

GOTM HIGHLIGHTS AND TALKING POINTS

ALL THINGS TENNESSEE

2024-2025 THEME: ALL THINGS TENNESSEE

STATEWIDE GOTM GOAL: \$2,700,000

CHALLENGE GOAL: \$3,000,000

SUGGESTED DATE FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER: SEPTEMBER 8-15, 2024

SCRIPTURE: "LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS, BELIEVES ALL THINGS, HOPES ALL THINGS, ENDURES ALL THINGS." 1 CORINTHIANS 13:7

Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions Highlights and Talking Points are provided to assist you as you prepare to share with your church about state missions and the Golden Offering. Whether you are preaching, teaching or sharing with large or small groups, there is material here for you to pick from to help you put your notes together.

Through this year's state missions theme "All Things Tennessee," Tennessee Baptists are being encouraged to:

- ★ Pray and fast for the spiritually lost in our state.
- ★ Show His love and compassion as you minister to the hurting and hopeless.
- ★ Prepare and seek opportunities to share the hope of Christ and all the things He has done in your life.
- ★ Work together to reach OUR mission field - Tennessee.
- ★ Remember how God has used us in the past. Have and share hope for today. Trust God for tomorrow.
- ★ Trust God to provide the resources for all things He has called us to do. *Where God guides, God provides.*
- ★ Lean on God to empower us in all the things we do together.
- ★ Rely on God as we love the unloveable, bear the unbearable, hope in the impossible and endure in the unendurable. His power knows no bounds.

The following information includes:

- ★ Promotional Resources - a list of the 2024-2025 GOTM promotional videos and materials
- ★ What is GOTM? - basic information and history about the state missions offering
- ★ Make it Personal - ideas to make the Golden Offering more personal to your congregation or group
- ★ Outline - a basic outline for sharing about state missions and the Golden Offering

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND IDEAS, BE SURE TO REVIEW THE PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES

GOLDENOFFERING.ORG



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★ PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES ★

Printed materials available to order from Tennessee WMU:

- ★ "All Things Tennessee" Poster
- ★ Offering Envelopes
- ★ Prayer Guide for 2024-2025 Tennessee Missions Emphasis

Videos and resources available at GoldenOffering.org or on a DVD or flash drive from Tennessee WMU:

★ Videos:

1. *Message from Bro. Randy (2:27)* - TBMB President Randy C. Davis issues a challenge to Tennessee Baptists as together we seek to make Jesus known among the millions in Tennessee who do not have a relationship with Christ.
2. *GOTM Overview (2:27)* - So many needs, yet so many GOTM ministry opportunities as Tennessee Baptists work together to share the Gospel and to serve others.
3. *All People, All Things Tennessee (1:55)* - Jesus calls us to reach all people - the lost, the least and the lonely with the Gospel.
4. *Thank You, Tennessee Baptists (1:15)* - A simple word of gratitude for their generosity in giving to the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions.
5. *BlueOval City Initiative: Any Way You Slice It (3:44)* - Thousands are moving to West Tennessee to work at Ford's BlueOval manufacturing plant and many are unchurched and have no relationship with Jesus Christ. Tennessee Baptists are working to change that.
6. *Baptist Collegiate Ministries: Coming Full Circle (4:09)* - Local churches working together with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and Tennessee's Baptist Collegiate Ministries are raising up the next generation of ministers.
7. *Compassion Ministries: Embrace Grace, Embrace Life (3:20)* - Embrace Grace provides mothers with unplanned pregnancies a local church family for spiritual, emotional and physical support.
8. *GOTM Kids Video (1:23)* - This fun animated short video will help kids and adults learn about the power of GOTM!

★ Podcast: The Tennessee Golden Hour podcast channel is now available. This program contains interviews, tools and ideas for ministry and highlights people around our state who are impacted through the GOTM. <https://www.youtube.com/@TennesseeGoldenHour>

★ Print Files:

1. Planning & Promotion Guide
2. What is GOTM?
3. GOTM Dollars at Work
4. Any Way You Slice It, Tennessee is a Mission Field flyers
5. Worship Tools - Reading, Skit and Monologue
6. One Annual Missions Offering

★ Digital Graphics for Promotion

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★ WHAT IS THE GOLDEN OFFERING FOR TENNESSEE MISSIONS? ★

- ★ The state missions offering provides funds for ministries that help reach Tennesseans for Christ.
- ★ The Golden Offering is collected all year with a special emphasis on giving and praying for state missions during the month of September.
- ★ The Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions works in conjunction with the Cooperative Program to effectively meet needs and to support ministries in Tennessee.
- ★ The Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions is:
 - ★ Meeting human needs through Compassion Ministries.
 - ★ Disaster Relief volunteers helping restore communities after a natural disaster.
 - ★ Baptist Collegiate Ministries sharing the hope of Jesus on Tennessee college campuses.
 - ★ Church planting across Tennessee where there is no gospel witness.
 - ★ English taught to someone from another country, sharing Jesus with them in the process, and so much more!
- ★ Brief history:
 - ★ In 1902, Dr. W.C. and Mildred Golden led Tennessee Baptists to become the first state to have a season of prayer and special offering for state missions.
 - ★ Mrs. Golden served as Tennessee WMU Corresponding Secretary from 1898-1902. Dr. Golden served as State Missions Secretary.
 - ★ The first offering was \$800.
 - ★ The offering was named after Dr. W.C. and Mildred Golden in 1943.

★ MAKE IT PERSONAL ★

- ★ Use the *Any Way You Slice It, Tennessee is a Mission Field* flyers to share information that highlights why Tennessee is a mission field.
- ★ Share testimonies from people in your church who have participated in or benefitted from a ministry supported by the Golden Offering. Examples:
 - ★ Someone who serves as a Disaster Relief volunteer or who was ministered to by a Disaster Relief volunteer.
 - ★ Someone who volunteers through Compassion Ministries, Baptist Collegiate Ministries, Christian Job Corps or other GOTM funded ministry.
 - ★ Someone who received a Tennessee WMU Scholarship.
- ★ Associational Ministries - 15% of whatever a church gives through GOTM will be returned to the association with which the church is affiliated. There are no restrictions on how the association spends the money, but it is requested that they apply it to ministries that support people being saved, baptized and disciplined. Check with your Association Missions Strategist/Director of Missions to see how these funds are being used in your association.

ALL THINGS TENNESSEE

PREACHING/SPEAKING/TEACHING OUTLINE

USE THIS BASIC OUTLINE TO BUILD YOUR PREACHING, SPEAKING OR TEACHING NOTES.

“LOVE BEARS, BELIEVES, HOPES, ENDURES”

TITLE: THE MOUNT RUSHMORE OF LOVE

SCRIPTURE: 1 CORINTHIANS 13:7

Introduction:

Introduce the concept of “Mount Rushmore”

- ★ Mount Rushmore National Memorial is a famous monument in South Dakota, USA. It features the 60-foot-tall heads of four American presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln, carved into the granite face of Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills region. The monument was sculpted by Gutzon Borglum and his son Lincoln Borglum between 1927 and 1941.
- ★ The term “Mount Rushmore” is also used metaphorically to refer to a top four ranking in various categories, often in sports or pop culture. People have created their own lists of Mount Rushmore’s in the areas of sports. Who’s on the Mount Rushmore of Point Guards? Who’s your quarterback on Mount Rushmore?
- ★ In 1 Corinthians 13, you could say that Paul gives us the Mount Rushmore of Love. These aren’t people but attributes of what true, godly, sacrificial love looks like.

I. Love Bears All Things

1. Definition and Explanation

- ★ Explain “bearing” as supporting, carrying and enduring difficulties.

2. Application

- ★ Encourage the congregation to bear each other’s burdens (Galatians 6:2).
- ★ In Tennessee: Pull a few facts from the “Your GOTM Dollars at Work” PDF to communicate the needs and crises our state is facing.
- ★ In Church: Share practical ways to support one another in times of trouble.

3. Gospel Thread

- ★ Reflect on God’s love in bearing our sins through Christ’s sacrifice.

II. Love Believes All Things

1. Definition and Explanation

- ★ Define “believes” as having faith and trust.
- ★ Discuss how love always looks for the best in others and maintains trust.

2. Application

- ★ Challenge the congregation to trust in God’s promises and in each other.
- ★ Address the importance of fostering trust in relationships.

3. Gospel Thread

- ★ The Gospel is as Simple as Acts 16:31! “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household.”

PREACHING/SPEAKING/TEACHING OUTLINE

III. Love Hopes All Things

1. Definition and Explanation

- ★ Define “hopes” as *the confident expectation of what God has promised and its strength is in His faithfulness.*
- ★ Explain that love remains optimistic and looks forward to a positive future.

2. Application

- ★ Encourage maintaining hope even in challenging circumstances.
- ★ Discuss the role of hope in personal growth and in community building.
- ★ Share that through the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions, we are expressing the hope of the gospel in a number of ways including these five:
 - A. Meeting human needs through Compassion Ministries.
 - B. Disaster Relief volunteers helping restore communities after a natural disaster.
 - C. Baptist Collegiate Ministries sharing the hope of Jesus on Tennessee college campuses.
 - D. Church planting across Tennessee where there is no gospel witness.
 - E. English taught to someone from another country and sharing Jesus with them in the process.

3. Gospel Thread

- ★ Reflect on the hope we have in Christ’s return and eternal life (Titus 2:13).

IV. Love Endures All Things

1. Definition and Explanation

- ★ Define “endures” as remaining steadfast under suffering or hardship without yielding.

Read the following story as an example of endurance.

Corrie Ten Boom’s family lived in Holland in 1943. Germany had invaded their country as the Nazis took control of most of Europe. Corrie and her family could have helped the Nazis and been rewarded, but they didn’t. In her words, *“I had been sick for several days with a bad case of the flu. The high fever made me sleepy, so I stayed in bed, hoping to feel better in the morning. But I was awakened by screams and the sound of feet rushing toward my room. At first, I thought it was one of the many drills we had practiced to hide the Jews who now lived with my family. But this time it was not a drill. German soldiers were raiding our home, looking for the Jewish people that they had heard were hiding. Instantly, I leaped from my bed to help our guests hurry into the secret space that had been built inside a wall in my room. Once they were inside, I quickly closed the hidden door to the safe place and slipped back into bed. I pretended to be fast asleep. As soon as my eyes were closed, the soldiers rushed into my room; they forced me to get out of bed and get dressed. They wanted to know where the Jews were. But neither my sister nor I would tell them. We were slapped and hit by the soldiers. Blood trickled down our swollen faces, but we were willing to die rather than tell where they were. The Nazi soldiers punched holes in the walls looking for the hiding place, but they couldn’t find it. My family, including my 84-year-old father, was handcuffed and forced to march into the dark night to the police station.”*

Ask: How does our endurance compare to that of Corrie’s?

2. Application

- ★ Encourage perseverance in relationships, faith and trials.
- ★ Share stories of enduring love from the church community.

3. Gospel Thread

- ★ Reflect on God’s enduring love for humanity throughout history.

Conclusion and Invitation:

- ★ Emphasize that these Mount Rushmore qualities are interconnected and essential for a Christ-like love.
- ★ Invite those who have never experienced the love of Christ to commit to follow Him today.