



CONVOY OF HOPE®

MISSIONS RESOURCE KIT

MOBILIZE YOUR CHURCH **ALL YEAR LONG**

Leader's
Guide

UNITE
WITH MISSIONS VISION

ENGAGE
YOUR NEIGHBORS

EMPOWER
WOMEN LIKE JESUS DOES

SERVE
YOUR CITY

RESPOND
TO DISASTER

SHARE
THE IMPACT

GROW
YOUR FRAMEWORK
FOR COMPASSION

PRAY
FOR MISSIONS

EMBRACE
YOUR COMMUNITY

INVEST
IN FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

EQUIP
WITH COMPASSION

CELEBRATE
GOD'S WORK THROUGH US





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USING THE MISSIONS RESOURCE KIT

These tools were designed with your church in mind.

Convoy of Hope has worked with churches across the United States and around the world for more than 30 years. Our goal has always been to support churches that are making a difference in their communities.

Decades of experience have yielded both lessons learned and guiding principles that honor Christ and his heart for the least of these. We are now sharing those directly with pastors through this resource!

This kit is
designed
to help your
church:

- Develop a missions approach centered on compassion
- Build strong partnerships in your community
- Engage and mobilize your congregation
- Share the story of impact effectively
- Connect with Convoy of Hope for resources and support

USING THE MISSIONS RESOURCE KIT

Strategically

Follow these practical steps:

Step 1 **Recruit your team**
(see pages 9-10).

Step 2 **Train your team**
(see pages 7-8, 20-23).

Step 3 **Jump into the
content for the
season you are
currently in!**

Example:

Pastor Smith picks up the Missions Resource Kit in June and begins by recruiting and training his team. It takes him about six weeks to do these steps, and it is nearly August when he is ready to jump into the content. Pastor Smith can either start in Season 2 with relevant activities or start with Season 3.

The content for each season is fully customizable. You can choose to incorporate each activity as it is presented or customize and adapt the ideas to fit you. This resource is for you — let the structure be a starting place and not a restriction.

USING THE MISSIONS RESOURCE KIT

Recruit and train your team using pages 7-10 and 20-23, then jump into whichever season you're in!





EMBRACING GOD'S HEART FOR MISSIONS

The narrative of Scripture ...

The narrative of Scripture reveals God's heart to send his children to love both their neighbor and the foreigner. He wants us to join him in his mission — reconciling all people to himself. Whether for a church or an individual, missions is the process of discovering your unique role in God's plan to redeem the world.

Every believer has a role in the Great Commission, shared in Matthew 28, to “make disciples of all nations.” The mandate is echoed in Acts 1:8 when believers are instructed to “be [Christ's] witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” These locations point to a structure that includes the nearest to the farthest in God's plan to reach the world.

Join God in His Mission

Consider: What is your church's unique role in local, regional, and global missions? If you're not sure yet, that's OK!

The Missions Resource Kit is designed to help you make missions part of your church, whether you already have a vision or need a starting place.

EMBRACING GOD'S HEART FOR MISSIONS



Local Missions

This is Jerusalem — the community where God has established your church. Story after story in Acts portrays the church's role in loving and serving its own community. As the early Christians broke bread, cared for the sick, and showed tangible love, their neighbors were drawn to the truth of the Gospel. In the same way, your church has unique opportunities to love those God has placed in your radius of influence.

Regional Missions

This is Judea and Samaria. Judea is the larger community of believers outside of your immediate congregation. This may look like partnering with churches and organizations outside of your four walls to contribute to God's work in your greater community. Sometimes simply looking beyond your neighborhood reveals a world of need and opportunity to serve! For our purposes, Samaria represents the under-resourced, the marginalized, or those who may be seen as outsiders. Are there populations in your area that are overlooked or have needs that go unseen? Samaria means going to those who make us uncomfortable, following the example of Jesus.

Global Missions

"To the end of the earth" expands the missions mandate to include the rest of the globe. Your church can send, give, pray, or go to reach those far from home. Global missions asks the question: "How am I using my resources to join God in his mission around the world?"



Want to dive deeper?

Check out our reading list here!

BUILDING YOUR TEAM

Your church's role in missions is bigger than one person! Building a team ensures that missions objectives are executed while allowing more people to get involved! This team can be led by the lead pastor, executive pastor, or associate pastor. Look for the four types of people below to assemble a missions "dream team."

1

CARER

a "feeler"; strong heart for ministry, public service, and advocacy

Ideal Candidates counselor, social worker, intercessor

Primary Responsibility
Shares updates from recipients

Secondary Responsibility
Leads prayer and ministry opportunities.

2

COUNTER

detail-oriented; shapes processes, understands numbers and budgets

Ideal Candidates banker, financial planner, accountant

Primary Responsibility
Identifies and interprets data throughout the year in preparation for reporting and celebrating impact in December

Secondary Responsibility
Creates reports to support ongoing communication

3

COMMUNICATOR

natural speaker and/or writer; supports updates to staff and congregation

Ideal Candidates
associate pastor, teacher, public speaker

Primary Responsibility
Owns communication among team members, beneficiaries (if applicable), and leadership

Secondary Responsibility
Assists in training the team using materials provided by Convoy of Hope and/or supplemental materials

4

COORDINATOR

thorough planner; creates organization and guides orderly implementation

Ideal Candidates
administrator, program manager

Primary Responsibility
Records team notes, plans, responsibilities, and deadlines; helps with distribution of labor toward action items

Secondary Responsibility
Provides updates to leadership regarding progress and supplies or support needed

BUILDING YOUR TEAM



How often should we meet?

- This can vary, but we suggest once per quarter, or as often as needed to plan and execute each month's mission objective as outlined in the "Plan Your Year" sections.
- Consider an end-of-year meeting where you celebrate wins and plan for the next year.

What do we discuss at team meetings?

- The first meeting will be an overview of the team's intentions and vision-casting from the lead pastor.
- Subsequent meetings will involve recaps of previous meetings, assessments of what's working well and what needs improvement, and the amount of missions dollars brought in and spent.
- When able, share feedback and updates from local/global missions recipients.

YOUR ONE DAY TRANSFORMS THEIR EVERY DAY

As you explore this guide, you will find topics and activities each month to support your church's journey in missions. Many of the ideas in the Missions Resource Kit are meant to bring transformation close to home — to your neighbors and community.

The Great Commission also expands our missions focus farther, to the “rest of the world.” Hosting a *One Day to Feed the World* Sunday offers your church a way to send help and hope across the world.

One Day can be scheduled any time during the Missions Resource Kit timeline, allowing flexibility to schedule what works best for your church. At the right, you will find notes about various time windows and suggestions for how they might work for you.



All the resources
you need can be
found right here!

CONVOY OF HOPE
ONE DAY
to **FEED the WORLD**

Opportunities for Generosity

March/April

Easter and the surrounding weekends are among the year's largest-attended church services. A *One Day* offering shows you are committed to relieving suffering and meeting real needs.

September/October

Build on the momentum of families heading back to school. Invite families to bless parents and children around the world with food, supplies, and access to education and opportunity through *One Day*.

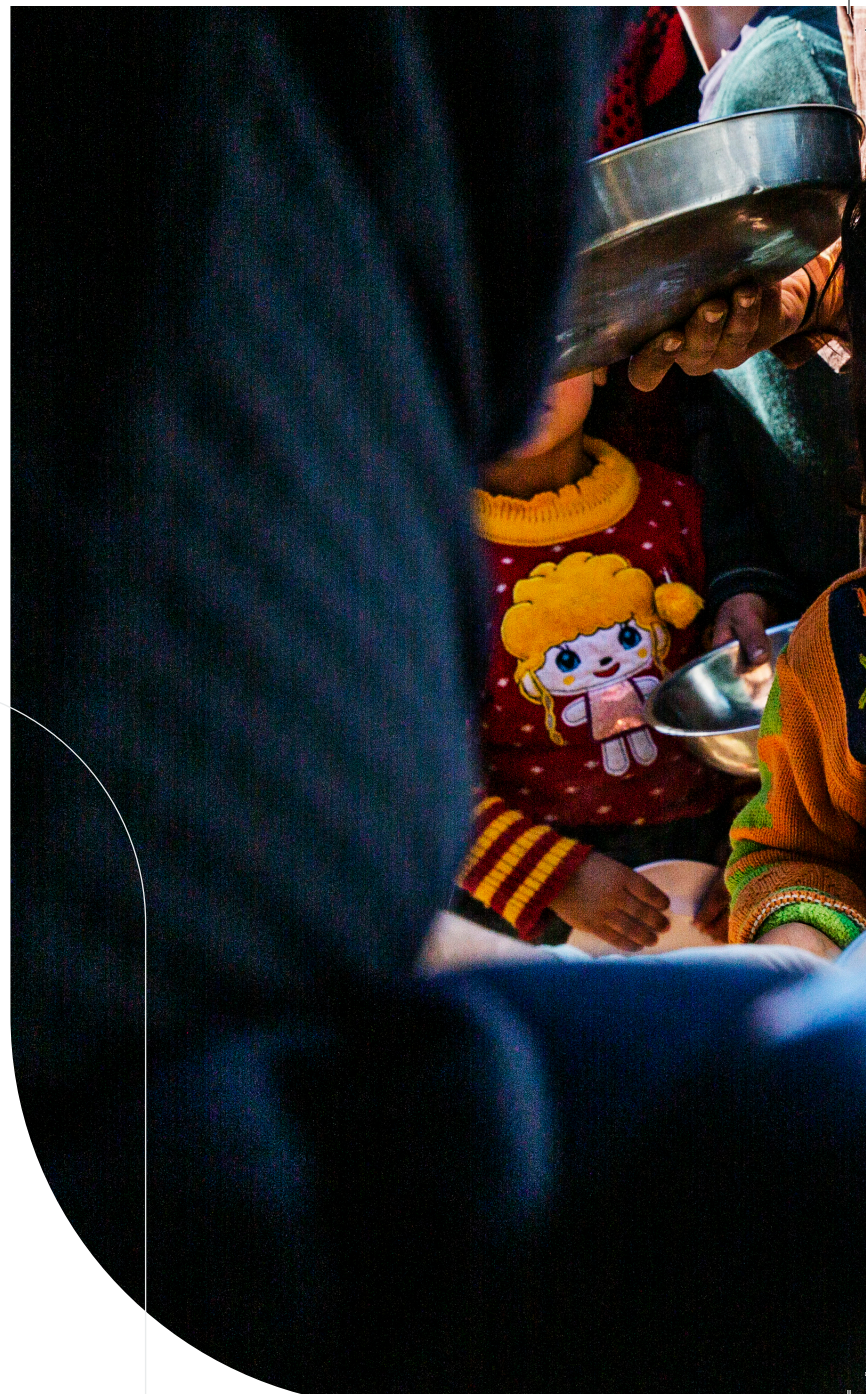
November/December

Kick off the most generous season of the year by highlighting those who need it most. Bring a global focus to your holiday programs by sending hope!

WE HAVE THE RESOURCES YOU NEED FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL GIVING

Convoy of Hope's *One Day to Feed the World* campaign is a simple way for you, your church, and your family to transform the lives of those who are impoverished, hungry, and suffering. By giving one day's wage, you provide people with nutritious food, access to safe drinking water, and an opportunity for a brighter future through training and education.

It's about equal sacrifice, not equal giving.
Work One Day, Give One Day



DID YOU KNOW?

More than 2.3 billion people are currently facing food insecurity. Of those, 864 million people are severely food insecure, posing grave risks to their health and well-being.

Almost 700 million people live below the \$2.15 per day poverty line worldwide.*

Like you, Convoy of Hope finds this unacceptable. We believe every life has value. Because of that, we are determined to bring help and hope to those who are hurting.

*Statistics obtained from reports published by the UN Food Programme and the World Bank Group.



Follow the QR code to find videos, print materials, and the support you'll need to host a memorable day of giving that creates real and lasting transformation.

Preparation

Season 1

This season, the call to action is *Preparation*.

Preparation for a year that is Gospel-driven, community-centered, and missions-focused.

During this season, unite your congregation's heart with your missions vision. The content provided for this season will get you started, OR you can simply incorporate *Preparation* into your existing strategy. Either way, this focus will challenge and inspire your people as you start a new year.

Remember, the content and order for each season are optional. Use the ideas in the following pages as inspiration to support what God is doing in YOUR church!





THEMES THIS SEASON:

- **Unite** January
- **Grow** February
- **Engage** March
- **Pray** April

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UNITE

Cast Vision

This month is all about strategizing your approach alongside the Missions Resource Kit. Working through the resources for this month, you will consider how topics and activities fit within your greater church culture. This is the time to begin sharing the vision God has placed in your heart for missions at your church. The steps on the next page help you put that vision into words.

Get Practical

A basic explanation of God's heart for missions can be found on pages 7-8. This is a starting place you can build from when sharing with your team or congregation.



- Sign Up for the Quarterly Call
- Ask Questions
- Hear From Convoy Experts
- Network & Connect

THINK IT OUT

Clarify the vision with your team and congregation.

► **My church is best positioned to reach these local populations (circle all that apply):**

- Refugees
- The working poor
- The homeless
- Our neighborhood
- Local schools
- Single moms
- The fatherless
- Those with mental health concerns
- The grieving
- Other _____

► **The global people groups and locations nearest to my church's heart:**

- _____
- _____
- _____
- I'm not sure! I look forward to learning more about what God is doing around the world through Convoy of Hope's resources. (Follow the QR code on page 17 to explore!)

The next page will help you integrate this month's content into the life of your church. You'll find these planning pages throughout the Leader's Guide! Choose to work on them as each new month approaches, or plan ahead by completing each of them now!

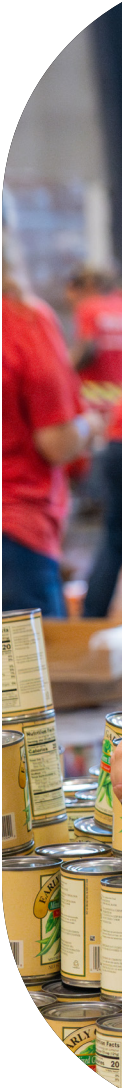
► **The strongest resources or strengths of my church include (circle all that apply):**

- Finance – Many congregants are high earners.
- Time – We have retirees and other congregants with time to volunteer.
- Skills – Many congregants have job skills they are willing to share, e.g., culinary, car or home repair, child care, etc.
- Influence – We have people in our congregation who have a voice in the community and significant local networks.

► **List the work that you already do (existing projects and service opportunities):**

- _____
- _____
- _____

Make connections: How might the resources and work described in the last two questions help the people and places listed in the first two?





Plan Your Year

► **Uniting With Missions Vision**

- January sermon series:

- January events:

- January programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and January's missions focus — Uniting With Missions Vision — so it feels cohesive?**

- Connections

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Understanding & Embracing Compassion

Share with your team or congregation the points and questions on the following pages to explore the biblical foundation for compassion and how it can be brought to life in your church.



GROW

We worship a compassionate God.

- ▶ The ram in the thicket for Abraham (Genesis 22:13)
- ▶ The big fish and the shade tree for Jonah (Jonah 1:17; 2:10; 4:5-6)
- ▶ The ravens that fed Elijah (1 Kings 17:1-6)
- ▶ “The Lord is gracious and COMPASSIONATE, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has COMPASSION on ALL he has made.” (Psalm 145:8-9, NIV)

We serve a compassionate Savior.

Jesus demonstrated this heart of compassion and the tenderness God feels toward his children in every miracle.

“Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, ‘Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!’

The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, ‘Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!’ Jesus stopped and called them. ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ he asked. ‘Lord,’ they answered, ‘we want our sight.’ Jesus had COMPASSION on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.” (Matthew 20:30-34, NIV)

“Jesus had compassion on them ...” The New Testament uses this phrase 11 times, and each use is followed by compassionate action. This reveals a pattern in Jesus’ life, one that we can follow according to Ephesians 4:32.

We don’t need more knowledge to make a difference in this broken world — we need to practice what we know.



GROW

Compassion shifts our mindset.

Compassion shifts our mindset from “That’s so sad” to “I can do something about this.” People who are full of compassion must be part of the solution. Compassion moves us from critical observation to real-life interaction. Once compassion consumes your life, you are no longer content to sit on the bench — you want to be in the game.

Compassion sees a need and runs to it, just like the father in the Parable of the Prodigal Son who RAN to meet the son who had once turned away from him! (Luke 15:11-32)

There’s no obligation in this response, but rather willing participation. Compassion disrupts the status quo and refuses to be passive toward human suffering.

Compassion isn’t a luxury. It’s a necessity.

Compassion means those who are BROKEN by life need to know that God is in the RESTORATION business. He loves to turn broken pieces into beautiful mosaics.

Compassion means suffering with another — literally, from the Latin, “with suffering.” When you suffer with someone, you experience empathy and concern for their suffering, looking for ways to meet their needs. THAT’S COMPASSION.

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with COMPASSION, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” (Colossians 3:12, NIV)

Discuss these questions as a team to build your shared understanding of biblical compassion and ways of expressing that through your church community.

- If you were describing God's character, is compassion one of the first words that would come to mind? Why or why not?
- Can you think of additional stories or verses that demonstrate God's compassion?
- How do you think this translates to our everyday lives? To the life and activity of our church?
- What are the situations and needs that pull at your heartstrings, moving you to feel empathy and want to act?
- Where do you see the biggest opportunities for your church to show compassion?



Dive deeper!

Find videos and more here.

Plan Your Year

► **Growing Your Framework for Compassion**

- February sermon series:

- February events:

- February programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and February's missions focus — Growing Your Framework for Compassion — so it feels cohesive?**

- Connections

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Dive deeper!
Find more resources,
including a customizable
Easter invite, here.



ENGAGE

Make Easter Missional

While the word missions often brings to mind the idea of going to the world, God is on mission in your neighborhood as well!

Without needing a passport or plane ticket, your congregation has a powerful opportunity to love those who need Jesus — Easter!

Your Easter celebration can deepen relationships with the neighbors and greater community of your church. Make your Easter missional this year by following a few simple steps.

First, take time to think about activities and components that will make your church experience more attractive and accessible to those who wouldn't normally attend.

Next, build a strong understanding of the mission for your congregation: What does it look like to welcome those who aren't familiar with church rhythms and behavior? How can you make your church feel like a family to people with negative associations of church? Create buy-in by inviting church members to volunteer to prepare and execute Easter activities.

Finally, customize and print the provided invitations so your congregation can invite neighbors, co-workers, and the community. Make sure to have these available at least two weeks before Easter Sunday!



Fun for the Family

While eggs and bunnies may be unrelated to Easter's true significance, an Easter egg hunt creates a reason for families to visit your church.

Follow the QR code on page 24 to find a video with tips on hosting a successful egg hunt!

Reach Out With Social Media

Another way to reach your community at Easter is through social media. Get creative! Host a virtual egg hunt on your social media pages with daily prizes, post videos with kids talking about Easter, or issue a challenge of some kind.



Will you host your *One Day* giving Sunday this month? Follow this QR code for everything you need!



Plan Your Year

► Engaging Your Neighbors

■ March sermon series:

■ March events:

■ March programs or themes:

► How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and March's missions focus — Engaging Your Neighbors — so it feels cohesive?

■ Connections

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PRAY

Prayer is crucial for believers to participate in the mission of God.

This missions-focused prayer guide will help you usher your team and congregation into a season of prayer for what God is doing around the world, beginning in your community.

Consider adding a missions-focused prayer moment in service for one week (or every week).

Provide intentional opportunities for your church to grow in missional prayer. Even a three-minute feature can help your congregation connect prayer life to missions. This is a powerful step toward serving and giving that comes from hearts filled with purpose.

Facilitate prayer using print materials and the YouVersion Bible app.

Involve the whole family by including children's and youth ministries in planning! Print prayer guides or share prayer points using your online platforms. To unite your congregation in prayer throughout the month, share the Missions-Focused Prayer plans in the YouVersion Bible app with 7-day and 30-day options.

PRAY



“Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.”

(Psalm 96:3, NIV)

“... everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?”

(Romans 10:13-15a, ESV)

“... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel ...”

(Ephesians 6:18-19, ESV)

“And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God ...”

(Colossians 1:9-10, ESV)

Praying Locally

- Pray for those who serve in the ministries of your church, that they would bear much fruit in discipleship.
- Pray for those who serve beyond the four walls of the church, that they would have patience and wisdom, and that God would give them opportunities to share the Gospel.
- Pray that your community would know the love of God and be drawn to him as your church family goes into their schools and places of work.

Add church-specific programs, projects, and ministries:

Praying Globally

- Pray that God would send workers into ripe fields, that many would answer the call to go where the Gospel is not known.
- Pray for protection and boldness for missionaries and believers around the world in places where it's unsafe to confess Christ.
- Pray that God would use your church to alleviate human suffering around the world — that hungry children would be nourished, the cycle of poverty would be broken, and dignity would be restored.

Add global prayer points specific to your church — missionaries, places, or people groups close to your heart:



Dive deeper! Follow the QR code for more resources, including a link to the Convoy of Hope prayer plans in the YouVersion Bible app.

Plan Your Year

► Praying for Missions

- April sermon series:

- April events:

- April programs or themes:

- **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and April's missions focus — Praying for Missions — so it feels cohesive?**

- Connections

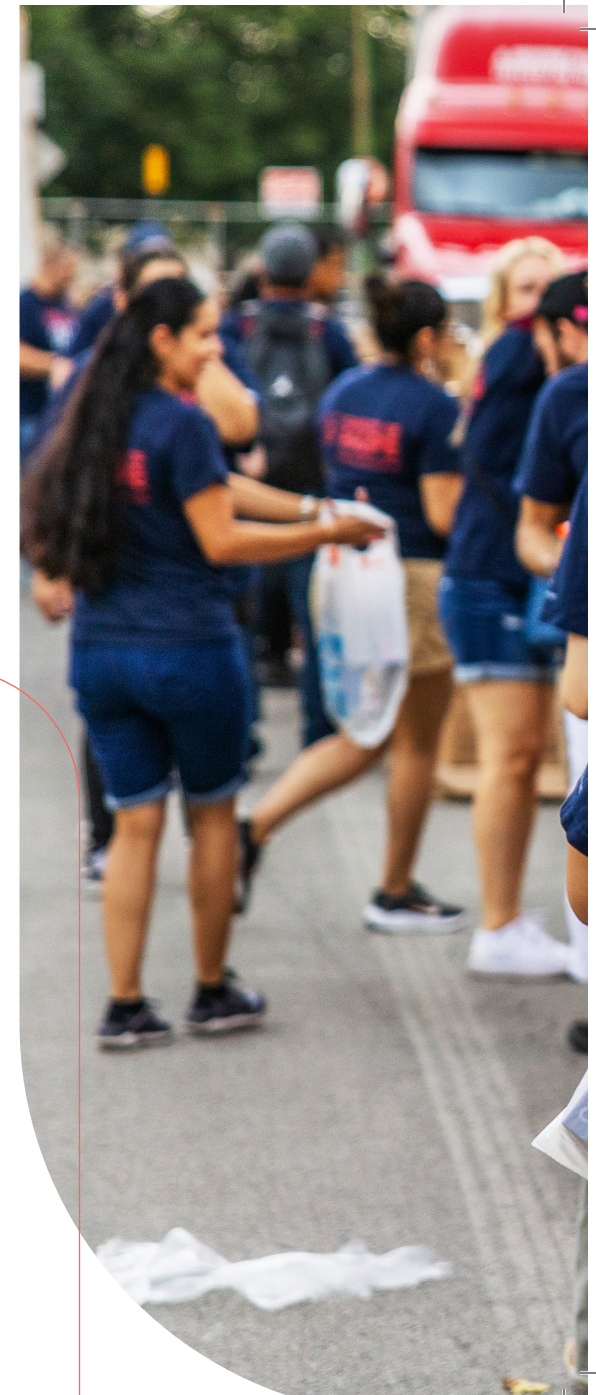
Community Outreach

Season 2

This season, the call to action is *Community Outreach* — literally reaching out to the community outside of your church's four walls with a tangible expression of love.

During this season, focus on ways that your church can (and does) have influence. The content provided will get you started, OR you can simply incorporate *Community Outreach* into your existing strategy. Get ready to see your people mobilized as they join the mission to reach the people closest to your church.

Remember, the content and order for each season are optional. Use the ideas in the following pages as inspiration to support what God is doing in YOUR church!





THEMES THIS SEASON:

- **Empower** May
- **Embrace** June
- **Serve** July
- **Invest** August

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**Watch
Ari's
story
here.**





EMPOWER

Why is there a global need for women's empowerment?

- Currently, 130 million girls worldwide are missing out on school.
- Twenty percent of women in the world will be married before they turn 18 years old. Many of those women will also be teen mothers.
- More than 736 million women have experienced assault in their lifetime.
- If women had the same access to education as men, the number of hungry people in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million.

Convoy of Hope's Women's Empowerment initiative:



Builds Individual
& Collective Resilience



Increases Agricultural
Productivity



Improves Health
& Well-Being



Strengthens Communities
& Social Capital



Expands Economic
Development

Ari, a single mother in Guatemala, went from feeling alone and unable to support her baby to being trained at the CADA Center (Center for Outreach, Development, and Friendship — CADA is the acronym in Spanish). She has even served as a teacher in the cosmetology area there! Watch her story in the video linked to the QR code on the previous page.

EMPOWER



Three Ways To Celebrate Mother's Day

Celebrate single moms.

- Host a "Mom's Night Off" by providing child care for an evening.
- Create self-care gift bags.
- Write notes of empowerment and encouragement on social media or on personal thank-you cards.
- Organize a day of family fun for single moms and their kids, allowing them to make memories.

Highlight Women's Empowerment in a service.

- Show your church how Jesus leads the way in women's empowerment with the Ari's Story video and talking points.*
- Invite church members to give \$25/month to empower women around the world.

Give a gift to Women's Empowerment to honor women and girls in your church.

Any of the gifts listed on the following page can be given on behalf of the women in your church. Simply choose the gift that you would like to provide and multiply it by the number of women you would like to empower. For example, if you would like to give nutritional supplements on behalf of 100 women in your church, you could give \$5,000 in their honor. Every gift helps break the cycle of poverty!



*Dive deeper!

Follow this QR code for all of the resources mentioned above and more.

Read below to discover giving options and what each accomplishes globally:

- **\$50** provides nutritional supplements for a mother and her family. This ensures that mothers have access to needed food and vitamins, and that their kids grow healthy and strong.
- **\$100** empowers four girls for an entire year in Convoy of Hope's Girls' Empowerment program. In this fun and educational after-school group, girls learn about culturally relevant issues such as emotional health, gender-based violence, harmful practices, and menstrual health.
- **\$300** provides a woman with startup capital for her business. This seed capital is a gift, not a loan, and may come in the form of equipment, livestock, or a sewing machine.
- **\$1,000** enrolls a woman in our economic empowerment group, which provides the education, training, and equipment a woman needs to start her own business.

Plan Your Year

► **Empowering Women Like Jesus Does**

- May sermon series:

- May events:

- May programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and May's missions focus — Empowering Women Like Jesus Does — so it feels cohesive?**

- Connections

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EMBRACE

Make a Difference Close to Home

This month, you have the opportunity to plan a neighborhood event that connects your church with at-risk neighbors, inviting them to be Guests of Honor. This event can become a bridge, establishing and deepening relationships in the community.

You will find ideas and tips in the resources this month to help you provide the quality goods and services the least-resourced people near your church genuinely need.

In addition, you can incorporate family experiences like games and food for Guests of Honor to enjoy while making memories and bonding with your church community. Your event does not have to happen in June — you can plan the event whenever it's best for your community. Consider communicating with trusted stakeholders to learn what timing may be the biggest blessing.

Refer to page 18 to brainstorm opportunities around you as well as the natural resources of your congregation.

EMBRACE

Best Practices at a Glance

- Make this more than a one-time event. Seek to build relationships!
- Schedule plenty of time to plan and prepare so your event succeeds with excellence and represents your church well.
- Communicate with city officials about event dates and necessary permits, and be sure to navigate overlapping scheduled events.
- Collaborate with community organizations to add value to the outreach event.
- Train your team leaders well and provide clear expectations.
- Treat your guests with the same honor and dignity God does.
- Pray with guests and give them an opportunity to talk about their lives.

Dive deeper! Follow the QR code for more resources, including content from experts at Convoy of Hope on planning and executing a fantastic community event.





Plan Your Year

► **Embracing Your Community**

■ June sermon series:

■ June events:

■ June programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and June's missions focus — Embracing Your Community — so it feels cohesive?**

■ Connections

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THE IMPACT

GROW
YOUR FRAMEWORK
FOR COMPASSION

PRAY
FOR MISSIONS

EMBRACE
YOUR COMMUNITY

INVEST
IN FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

EQUIP
WITH COMPASSION

CELEBRATE
GOD'S WORK THROUGH US



SERVE

Organize a Day of Service for Your City

Display compassion across your city as you serve in multiple locations on one powerful day. Potential projects are nearly limitless: Whether you serve nonprofits, schools, law enforcement, the homeless, hospitals, or other entities, your church can provide life-changing, tangible care and make a lasting difference.

Not sure how to choose your projects?

Here are two possibilities:

- Allow your small groups ministry to propose projects via their own relationships to be vetted and approved through the church.
- Have the church or missions team identify a list of appropriate projects and assign a group of people to each.



Dive deeper!

Find service project ideas and tips here.

SERVE

Questions To Guide Best Practices

- How can we engage our community?
 - ▶ What resources (skills, people, relationships, finances, time, buildings, etc.) are available?
 - ▶ What are the opportunities in my community? Ask schools, neighborhood associations, and city leaders.
 - ▶ Are there available resources that overlap with community opportunities? Revisit your responses from page 18 and update if needed.
- What is already being done? What areas of need can we fill?
- How can we implement projects **with** the community, not just **for** them?
- How can we ensure a servant approach with partner organizations rather than an in-charge approach?
- How can we clearly define details and expectations so volunteers will be engaged at the highest level?
- How can we use this as an opportunity to deepen community for our church family?





Plan Your Year

► **Serving Your City**

■ July sermon series:

■ July events:

■ July programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and July's missions focus — Serving Your City — so it feels cohesive?**

■ Connections

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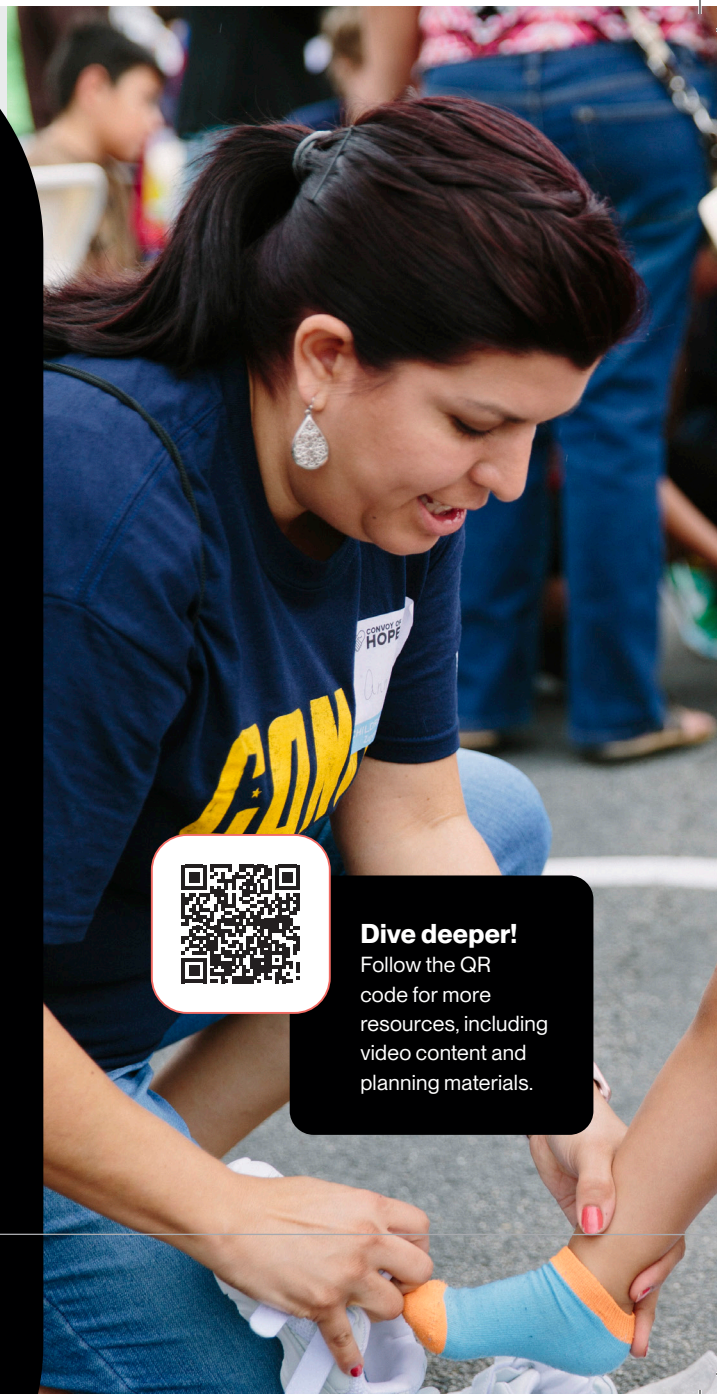
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Dive deeper!

Follow the QR code for more resources, including video content and planning materials.





INVEST

Get Connected

- Choosing a project: Talk to the school about what is genuinely needed rather than making assumptions. Look for relationships with the school that already exist through your church.
- Supporting a school event: Does the school have a back-to-school event on the calendar? How might your church be involved? What strengths and resources could you use to make the event a success?
- Partnering: Find out if there are other churches or organizations in your community that focus on back-to-school. Then, decide whether working together or doing it on your own is the best option for the community.

Discover What's Needed

- Talk with teachers to gather a list of supplies needed for each room or grade level.
- Find quality, inexpensive prepacked backpacks at bagsinbulk.com.
- Access Convoy of Hope's procurement ideas for individual items by following the QR code on the previous page.
- If you hold a school supply drive and ask people to donate supplies, make it clear that all items should be new. An Amazon registry makes this easy!
- Set a clear timeline and location for receiving donations. Ask volunteers to sort and count supplies before dropping them off at the school.



Go beyond
events — build
relationships.



INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION

Ideas for ongoing engagement with local schools:

- Spruce up the teachers lounge.
- Provide teacher snacks for the day.
- Adopt a specific grade or class.
- Adopt a teacher.
- Volunteer for annual events.
- Support and assist foster families.
- Serve on the school board.
- Provide after-school activities.
- Tutor students.

**Impactful engagement goes beyond a single event.
Seek to build lasting relationships with local schools.
How can your church provide ongoing support and
invest in the lives of the administration, teachers,
and students?**

Plan Your Year

► **Investing in Families & Schools**

- August sermon series:

- August events:

- August programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and August's missions focus — Investing in Families & Schools — so it feels cohesive?**

- Connections

Generosity

Season 3

This season, the call to action is *Generosity*. Encourage your church to contribute to transformative global missions through various forms of generosity.

This is an opportunity to help your church expand its missional reach by giving time, talent, and treasure. The content provided for this season will get you started, OR you can simply incorporate *Generosity* into your existing strategy. Watch God deepen your church's love for the poor and suffering as your giving makes a genuine difference.

Remember, the content and order for each season are optional. Use the ideas in the following pages as inspiration to support what God is doing in YOUR church!





THEMES THIS SEASON:

- **Respond** September
- **Equip** October
- **Share** November
- **Celebrate** December

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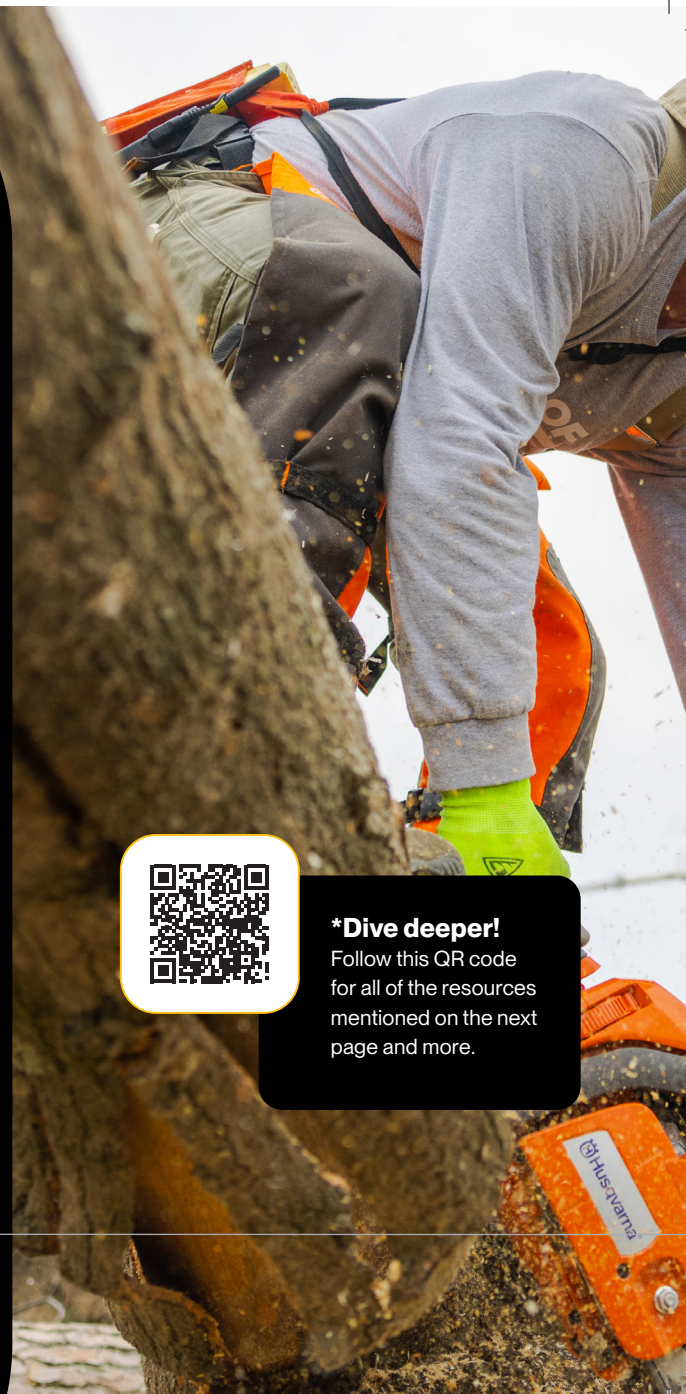
EQUIP
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***Dive deeper!**

Follow this QR code
for all of the resources
mentioned on the next
page and more.





RESPOND

Loving in the Aftermath, Far & Near

Regardless of where you live, disasters and crises affect everyone.

Whether you're burdened for other communities that are suffering or for people in your own neighborhood facing difficult situations, knowing the right time and ways to help can be challenging. This month focuses on those who are affected by disasters — both victims and those working to make a difference.

Pray with insight by accessing Convoy of Hope updates that share the specific needs caused by recent disasters.*

Serve first responders who work behind the scenes when your community experiences crises big and small.

Assess your community's vulnerabilities and consider what role your church could play if disaster hits close to home. Use the provided Disaster Preparedness Community Assessment to learn more.*



Loving in the Aftermath, Far & Near

Become an Ally

- Deliver a meal to first responders.
- Bring cards or gifts, making sure to confirm that the items will be genuinely appreciated.

Commit To Pray

Choose a community from Convoy of Hope's list of recent disaster-stricken areas to pray for.

CONVOY OF HOPE
ONE DAY
to FEED the WORLD

Will you host your *One Day* giving Sunday this month? Follow this QR code for everything you need!



Plan Your Year

► Responding to Disaster

- September sermon series:

- September events:

- September programs or themes:

- How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and September's missions focus — Responding to Disaster — so it feels cohesive?

- Connections

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***Dive even deeper!**

Find all the resources mentioned on the next page by following this QR code.



EQUIP

Dig a Little Deeper

This month, take time to focus on the *why* with your congregation. Equip them with biblical truth! What does transformative mission work do in our hearts? How do we serve from pure motives?

Here are a few ways to help your church focus on compassion:

- Take your compassion “temperature.” Send the provided link* where people can think through biblical compassion. This will help you understand needs that are already significant to people in your church and areas where you can continue to provide a biblical understanding of compassion.
- Devote a service to preaching from the provided sermon notes with slides.* With a focus on the story of the Good Samaritan, this sermon will help you teach about disruptive compassion and love in action.
- Send small groups a simple two-week Bible study developed by Convoy of Hope.* This in-depth look at the story of the Good Samaritan, with principles from Hal Donaldson’s book *Disruptive Compassion*, will facilitate powerful small group discussions.

EQUIP

Disruptive Compassion Manifesto

- ▶ Hope. Refuse to lose it.
- ▶ The world is hurting, but something can always be done.
- ▶ The status quo is overrated. Better is possible.
- ▶ Sacrifice is not a burden.
- ▶ Always do the next kind thing.
- ▶ Love simply — God, people, planet.
- ▶ Tomorrow doesn't excuse today — it depends on it.
- ▶ Be impatient (for justice) and intolerant (of hatred).
- ▶ Expect obstacles and keep going.
- ▶ Become a revolutionary.

"Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions."

(1 John 3:18, NLT)





CONVOY OF HOPE
ONE DAY
to FEED the WORLD

Will you host your *One Day* giving
Sunday this month? Follow this QR
code for everything you need!



Plan Your Year

► **Equipping With Compassion**

■ October sermon series:

■ October events:

■ October programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and October's missions focus — Equipping With Compassion — so it feels cohesive?**

■ Connections

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We want to hear from you! Follow this QR code to let us know what God has done in and through your church this year.

SHARE

Collect data so you can share and celebrate Stories of Impact in December!

As the year comes to a close, it is vital to tell your congregation how their generosity has had a good return in the lives of many.

Four core questions to answer for your congregation:

- How much money did we raise and put to work?
- Who are the people and organizations impacted?
- What are some stories of that impact?
- How was God's Kingdom advanced locally and globally?

1 How much money did we raise and put to work?

If you set a goal, or variety of goals, for your missions giving, this is the time of year to inform your people how much they contributed to meet those goals. You can inform them how much has been spent, what needs to still be spent this year, and what will roll over into the new calendar year. You will also want to take the time to encourage your people to fulfill their commitments.

For example, if you had a goal of \$100,000 and have only taken in \$70,000, use this opportunity to celebrate the win while simultaneously encouraging the church to continue their generosity. Doing this builds a culture of accountability and builds confidence — your people will know their money is being stewarded well. It also tells them that the leadership of the church is committed to meeting the mission objectives God has given them.

2 Who are the people and organizations impacted?

Providing a list of all the organizations, missionaries, and missions partners you support would be helpful for your people, especially if they haven't yet received anything like that throughout the year. Consider designing a one-page report that can be distributed digitally or passed out on a weekend during the month.

Take time during the weekend service to highlight notable partners — those that are new or those that the congregation knows and loves. Invite your congregation to pray and intercede for your missions partners.

SHARE

3 What are stories of that impact?

This is huge! So often, church leaders can be so forward-thinking and ready to move on to the next thing that we fail to share the life-changing testimonies of how our missions partners have been building and changing lives — locally and abroad.

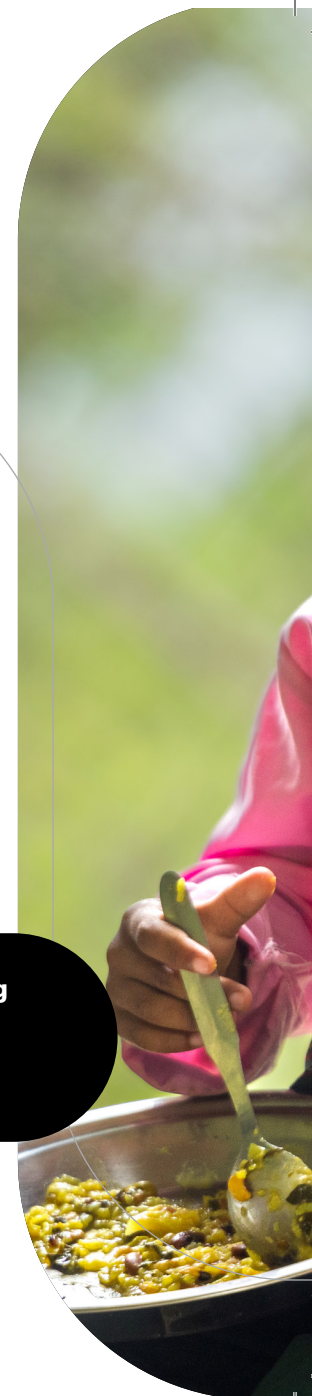
Consider sharing several stories from people whose lives have been touched by your missions partner's ministry. These can be shared in person by one of your missions partners, spoken about by one of your staff members during the weekend services, or highlighted through a video celebrating the wins.

When you celebrate life change, it not only endears your people to the ministries you are serving, but it also allows you to “prime the pump” for fresh vision you will want to share going into the new year.

4 How was God's Kingdom advanced locally and globally?

The answer to this question is essentially a summary of the previous answers. As a church body, we want everything we do to support the advancement of God's Kingdom and demonstrate the Kingdom of Heaven invading the earth. Your people need to know that this is so much more than dollars and cents or investment versus return on investment. This is light versus darkness, life versus death.

As the end-of-year holidays come into full swing in November and December, use this time of reporting to springboard into your holiday sermon series and/or your year-end giving.





CONVOY OF HOPE
ONE DAY
to FEED the WORLD

Will you host your *One Day* giving
Sunday this month? Follow this QR
code for everything you need!



Plan Your Year

► **Sharing the Impact**

■ November sermon series:

■ November events:

■ November programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and November's missions focus — Sharing the Impact — so it feels cohesive?**

■ Connections

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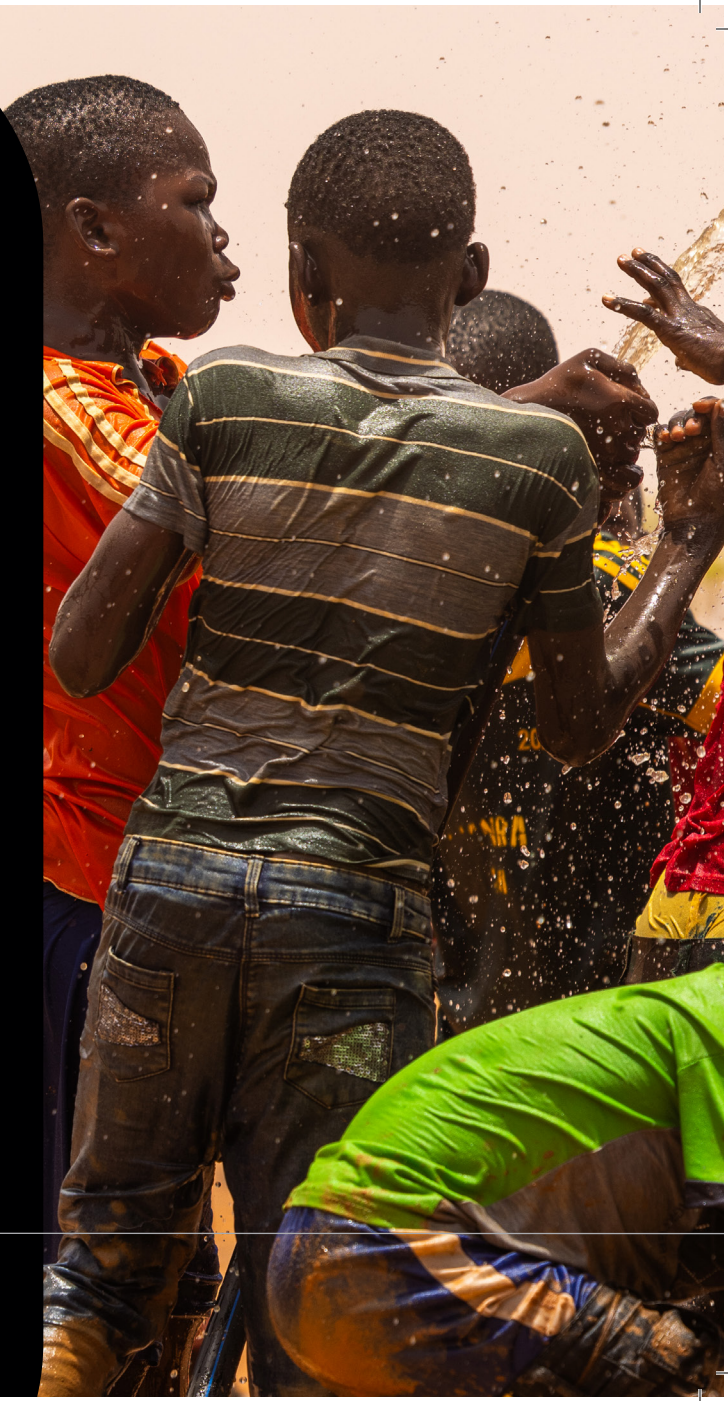
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GOD'S WORK THROUGH US





CELEBRATE

Throw a Party!

Find ways to tell your congregation what their time, effort, and finances have accomplished for the Kingdom.

- Celebrate! Rejoice in what the Lord has allowed your church to participate in.
- Commend your people.
- Engage each generation.
- Ask God to give you fresh vision and faith for what lies ahead.

A high-angle, close-up photograph of a group of young children, likely from an African tribe, smiling and looking up at the camera. They are wearing traditional beaded jewelry and patterned clothing. The background is a warm, earthy tone.

**Congratulations
on completing a
year of impactful
ministry using
the Convoy of
Hope Missions
Resource Kit!**

Look Ahead

Use the information gathered in November to build your vision for another year of missions. Meet with the missions team to begin planning how to kick off missions in January.



Will you host your One Day
giving Sunday this month?
Follow this QR code for
everything you need!

Plan Your Year

► **Celebrating God's Work Through Us**

■ December sermon series:

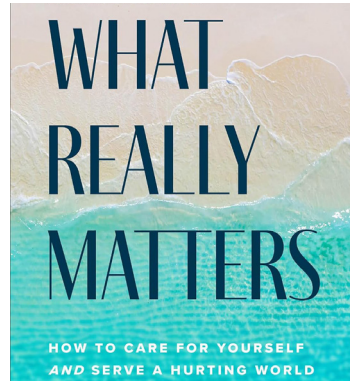
■ December events:

■ December programs or themes:

► **How can you build connection between the events and sermons above and December's missions focus — Celebrating God's Work Through Us — so it feels cohesive?**

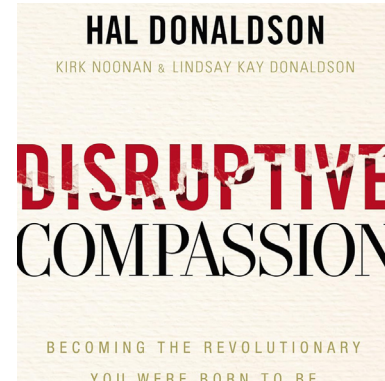
■ Connections

RECOMMENDED READING



What Really Matters: How to Care for Yourself and Serve a Hurting World
by Hal Donaldson with Lindsay Donaldson-Kring

This book offers practical solutions for those looking to serve others while maintaining personal well-being. It's a transformative guide for anyone involved in helping those in need.



Disruptive Compassion
by Hal Donaldson with Kirk Noonan and Lindsay Donaldson-Kring

With raw and inspiring stories from the world's most desperate places, this book provides insights for effective service. Hal Donaldson highlights the importance of courage and compassion in making a difference.

YOUR NEXT 24 HOURS

ONE DAY of KINDNESS CAN
CHANGE EVERYTHING



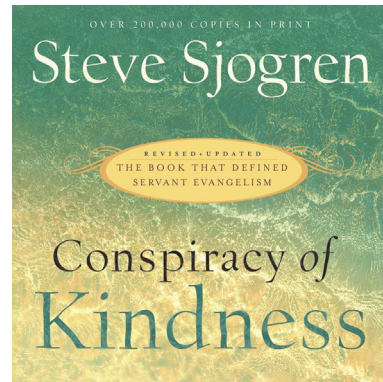
Your Next 24 Hours
by Hal Donaldson with Kirk Noonan

Readers will discover how to initiate a kindness revolution in their daily lives. Every small act of kindness can create a ripple effect of positive change.



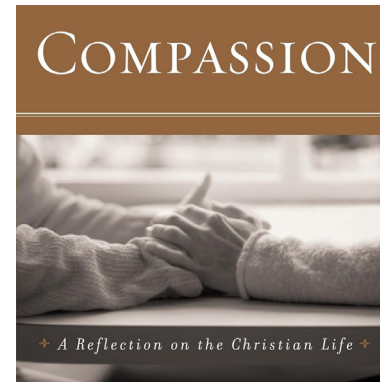
*The Art of Neighboring:
Building Genuine
Relationships Right Outside
Your Door*
**by Jay Pathak and Dave
Runyon**

This book teaches how to build authentic relationships with your neighbors and foster community connections. It provides practical steps to overcome barriers and live out the command to love those nearby.



Conspiracy of Kindness
by Steve Sjogren

This book equips readers to share the Gospel through simple acts of kindness, making evangelism accessible for everyone. It encourages a natural approach to serving others without needing special skills.



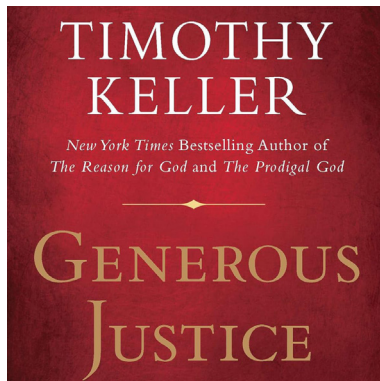
*Compassion: A Reflection on
the Christian Life*
**by Henri Nouwen, Donald
McNeill, and Douglas
Morrison**

This book reflects on the true nature of compassionate love and its call to action in the Christian life. It encourages readers to move beyond feelings of guilt to embrace a spirit of love and service.



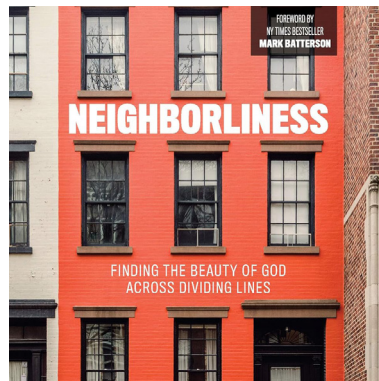
Courageous Compassion
by Beth Grant

This book challenges superficial definitions of compassion by urging readers to see the potential in everyone. It inspires transformative actions that reflect Jesus' heart for those in need.



Generous Justice: How God's Grace Makes Us Just
by **Timothy Keller**

Timothy Keller presents a counter-narrative to common misconceptions about Scripture's relevance to justice. He argues for the Bible's role in promoting social justice and compassion.



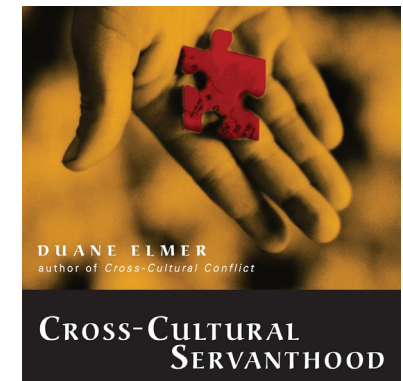
Neighborliness: Finding the Beauty of God Across Dividing Lines
by **David Docusen**

This book illustrates how engaging with diverse perspectives can foster true neighborly love. It shares stories that demonstrate the beauty of connection across divides.



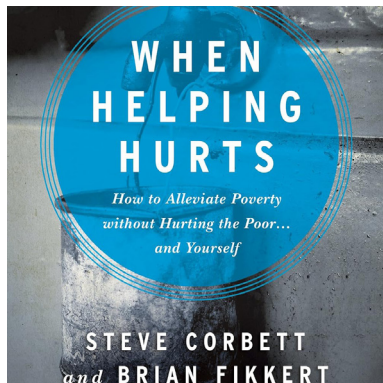
Sharing God's Heart for the Poor: Meditations for Worship, Prayer, and Service
by **Amy L. Sherman**

This devotional booklet reflects on God's compassion for the marginalized. It serves as a call to action for believers to actively love and serve the needy.



Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility
by **Duane Elmer**

Cross-Cultural Servanthood provides guidelines for mission work that respects cultural differences and promotes effective service. Duane Elmer emphasizes the importance of humility in cross-cultural contexts.



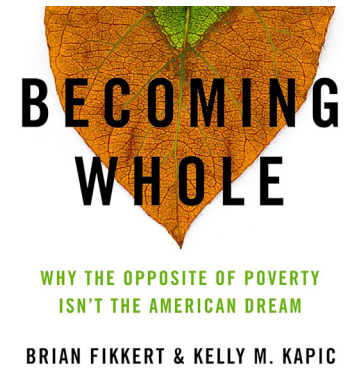
When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor... and Yourself
by **Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert**

When Helping Hurts explores effective methods for alleviating poverty without causing harm. It advocates for empowering communities through holistic approaches rather than creating dependency.



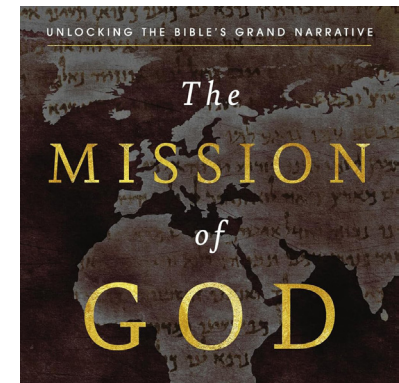
When Helping Works: Alleviating Fear and Pain in Global Missions
by **Michael Bamwesigye Badriaki and Randy S. Woodley**

This powerful book examines the intricacies of helping across cultures, stressing the need for strong relationships. It highlights the interplay of perceptions and intercultural dynamics in missions.



Becoming Whole: Why the Opposite of Poverty Isn't the American Dream
by **Brian Fikkert and Kelly Kapic**

Becoming Whole explores how the Kingdom of God reshapes our understanding of poverty and wholeness through biblical insights and practical experiences. It argues that true fulfillment goes beyond material wealth, highlighting the need for holistic approaches in poverty alleviation ministries.



The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative
by **Christopher J.H. Wright**

The Mission of God examines how mission is central to God's overall plan as revealed in Scripture. Christopher J.H. Wright highlights the interwoven themes of mission throughout both the Old and New Testaments, providing a solid biblical framework for understanding global missions.



Thank you for linking arms with us.

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