rogers were mobilized and had arrived with their chainsaws. Working in the persistent rain, with camp staffers helping clear limbs and branches, the crews tackled the fallen trees, prioritizing power lines and buildings to enable power restoration and camp preparation. By 10:00 Monday morning, the chaos was completely cleared. As campers began to arrive a few hours later, no evidence remained of the damage that had



been done by the storm. That week saw 27 salvations, with dozens more committing to missions and ministry.

A similar scene played out in Jonesboro recently, in the late afternoon hours of Saturday, March 28, when an EF-3 tornado ripped through neighborhoods and downtown stores. As the storm cleared, Josh and Paige Vicks, members of Journey Church in Jonesboro, stepped out of their shelter to discover that a huge tree had fallen between their house and the neighbor's home, causing roof damage. Kevin Anthony, next generation and student pastor at Journey, and his wife Brenna rejoiced that they, their daughters, and Brenna's father had been sheltered from injury, but massive damage to their roof left their home exposed to the elements.



Both families quickly began checking on neighbors and friends and were relieved to discover that all of them had survived and were already jumping in to help one another. But despite their willingness, it was soon obvious that the available tools were inadequate to the massive task before them. Fortunately, Disaster Relief assessment teams were already on the scene. By early Sunday morning, crews were at work, clearing the tree away from the Vicks' home, building a temporary roof to protect the Anthonys' home, and helping many others throughout the damaged communities. Local residents banded together, carrying limbs and debris and doing whatever they could to maximize the efforts of the Disaster Relief crews.

"I've always heard stories about what Disaster Relief does, and you appreciate those stories," Jason Wilke explains, "but when they come and meet your need, it moves it to a different level."

Kevin Anthony agrees. "We're the ones that always would go. All of a sudden now there's people here for us, and so I just felt like it was the most tangible expression of the gospel that I've ever seen."

In both situations, the long-term impact was powerful. The selfless investment of Disaster Relief volunteers, combined with local believers helping serve their neighbors in any way possible, left community members open to hearing about the Gospel in ways they'd never been receptive before. Even times of crisis and disaster can provide God with the opportunity to accomplish immeasurably more through His people.

DIXIE JACKSON-SUPPORTED MINISTRY

COLLEGE MINISTRY

We often don't realize how far a single act of obedience can reach until we hear stories like Wei Lun Tay's.

Wei Lun grew up in Malaysia where Buddhism is not only an integral part of his culture and tradition, it was the core of his identity. When he was presented with the opportunity to travel to a place called Conway, Arkansas, to study as an international student, he had no idea this experience would result in a completely new identity.



Before Wei Lun ever arrived in Conway, God was already using Arkansas Baptists to pave the way for Wei Lun to be introduced to Jesus Christ. Because Arkansas Baptists support Baptist Collegiate Ministries through the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering, people like Ryan Scantling have been able to establish thriving ministries on campuses throughout Arkansas. At

the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, Ryan met a student named Caleb Wunstel and invited him to attend a BCM worship gathering. Although Caleb had grown up attending church, he was not in a good place spiritually at the time, and he strongly resisted the invitation. But at the urging of his mother, Caleb gave in, accepted Ryan's invitation, and immediately fell in love with the worship and community the BCM had to offer.

Caleb met Wei Lun while playing volleyball with a group

of friends, and the two quickly became very close. But the differences in their religion didn't occur much to either of them until Caleb heard a fellow BCM student witness to another international student. Suddenly, it hit Caleb that his best friend was lost.

Caleb began to talk to Wei Lun about Jesus and introduced him to some BCM friends. As Wei Lun got to know more students from the BCM, he even attended a few worship gatherings. But, something inside of him was confused and disturbed. The more his friends talked to him about Jesus, the more he realized Christianity went against the core of his identity as a Buddhist. He found himself in a dark place, struggling with depression as his uncertainty grew.

In the middle of this utter confusion, Wei Lun was certain of one thing. "I know Caleb is my best friend," Wei Lun told himself, "and I don't think he's going to harm me in any way."

He talked to Caleb and another close friend about his uncertainty. "Pray to God," they encouraged him, "See if He's actually real. If He's real, He will answer you." So, Wei Lun prayed. And God answered! For the first time in his life, Wei Lun felt the presence of God and believed.

Wei Lun exchanged his depression and confusion for a new identity and a new joy. But this new identity was accompanied by the realization that his family was still lost. He wanted to share the love of Jesus with them, and he knew he needed help. So Wei Lun plans to return to his home country, and with the help of his new friends share the Gospel with his family and others in his hometown.

Through the obedience of Arkansas Baptists, God is accomplishing immeasurably more than anyone could ever have imagined, using the ministry of the BCM to bring Caleb back to a restored relationship with Christ, introduce Wei Lun to Jesus for the first time, and ultimately carry the Gospel all the way to Malaysia.

DIXIE JACKSON-SUPPORTED MINISTRY

CHURCH PLANTING

When God sets the stage for His Gospel to spread through a new church plant, He rarely calls just one person. Instead, He plants His vision in multiple hearts, drawing their different passions and talents to a unified focus. Such has been the case with Oasis Church in Hillcrest.

Those familiar with the landscape of Little Rock know that it's hard to start anything new in Hillcrest. Property for building is scarce and expensive, and there are few vacancies for taking over an existing location. But for those with a heart for multicultural ministry, there is almost no better place to focus than Hillcrest, and that was the passion God had laid on the hearts of Jordan Bowen, Kent Wiles, and Pranay Borde.

Jordan and Pranay met in college, where they built a deep friendship through discipleship and ministry. Over time, Jordan and his wife became passionate about planting a multicultural church in Hillcrest, and it seemed only natural that they should invite Pranay to join them.

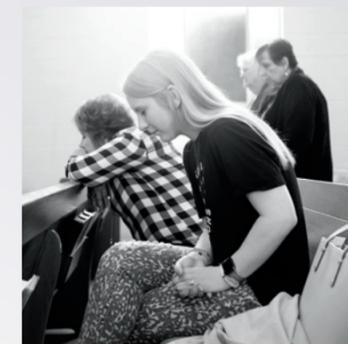
Pranay's commitment to ministry started in his home country of India, in a city called Pune. God provided an avenue for Pranay to travel to the United States as an international student seeking training for his ministry calling. Although he'd been involved in youth and Sunday school ministry in Pune, Pranay had no idea what vocational ministry would look like for him. When he moved to Conway to attend Central Baptist College, God used the friendship and mutual discipleship he experienced with Jordan to open doors for Pranay to share Jesus with the thousands of Indians and Southeast Asians living right around him in central Arkansas!

About this same time, God also brought Kent Wiles back to his home state to pastor a church with which Jordan was affiliated. As the two pastors worked together to serve the community, they grew to realize that they were, as Jordan describes it, "better together, not only as co-pastors, but as a body of a church."

When God granted the passion, He also provided the needed facilities through a connection with Woodlawn Baptist Church. Under the leadership of Pastor Mitch Tapson, Woodlawn offered to share their building in Hillcrest with Oasis Church. In Pastor Mitch and Woodlawn Baptist, the trio found solid partners in ministry. Woodlawn provided a place to meet, and Oasis sparked a fresh enthusiasm in an established church needing a measure of revitalization.

On their own, none of these pastors had the ability to see the dream of a thriving, multicultural ministry in Hillcrest come to fruition. But the God Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine is fully capable of bringing together three men, including one from the other side of the world, to combine their strengths and start a ministry. From His abundant resources, this same God is fully able to provide space at an established church, that the ministry might grow. And this God can even bring all Arkansas Baptists together in prayer, in giving, and in service to stand alongside Oasis Church, empowering this ministry to reach people with connections and homes around the world.

God takes the offering of one and multiplies it to accomplish immeasurably more than any one of us could ever imagine.



DIXIE JACKSON-SUPPORTED MINISTRY

COMMUNITY MISSIONS

God's ability to do immeasurably more extends to places that most of us will never go, including prisons in Arkansas.

Although numerous programs and ministries exist in the prison system, they often overlook an important segment of the prison population: those serving long-term or life sentences. But in August 2019, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis partnered with Arkansas Baptists and the Arkansas Department of Corrections to provide an accredited four-year degree in Christian Ministries that targets this very population. The Christian Ministries track not only enables the inmates to earn a

bachelor's degree, it also equips them to minister to a community desperately in need of the Gospel.

Robert Rockett is one of those students. His first arrest came at age 16. Within a few years, Robert had already been released and re-arrested two more times, which resulted in a life sentence. Over the years, Robert embarked on a series of spiritual journeys, exploring Islam, Buddhism, and other religions. His desire was to seek God, and God responded, directing Robert to Himself and changing his life—even a life that would be spent in prison.

Having explored so many belief systems, Robert knows what it's like to not have a right view of God. Even though his eyes had been opened to the one true God, he knew that he still needed to grow in his understanding. He also knew that, by studying for himself, he'd be able to minister better to others. "Having an understanding and being able to do something with it—that meant a lot to me."

Each class Robert has taken so far has impacted him uniquely. A Christian education course showed Robert just how much all of his education over the years has impacted him. Although music falls well outside his strengths and talents, his music class taught him a lot about how he learns, preparing him for other classes that are challenging to him. Philosophy has opened his eyes to topics and ideas he'd never encountered, and his Old Testament class has given him a better understanding of God's Word.

Robert wants to help his fellow inmates understand the truth about who God is, whether they're in for the long haul like he is or are anticipating release back into society. The more he learns through his classes, the more he is able to articulate and communicate the love and truth of God to those around him. His desire is to help them go beyond a general knowledge of God to a true, personal relationship with Him. He knows he has a hard audience, but he's determined to help them see that they are loved children of God.

For so long, Robert found closed doors every time he tried to become involved in programs to help him learn and grow. But thanks to the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and the faithful giving and prayers of Arkansas Baptists, Robert is now a missionary. Miraculously, God is allowing Arkansas Baptists and men like Robert to join forces, accomplishing immeasurably more than we could imagine.



I AM DIXIE JACKSON

[ABSC.ORG/DIXIEJACKSON](https://absc.org/dixiejackson)

DJ



WHAT YOUR OFFERING PROVIDES

- \$5** buys three baby bottles given to a new mom.
- \$20** buys a bilingual Bible to help engage unreached people groups in Arkansas.
- \$30** provides 10 disposable lab coats for medical/dental clinics.
- \$30** provides book/supplies for a young lady to complete an abortion recovery program.
- \$50** provides 10 N95 masks.
- \$50** provides a bulk box of pregnancy tests for pregnancy resource centers.
- \$90** provides a box of 24 face shields for medical/dental clinics.
- \$90** provides personal protection equipment (PPE) for one disaster relief flood recovery volunteer.
- \$125** provides an infant car seat and diaper bag full of newborn supplies for a mom who has completed the required classes.
- \$200** provides a portable sound system used by prison chaplains.
- \$215** provides a water trough/tub for church planters to use on-site for baptisms.
- \$375** provides a portable oxygen tank for medical clinics.
- \$675** provides a polisher for dental clinics.
- \$815** provides one AED 815 emergency defibrillator for medical/dental clinics.
- \$1,400** provides one portable dental chair for dental clinics.

DJ

 **Arkansas**
BAPTISTS

Arkansas Baptist State Convention
10 Remington Drive ■ Little Rock, AR 72204
501-376-4791 ■ absc.org

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