

Missions Leaders

Churchwide Planning & Promotion Helps
for Pastors, WMU Directors & Other Missions Leaders

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2015 State Missions Emphasis and Eliza Broadus Offering

Do you remember ever having heard someone say “that person has a sweet heart” or “what a good heart”? Or do you like to hear a good-hearted story? Most of us enjoy a good story, a good hearted story. There are websites that talk about the heart of the story. For our purposes **The Heart of the Story** is based on the New Testament story about the blind man that was healed by Jesus. Found in John 9, this story tells us that the blind man, in answer to those who questioned him, said “*One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.*”

Changed lives are at the heart of each story of redemption by Jesus. For many years Paul Harvey captured attention on the radio as he told little known engaging stories about people and situations with some key element of the story held back until the end. The stories always ended with the tagline, ‘And now you know the rest of the story.’ During the 2015 state missions emphasis we want you to know *the heart of the story* through the stories of people who have been saved through Kentucky Baptist ministries.

How to use this material: As a missions leader in your church, this guide will help you to lead your church’s observance of the Week of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering (EBO.) The 2015 state missions material offers suggestions for music, scripture, children sermon, Eliza Broadus biographical sketch, sermon outline, ideas for promotion, mission projects and much more. There are also study materials for all age-levels. These materials are available on The Heart of the Story DVD or at kywmu.org/ebo.

2015 State Missions Emphasis Highlights

Suggested Date: September 13-20, 2015

Suggested Scripture: John 9:25-27

(Note: If your church has a preferred translation, please use it. For the full context, use all of John 9.)

Focal Verse: “One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see” (John 9:25b ESV)

Suggested Music:

- *Amazing Grace*
- *He Touched Me*
- *Now I Belong to Jesus*
- *Since I Have Been Redeemed*
- *Since Jesus Came Into My Heart*
- *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*
- *The Light of the World*

Music videos available on YouTube:

- *Redeemed*, Big Daddy Weave (Words and music to this songs available on several web sites.)

Master Article (print from DVD) – information about eight ministries in Kentucky.

VideoOptions (Use one each Sunday in September and/or for mission study):

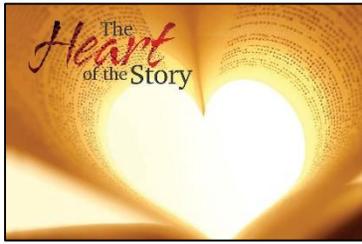
- TellYourStory.Today
- Language Missions Through Church Planting
- Creative Ministries Festival 2.0
- First Priority Student Ministry
- Disaster Relief Overview
- Disaster Relief: A Response of Hope
- Disaster Relief: An Opportunity to Serve
- Operation Inasmuch Kentucky

Missions Leaders Churchwide Planning & Promotion and Teaching plans (available for preschool, children, students, adults) – print from DVD.

All 2015 state missions materials and videos are also available online: www.kywmu.org/ebo

Promotion items:

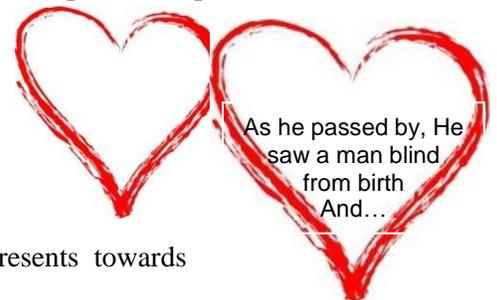
- ♥ Planning Guide & DVD (with videos & computer files). This DVD will play the videos in a standard DVD player. It may also be used in a computer equipped with a DVD drive to access both the videos and the computer files.
- ♥ Biographical sketch of Eliza Broadus (Print PDF file from DVD)
- ♥ The Heart of the Story poster. (Note: A KJV version of the poster is available on the DVD.)
- ♥ The Heart of the Story prayer guides (8-day prayer guide in bulletin insert format)
- ♥ Eliza Broadus Offering envelopes



NOTE: Posters, prayer guides, and envelopes will be mailed separately according to the amount requested on your annual order form for LMCO, AAEO, and EBO materials. Contact Kentucky WMU if you need to place a first time order or make changes in your standing order.

Preparing for the State Missions Emphasis:

- ♥ Set the **date**. The suggested week is September 13-20, 2015 (which is the Sunday after Labor Day to the next).
- ♥ Determine the **best way to inform**, impress and involve the entire church. Age-level materials are available and will help all ages learn about Kentucky missions. Many are inspired to give more to the offering for state missions if they hear a speaker. Contact information for highlighted ministries is included in the Planning Guide and Master Article. For other state missionaries, please contact the state missions office at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Kentucky WMU staff and leaders are also available to speak for state missions.
- ♥ Set a **goal** that is achievable. Don't be afraid to challenge your church to sacrificially give to the offering. A rule of thumb to use is that if your church met the goal last year, then increase it by 10%. If your goal was not reached, then keep it the same. If your church has never set an EBO goal, then consider setting a goal with a dollar amount per active adult member and perhaps one-half that amount for children so that they feel part of the process.
- ♥ Place a **promotional display** in a high traffic area of the church.
 - IDEA 1: Prepare a poster board size cut-out of a heart. As the goal is reached, fill in the heart with paper that looks like a story. This could be an enlarge copy of the scripture passage. Add more of the "story" as the goal is reached.
 - IDEA 2: Post a large map of Kentucky. Cover the map with heart cut-outs as the goal is reach. Determine an amount that each heart represents towards reaching the goal.
 - IDEA 3: Put a red paper heart cut out with the words "The Heart of the Story" in each offering envelope. As people give, ask them to place the heart on a map of Kentucky.
- ♥ Promote plans through the church newsletter, Sunday worship bulletin, website, social media such as Facebook and bulletin board. If you have access to email addresses in the church, use services such as E-vite (www.evite.com). Be sure to include the time and place of the events and activities.



Preparing for the study, prayer time and offering:

- ♥ Pray for your church, church staff, and for God to use this study to make an eternal impact on the world.
- ♥ Consult with church staff and other leaders to plan a special event, week or month to learn about, pray for and give to the state missions offering.
- ♥ Study the scripture passage. For the full context, use all of John 9 in the translation of your preference.
- ♥ Watch all of the videos. Note that the DVD includes four new videos which were created for the 2015 emphasis plus three additional videos on Disaster Relief.
- ♥ Print all of the PDF files on the DVD (a computer with DVD drive and Adobe Acrobat Reader required). Files include: Master Article, age-level teaching plans and teaching resources, state missions sermon, children's sermon, and an Eliza Broadus Biography. (These files are also available on the web: www.kywmu.org/ebo.)
- ♥ Distribute the age-level teaching guides. Let the leaders know about the video resources.



♥ Use The Heart of the Story graphic in your promotion. Graphics are included in the Bonus Files section of the DVD or on the web: kywmu.org/ebo.

♥ Plan a **churchwide missions project**. See list of Missions Involvement Ideas which follows. If you are in the area of one of the featured ministries, plan a project to connect with that ministry site. Other suggestions are in the age-level teaching plans. Contact information for featured ministries are included in the Planning Guide and Master Article.

Mission Involvement Ideas

- **Operation Inasmuch** is a statewide missions effort jointly sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Kentucky WMU to do during the month of September. Inasmuch Kentucky is a day of hands-on service in your community. Plan to move your church family from the pew to the pavement by doing ministry in your community. Projects can be as diverse as the community where you live. There is no limit as to how God will use your church to share Jesus. Plan to have materials ready to give to those that do not attend church or a small group Bible study during your ministry project. Learn more:

<http://www.kybaptist.org/homepage/missions-mobilization/operation-inasmuch-kentucky/>

<http://www.operationinasmuch.org/churches/operation-inasmuch-kentucky/>

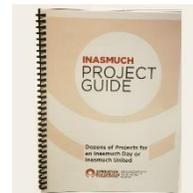
<http://vimeo.com/112504047> (Introductory video)

A **Project Guide** and other priced resources are available.

<http://www.operationinasmuch.org/product/inasmuch-project-guide/>



IMAGINE **WHAT A WITNESS** IT WOULD BE IF KENTUCKY BAPTIST CHURCHES BLITZED THEIR COMMUNITIES AND OUR STATE TO **SERVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**. WHAT AN IMPACT IT MAKES WHEN WE MOVE MEMBERS **FROM THEIR SEATS TO THE STREETS**.



- **Adopt a New Church Plant**. Plan a day that your church could be involved by helping out with tasks that are needed on the property, prayerwalk the target community, or to host a block party for outreach. Contact Carlos De La Barra at the Kentucky Baptist Convention for information about church planting needs (502-489-3419).



- **Tell Your Story** by calling the number shown on the TellYourStory.Today website. Have a testimony sharing time, then record stories. After the stories have been posted, help people make cards with the web address of their story to share with others.



- **Make plans to attend Disaster Relief Training**. Contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention for the training schedule. If people from your church are already involved in Disaster Relief, ask for ways that your church can provide resources or assist in the ministry.



Additional Help for the WMU Director, Pastor, Churchwide Missions Coordinator or other missions leader:

- ♥ **Pray**. Ask in your time with God how you will promote the Season of Prayer, involve your church, and set your goal for the offering.
- ♥ **Read** all the materials and know what is available. Your knowledge is a powerful message to your church.
- ♥ Use the **sermon outline** for a Sunday morning service. As pastor, give encouragement to support the offering and include examples or personal experiences

of how this offering has impacted people in your community and in Kentucky.

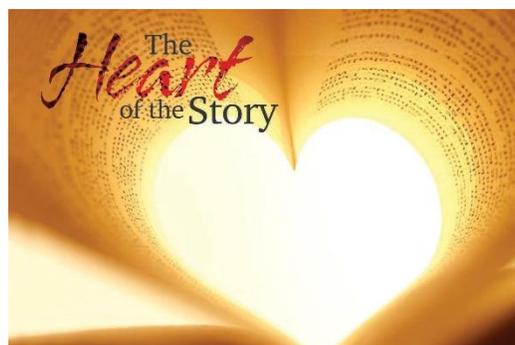
- ♥ Invite a **state missions speaker** to speak at your church during the month. This could be a representative of a ministry featured in the Master Article or a Kentucky missionary. Kentucky WMU staff and leaders are also available to speak about state missions.
- ♥ Use the short **video clips** during pre-service announcements or during services.

- ♥ **Enlist age-level leaders** and use the materials that are provided to lead everyone in your church to learn, pray, give and go in Kentucky.
- ♥ Place **offering envelopes** in the pew racks. If there are homebound members, send them a personal letter, prayer guide, and offering envelope.
- ♥ Place **prayer guides** in Sunday church bulletins and ask recipients to use them at home during their quiet time, family time or meal times each day of the week of prayer.
- ♥ Display **posters** in high traffic areas of the church. Keep the Season of Prayer for State Missions in the forefront and promote whenever members are together and the time is appropriate.
- ♥ Share the story of **Eliza Broadus** with the church. See Biography of Eliza Broadus included on the DVD.

Helps for Age-Level Leaders including WMU Age-Level, Sunday School, and Discipleship Leaders:

- ♥ Pray and ask God to show you how your group can learn, pray, give, and go in Kentucky missions.
- ♥ Obtain a copy of the appropriate age-level teaching guide from The Heart of the Story DVD. Copies were mailed to pastors, WMU Directors, and enclosed with the standing order of materials for your church. Materials are also posted online: www.kywmu.org/ebo.
- ♥ Read the teaching guide and prepare the necessary materials to complete your lesson and activities.

As you prepare and promote the Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering, listen and share **The Heart of the Story**.



**WMU challenges Christian believers to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God.
Kentucky WMU helps churches learn, pray, give, go, and send!**

About the writer: Wanda Walker is the Adult and Churchwide Consultant for Kentucky WMU.