

May 2025

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MINISTRIES

NEWSLETTER

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May

"Since the Lord is sovereign over my life and I trust Him with my life, I have yielded my rights to Him. My human disappointments are now Gods appointments for Christ to increase my faith and develop His character in me."

Imagine if we as God's people could shift our thinking from "Why is this happening to me God?" to "Thank you that this is happening God."

The trials and sufferings that we walk through should not come as a surprise to us, but until you face a big one, its hard to know how you'll react. Many times, we are overcome with grief, anger, doubt, and fear to name a few. I myself am guilty in this.

Here's the thing, you may have developed such tunnel vision on your suffering, that you've been unable to see it from an eternal perspective. 1 Peter 1:6-7 talks about rejoicing, though you have faced trials of many kinds, because it will prove the genuineness of your faith and be found to result in praise, honor, and glory at Christs return. Wow! We **get** to walk through suffering, with our lives completely yielded to him, and we get to be shaped and tested as we keep our eyes fixed on Him, the eternal joy that is set before us. That's why we can say "thank you Jesus for what I am going through because my life is yours."

Maybe we need to let go of the entitlement of thinking we get to walk through life problem-free and realize that Just as Jesus went to the cross to suffer, though He begged for another way, He still said to the Father "yet not my will, but yours be done."



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Serve Tour– Evansville, IN

Excerpt from Send Relief's Website:

"Pastor Steve Brown had his doubts. When a fellow Evansville pastor invited him to help lead a grill walk — an outreach event combining food and gospel conversations — he wasn't even sure what it was or what to expect. But May 2 in Evansville, standing in the middle of a public housing complex with boarded-up homes and barefoot children, all those doubts melted away. His team had come to serve burgers and share the love of Christ. What they found was a neighborhood aching to be seen. One man stood out. He was an older gentleman from Mississippi, soft-spoken, humble, unable to read. His home was full of children. Though he had heard about Jesus, he wasn't sure where he'd spend eternity. So Brown, pastor of Evansville's Friendship Southern Baptist Church, gently walked him through the gospel. The man knew Jesus had died and risen again but had never personally placed his trust in Him. Right there, surrounded by kids and neighbors, with tears running down his face, the man prayed to receive Christ. During the Send Relief Serve Tour stop in Evansville on May 2–3, that Mississippi man was one of six who came to faith in Jesus during the grill walk near Brown's church. Brown, a 50-year veteran of jail ministry and an experienced personal evangelist, said the event changed how he sees the neighborhood around his church.

"I just got rejuvenated," said Brown. "This is what I need to be doing, because I know how to do it. I had neglected that neighborhood right around my church. This reminded me this is what I'm called to."



This is what the grill walk is all about! It's a simple tool to rejuvenate the church and remind them what they are called to. We all have a common purpose as believers and that's to proclaim the Gospel to others and be the hands and feet of Jesus. We are so thankful to partner with Send Relief Serve Tours and get the opportunity to connect with so many churches and volunteers who simply need to be encouraged and reminded of their purpose. We give all the glory to Jesus who has been opening doors wide open to make these types of connections possible!



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Food Outreach

At the May Food Distribution Outreach on May 3rd, there were over 250 people and 31 volunteers. The people eagerly lined up an hour to two hours before the event started at 11. As part of the team was gone for a serve tour, the other half of the team ran the outreach. Being smaller staffed, we really appreciated the 31 volunteers who sacrificed their time to come and help make it happen. Several volunteers shared their testimonies from the mic, some of them for the first time. We hope many people were not only served but also impacted by the love of Christ during this outreach!



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Kids Camp

Summer officially started in May! That means a new Kids Camp schedule is in place. Starting on May 22nd, Kids Camp was from 11am-1pm and started serving the kids lunch every week! We also implemental a field trip every other week! So far, we have taken the kids to the local splashpad and park. They had a blast during the field trip and their faces of excitement said it all! A wonderful volunteer named Laney brought pizzas and drinks for the kids. So far, we have had volunteers bring lunch every week and God just continues to provide in that way! If you are interested in bringing a lunch for the Kids, please reach out to Autumn at 918-344-9638!



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Paradise Garden

Through lots of long hours put in, our garden is growing beautifully and even beginning to produce some crop! We have been renovating the East end of our garden to be a grass lawn that will soon be an outdoor movie space for the community. The rest of the garden is full of herbs, vegetables, berries, cherries, and flowers. Our goal is to make the garden a peaceful space where anyone can go to “walk with God” and worship, pray, and meditate on His word. We also want it to be a space of community where people can come spend time and be reminded of the beauty of Gods creation while having fun.

