

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Details:

Date: July 12-14, 2024

(option to leave on Saturday night or Sunday)

Partnership: Harmony Baptist Church

Location: 8300 Wharton Ave. Lamont, CA 93241

Lodging: 1-2 Nights in Hotel

Cost: Full payment \$350 is due by July 12th

(per adult for meals + portion of project expenses; 16 yrs or younger are frees)

Travel: Carpooling (if you need to leave early, please include this in our planning)

Team Members: People of all ages may serve on this team after filling out the Team Application Form and Covenant (minors under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and recommended by their Pastor)

Background Check: All adults will need to get a LiveScan before the Trip through our Church. This will be at our church on Sunday, June 30th.

FBC Cypress Team

1. Trevor Cooper - PAID DEPOSIT,
2. Tarah Cooper - PAID DEPOSIT,
3. Elliot Cooper - 8 yrs old
4. Scarlett Cooper - 6 yrs old
5. Amit Tatapudi - PAID DEPOSIT,
6. Jessie Tatapudi - PAID DEPOSIT,
7. Nathan Tatapudi - 6 yrs old
8. Annie Tatapudi - 4 yrs old
9. Louis Negrete - - PAID DEPOSIT,
10. Natalie Ortega - PAID DEPOSIT,
11. Briella Negrete - 9 yrs old
12. Jamison Negrete - 6 yrs old
13. Asher Negrete - 2 yrs old
14. Noah Sexton - PAID DEPOSIT,
15. Charles Williams - PAID DEPOSIT,
16. Cesar Nevarez - PAID DEPOSIT,
17. Nick Rice - PAID DEPOSIT,
18. Maria Rice - PAID DEPOSIT,
19. Nathan Rice - 10 yrs old
20. Vienna Rice - 7 yrs old

FBC Walnut Valley Team - _____

Faith Fellowship Team - _____

TRAINING MEETING AGENDA - SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024

- Discuss Collecting Items (Trevor)
- Live Scan Date: TBA; Location: First Baptist Church of Cypress (Trevor)
- Participation Planning & Prayer Focus for our Mission Projects (Libby)
- Evangelism Training: Sharing the Gospel of Salvation & Personal Testimony (Trevor)
- **FINAL MEETING - Sunday, July 7 - @ FBC WALNUT VALLEY 20425 LA PUENTE RD, WALNUT CA 91789** (Libby)
- Look at Articles & Devotional Readings (w/ discussion prompt for children) (Libby)
- Prayer Time (Trevor)

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Personal Spiritual Preparation Sheet For Workers

Personal Spiritual Preparation is essential to your usefulness.

- *It is very difficult to be useful with unconfessed sin in our life (Prov. 28:13, 1 John 1:8, 9)*
 - *Jesus called the disciples to first be with Him – then preach and minister (Mark 3:14, 15);*
 - *Jesus calls us to first be in Him and He in us if we are to be fruitful. (John 15:5)*
1. Ernest **Prayer** is the most important necessity of individual (and team) preparation. Start praying daily as soon as you learn of the possibility of your helping in a sports camp, VBS, Bible Club, or mission trip, and don't stop praying!
 2. Personal devotional **Bible Study** is essential to "abiding in Jesus" – which is essential to being useful. Listed are just a few good recommended examples of Scriptures helpful for your personal daily Bible Study:
 3. *John 3:16-18* tells us **WHY** to do a Block Party, Sports Camp, VBS or Mission Trip.
 4. **The following verses tell us WHO the Message is – Jesus Christ:** *Acts 1:8, John 14:6, Acts 17:2-3, Acts 4:10-12*
 5. **The following verses tell us HOW to prepare**
1 John 1:8-9 (confess our sins) *1 Thessalonians 5:17 & John 14:13* (pray until we have no will of our own), *Philippians 3:10, John 15:5, Mark 3:14-15 & Acts 4:13* (our call is to first be with Jesus), *Matthew 5:10-12*
 6. *Matthew 28:18-20* tells us **WHAT THE GOAL** is. *Ephesians 6:10-18* tells us **WHO THE ENEMY** is (Keep your spiritual guard up).
 7. Personal **Bible preparation** is essential to being a well-equipped and useful worker – 2 *Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3:15-17* – Have marked in your Bible and know by memory some **salvation scriptures**.

Some good examples are:

John 3:16-18, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, John 14:6, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 10:9-10, Romans 10:13, John 1:12, Acts 3:19.

Also, mark in your Bible some good discipleship scriptures. Some good examples are:

Proverbs 28:13, 1 John 1:8-9, 2 Corinthians 5:15 & 17, John 10:27-29, Romans 8:38-39, 2 Timothy 2:15, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, John 14:13-15, Acts 1:8, Matthew 28:18-20, Philippians 4:13, Philippians 3:10, Galatians 5:22, Hebrews 10:25, John 15:5, etc.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Our Mission Team is collecting items for Children's Clothes and School Supplies for distribution to the kids on Saturday, July 13 2024. Every Church going through our OCSBA has adopted a number of Backpacks (already donated) to fill. The items for each Backpack Kit are listed below:

FBC CYPRESS IS COLLECTING 25 KITS

- 2 spiral notebooks
- 2 folders
- Pencils
- Pens
- Pencil Sharpener
- Extra Erasers
- Crayons or Colored Pencils
- Glue Stick
- Pencil Pouch
- Basic Functions Calculator

FBC CYPRESS IS COLLECTING NEW CLOTHING 25 KIDS

Girls Sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, & 14

Boys Sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, & 14

- A pair of pants or jeans
- A t-shirt
- A pair of socks
- A hoodie or sweatshirt

There are tags for Clothing Kits per Size to give a full wardrobe to each child.

Deadline to collect these items will be Sunday, July 7th.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Volunteer Teams for Sports Camp

(All Volunteers sign up for a team or as a coach or leader)

- _____ **Registration Team** *(1-2 hours registering students for follow up)*
- _____ **Safety Team** *(First-aid kit, medical needs & child safety awareness)*
- _____ **Refreshment Team** *(Snacks and Water/Sports Drinks)*
- _____ **Field Sports Leader** *(Kickball, Wiffle Ball, Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Volleyball, and Smashball)*
- _____ **Team Coach** *(Pre K - Kindergarten)*
- _____ **Team Coach** *(1st - 3rd Grade)*
- _____ **Team Coach** *(4th - 6th Grade)*
- _____ **Team Coach** *(7th - 10th Grade)*
- _____ **Bible Study Team** *(1st Grade - 10th Grade)*

Operating a Sports Camp

- **PLAY 3 - 4 SPORTS OR GAMES** that will be great fun and are easy to play during 20 to 30 minute segments.
- **CHOOSE 3 - 5 SPORTS LEADERS PRAY FOR EACH GROUP** who will pray for each group for protection and salvation and will be able to share a short 1 - 2 minute salvation testimony.
- **AGE-BASED TEAMS** of 10-20 that will rotate from station to station with their leaders.
- **REGISTRATION** Have all workers and students register with “stick-on” name tags. Gather contact information: name, number, and address.
- **REFRESHMENTS & WATER STATIONS** Refreshments must be simple, quick and able to be carried to the next event because kids will want to be involved in their next sport or game. Keep all attendees hydrated w/ water.
- **EVANGELISTIC BIBLE STUDY ROTATION.** It should be in a comfortable and undisturbed location. Have helpers and decision packets available.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Pray about our Mission Projects

(check all that apply, then narrow it down to serve to your fullest)

- _____ **I speak Spanish - I actually do SPEAK Spanish** *(can carry on a conversation without an English/Spanish dictionary or my phone translator)*
- _____ **I am willing & interested in working with young children**
- _____ **I am willing & interested in working with older kids/youth**
- _____ **I am willing & interested in working in food prep & service**
- _____ **I am willing & interested in sharing the Gospel Message to a group**
- _____ **I am willing & interested in visiting with guests; one-on-one gospel presentations & praying with individuals**
- _____ **I am willing & interested in serving as a Driver**
- _____ **I am willing, interested & capable of helping kids of all ages with art projects**
- _____ **I am willing, interested & capable of working in the Sports Camp**
- _____ **I am willing, interested & capable of helping with projects around the facility of Harmony Baptist Church**
- _____ **I am willing, interested in helping in the Diabetes/Blood pressure screening clinic** *(administrative help; signing people in, etc.)*
- _____ **I am willing, interested in helping to lead a time of worship**
- _____ **I am willing, interested in leading one of the team prayer times and/or devotions**
- _____ **I am willing, interested in making sure that all of the distributions** *(clothes, food, & backpacks with school supplies)* **are organized & distributed in an orderly fashion**
- _____ **I am willing, interested in taking a shift in a prayer room during the project**
- _____ **As I have prayed & considered, Jesus suggested the following to me:** _____

“When we rely upon organization, we get what organization can do; when we rely upon education, we get what education can do; when we rely upon eloquence, we get what eloquence can do. But when we rely upon prayer, we get what God can do.” AC Dixon

*“I know the power obedience has in making things easy which seem impossible.”
Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)*

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

The Missionary Heart

Care more than some think is wise

Risk more than some think is safe

Dream more than some think is practical

Expect more than some think is possible

I was called not to comfort or success, but to obedience.

*From a letter written by missionary to Iraq, Karen Denise Watson,
martyred for the cause of Christ on March 15, 2004.*

Do it Anyway

*People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.
Forgive them anyway.*

*If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.
Be kind anyway.*

*If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some
genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.*

*If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.
Be honest and sincere anyway.*

*What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.
Create anyway.*

*If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.
Be happy anyway.*

*The good you do today, will often be forgotten.
Do good anyway.*

*Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.
Give your best anyway.*

*In the final analysis, it is between you and God.
It was never between you and them anyway.*

"This poem was found written on the wall in Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Written By Adam Groza, Ph.D. Posted on February 6th, 2024

Link:

<https://csbc.com/resource/personal-evangelism-ambassadors/>

Personal Evangelism Ambassadors

When was the last time you personally shared the Gospel?

Many people can't remember either because it's been a long time since they shared the Gospel or they have never personally shared the Gospel with anyone. Since February is Evangelism Emphasis Month, now is the perfect time to talk about personal evangelism. Personal evangelism is the act of teaching someone the Gospel and extending an invitation to turn from sin and trust in Jesus.

One of my favorite passages on personal evangelism is found in 2 Corinthians 5:20-21:

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (ESV)

In his book *Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus*, author J. Mack Stiles highlights the power of these verses for personal evangelism.

First, ambassadors have a job. The job of an ambassador is to deliver the message. The most powerful thing you can do to share the Gospel is to know the good news: God saves sinners who turn from sin and trust in the death and resurrection of Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come. These simple words, or something like them, are the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).

It's our job to deliver the message and make the invitation. God's job is to convict, draw, and save. God doesn't need us to be His ambassadors. He could easily save people apart from our witness, but God gives us the privilege of announcing the victory of Jesus over sin and death. Paul says, "we are ambassadors for Christ," and that He makes his appeal through us. Our job isn't to make up the message, change the message, or soften the message.

Our job is to deliver the message.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Second, ambassadors must be bold. Many Christians avoid sharing the Gospel because of fear. Common fears associated with personal evangelism include fear of rejection, fear of embarrassment, or fear of not knowing what to do or say.

The good news is that Jesus gives us boldness through his Holy Spirit (Ephesians 3:12 and Philippians 1:19). In fact, boldness is contagious!^[1] We see this in Philippians 1:14, where Paul writes, “*And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.*” (ESV).

Praying for boldness with others in your church is a good place to start. Early Christians prayed for God to make them bold (Acts 4:29). Persistent sin kills boldness and causes us to shrink back from personal evangelism. As the Bible says in Job 28:1: *The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.* Knowing the Gospel, praying for boldness, and turning from sin are basic ingredients of personal evangelism.

Third, ambassadors trust God for the response.^[2] We deliver the message and make the appeal, but only God is sovereign over the response. This was Paul’s theology, which fueled his evangelism expressed in 1 Corinthians 3:7: *So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.* (ESV)

God gives the growth. Trusting the sovereignty of God in salvation need not dissuade evangelism; to the contrary, it fuels passionate personal evangelism. Paul endured hardships for the Gospel because he understood that God can and does save:

Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. (2 Timothy 2:10, ESV)

Lastly, ambassadors must not lose heart.^[3] Personal evangelism often wanes as a person experiences personal grief, church hurt, physical pain, and other forms of evil and suffering. Such experiences can turn a person inward, causing one’s thoughts to be occupied with personal concerns rather than with the concerns of one’s neighbor.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Paul, however, emphasizes that personal trials are intended by God to embolden our witness, not silence it:

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. (2 Corinthians 4:7-12, ESV).

Our frailty *shows* the surpassing power of God belonging to us in Christ. Later in that same passage, Paul draws this conclusion: *Therefore, we do not lose heart* (2 Corinthians 4:16).

Personal evangelism is the job description of every Christian. As section eleven of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 so eloquently puts the matter: *It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.*

So, when was the last time you personally shared the Gospel?

[1] Jon Bloom, "Lord, Make Me More Bold" at desiringgod.com (February 2017)

[2] J. Mack Stiles, *Evangelism* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2014), 207.

[3] *Ibid.*, 110.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Written By Trent Nicholson, Posted on February 6th, 2024

Link: <https://csbc.com/resource/an-evangelism-recap-narrative/>

An Evangelism Recap Narrative

It's a chilly December morning, and the church has gathered together after service to wrap up the first campaign of evangelism that Crossview Bible Church has ever attempted. Heads rise from the opening prayer, and the speaker begins. "Well, it's been a long road for us. We have learned about why we are to evangelize, how to share the Good News, and how to foster relationships with those people that God guides us to. How about we start with a little sharing about our experiences with spreading the Word this week." Numerous hands go up. "That's a great sign right there. Remember when no hands would go up?" There is polite laughter. "Yes, John. Tell us about your week."

"A friend of mine lost her mother recently. She is in pain and confused. When I saw her sitting alone the other day, I talked to her about what she was going through. I shared my experiences with losing loved-ones as well and asked if I could pray for her."

"And what 'T' would that be?"

"Trauma," Several people say in a chorus.

"That's right Trial, Transition, and Trauma are the most likely reasons for people to be open to the Word of God. So, how did that go, John?"

"It went well. I shared with her how Christ is with us, that we are never alone, and that he will see us through to the end. I went on to share that while we live in a broken world, God loves us enough to send us his son Jesus and that Jesus died on the cross, was raised from the dead, promised that he is going to prepare a place for us and He will come again and will take us home with him."

"And were you able to invite her to accept Jesus Christ?"

"No, she said she wasn't ready for that yet. She said that she still had too many questions."

"And is that a failure?"

"No, it's what you called a..."

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

He thinks for a moment. “A yellow light. I did give her a flier about the revival we have coming up and invited her to come and see. I will follow up with her in a week or two.”

“Perfect. Who else would like to share? Daniel?”

“Well, in the process of setting up the lunch for the teachers at the high school, I was invited to share the Gospel to the students at lunch.”

“And how did that go?”

“Green lights all the way!” I shared the 3-Circles gospel message with them, handed out the study bibles that we purchased, and was invited back to have lunch with the students again.”

“Speaking of invitations, did you invite them to accept Christ?”

“I did. We prayed the sinner’s prayer, I suggested some places to start reading in their new bibles, and one young man even expressed an interest in baptism. Honestly, I was surprised how open they were.”

“Excellent. We’ll want to hear more about that. Yes, Katherine. Did you have something?”

“Yes, I was talking to the new young woman who took over the town’s recreation and activities position. She was really stressed out. Transitioning into a new job, there seems to be a lot of expectations on her. She shared that there is so much to do, but nobody seems interested in volunteering. I told her I understand and then transitioned into Matthew 9 when Jesus told us that: ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.’ Then I suggested that we might be able to help with the events: She said she would look into it. Working with the town would give us a chance to wear our 3-circles shirts, meet the needs of the community, and maybe even set up a table with a banner.”

“That seems like an opportunity to help and share with a lot of people.”

“It is, and it gives us a chance for us to demonstrate a love like Christ’s.”

“Okay, I think we have time for just one more. Matthew?”

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

“Well, I don’t think you’d call mine a success. As you know, my brother died in a car accident recently and so my sister was one of the 4 people I wrote down the first day to pray for. I thought that coming to church might be a good way for her to cope with her loss.”

“And did you invite her?”

“I did, but she got angry. She blames God for what happened and doesn’t want anything to do with the church. I thought maybe that her heart had started to soften, but it hasn’t.”

“And what did you do?”

“She was so mean, so harsh. It was like she had forgotten that I am grieving too. I wanted to yell back, but I didn’t. I wanted to tell her that she was wrong but I remembered what you taught us in John 15: ‘If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.’”

“So, what did you do?”

“I told her I love her, that I will be there for her, and that if she ever felt ready to talk that I would be there for her.”

“Very well done. You tilled the soil so that another can plant. Remember no matter your result, yellow light, green, or even red, God uses all things for good. Evangelism is first and foremost about spreading the Good News, but it is also very much about developing a relationship with the lost and showing the love of Jesus Christ.”

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

Written By Dr. Bruno Molina, Posted on February 20th, 2024

Link: <https://csbc.com/resource/reaching-2nd-and-3rd-generation-hispanics/>

Reaching 2nd and 3rd Generation Hispanics

Para leer este artículo en español, haga clic aquí.

Officially, there are around 64 million Hispanics in the United States. Nevertheless, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) estimates that there are an additional 8 million or so who are here “unofficial.” According to Pew Research, only 15% of Hispanics are evangelical. This means that, out of the 72 million Hispanics in the U.S., about 58 million do not know Christ as their Lord and Savior.

In California, there are almost 16 million Hispanics (plus 2.6 million “unofficial” ones), which means there are about 15.8 million who do not know Christ. This is an alarming indication of a grave urgency given that most of them are 2nd and 3rd generation (and beyond). We must bear in mind that the task of reaching them is not an ethnic issue, per se, but a kingdom issue encompassing a particular key ethnicity. In California, most Hispanics are native-born, bilingual (though English-dominant), cross-cultural, and may appear to look white, Indian, African, Asian, and a host of combinations. The Hispanic population, then, represents a potential, large cross-cultural missionary force, but only if they are reached for Christ and disciplined to disciple (2 Tim. 2:2). Understanding this, we should consider the following regarding reaching the 2nd and 3rd generation.

To begin with, prayer is still the most important aspect of effective evangelism. So, let’s ask the Lord of the harvest for laborers (Mat. 9:37-38), and let’s ask for the Holy Spirit to bring conviction of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:7-11). Secondly, let’s trust that the Gospel is still the power of God for salvation (Rom. 1:16) and not our marketing strategies, gimmicks, or methods. Among Hispanics, the most effective evangelistic practices are oriented around the family and extended family (e.g., Home-based Groups, VBS, Social Recreation Programs, Marriage Enrichment, etc.).

2nd and 3rd-generation Hispanics practice selective assimilation and are trans-cultural: they retain their Hispanic distinctives while selectively transcending those distinctives to engage successfully within the broader cultural environment. So, to reach them, non-Hispanic congregations need to become Hispanic culture-friendly while getting to know them on an individual basis and not assuming that they fit into a neat box of commonly held assumptions.

OCSBA CENTRAL CA MISSION TRIP

According to Pew Research, about half of the U.S. Hispanic population is under 18! Given that the best time to reach people for Christ is when they're young, churches should emphasize children's outreach strategies like Vacation Bible School, after-school tutoring programs, compassion ministries, back-to-school giveaways, and evangelistic sports programs. Since young Hispanics spend over 4 hours a day on their electronic devices, you're going to have to communicate with them on their terms via text, X, Instagram, etc. It also means that their worldview is going to be more influenced by TikTok than the Bible. Consequently, they may not be as familiar as previous generations with essential Bible stories like the story of Adam and Eve, Noah and the flood, or others. Consequently, you may have to explain why they should believe in the reality of God, sin, and so forth, even prior to sharing the Gospel with them.

Among 2nd and 3rd-generation Hispanics in their 20s and 30s, many suffer from a quarter-life crisis during which they lack a sense of foundation, purpose, and community.[i] This represents an opportunity for churches to organize community social events and retreats focused on their needs, during which young Hispanics can find their significance, security, and satisfaction in Christ.

Churches tend to focus on reaching the poor, uneducated Hispanics (the down-and-out without Christ) who are typically first-generation. It's easy to coordinate a Thanksgiving turkey giveaway, food pantry, or clothing giveaway and count on people showing up. Nevertheless, the 2nd and 3rd generation, educated, and financially secure Hispanics (the "up-and-out" without Christ) are just as lost. There needs to be a significantly expanded effort to connect with 2nd and 3rd-generation Hispanic business, education, and government leaders through organizations like the local chamber of commerce, the board of education, community service organizations like the Lions Club, and local government entities. For example, your church could host a meal at a nice hotel where the speaker addresses a topic of interest to them, and someone shares a brief testimony about how Christ has impacted their life.

The harvest is plentiful, the workers are few, and the need for the Gospel among 2nd and 3rd-generation Hispanics is urgent! Nevertheless, from God's point of view, these challenges are nothing more than opportunities disguised as problems. God has given believers the authority, the ability, and the resources to be his faithful ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20) and make disciples of all the nations (Mat. 28:19-20). We must respond to these opportunities as Joshua responded to God's call in his day by saying, "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD! (Joshua 24:15)."

[i] LinkedIn. 2017. Encountering a Quarter-life Crisis? You're Not Alone... <https://www.linkedin.com/blog/member/career/encountering-a-quarter-life-crisis-you-are-not-alone> accessed on 1/23/2024