

River of Love

CROSS CREEK
BAPTIST MISSION
Moving Mountains!

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Pastor Ray Gurney

ON DAILY MISSION FOR GOD by Pastor Ray

Our Cross Creek Theme for 2022 is, "Where Have You Shown up for God?" You might say; I'm never going to show up for God because...and you have 100 thoughts why that won't happen. I'm heading to my mission field January 27 and God willing, will return February 10th. Now when we think about that kind of mission trip we can easily understand showing up for God because we get on a plane and go to another country. But let's analyze mission work and showing up for God right here at home. We will always remember Debbie Lyon addressing the church on a Sunday morning challenging us to ask the question; "are we showing up for God?" I think her statement brought all of us to think differently about our mission possibilities in relation to God.

For example, every one of us can be and should be, on mission all of the time. Annie sparked this idea when she told me about some of the people with whom she works. She has described many of the them to me and I can tell you that most of us would be uncomfortable around them with their lifestyles by a mere glance at them. They are some weird people. She tells me that she has determined in her

heart to show kindness to them regardless of their lifestyle, appearance or anything else that might make them difficult to be around. She told me that no matter what, when she works with them, she will be kind and respectful to them because they are loved by God. She helps them with their work load, helps train them to perform the job they've been hired to do. She is on mission and has chosen to show up daily for God.

Based on this idea and the fact that our mission theme is about our showing up for God, I'd like to give some examples of things you can do easily in your daily life. Send a note to someone to encourage them. Get a copy of our prayer list and send a card to someone on the list telling them you are praying for them. Make a point to compliment someone; in the checkout line. It could be another patron or the checkout person who looks like they could use an encouraging word. I try to always compliment our servers even if things didn't go perfectly. There's only one server that I don't compliment because it's not at all deserved. I still leave a tip however. You can make a donation to a homeless shelter that takes care of people in need like City Union Mission.

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Special points of interest:

- Ladies Day Out
- Jesus Wants to Share Your Burden
- Valentine's Banquet

Men's Breakfast

Men; you will have your monthly **Breakfast Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 8:00 AM at Sandy's Restaurant**, in Blue Springs. Please invite your neighbor or a friend to join us. It's a good time to fellowship with other men in our community.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

please bring a couple of cans of soup or canned goods for the Grain Valley Assistance Council on **February 6 to Celebrate! Go Chiefs!**

Ladies Day Out

February 17, 2022 will be our next scheduled Ladies Day Out. We'll meet at the church 2 PM we show a movie or work on our Cup of Love Ministry. Please bring your favorite chocolate treat or your favorite movie treat. February calls out for **CHOCOLATE!** Hope to see you there!

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They can also use socks and coats and blankets and such. There are so many ways to show up for God. How about this one...say to someone, I love you, or God loves you, or you are important! If you'd like a list of nice things to do for others just go to KLJC 88.5 website and you'll find KLJC's "A 40 Day Journey of Kindness". That gives you a wonderful list of ideas to help you show up for God. Wow! It's easy to show up for God and it's rewarding too. Let's make February the month to start showing up for God. I feel my upcoming trip to the jungle will be the most rewarding and productive trip of the many I've taken there over the past 15 years. Based on circumstances that have occurred in the past couple of months I feel this is one of those trips that God has orchestrated going back to last year when one of the pastors I had just challenged in my message stood up before the audience and challenged ME to come and help them gather in the harvest that they had committed to sow. I told him I'd be back if I wasn't stopped by the virus that was going strong at that time. When reminded that I had made that commitment it was as if God said; "time to gather the harvest".

I have been thinking of Matthew 9:37-38 where it says; *Then He said to the disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send the laborers into His*

harvest". What if this were my last opportunity to harvest the many seeds we've planted in Guatemala? *Isaiah 6:8; Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying; Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us? Then I said here am I send me!* Well, I'm ready to go; the airline ticket is purchased and I'm getting prayed up for this adventure. My expenses will be \$1800 for the trip. That covers all food lodging ground transportation and then, of course, the covid testing for coming back home. We have a mission fund to which you can contribute if you'd like to help with the costs. Indicate on your envelope the amount you'd like to go to the Guatemala Mission trip. Thanks for your support in advance.

Valentine's Banquet

Sunday, February 13, 2022 @

11:30 PM

\$12.00 per person *kids free*. Please have your money in by **Feb. 6th**. Make checks to Cross Creek Baptist Mission. Please write your name on the signup sheet and number of people coming with you.

Menu: Lasagna, Spaghetti & Meatballs, Country Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Garden Salad, Cottage Cheese, Tea, Coffee & Dessert.

JESUS WANTS TO SHARE YOUR BURDEN by *Chrissy Kirkman*

I don't know what burden you're carrying. I don't know what's weighing you down. But I do know the answer to your trouble.

Jesus said, *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30 NIV).*

For many years, I never understood what Jesus meant when He said, *"Take my yoke upon you."* It made me think, "Lord, do you want to give me something else to deal with? My burden is heavy enough already! I don't need to take Your problems on me!"

Then I learned that a yoke is a board with two arches, and it's placed over two cattle so they can pull a cart.

The value of a yoke is that it cuts the load in half. Without a yoke, one cow has to pull the entire load by itself. But if you yoke up the cow with another cow, the two animals pull the load together, making it half as heavy.

So, when Jesus tells you to take on His yoke, He's not saying He will give you His problems. Jesus doesn't have any problems! He's saying He will share *your* problems. He' will share your load. He will take your stress on Himself and bear it with you.

Jesus uses three notable verbs in this Scripture: *come, learn, and take.* It's like Jesus said, "Come team up with Me so you can *learn* how I do it. *Take* on a lighter load that will reduce your stress and make your problems easier to navigate."

When you're yoked with Christ, you move together with Him. You move in the same direction and at the same speed. You move in the *right* direction and at the *right* speed. And you move with a lighter burden.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS FAMILY NIGHT!

Wednesday night dinners begin at 6:00

PM. The cost is \$5.00 a person for ages 7 years through adult. 6 years and under are \$3.00. The menu for the month is listed on the right.

Please sign-up on the list on the information table each week. If you are running late that night, please call the church so we can set aside the proper number of meals for you.

- **Feb. 2, Potato Soup & Broccoli Cheese Soup**, corn bread, cheese and crackers, fruit, salad & dessert
- **Feb. 9, Beef Stroganoff**, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, cottage cheese, salad & dessert.
- **Feb. 16, Chicken & Pork Burritos**, Rice, Cheese Dip, chips, salad & dessert.
- **Feb. 23, Swedish Meatballs & Noodles**, biscuits, mixed vegetables, salad & dessert.

CROSS CREEK BAPTIST

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“Just as iron sharpens iron, so does one man sharpen another!” Proverbs 27:27

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

When he was just 2, José began to exhibit signs of polio, which inhibited muscle development in his legs. He gets around with a scooter he pushes with his hand. “For most of my life, I’ve used this scooter as my feet,” he said. “I could use a wheelchair, but it would be more difficult for me to move around in it.”



Lidia, 6, walked a mile to La Laguna, **Mexico** to attend The Greatest Journey classes, including a graduation ceremony where she received a

Bible. Her favorite verse is, “Let the little children come to Me” (Matthew 19:14).

Pastor José’s goal is to reach people in more mountain villages with the Gospel through Operation Christmas Child.

“I’m still looking for new places to share the Word so every kid can learn about God,” he said. “We have a mission on the mountains that started with La Laguna. As people are accepting God and sharing His Word, the message is spreading.”

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For the past 25 years, Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse, has partnered with local churches in more than 100 countries to distribute gifts to boys and girls in need and tell them about God’s Greatest Gift—Jesus Christ.

Thank you Cross Creekers!