

2022 MARY HILL DAVIS OFFERING® FOR TEXAS MISSIONS

# Children's Study Guide

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## Introduction

The Mary Hill Davis Offering® for Texas Missions provides funding for over eighty ministries across Texas. When you give, you are helping people across the state share the love of Jesus with those who need to know Him as their Savior.

This lesson will focus on two specific ministries: Church Planting and Special Associations Allocations. You can find additional information at [iamtexasmissions.org](http://iamtexasmissions.org).

If you do not have time to cover both ministry areas, you may choose one that best fits your group.

## Bible Verse

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

## Preparation

Prior to the scheduled study, review the resources for the 2022 Week of Prayer and Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions at [iamtexasmissions.org](http://iamtexasmissions.org).

Envelopes, Prayer Guides, and posters are available for ordering. *Because you Give* and *Offering Allocations* can be downloaded and printed at [iamtexasmissions.org](http://iamtexasmissions.org). You will also find a Children's Prayer Guide available for download.

Use these materials to share with children how their offering is used to help people learn about Jesus. Help them understand who Mary Hill Davis was and why it is important to give to the offering.

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## What You Will Need

### FROM [IAMTEXASMISSIONS.ORG](http://IAMTEXASMISSIONS.ORG), ORDER THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:

- Prayer Guides (one per child)
- Envelopes (one per child)
- Poster (one per classroom)

*Write your church goal on the poster and place it on a focal wall in your classroom.*

### DOWNLOAD & PRINT THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES FROM [IAMTEXASMISSIONS.ORG](http://IAMTEXASMISSIONS.ORG):

- Children's Activity Prayer Guide (one per child)
- Salvation Bracelet handout (one per child)
- Word Search Activity – to be used with older children (one per child)
- Matching Game (one per child)

### BIBLE VERSE POSTER

- Posterboard
- Markers

*Write Bible verse on posterboard (Matthew 28:18-20, NIV).*

### WRITE THE VERSE RELAY

- Notecards or craft sticks
- Markers

**BALL TOSS MEMORY VERSE**

- Squishy ball or Hacky Sack ball
- Whiteboard or Chalkboard
- Markers or Chalk
- OR –
- Notecards
- Markers
- Painter's tape

**MEMORY VERSE BOOKLET**

- Binder rings (one per child)
- Notecards
- Hole punch

**PLANT A CHURCH FLOWERPOT**

- 4-inch plastic flowerpot (one per child)
- Stickers, markers, paint pens to decorate flowerpot
- Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions Prayer Guide (one per child for Prayer Guide Keyrings)
- Binder rings (one per child)
- Mary Hill Davis Offering envelope (one per child)
- Printed memory verse on notecard (one per child)
- Hole punch

**MAKE A SALVATION BRACELET**

*Each child can make one or two bracelets.*

- Cording long enough to make several knots and fit around wrist. (One length per bracelet).

- Beads in the following colors (one of each color per bracelet):
- Black
  - Red
  - White
  - Blue
  - Green
  - Yellow

### SNACK SUGGESTIONS

- Popcorn, snow cones, or hot dogs
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## Instructions

### HOW TO CREATE PRAYER GUIDE KEYRINGS:

- Separate the perforated Prayer Guide cards
  - Hole-punch the corner of each card
  - Hole-punch the corner of the Bible verse notecard
  - Place Prayer Guide cards and Bible verse card on binder ring
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# Mission Study

## Arrival

### ***Word Search and Matching Game Activity (for use with older children)***

As children arrive, direct them to tables for the word search and matching game activities.

Provide word search and matching game activities for each child. Provide pencils or markers.

After everyone has arrived, begin with Bible verse activities.

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## Bible Verse Activities

Helping children learn Bible verses is one of the most valuable things teachers do. Games help memorization become fun and engage brain connections.

Before children arrive, place the Bible verse posterboard on a focal wall.

Begin by having children read the Bible verse aloud together.

Choose one of the following activities.

### **Write the Verse Relay**

Before children arrive, write each word of the verse on craft sticks or notecards (see verse on page 1). You may choose to use a portion of the verse for this activity.

Distribute the notecards or craft sticks one per child. Divide the group into two teams. Have children take turns between teams putting the words together to form the verse.

### **Ball Toss Memory Verse**

Before the children arrive, write the verse on a white board or chalkboard. You may also write the words of the verse on notecards and use painter's tape to affix the words to a wall. You may choose to use a portion of the verse for this activity.

Have children begin by reading the verse aloud together. Using a squishy ball or Hacky Sack ball, have children take turns tossing the ball at the white board or word wall. Each time the ball hits a word, erase

that word or remove it from the wall. Have the child read the verse, filling in the missing word. Children take turns tossing the ball and reciting the verse until all the words are gone. This can also be played in teams.

### **Bible Verse Booklet**

Provide notecards, hole punch, markers, and binder rings. Have children write one word from the verse on each card, placing the cards in order. Attach the cards using the binder ring. If time is limited, teachers may print the words on the notecards in advance providing a completed verse card stack for each child. Then children place the words in order and put on the binder ring.

### **Say:**

*This scripture passage is known as the Great Commission. It explains that the very heart of God for missions and telling others about God's love is evident in Jesus' command to make disciples as you go, to baptize and to teach. Jesus closes with an important promise that He is with us even to the very end of the age.*

### **Say:**

*We will be learning about some of the ways Texas Baptists are fulfilling the Great Commission in neighborhoods and communities across our state.*

Share the story about church planting.

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## Church Planting

Church planting simply means starting a new church. Both existing churches and associations start new churches. It may seem curious that new churches are important when there are so many churches already. But, church planting is often the most effective way to tell others about Jesus. New churches can reach different people in communities.

There is no one way to start a church. Starting a new church requires prayer, research, and training. Several associations across Texas receive funds from the offering to provide training centers and classes for pastors to learn how to plant a church. The training also provides mentoring and support for pastors of new churches. Texas Baptists, local associations, and established churches work together to help support new church plants.

New churches usually begin with people instead of buildings. The groups of church starters need creative ways to build relationships with people in the area where the church will be planted. Having a block party for the neighborhood is a great way to begin building those relationships. The offering helps fund ministry trailers supplied with tables, chairs, popcorn and snow cone machines, grills for making hot dogs and hamburgers, sound systems, and games to attract neighbors to the events. These trailers are fully equipped to set up in a park or parking lot. The church start team will share about Jesus and give neighbors a Bible and an invitation to attend the new

church. When people arrive at the new church, they already know the faces of many people.

Edward Sena, Associate Director of Lubbock Area Baptist Association for Church Starts says this about church planting, “People need the Lord! Even though there are hundreds of churches in our city, half of the population is still unchurched and they do not know Jesus. It is the same all over our state.”

### **Pray:**

Pray for more churches to be planted across Texas. Pray for the people who will come to know Jesus as Savior through these new churches. Pray for church planters and their families. Pray for church starts to be effective in the neighborhoods. Pray that the offering will exceed the goal to help strengthen ministries and churches in Texas.

### **Snack Idea:**

Share snacks of popcorn, snow cones, or hotdogs. Remind children that this is what the church planters serve at the block parties.

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## Church Planting Flowerpots

Remind children that church planting has nothing to do with the plants in the welcome center of their church! Church planting means starting a new church.

Explain that they will be decorating a flowerpot to take home. They will use it to

collect their offering. It will remind them that God wants to plant churches so that people can grow in their relationship with Him.

Have children decorate plastic flowerpots with stickers, paint, or permanent markers. These can be used as a bank to collect their offering at home. Place an envelope and Prayer Guide keyring inside each flowerpot. Encourage the children to share Prayer Guide cards with their families and pray daily for Texas Missions.

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## Special Associations Allocations

Special Associations Allocation funds come from the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions and are available to Texas Baptists associations (those that are considered “Special Associations” who are not Borderland Associations or Mega Associations) who apply for grants from these funds. Sometimes associations do not have adequate resources for projects that help churches minister to and serve their communities. These funds can help.

Share the story of the Red River Valley Association.

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## Red River Valley Association

Red River Valley Association received these funds to host a Children in Action Day. Children from churches across the

association gathered to learn how to share about Jesus. During the event, one of the activities was for each child to make a salvation bracelet and use it to practice sharing the gospel using the bead colors of the bracelet. The children were challenged to use their bracelet to share with someone after the event. Later that afternoon, one of the children shared the gospel with a neighbor who did not attend church. She invited him to church the next Sunday, and he accepted.

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## Make a Salvation Bracelet

Provide one length of cord per bracelet to each child. They may choose to make two bracelets: one to keep as a reminder to pray for the lost and the other to give to someone with whom they share the gospel.

Tie a large knot at one end of the length of cord to keep the beads from sliding off the cord.

Guide children to place the beads on the cord in the following order. Make sure to share the scripture passage and the meaning of each bead.

### ***The colors of the Salvation Bracelet:***

- **Black = Sin**  
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 (NIV)
- **Red = Blood of Jesus**  
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not

perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16 (NIV)

- **White = Purity**

Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7 (NIV)

- **Blue = Faith**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)

- **Green = Growth**

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! 2 Peter 3:18 (NIV)

- **Yellow = Heaven**

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

Let children practice sharing the gospel with each other as they create their second bracelet.

Provide a *Salvation Bracelet Handout* for each child.

**Say:**

*God uses each of us if we let Him! The young girl from the Children in Action Day shared with her friend and he responded. Think of a friend you have who does not know Jesus. How can you share the gospel with them? You can use a salvation bracelet like in the story.*

Pray for those who do not know Jesus as Savior. Ask God to give the children

courage to share their Salvation Bracelet with someone.

Share the story about the Lubbock Area Baptist Association.

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## Lubbock Area Baptist Association

Lubbock Area Baptist Association was able to develop a Cultural Change Leader Training using Special Associations Allocation funds. The focus was to help churches reach all ethnicities in their neighborhoods. There are over one hundred countries represented in the Lubbock area. A group of multi-ethnic pastors began meeting regularly to develop relationships and understand other cultures. To put into practice what they discovered:

- The pastors all preached a similar message titled “Love for ALL People” on the same Sunday using the same scripture.
- A booklet containing information on non-profit services in the Lubbock area was made available to all churches in the community.
- Projects were developed including neighborhood health fairs and “Truck to Trunk” feeding programs. The association ministry trailer that was partially funded by the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions was used during the events.

Jerry Joplin, Director of Missions for Lubbock Area Baptist Association, said,



“The Mary Hill Davis Offering is awesome! It is a huge bonus blessing that allows for ministries of our association to do more Kingdom work. Smaller churches working together accomplish much more to impact the city. The long-term benefits will reach far into the Lubbock area and more importantly the Kingdom of God. Churches are becoming healthy and revitalized. We greatly appreciate the Special Association Allocations from the Mary Hill Davis Offering. Please know the offering makes a difference on the South Plains of Texas.”

Pray for communities as they minister to other cultures with the gospel. Pray for pastors to encourage the people in their churches to become involved in their community to share the love of Jesus with those from other countries.

**Say:**

*It is so important to pray for the ministries we learn about during the Week of Prayer for Texas Missions. It is also important that we give to help support all the things God wants to do across our state.*

Show children the Week of Prayer poster and share your church goal with the children. Consider setting a goal for your children’s group. Let the children suggest ways to reach the goal. Contact your local Baptist association office to learn how the offering funds are used in your area. Find out if there are Texas Baptist Missionaries in your area, and if there are local projects who receive funds from the offering where your group could be involved.

Distribute the Children’s Prayer Guide Activity Book to each child as they leave.

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## Closing

Here are some ways you can expand the impact of the study.

- Make Salvation Bracelets to give to the pastor of a church plant.
- Decorate Church Plant flowerpots filled with empty offering envelopes and place them around your church to remind church members to give to the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions.
- If your association has a ministry trailer, ask how your group could be involved in using it for ministry.
- Schedule a church planter to share their story with your group.
- To encourage year-round giving, consider designating one day each month to collect an offering for Texas Missions.
- Remind children they can use the Prayer Guide cards keyring as a reminder to pray for Texas Missions all year.

After obtaining permission from each parent/guardian, please share photos and stories of your study on social media using the hashtag #iamtexasmissions or send them directly to [wmutx@texasbaptists.org](mailto:wmutx@texasbaptists.org).

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# About the Writers

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## Brenda Bourgeois

*Brenda Bourgeois is a member of Southcrest Baptist Church in Lubbock. She is on the Associational WMU Leadership Team and Board of Directors for WMU of Texas. Brenda enjoys being surrounded by her family, especially the grands!*



## Mary Hill Davis

*Mary Hill Davis, president of Texas WMU from 1906 to 1931, saw Texas as a rich harvest field with its mixture of Anglo, Black, European, and Mexican populations. In 1910 she led the Baptist women of Texas to set aside a week to pray for the needs in the state and to take up an offering as was done for foreign and home missions. Following her death in 1934, the Texas missions offering was named in her memory.*

# Texas Missions Word Search

S A L V A T I O N C M B D G X S C M  
 A X Y E A G K T N N C Z N Y D N G A  
 V P D M U S N L S D O I L S U O R R  
 W C P C N I M I Y U T J U R D I E Y  
 B A A E M Q W Q V N X P P N A S A H  
 X H W S N O I T A I C O S S A S T I  
 A M U Q X G F L D O G E Y G W I C L  
 K J I Q V D P U F D V H V W Z M O L  
 O Y E F L H J F E A D G R M D S M D  
 L F Q C C V E S N P J W H L E A M A  
 R L D R R R E G K D I M G G Y X I V  
 P J U O I K E Y R T S I N I M E S I  
 K H E N A L M G V H Z C I K W T S S  
 C I G S I D N D W L G R Y O V M I P  
 T J C S U I D U V S B Y A E G A O J  
 W Q M G O S H N A D R A R X C I N G  
 H S D G X O R K V A N F P V O J R M  
 X J D O I N G W G H T J H K X R P P

Associations  
 Evangelism  
 Great Commission  
 Mary Hill Davis  
 Praying

Church Planting  
 Going  
 I am Texas Misions  
 Ministry  
 Salvation

Doing  
 Giving  
 Jesus  
 Offering

# Texas Missions Word Search (Answer Key)



Associations

Evangelism

Great Commission

Mary Hill Davis

Praying

Church Planting

Going

I am Texas Missions

Ministry

Salvation

Doing

Giving

Jesus

Offering

# Matching Game

*Draw lines matching the words on the left with their definitions on the right.*

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<b>Giving</b>	Groups of churches in the same area who often work together for ministry.
<b>Evangelism</b>	Starting a new church.
<b>Ministry</b>	Being actively involved in ministry and missions.
<b>Going</b>	Sharing the good news about Jesus with someone who isn't saved.
<b>Offering</b>	Leaving your comfort zone to minister and share your faith with others.
<b>Great Commission</b>	How we respond to God when He tells us to share what we have.
<b>Church Planting</b>	Matthew 28:18-20
<b>Salvation</b>	Reminds us we are all a part of reaching our state for Christ.
<b>Mary Hill Davis</b>	He paid the price for sin by dying on the cross so we can be saved.
<b>Associations</b>	President of Texas WMU from 1906-1931 and the Texas State missions offering namesake.
<b>Praying</b>	Meeting someone's need to show them Jesus loves them.
<b>I am Texas Missions</b>	Cooperative giving to fund ministries so believers can share the love of Jesus.
<b>Doing</b>	Talking to God and listening to His answer.
<b>Jesus</b>	What we experience when we accept Jesus as our Savior.

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# Matching Game (Answer Key)

Draw lines matching the words on the left with their definitions on the right.

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**Associations**

Groups of churches in the same area who often work together for ministry.

**Church Planting**

Starting a new church.

**Doing**

Being actively involved in ministry and missions.

**Evangelism**

Sharing the good news about Jesus with someone who isn't saved.

**Going**

Leaving your comfort zone to minister and share your faith with others.

**Giving**

How we respond to God when He tells us to share what we have.

**Great Commission**

Matthew 28:18-20

**I am Texas Missions**

Reminds us we are all a part of reaching our state for Christ.

**Jesus**

He paid the price for sin by dying on the cross so we can be saved.

**Mary Hill Davis**

President of Texas WMU from 1906-1931 and the Texas State missions offering namesake.

**Ministry**

Meeting someone's need to show them Jesus loves them.

**Offering**

Cooperative giving to fund ministries so believers can share the love of Jesus.

**Praying**

Talking to God and listening to His answer.

**Salvation**

What we experience when we accept Jesus as our Savior.

# Salvation Bracelet Handout

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## The Colors of the Salvation Bracelet:

### **BLACK = SIN**

- *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 (NIV)*

### **RED = BLOOD OF JESUS**

- *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)*

### **WHITE = PURITY**

- *Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7 (NIV)*

### **BLUE = FAITH**

- *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)*

### **GREEN = GROWTH**

- *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! 2 Peter 3:18 (NIV)*

### **YELLOW = HEAVEN**

- *Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16 (NIV)*

