

Oil Patch Chaplains News

Individual Care in a Big World



Volume 1, Issue 7

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Our Mission:

- to develop relationships with . . .
- to be a support system for . . .
- to meet physical and spiritual needs of . . .

Individuals working
in the oil industry.

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Miles and Miles of Texas

When the Hoffman's responded to God's call with words like Isaiah, "Here we are Lord, Send us," we had no idea how big the oil patch really was! However, we are discovering **how big geographically and how needy spiritually**.

Just visualize the state of Texas: the pineywoods of East Texas, the skyscrapers of North Texas, the farmlands of the Panhandle, the flatlands of West Texas, the rolling hills of Central Texas and the drylands of South Texas! Today every section has a common physical appearance - - Oil Wells!

The most beautiful part of the oil patch ministry is the way God's Word connects people. **Our team gives out over 600 Oil Patch Bibles a month** at a cost of over \$3,000. We receive calls from individuals who have needs ranging from depression to drugs, broken marriages to loneliness, seeking a place to worship to just needing someone to listen to them and pray for them!

Although we now have chaplains and team members in **four of the five Shale Plays in Texas**, we still have miles and miles to go! And people to meet to tell them of God's love.

More Volunteers Join Our Team!



Jacob (Jake) Betts lives in Quitman and works in the Carthage area. He is married to Chelsea and has two stepchildren, Carsey Lynn (5) and Cali Ann (3). Jake is a member of Church on the Rock and is a technician at Henderson Inspection Services in Henderson. Jake became a Christ Follower only 18 months ago, but it thrills him to share his testimony about Jesus and is excited about sharing the Oil Patch Bibles with people in the oil field.



Dustin and Amanda Troy live in Carthage and are members of Still Waters Cowboy Church. Dustin works for Henderson Inspection Services in Carthage. Amanda is a mom and housewife and wears many hats as she serves in her church. They have two children, Rhianna (8) and Justin (5).

You Can Help By . . .

- ⇒ Giving to purchase Oil Patch Bibles (\$5.00 per Bible or \$120 per case)
- ⇒ Sharing with your pastor, church, missions team the opportunity to purchase bibles for our Volunteers to place in motels and give to oil field workers.
- ⇒ Volunteering to represent your church in the oil patch.
- ⇒ Praying for the safety and protection of our chaplains and volunteers as they travel and minister in the oil patch.

Chaplains Chat . . .



*"I will give you every place where you set your foot,
as I promised Moses." Joshua 1:3*

God's promises are for His servants! Our faithfulness is tested as we see what He has called us to do and then take that step following His direction. Almost 11 months ago we took the first step as we felt God's leadership into the Oil Patch. Since that day God has added so many to the front lines. We urge each of our volunteers to maintain their zeal for sharing God's Word and witnessing, "as they go."

Hollas and Nelda



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God Connects!

As we pulled into the Wal-Mart parking lot I got a call from Joe. He had found our Chaplain card in a Bible, placed in a motel lobby by one of our volunteers, Peanut Scott. Joe had worked on a drilling rig until fairly recently, but had some difficulties with a drug addiction and had been laid off. In addition, he was separated from a lady that had two children by him.

Joe had accepted the Lord and had been drug free for 28 days. After finding out that he was in the Devine area, I called the pastor of FBC, Devine. He set up an appointment with the couple and progress is being made. Joe now has a job, but not yet on a drilling rig. We correspond 4-5 times a week and I assured him of our continued prayers. **(Hollas Hoffman)**



The promptings from God to go to Johnson's Exxon and put fuel in my vehicle did not make much sense because I had just filled up the day before, but I followed God's direction. The only pump available was beside a white truck with the sign Baker Hughes. Well, I knew that was an oil company truck, so I walked over, introduced myself and welcomed the driver to Gonzales. He smiled and said he really appreciated the greeting. I told him I was an Oil Patch chaplain and he wanted me to share what that was. I did and I offered him a Bible. He was startled, but accepted gratefully. When the other guys returned to the truck I gave them Bibles, too. Only God knows what they will do with those Bibles, but I am so glad I followed His promptings. **(Kim Haynes)**

Fellowship Baptist Church in Kilgore gives out the Oil Patch Bibles regularly. Deacon Marvin gave an Oil Patch Bible to Joyce's grandson who works in the oil field. She recently wrote to tell Marvin that her grandson is reading the Bible and that the crew he works with on the rig prays everyday. Joyce said, "This is an answer to my prayers." **(Cory and Ken Davis)**