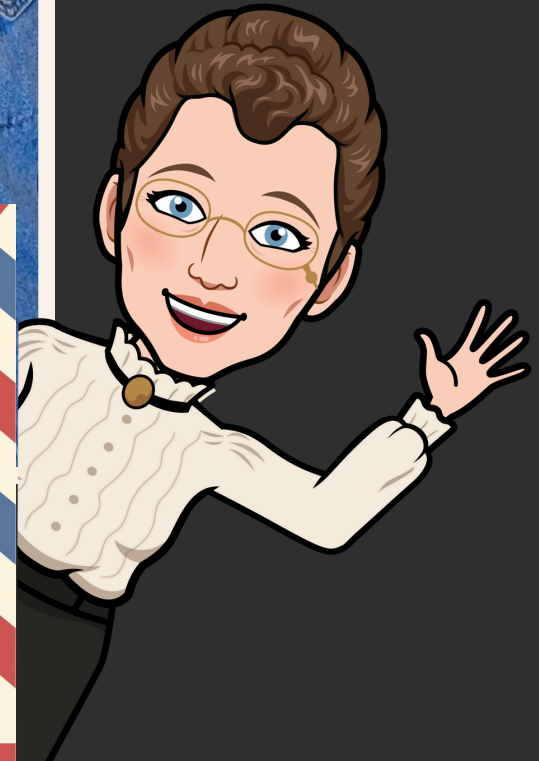


Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions

STUDENTS & ADULTS



2024-2025
THE GOSPEL AT
Home



Women in Crisis

Students and Adults will learn how God uses ordinary people to walk alongside those who need hope and healing in Hopkinsville.

2024 ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING® FOR STATE MISSIONS

STUDENT & ADULT MISSION STUDY

SESSION GOALS

Our goal for this session is to help believers examine their hearts and live on mission just like Jesus. By reading what Jesus says in Luke 8 and applying it to our current context, we can better serve others under the same directive. As we read the featured passage, we will notice the lives changed by the Lord, His call on their life, and the desired response. As you pray for the featured ministries for this year's offering, pray for those who are moved to serve the marginalized. Pray for those who are impacted by missions and ministry efforts that they would experience personal transformation as they witness Jesus' love in action.

Needed Resources

- Bible
- Journal
- Pen/Pencil
- EBO Prayer Cards
- EBO Video
- EBO Envelopes

Enlist Helpers

Tag team your gathering. Enlist individuals to lead the Missions Learning and Prayer Time. This will engage more people to use their creativity to make your gathering unique and exciting.

Plan Your Gathering

- *Welcome & Prayer* (15 minutes)
- *Bible Study* (25-30 minutes) - Use the discussion questions to deepen the conversation. Dig deep in the Word to understand God's desire for us to share the Good News.
- *Missions Learning* (15 minutes) - use the suggested EBO video and highlight a Kentucky Ministry. Identify ways you can adopt this ministry and come alongside them in missions action. Identify ways your church can engage your community similar to what this ministry is doing. Highlight the State Offering Goal and your Church's goal. Incorporate a unique challenge to help your church meet your goal.
- *Focused Prayer Time* (10-15 minutes) - Include prayer for missionaries with birthdays in "Prayer Patterns" in Missions Mosaic, KBC's InterSeed Calendar, and the KBC's Church Planter of the Week. Use the EBO and incorporate creative ways to engage your group in prayer.
- *Dismiss*

GET STARTED

Imagine such a situation:

(For Students) you receive the letter in mail from your top choice of colleges you want to attend. The letter says “congratulations, you got in!” In that moment, you think of God’s provision and how He worked through you to get to this point. The late nights and countless projects, all a part of His plan. What do you do next?

(For Adults) after much prayer and the loss of previous attempts, the doctor points to the fetal monitor and says “congratulations, your going to be parents”. In that moment, you think of how God brought you to this point and celebrate His goodness. What do you do next?

STUDY AND LEARN

- Read Luke 8:26-39

We don’t know much about the demon-possessed man or how he got to the state that he was in, but what we do know is what happened after he was set free from his burden. We get a picture of his response, the townspeople’s reaction, and Jesus’ command to the man.

- Invite some one to read Luke 8:26-33 with this question in mind: What was the man’s first reaction to Jesus?

As Jesus encountered this man, we learn that the demons who inhabited the man were fearful. The mere presence of Jesus brought these demons to tremble. One commentator said that “demons tremble at the Son’s word (v.29)” because he controls their fate. This scripture gives us a clear understanding that the enemy has no power against Jesus. Sounds like the demons have a healthy fear of God, as should we. His commands subject even the demons to complete obedience.

While we don’t see too much demon possession in our everyday lives, we can’t ignore that the natural spiritual realm does exist. As believers, we have the confidence that the Lord is sovereign over all things seen and unseen in the spiritual realm, and deals with it accordingly.

- Ask: Have you ever been afraid to talk about the spiritual realm and the enemy’s scheme to cause destruction in our world and in our lives? Why?

- Read Luke 8:34-39

In our world today, there are so many situations that can cause us to live in fear. Maybe this is our modern-day demon-possession, maybe not, but when situations seem hopeless it can cause us to be paralyzed. Like this man, we might be drawn further and further into darkness. Maybe we are not physically living in cemeteries but instead inviting things into our lives that promote death.

But here is the good news, we don't have to live here. As Christians, we no longer have a death sentence attached to our name.

It's true, we live in a fallen world, BUT GOD has overcome the world. In verses 34-39, Luke helps us grasp the vast nature that Jesus has on the schemes of the Devil. The word of the Lord does two things in this passage, it calms fear and sets the captive free. There is a way out!

I believe the demon-possessed man truly understood this. Jesus set him free and he desired so much to know this man who picked him up from his despair and washed him clean. Where once there was death, now there was life. Where once he was blind, now he can see. Where once there was no hope, now there is hope everlasting through the gospel of Jesus. This man can now testify that no matter how many demons or trials come your way, with one word Jesus can completely change your life for good.

It's no wonder the man wanted to stay close to the Lord, I would too, but Jesus had other plans for him. He sent him on a mission to return home and tell others what God had done. Scripture says, "and off he went proclaiming throughout the town how much Jesus had done for him (v.39)." No ifs, ands, or buts. Without question, the man was simply obedient and went home to tell about Jesus.

APPLY

While our stories might be different from this demon-possessed man, we do have in common that we too were set free from the grip of hell. We too have a call on our lives to go and tell others of the good news of the gospel. Evangelism can take on many forms, methods, or opportunities, but the charge God gives us stays the same. The only question is if we will be obedient to His commands.

Discuss these questions:

- What causes you to miss opportunities to share the gospel?
- Is it easier to share the gospel with someone you don't know versus some one you do know? Why?

CLOSING

As believers and disciples of Jesus Christ, let's commit to engaging those around us with the gospel. From our homes to our neighborhoods, to our wider communities, let's unite together in obedience to God's Word and share the good news of the gospel with those who have yet to hear.

“Those who hear the word must spread the word.
Everyone must hear the word.
Hearing the word is spiritual warfare.
The more we hear it, the more we have of it.
If we obey the Word, it will place us in a new family.
By his word, the Lord calms our fears.
By his word, the Lord sets the captive free.”

Thabiti M. Anyabwile

FEATURED MINISTRY

Grace & Mercy - Hopkinsville



“We exist for safety, love, and restoration.”

Since 2015, Grace & Mercy has helped over 100 women get to the root of their trauma and crisis and experience a new-found purpose in life.

Grace and Mercy understand that women experiencing personal crises and trauma feel a mix of fear, shame, guilt, and anger. They are struggling to find freedom and healing. Whether they are experiencing isolation due to abuse, addiction, adverse childhood experiences, homelessness, or incarceration, each woman is met where they are and provided safety. Workers at Grace and Mercy have discipled 119 women this year, and have seen 87 put their trust in Jesus.



Grace and Mercy provide women with housing, Bible study, educational opportunities, and training in life skills, home management, parenting, community involvement, and employment preparation and placement. The program is based on Biblical principles and Christ-centered guidance along with a proven program of daily organization.

Joanna Mack, founder and Executive Director, has used her life experiences with crisis and trauma to develop the ministry programming used at Grace and Mercy. Joanna serves as a Kentucky MSC Missionary through the Kentucky Baptist Convention and has a heart for helping women restore their lives.

When you give through the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, you provide Grace and Mercy participants and their children with a family trip/retreat. This experience includes a trip to the Ark Encounter and a retreat that offers Biblical learning, relationship building, and an opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.



“We believe that only Jesus Christ has the power to completely heal and restore broken people..”

FAITH IN ACTION

Outreach to Families

When your church gives through the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, you come alongside missionaries and ministries to provide more opportunities for people to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. When you give, your donation represents your presence and support to those ministries supported by EBO.

Your participation should stop here. Along with your giving, we encourage you to go! Be a part of Kentucky Missions right in your community. Like Grace and Mercy, plan a mission project that reaches women and their children. We have provided a few ideas, but you can always develop your own.

Community Kids' Stuff Swap

Have church members and community members bring items (clothing, shoes, sporting gear) that their kids have outgrown or no longer need to swap with things their kids do need. Instruct church members to be generous in what they bring and to not take anything home! This is strictly a ministry to the church neighborhood. Send every family home with an invitation to your next kid's ministry event, parenting class, holiday celebration, or ministry group.

Community New Mommy's Tea

Plan a lovely, fun tea for new moms in your community, with a focus on church members bringing moms who are unchurched. Provide tours of the church nursery, and have the regular nursery workers in the rooms to meet them. Print invitations for church members to give to new mothers they know and an e-invitation so members can forward to new moms. Request RSVPs for church care and attendance. Provide time for new moms to ask questions of seasoned moms as well as time to simply connect with each other. Have moms in your church each host a table of new moms to be the "expert" encourager, to connect with guests, or even lead discussion if the need should arise.

Summer Adventure Days

Plan day trip adventures for moms and kids. Have moms invite their friends who are not involved in church to your church's day at the zoo, park, children's museum, or craft day. Print invitations for each guest to invite them to church and provide an opportunity to share Jesus during your trip.

*Ideas taken from *Across the Street and Around the World*, Diana Davis & Autumn Wall, New Hope Publishers, Birmingham, AL, 2016.