

Below you'll find a story to share with your preschooler, as well as a brief prayer guide and suggestions for some fun activities you can do together that will help you: 1) Think about God's power to do immeasurably more than we could ever ask or even imagine; and 2) Introduce your child to some of the ways people are learning about God's love through ministries supported by the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer. Scroll down to the last page to find activity prompts and instructions. Links and printables are included.

Find out more about the 2020 Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer, and learn about missions pioneer Mrs. Jackson herself, through resources available at [absc.org/dixiejackson](http://absc.org/dixiejackson).

## LEARN TOGETHER

As you share the story, engage your child by doing motions they can copy. Use these suggestions, or make up some motions yourself.

What's the very biggest thing you can think of?

- A house? (**Raise your arms and make the shape of a roof over your head.**)
- An elephant? (**Bend over and swing your arms together, like an elephant's trunk.**)
- The whole world? (**Raise your arms over your head in a circle.**)

The Bible tells us that God's power is the biggest (**stretch your arms out wide**), strongest (**make a muscle**) power there is! It's bigger and stronger than the very biggest, strongest thing we can imagine!

Let's find some Bible verses that tell us something special about God's power. (**Look together for Ephesians 3:20-21. When you find it, take your child's hand; as you read the passage out loud, gently underline the words with their pointer finger.**)

"With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or think of. To him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever. Amen."  
(Ephesians 3:20-21) —*International Children's Bible*

Ephesians is actually a letter. A friend of Jesus named Paul wrote it to some people who were part of a new church. Paul wanted to tell them as much as he could to help them get to know God better.

Paul says that when Jesus lives in our heart (**put your hand over your heart**), God's mighty power (**make a muscle**) lives inside of us, too. With God's power inside of us, we can do anything He asks us to do! And one of the most important things God asks us to do is to tell others about Jesus.

Here's another thing Paul says in his letter: No matter where we live or where we go to church, everyone who loves Jesus is actually part of one giant family (**spread your arms out wide**)! God loves for us to work together with other people in our giant Christian family to make sure everyone has a chance to know Him.

Baptist churches like ours, all over our state—**help me remember, what's the name of our state?**—set aside a



special time every year to give money, to pray, and to tell people about Jesus together.

We give to a special offering that's named for a lady who lived in Arkansas a long time ago. Her name was Dixie Jackson, and she loved to tell people about Jesus! **(Share Mrs. Jackson's picture.)**

Money we give to the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering helps start new churches. It helps dentists travel around to places where people can't get care for their teeth. It helps throw fun outdoor parties where kids can play games, have snacks, and learn about Jesus. It helps pay for grown-ups to learn how to read and write if they've never learned before. When there are bad storms that tear up houses and yards, it sends helpers with supplies to fix the damage.

God's mighty power (**make a muscle**) inside of one person can do way more than we can imagine. Look at what God's mighty power (**make a muscle**) can do when a whole bunch of Arkansas Baptists are working together!

## PRAY TOGETHER

Let's talk to God about the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer:

- First, let's tell Him how much we love Him!
- Also, let's thank Him for our church, and for all the churches in Arkansas that give to the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.
- Let's ask Him to show us how we can be helpers right now in our neighborhood, in our town and in our state. And let's remember that God will give us the power to do anything He asks us to do to serve others and tell them about Jesus!

## PLAY TOGETHER

- When Paul talks about God's power, we should pay really close attention. Because this is a guy who knows from experience what he's talking about. Share this video ([youtube.com/watch?v=L\\_7tdhPHcHw](https://youtube.com/watch?v=L_7tdhPHcHw)) with your preschooler about Paul's ministry, which began with a supernatural encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus.

- The Bible tells us that memorizing Scripture is an important part of growing our spiritual muscles (for example, Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 4:12). And setting Scripture to music is a great way to help us remember it. Use a song (like this one: [youtube.com/watch?v=PmInKkAo2ri](https://youtube.com/watch?v=PmInKkAo2ri)) to help you and your preschooler learn **Ephesians 3:20** together. Add your own dance moves while you're at it!
- One of the most vivid reminders we have of God's awesome power is a huge night sky filled with stars. When you're ready for bedtime prayers, take a blanket out in the backyard and spend a few minutes stargazing. Encourage your preschooler to think about how kids all over the country are looking at those very same stars. In fact, the sky is so huge that it's also bringing daytime to kids in other parts of the world! And as big as the sky is, God's power is even bigger! Reflect on that truth together as you say your prayers.
- Your preschooler might find the idea of God's power living inside of us to be a little abstract, but a visual using a plastic drinking straw and a stick can help. By itself, the straw isn't very strong; invite your child to demonstrate by bending the straw and even tying it in a knot. But when you insert the stick into the straw, the straw becomes stronger. God's power living inside of us makes us stronger, too! (Watch object lesson demonstrated by **Laurie Donahue** here: [vimeo.com/107591477](https://vimeo.com/107591477).)
- The "Pray for Oasis Church" printable will help your child find Little Rock on the map and offer your family some prompts as you pray for this Central Arkansas church plant, one of several supported by the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering. Invite your child to color it, then decide together where you'll display it as a reminder to pray for Oasis Church this year.
- Paul's main focus was telling people about Jesus. But he paid his way by making tents for travelers to live in when they were on the road. Drag out your blankets and pillows, and help your preschooler build a tent in your living room. While you work together, talk about Disaster Relief volunteers who are supported by gifts to the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering. How would you feel if a storm tore up your house? What

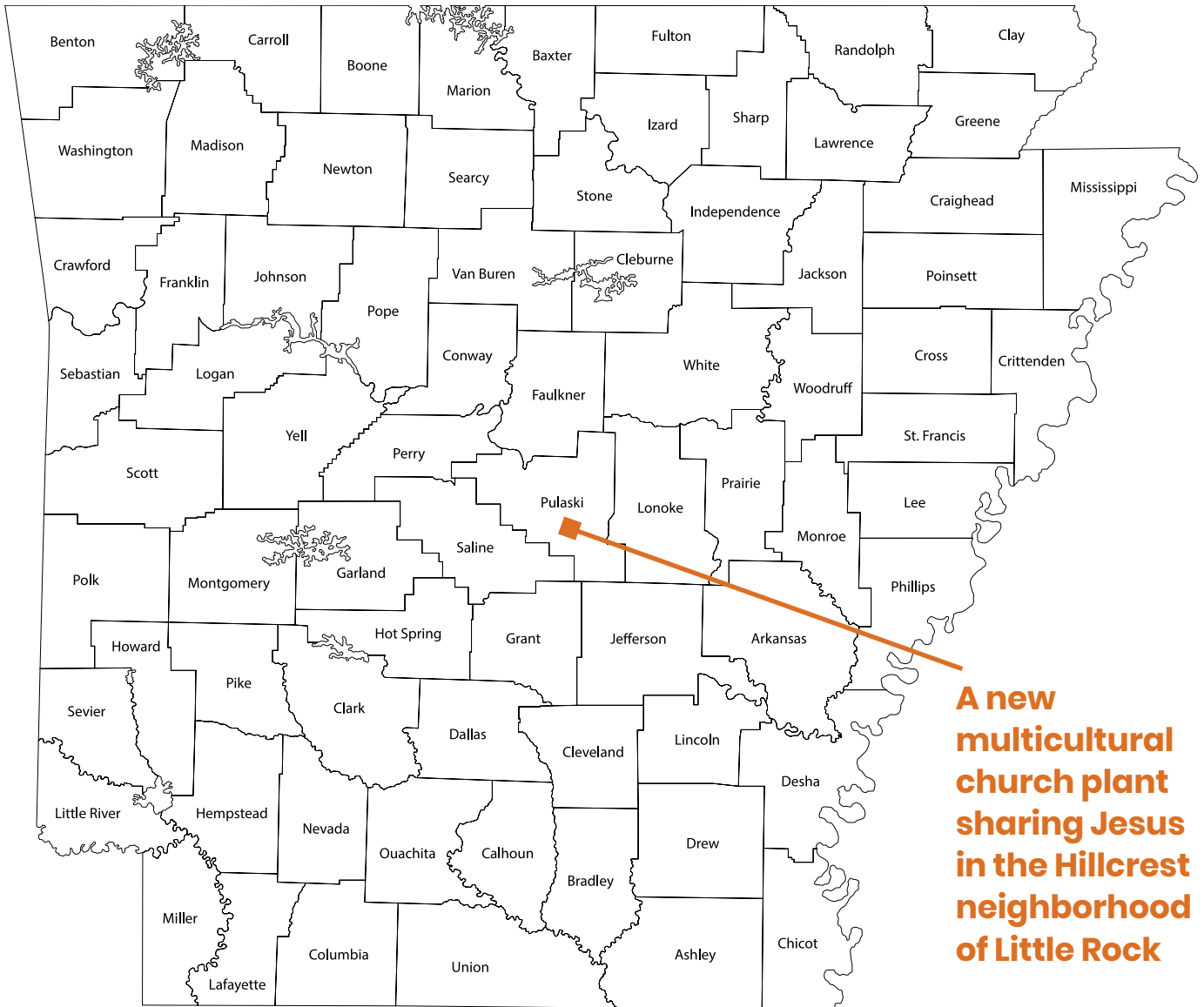
if you couldn't fix it by yourself? When your tent is finished, before you play, take a second to thank God for the Disaster Relief teams who are always ready to help others.

- The Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering also supports a ministry called Bible Storying, which offers workshops where people can learn to easily share Bible stories in ways that focus on teaching others about Jesus and how to be His disciple. Does your preschooler have a favorite Bible story? Help them make a movie! Work up a skit together using toys, stuffed animals, Legos, or something handmade; use what you have at home to make sock or stick puppets, face masks, paper dolls—whatever props they choose. (If you need inspiration or direction, Pinterest is full of ideas.) Figure out together how your preschooler can tell or act out the story in a way that shares something important about Jesus. After a few rounds of practice, use your phone to record them performing their skit.

**MRS. DIXIE JACKSON**



# LET'S PRAY FOR OASIS CHURCH!



**A new multicultural church plant sharing Jesus in the Hillcrest neighborhood of Little Rock**



**Pray for Oasis Church to be a light for Jesus in Hillcrest.**



**Pray for Oasis Pastors Jordan Bowen, Kent Wiles, and Pranay Borde, who are teaching others about Jesus.**



**Give thanks for all the people of different cultures who are coming to know Jesus at Oasis Church.**