

## Season of Prayer 2017

For State Missions and the Janie Chapman Offering  
For State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living

# Children's Sermons Pray, Proclaim, Permeate

**Scripture:** <sup>2</sup> "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison – <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak." Colossians 4:2-4, ESV

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• **Sunday, September 10, 2017** •

## OPENED DOORS

**Materials Needed:** Bible with scripture marked, backpack with schoolbooks (reading and science), notebook paper, and school supplies

### Procedures:

- Greet the children as they arrive and ask them to sit facing you.
- Explain that this week is our Season of Prayer. This is when we take time to focus specifically on the missionaries in our state and to pray for them. It is important for us to pray for each other and especially for the missionaries who are telling others about Christ.
- Show them the backpack. **Say:** "God has opened doors into schools to allow us to share Christ in different ways (pull out the reading book). One way is through the **Heart 4 Schools** program in which members of **Myrtle Beach First Baptist Church** and many other churches around our state act as mentors and reading buddies to children in the local schools. **Charleston First Baptist Church** has gone a step further and mentored the children in science (show science book) as well as having a place near the school where the children, parents and teens can come together to play games and hear the gospel. Another way is through the teachers. **Cedar Creek Baptist Church** in Aiken asked the teachers and guidance counselors what was needed most and the answer was paper (pull out notebook paper) and other school supplies. Cedar Creek also sends birthday cards to the teachers. We need to remember to be on the lookout for doors that God has opened and to be ready to walk through them. We can share the gospel through reading with someone, mentoring them or doing something as simple as providing them with a pack of notebook paper."
- Read Colossians 4:2-4.
- Pray that God will lead churches to establish Reading Buddy programs and to adopt local schools and that God will open doors with families that lead to spiritual conversations.

• **Sunday, September 17, 2017** •

## **WORKING TOGETHER**

**Materials Needed:** Bible with scripture marked, pictures of University of South Carolina Women's National Basketball Championship team, Coastal Carolina University National Baseball Championship team, Clemson University National Football Championship team, and a picture of your church.

**Procedures:**

- Greet the children as they arrive and ask them to sit facing you.
- Show the pictures of the different sports teams. **Say:** "These teams worked hard, and most importantly, together, to win the ultimate goal of a national championship. Just as these teams worked to reach their goal, as a body of believers, we are to work together to share Christ with others (show the picture of your church)."
- Tell the children that sometimes people see a need for a different type church in a community and will plant a church there to meet that need just as **Dr. Charles Kenya, Augustin Mutabesha, Samuel Kioka**, and our state convention leaders did in Spartanburg. They recognized that there was a group of Swahili-speaking people in need of a church and the Neema Kiswahili Baptist Church was planted. Sometimes churches merge together in order to witness to their community such as is the case with **Oak Grove Church and Hub City Church** in Spartanburg. At other times, churches will open their doors to allow others to use their facilities for worship just as **Citadel Square Baptist Church** does in Charleston. They have welcomed a Chinese congregation as well as Centerpoint Church to use their building and to join them in worship. The goal of all these churches is to reach as many people for Christ as they can and to do so by meeting the needs of the community.
- Read Colossians 4:2-4.
- Explain to the children that the church is not the building – it is the people. All believers are to work together to "declare the mystery of Christ" to those who do not know Him.
- Pray for unity in our churches, that new members will be welcomed, for new families to become a part of the church, for steadfastness in looking outward to the community and the world to win the lost for Christ, and for all churches to make disciples.