

# Oil Patch Chapel Ministries

*Individual Care in a Big World*



Volume 2, Issue 5

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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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***Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified, do not be discouraged for the Lord, your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9 (NIV)***

God is opening new avenues of ministry for our Oil Patch Team. The oil industry has been experiencing a down turn but . . .

## **GOD KNOWS!**

In spite of the **massive layoffs** in the oil patch, the fields are still white unto harvest and the workers are still few! Calls, e-mails and texts continue to come in requesting Bibles! Recently there has been an increase in requests from county jails. We respond quickly by sending Bibles, *The Promise Book*, and tracts. We can still use **additional people to respond** to the needs of **those hurting**.

In addition, we have responded to needs for grocery cards and other personal needs. Bible studies continue and, as you would expect, when hard times come, people see a greater need for Jesus in their lives. Prayer, finances and, of course, personal involvement are needed. Come join us as we share Jesus with a desperately needy world.

**GOD KNOWS** our team's need of encouragement as we serve in the oil patch. Thank you Tim for your kind words!

*I wanted to drop you this quick note of encouragement and gratitude for the work you are doing in the oil field. I received a bible with the cover page of "God's Word for the Oil Path/Fuel for the Soul". I can't tell you how impressed I was to see your work taking place in this area of opportunity.*

*The oil patch is a great mission field for an audience of largely unministered to individuals and I am glad that your work here is in full swing. One of my Sales Managers brought me your "Oil Patch" bible knowing full well that I have been saved for quite some time and am an active believer in Christ. He and I often come back somewhat discouraged from visiting rigs and hearing the foul language and seeing the lifestyles led by those men in the patch. We always end up praying that God would intervene in the lives of those men and send disciples to save souls. In this way, you and your wife are an answer to our prayers.*

*I pray that God multiplies your efforts and keeps you strong. I want to also tell you as Paul told Timothy in I Timothy 6:12 'to keep fighting the good fight!'*

*Tim Maxson, Chief Operating Officer  
ERF Wireless, Inc – League City*

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## Chaplains Chat . . .

People often ask, “How are the layoffs affecting your ministry? Our response is, “In a very positive way!” God knew this was coming so He centered this ministry around relationships and His Word! The relationships that we have developed are really paying off!

- We receive calls from trucking companies letting us know that they need drivers. This gives us a chance to connect them with individuals we have met and know are looking for jobs.
- We receive letters written from inside jails requesting Bibles. We mail Bibles and team members follow up.
- We receive e-mails and texts requesting food and we respond with help and connect them with others who continue to build a relationship.
- Since January, our team has distributed 4,944 Bibles.



Hollas and Nelda

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## GOD SENDS!

Recently, **Steve Seaberry** (*photo on right*) and I flew to Amarillo, rented a car and spent two days covering the Granite Wash Shale, located in the Panhandle of Texas. As we expected, work has slowed in drilling and fracking, but production continues.



We had a great lunch with Pastor Larry Mitchell and Tom Puryear from Wheeler. We sent several cases of Bibles to be distributed in the area. We look forward to learning how God gets the Bibles to those who's hearts He's prepared to her His Word.

**Our monthly Oil Patch Dinner** was attended by 15 new people. After hearing how God is directing and blessing the Bible distribution, we sent 20 cases of Bibles home with those interested individuals!

Nelda and I traveled to **Lumberton, Mississippi** and spoke at Caney Baptist Church. We spoke with several men who work in oil related jobs that were interested in ways to minister to oil patch workers.

It was such an exciting time to have our Oil Patch Chapel Ministry display at the **WMU of Texas Annual Meeting and Missions Celebration** in Waco.

We have been invited to serve as **Missions Connectors for Texas Baptists**. We attended the Connectors first informational meeting at Mt. Lebanon

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## GOD SENDS OUT OUR TEAM!

**Robert and Debbie Fowlkes**, Schulenburg, have been ministering to the incarcerated and giving out the Oil Patch Bible. They are distributing Bibles in LaVaca, Fayette and Gonzales counties.

**Pan and Barbara Rowe** continue to find creative ways to minister and distribute Bibles in the O'Donnell and Snyder areas.

**Steve and Esther Trout**, Portland, meet people daily who are receptive to hearing about God's love. They house Bibles to distribute to other team members and are enlisting team members to join in this ministry.

**Pete Navarro**, Pleasanton, continues the man-camp Bible studies and has begun a new church work in the Jourdanton area.

**Peanut Scott**, George West, now places Bibles in over 100 hotels in the Eagle Ford Shale.

**Kim Haynes**, Gonzales, distributes Bibles to the hotels in the Gonzales area and **Roy Sledge**, Portland, hands out Bibles wherever he goes. **Smitty Smith** takes Bibles to the hotels in Southeast Texas.

**Terrell Elliott**, Portland, continues to witness and give Bibles to those who find themselves behind bars in the Portland area.

**Dustin and Amanda Troy**, Carthage, have found a connection with their cowboy church and share the Oil Patch Bible with many of their members who work in the oil patch and oil related businesses.

**Stan Hays**, Corpus Christi, continues to witness wherever he goes and right now his work has taken him to Midland and other distant areas in Texas.

**George Llanes**, Cotulla, hands out Bibles and shares the Good News with those that he meets.

**Gary and Dorie Gilliam**, Jourdanton, have told the oil patch story in the local newspaper. Through that media, they are hearing from people and finding ways to assist with those needs.

**Rich and Deborah Foster**, Knott, continue to share God's Word in the oil patch and always take delicious brownies to share with the men at the job sites.

**Roy and Bonny White**, Pearsall, distribute Bibles to the hotels in their area. They have such a good connection, the hotel clerks call when they run out of Bibles.

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## Please Pray For Our Team . . .



**The Brandon and Melissa Wilson family** (*photo on left*), in Tyler, have been directly affected by the layoffs.

**Kenny and Tawalia Humphries** (*photo on right*) will be moving from their Gonzales job-site location but remaining with the same company. They can see God's hand in this change and are so thankful.

