

A photograph of four children walking up a set of concrete steps outside a school building. They are seen from behind, wearing backpacks. The child on the far left is a girl with long dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a dark backpack. Next to her is another girl with long dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a dark backpack. In the center is a boy wearing a white shirt, red shorts, and a dark backpack. On the far right is a boy wearing a white shirt, blue pants, and a blue backpack with a colorful pattern. The background shows a school building with a door and some greenery.

# COVER OUR SCHOOLS

REVITALIZING OUR COMMUNITY BY EMPOWERING EDUCATION THROUGH THE  
POWER OF PRAYER AND VOLUNTEERING.

## PLANNING GUIDE



THE BASICS FOR ESTABLISHING A  
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CHURCH  
AND NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS

JAMES 5:16b "THE EFFECTIVE FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS MUCH."

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# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to walk alongside you as you partner with neighboring schools within your local church community. At the heart of this work is a deep desire to bring awareness to the real challenges schools across our nation are facing. From school shootings to the growing number of students navigating mental health struggles, increased student suicide, and unhealthy coping behaviors tied to trauma and life circumstances - our schools need support now more than ever.

We also recognize the immense pressure educators are under. There is a nationwide teacher shortage, administrators are overwhelmed, campuses are understaffed, and many educators are simply tired. The need to cover our schools - practically, emotionally, and spiritually - has never been greater.

To make this work accessible, the Planning Guide is completely free and designed to help you pray, plan, and discern how your church or organization can get involved. For those ready to take the next step, Implementation Guides are available for \$20. These guides are practical and easy to use, complete with template emails, step-by-step checklists to guide you throughout the school year, and FAQs to support you along the way. Every dollar from the Implementation Guides goes directly toward supporting local schools.

It's important for us to be clear about the heart of this campaign. This is not about recruitment or increasing church membership. We do not recruit faculty, staff, students, or families from partner schools, nor do we force religious beliefs on others or condemn those who live by different values or faith traditions.

Our hope is simple: to see communities restored through the Church showing up with both prayer (faith) and action (works). This guide is for faith-based organizations, churches, community leaders, and ministries who want to reflect Christ by serving their local schools with humility and love. While not every school may accept help, we want educators and administrators to know this - their local church cares. We are here to support, encourage, and serve in whatever way is welcomed. We're truly grateful that you're considering joining this movement to cover our schools and represent Christ in our communities.

If you have questions or need additional support after reading through this guide, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [coverourschools516@gmail.com](mailto:coverourschools516@gmail.com). We'd be honored to walk alongside you.



Kelley J Bell  
Founder of Cover Our Schools  
Founder of Kelley Bell Consulting, LLC®



# ABOUT COVER OUR SCHOOLS

IT'S TIME TO RESTORE OUR COMMUNITIES



## THE PROBLEM:

### **The state of our society.**

What makes a society function? Family, Marriage, Education, Government, and Church are the five pillars, also known as social institutions, on which society functions. Unfortunately, our communities and country are in the state they are in because of the attack on these institutions. To see a change in this world, we must restore these institutions.

## THE SOLUTION:

### **The Church must do its part if people want to see change.**

The word church is referred to in two ways. First, according to biblical principles, the Church is a reference to the body of Christ, the believers, the ekklesia, the "called out ones" who assemble. Secondly, the church references the local church, the building where believers gather.

The purpose of the Church (the body of Christ) is to manifest the characteristics of Jesus Christ on the earth. Ephesians 3: 10 -11 (NLT), "10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord." So what are some characteristics of Christ that the Church should display? Jesus is love (1 John 4:8), omnipotent (Isaiah 9:6), Jesus is life (John 1:4), and He is truth and grace (John 1:14). The Church must manifest love (John 13:35), the power of God (Ephesians 3:20), His life (Colossians 3:4), uphold His truth (1 Timothy 3:15), and manifest His grace (Ephesians 2:7)

The Church is to follow God's plan and patterns set in the New Testament by submitting to God's Spirit and obeying His will. When the Church, the Body of Christ, and local assembly of believers, fulfill their assignment, God will be glorified throughout the earth. It is also the Church's responsibility to combat the powers that oppose the Kingdom of God.

Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV) "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." The devil is no match for the Church. But how does the Church combat the attacks of their enemy? They do this through activating and using their spiritual weapons, one of which is prayer. Ephesians 6: 18 (NKJV) "18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints."



# ABOUT COVER OUR SCHOOLS

IT'S TIME TO RESTORE OUR COMMUNITIES



## THE POWER OF PRAYER:

**One of the most powerful tools that believers have access to is prayer.**

When we pray, people get to experience God's power and His presence right here on earth. Prayer isn't just a religious routine, it's a real, powerful line of communication with God. Scripture reminds us in James 5:16 that when we pray earnestly and from a sincere heart, it makes a difference: "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much." In other words, prayer works.

Through prayer, we talk with God and He listens (Jeremiah 29:12). We gain insight into His will and the purpose He's calling us to walk out (Jeremiah 33:3). Prayer also equips us to stand firm and fight spiritual battles we can't see on our own (Ephesians 6:18).

Most of the time, we're praying for ourselves, our families, and our friends - asking God for direction, clarity, healing, and breakthrough. And that's good. But there's also a bigger invitation.

It's time for the Church to be intentional about praying for our communities. To use our direct line to God to cover our schools - asking for His protection, His wisdom, and His provision for every student, educator, administrator, and family connected to them. When we pray, heaven responds, and our communities are strengthened.





# COVER OUR SCHOOLS BY FAITH



Scripture reminds us that it's impossible to please God without faith. That means our role as the Church isn't just to believe in Him, but to live out that faith through our actions as we represent Him here on earth.

So what is faith, really? Hebrews 11:1–3 helps us put words to it: faith is trusting God even when we can't see the full picture yet. It's believing in what He has promised and being confident in His power and ability to do exactly what He said He would do.

As we come together as the body of Christ to restore our communities, we stand in faith through our church and school partnerships. We believe that as we show up, praying, serving, and partnering, God is glorified. Our confidence isn't in our own strength or resources; it's rooted in who God is and what He has promised. And through these partnerships, our communities can experience the transforming power of God's love, peace, wisdom, and protection for everyone connected to our schools.

This campaign is an invitation for the Church to activate their faith. We're asking churches to pray intentionally and speak declarations over the schools they choose to cover. Every church, no matter the size, has the ability to cover their local schools in prayer. These prayers matter, especially when it comes to what's happening in the spiritual realm that impacts administrators, teachers, support staff, students, and families every single day.

As you pray, we encourage you to believe that God hears you and will respond. Faith means trusting that He is already at work, even when you don't see immediate results.

On the next page, you'll find a list of prayer requests and declarations to help guide your time of prayer. While it's not exhaustive, it's meant to give you a starting point and help you pray with clarity and purpose.

We also encourage you to pray consistently for your schools and to create opportunities for others connected to the school to join in. After signing up for the campaign, you'll receive a link to purchase the Implementation Guides when you're ready, so you can move forward at your own pace.



# COVER OUR SCHOOLS BY FAITH



- Protect the schools from random acts of violence taking place on campus.
- Declare that the following spirits and every other spirit attached to its groupings are ineffective and powerless in their tactics and strategies on each school campus that you are praying for: the spirits of suicide, depression, anxiety, fear, sexual impurity, infirmity, grief, fatigue, lust, pride, deceit, confusion, heaviness, oppression, discouragement, frustration, insecurity, control, retaliation, strife, and rebellion.
- Pray that administrators and teachers can balance the demands of their job.
- Pray that God gives teachers the creativity and ability to create engaging lesson plans to help students learn the content.
- Pray that God's presence will fill every part of the campus.
- Pray for the strength and boldness of the students, faculty, and staff that are believers on the school campus so that they can represent Christ without fear.
- Pray that schools will have abundant resources based on their specific needs and desires.
- Pray that leaders on campus lead in a way that considers the needs of those under their leadership.
- Pray for the kindness amongst students.
- Pray that each student has a safe adult on campus for support and will go to them when they need help.
- Pray that administrators and teachers renew their passion for molding the minds of our future leaders.
- Pray that administrators and teachers can build positive relationships with students and their families.
- Pray that parents and caregivers will actively participate in the academic success of their student(s).
- Pray that the schools create systems that quickly and effectively eliminate bullying amongst students.
- Pray that there is enough mental health support for students on campus. Social workers, mental health counselors, school counselors, SAFE Coordinators, and psychologists can meet the needs on their campus.



# COVER OUR SCHOOLS BY WORKS

"FOR AS THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD, SO FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD ALSO."

JAMES 2:26



All churches can partner with schools through faith, and prayer is a powerful place to start. At the same time, this campaign also invites churches to get involved through “works”, things like volunteering time, donating supplies, and meeting practical needs. While prayer helps us address spiritual concerns, our works allow us to show up in tangible ways that bless schools right where they are.

We also want to say this clearly: not every church will have the people or the financial resources to support schools beyond prayer—and that’s okay. Truly. Prayer alone is meaningful and needed, and we hope every church will commit to covering our schools in prayer.

If your church is in a position to do more, we’ll share ideas and guidance to help you move forward. Just keep in mind that every school is different. Needs, policies, and processes can vary, so it’s important to connect with the school principal or designated point of contact before purchasing items or committing to specific tasks.

For churches that have the capacity to give generously through “works,” we encourage you to consider supporting a Title I school. Title I schools serve communities with higher financial need, where many students receive free or reduced lunch. Often, churches located near these schools may not have the resources to fully meet the practical needs on their own. Your support can make a real and lasting difference.


After signing up for the campaign, you’ll receive a link to purchase the Implementation Guides when you’re ready, so you can move forward at your own pace.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NO MATTER THE SIZE OF YOUR MINISTRY, YOU CAN POSITIVELY IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY



## HOW TO SELECT SCHOOLS

We recommend starting close to home. Choose schools near your church, ministry, or organization. You can find nearby schools by searching within your zip code, reviewing local school districts, or covering schools your members are already connected to. Starting local helps build trust and meaningful relationships.

## HOW MANY SCHOOLS SHOULD I SELECT?

There's no set limit on how many schools you can cover in prayer. We do encourage consistency, though, whatever schools you commit to praying for, plan to stay connected with them throughout the school year. The Implementation Guide includes a simple template email to help you maintain that communication.

If you choose to partner with a school through “works,” take time to prayerfully assess your church's capacity and available resources. Let that guide how many schools you support in practical ways. In most cases, you'll be able to cover more schools through prayer than through hands-on support, and that's perfectly okay. Anytime you plan to partner with a school physically, be sure to connect with the school principal or point of contact, to understand the appropriate next steps and expectations.

## WHAT DO I DO AFTER I SELECT THE SCHOOLS I WANT TO COVER?

After choosing your schools, simply complete the survey to let us know who you're covering. Once your pledge is submitted, you'll receive a link to purchase the Implementation Guides when you're ready, so you can move forward at your own pace.

The Church Implementation Guide includes an introductory email template and a checklist to help guide you throughout the school year. You'll also receive a School Guide to share with the school's designated contact, which explains the campaign and helps establish a clear, healthy partnership. We encourage you to review the School Guide as well, so you're familiar with what's being shared and can answer questions along the way.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

After you submit the survey, you'll receive a confirmation email from Cover Our Schools within two-three business days. That email will include a link to purchase the Implementation Guides when you're ready. You'll receive the Church Implementation Guide to support you throughout the school year, along with a School Guide to share with the schools you've chosen to cover.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NO MATTER THE SIZE OF YOUR MINISTRY, YOU CAN POSITIVELY IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY

## WHERE CAN I LOCATE THE SURVEY?

You can access the survey directly on our website at [www.coverourschools.com](http://www.coverourschools.com), or simply scan the QR code below to get started right away. For your convenience, the survey link is also hyperlinked just beneath the QR code.



[SURVEY](#)



[WEBSITE](#)

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHURCH IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE VOLUNTEERS OR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, AND CAN ONLY OFFER PRAYERS?

Please still sign up. Prayer is powerful, and it truly matters. Covering schools in prayer is one of the most meaningful ways believers can support their communities. As we pray, we invite God's power, protection, and guidance into our schools—and that alone makes a difference.

## DO WE HAVE TO PRAY ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES?

No. You're not required to pray on school campuses. Prayer isn't limited by location. The heart of this campaign is being intentional and proactive in prayer, not reactive. If your church has an intercessory or prayer team, you can simply include specific prayer requests for your selected schools during your regular prayer times.

## DO WE HAVE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

Yes, we do ask everyone to complete the survey. It helps us track the progress of the campaign and better understand how schools are being covered. The survey only takes a few minutes, and your participation really helps. If you sign up and later realize you're unable to commit, that's okay, just email us at [coverourschools516@gmail.com](mailto:coverourschools516@gmail.com), and we'll remove your commitment at any time. If you'd prefer not to sign up but would still like access to purchase the Implementation Guide, simply reach out by email and we'll be happy to send you the link.

## IF A SCHOOL INDICATES THEY DO NOT WANT OUR SUPPORT, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

That's okay. If a school chooses not to receive support, we encourage you to continue covering them in prayer. You may also feel led to check back in at a later time to offer support again. School personnel and circumstances often change throughout the year, and what isn't a good fit now may become welcome later on.

# THE TIME IS NOW

IT'S TIME TO RESTORE OUR COMMUNITIES

When we look at what's happening in our communities, especially in our schools, it's clear that this is a moment for the Church to rise. We have the opportunity to show up with faith, compassion, and action, and to make a real difference right where we live.

Thank you for taking the time to read this guide and for considering being part of something bigger than yourself. Your willingness to pray, serve, and stand in the gap matters more than you may realize.

If you're ready to be part of the change in your community, we invite you to complete the survey today. Once you do, you'll receive the link to purchase your Church and School Implementation Guides and take the next step forward, at your own pace.

Let's show up. Let's serve well. And let's cover our schools together.

