



SHOEBOX DRIVE SEASON

For the kids of New Missions, they know our Shoebox Drive season is coming. But more important than a box of gifts is the love and prayers sent. We know it's because of your generosity that our Shoebox Drive is even possible.

Behind the scenes are people like you packing and preparing to bless the lives of our students and their families. I love to hear the sound of prayer during Shoebox Drive season. As volunteer groups serve in Orlando, each session begins with prayer. Across churches and schools in the United States where shoeboxes are collected, their efforts begin with prayer to be effective and productive.

In Haiti, the sound of children singing and giving thanks is a treasured moment. They know shoebox season is here when they see cargo containers weave down the three-mile dirt road to the New Missions warehouse in Bord-Mer, Haiti. The joy of giving is the greatest gift. *"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35*

This year, how many shoebox gifts will you pack? Will your church host a collection? For ideas and resources visit ShooboxDrive.com and together, let's help families flourish. ~Tim DeTellis



Top: Thank you, LifePointe Church in Eustis, FL, for sending volunteers to serve during our Shoebox Drive season.

Middle: Each shoebox gift matters because each child matters to God.

Bottom left: Pray for the safe transport of our shoeboxes via cargo containers from Orlando to our mission warehouse in Haiti.

Bottom right: Smilie Faust and Teresa McFadden from the Family Ties life group at First Orlando faithfully serve during our Shoebox Drive.

BAPTISM IN LOS CASTILLOS

Making the decision to follow Christ is the most important choice that you and I will ever make in our lives. When we do commit our lives to Him, one of our next steps is to be baptized to show our commitment and obedience to Him. We rejoice as seven people from our church in Los Castillos were recently baptized! Each of those who were baptized have a special and unique testimony about how Christ has worked in their lives.

In order for a person to be baptized in one of our churches in the DR, they must show a genuine repentance and desire to follow Christ. They take at least 10 classes taught by the pastor to prepare them for their baptism. Various churches here in the Dominican Republic baptize believers in a river because Jesus was baptized in a river. On the day of the baptism, many of our church members gather and sing praise songs and worship the Lord as they share in the important step that their brothers and sisters have made. Please pray for these precious believers as they grow in their relationship with Christ.

~Heather Williams Katz



The baptisms were a highlight for all church members. Here, some of them are singing and worshipping during the baptisms.



One of the teenagers of the church, Raudy Hernandez Batista, was baptized along with two of our other youth.



Special times of prayer, worship, and fasting led by assistant pastor, Jeandany Jean Baptiste, at the Bord-Mer church.



Our churches are praying and believing for God's deliverance for Haiti, as well as strength in their lives.

PRAYER AND FASTING

Many may think of the summer months as a time to take a break from our daily routine; a vacation. But in Haiti, our churches are doing just the opposite. This year, they have added extra dates and times to their regular prayer services as they earnestly seek the Lord. For example, our Masson church meets four mornings a week for four hours. Bord-Mer meets on Mondays for four hours, and L'Acul just finished 21 days of prayer and fasting. The number one area they seem to be seeking the Lord's guidance is for their country; for deliverance and security. The Haitians are also praying for spiritual reconciliation, our sponsors, future mission trips, and of course healing.

God is certainly answering prayer. Pastor Yaguel recently stated a young man was saved and delivered from demonic possession. Pastor Mario reported some were freed from demonic oppression, and a couple has conceived after struggling with infertility. God is giving them greater confidence as they trust in the Lord—motivating them to serve Him even more. They're also sensing His protective hand upon them. More than anything...God is changing them through prayer and fasting. ~Rachel DeTellis



SUMMER CAMPS IN THE DR

The youth ministry in the Dominican Republic was full of energy and excitement this summer as camps were held at all of our locations. The camps were led by our New Missions students within their own communities. They shared the Gospel message of Christ through engaging ways: music, puppets, games, crafts, and by listening to Bible stories.

We also had visiting mission teams from Massachusetts and Georgia that joined us for the summer camps. These teams played an important supportive role as they encouraged the work of New Missions. They shared their memories with their home church upon return in hope of getting more people excited about what is taking place in the Dominican Republic. The teams also experienced personal spiritual growth as Christ followers, which energizes their mission work at home.

New Missions youth ministry does not just wait for teams from the U.S. to visit for evangelistic outreach. This type of ministry takes place all year long at each campus. Every summer camp had an evangelical focus with an opportunity to share Christ on a daily basis. We're happy to report that 41 lives have been changed for eternity. Let's celebrate!!

Can't visit the DR on a trip? There are many other ways to be engaged, and child sponsorship is a great starting point.

~Rob Arms



Top: Puppets are always a hit! Thank you, International Family Church, for sharing the story of our super hero...Jesus.

Bottom left: Wayne joins Jaime and Bobby (from Lighthouse Baptist Church) who used their construction skills to work on repairs.

Bottom middle: Jhaynell learns the world is a great big place, but God's love for him is much greater!

Bottom right: Our students always end each summer camp with prayer—thanking God for another day of learning about Him.

MORE ONLINE AT NEWMISSIONS.ORG



PURCHASE A SHOEBOX

You can now pre-order a shoebox gift to be sent to your sponsor child for Christmas. For more info visit NewMissions.org/gift



PODCASTS

Subscribe and listen to the New Missions Podcast, "Helping You Live Life on Mission." Listen at NewMissions.org/podcast



BECOME AN ADVOCATE

With your help, children will receive the gift of education and learn the love of Jesus. Introduce someone to a child waiting for a sponsor. NewMissions.org/advocate



PROJECTS

Partner with us in special projects representing our current fundraising priorities. We welcome your involvement. NewMissions.org/projects

You can send a shoebox gift
to bless a child in Haiti.

"We love because He first loved us."

1 John 4:19



NEWMISSIONS
CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX DRIVE



Order a shoebox gift. newmissions.org/gift



PRAISE THE LORD!

On June 26, 2023, I began a 40-day fast from social media. I intended the fast to help me focus on some spiritual areas where I sensed I was lacking. First, I felt I was reading posts on social media more than I was reading pages of my Bible. Often, during the morning, I found myself catching up on the buzz and happenings of others, versus focusing on how God was a priority in my life. I did not feel guilty...I just felt empty. My heart was hungry for something more than “likes and comments” so I decided to start a season of fasting. Then, what happened?

A mentor of mine once said, “Tim, we need to be reminded more about what we already know versus learning something new.” I found myself opening the pages of two books of the Bible to re-read what I had already read time and time again. Turning to Psalms and Proverbs, I found myself on a renewed journey of discovery. What was God trying to remind me of?

During my time reading Scripture, for several days I just kept studying Psalm 146 and discovered what I was missing in my life. Praising the Lord was not my focus. Worse off...I think I was stuck on seeking praise from others. This was the clarity I believe God wanted to teach me and how seeking approval and acceptance can be a distraction from Whose approval matters most.

“Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.” (Psalms 146:1-2) It was like

**I WILL PRAISE
THE LORD ALL
OF MY LIFE.**

a lightbulb went off in my heart: “Praise the Lord!” The time I had spent on social media was praising others and I was missing out on praising the Lord. The engineering of social media is driven behind a single premise of the “fear of missing out.” FOMO is the acronym you may have heard floating around. You miss the likes, the photo tags, and you quickly log back on to see people’s comments or shares from your recent post. Fear of missing out causes you to check in—soon and often. During my social media fast, I discovered what I was missing the most was praising the Lord.

Can social media be a distraction from God? Maybe. Or are we focusing on God first? My heart was thirsty for something more. I am thankful God showed me a renewed truth to the power of praising Him, because He alone deserves our praise.

Today, I’m challenged by three questions. First, who am I praising? Am I spending more time praising the accomplishment of others versus praising the Lord? Second, why am I praising? Do we praise others because in essence we want praise too? It’s like a trade of praise. If I say something nice to you, will you say something nice to me? I need to wake up daily and praise the Lord because He alone deserves my praise. Third, when am I praising? Every day is a good day to praise the Lord...not just when I feel like it. Now, I’ve changed the first three words out of my mouth when I wake up to: “Praise the Lord!”

~Tim DeTellis

The translation of the 146th chapter of Psalm in the original Hebrew language begins with the word, “Hallelujah.” It is a combination of the word *Halal* (praise) and *Yah* (Yahweh). We would read it as “praise the Lord.” Hallelujah came into English through Latin and Greek, but originally comes from Hebrew where it means “praise the Lord.” May we say it out loud: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord.

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P.S. Dear Lord, May I praise You in the morning and all day long.

