

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION STUDY FOR YOUTH 2026

More Than a Gift

“Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21, CSB).

Study Overview

The focal Scripture verses are Ephesians 3:20-21. Paul wrote to the believers in Ephesus, a pagan, Gentile city. Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians while in prison in Rome and sought to encourage and strengthen the young church.

The theme for the 2026 Week of Prayer for North American Missions is “More Than a Gift.” Through our gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®, our missionaries are sharing the gospel in places and ways they never imagined. They’re seeing that powerful message transform lives, families, and communities, not only here and now, but for eternity.

Our gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering provide the funds missionaries need to train and serve all over North America. We are helping missionaries across North America by supporting them through prayer and giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Students will learn about the ministry of missionary Jordan Adams and his wife, Jessamy. Jordan planted The Chapel in West Lafayette, Indiana, the home of Purdue University.

Prepare for the Study

- For the promotion of the Week of Prayer for North American Missions, order the free printed resources, including a theme poster, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering envelopes, a promotion guide, and prayer guides from your state convention office. Ordering information can be found at AnnieArmstrong.com/stateconventions.
- Work with missions leaders and other church leaders to plan aspects of the study, such as scheduling, scope, and promotion. Encourage these leaders to enlist church members to take ownership by helping plan and implement the study. You may choose to do the study as a special event or incorporate it into an existing meeting.
- Publicize the study through church bulletins, social media, churchwide announcements, or newsletters.
- Ask small groups and church members to pray for the study outcome. Pray that individuals will be inspired as they learn about mission efforts in North America and will eagerly support those serving as missionaries with the North American Mission Board (NAMB).

- Consider enlisting an outside speaker, such as a North American missionary, to address the church before beginning the study or as part of it.
- Explore the website, AnnieArmstrong.com/resources, for resources that will enhance the learning experience for your church.
- Download the study materials and video segment for youth from the website, AnnieArmstrong.com/resource/youth-study.
- Other segments found online can be used anytime for study purposes or during the Week of Prayer and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering emphases. The video segment features Jordan Adams and his wife, Jessamy. If you don't have a way to show the video, share the story provided with the lesson plan.
- Order enough 2026 Week of Prayer bookmarks and prayer guides for each participant or family to have one of each. Bookmarks can be ordered at AnnieArmstrong.com/resources.

Note: Your church has permission to download videos and other resources at AnnieArmstrong.com. Downloads are free. To order DVDs free of charge, call 1-800-634-2462 or email AAEO@namb.net.

You can also check out the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Facebook page at facebook.com/aaeo.sbc.

Lead the Study

Introduction

Welcome students and introduce yourself in case you have students who don't already know you. Introduce the study using the information in the study overview.

Explain what the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is and how your church participates. Note that all donations to the offering go directly to support missionaries in North America and their ministries.

Show students on the map that North America includes the United States and Canada, as well as the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

During the Week of Prayer for North American Missions, we pray for missionaries and collect an offering for them named the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Note: If you want to share more about who Annie was and why the offering is named after her, go to AnnieArmstrong.com/who-is-annie. There you will find information and a video.

Tell the students the theme for the 2026 Week of Prayer for North American Missions is "More Than a Gift," and the theme Scripture verses are Ephesians 3:20-21.

Set the context by telling the students that Paul wrote to the believers in Ephesus, a pagan, Gentile city. Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians while in prison in Rome and sought to encourage and strengthen the young church.

Read Ephesians 3:20-21 or ask a student to read the passage:

“Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Through the video or story that follows, students will see that God can change even our small gifts of faith and obedience into a great movement, such as Jordan, Jessamy, and their church plant, The Chapel. We pray, give, and love others, and God gives the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Transition to the video presentation of Jordan and Jessamy. Read the story below if you don't plan to show the video. Note: Extra information in the story is needed to play the recap activity.

Tell students to listen attentively and even take notes. They will need to remember some of the facts presented for the recap activity that follows the lesson. Note: Answers are in italics in the story.

Lesson

Jordan Adams was raised *in church*, but he didn't have a relationship with Jesus, and he didn't understand the gospel. He thought Christianity was about morality—be good, do the right things, be respected, and God will love you. He was trying to be a moral person to get into heaven, but he consistently felt condemned.

During Jordan's junior year in high school, his father was diagnosed with cancer. In fear and frustration at the diagnosis, he considered atheism and other religions and was frustrated with religion altogether. At that time, Jordan's dad's faith really took off, and he knew his dad had something he didn't have.

Jordan says, “I started exploring the Bible, specifically Romans 8 and James 1, with the help of some friends. In my junior year in high school, my dad passed away. That night Jesus saved me. I knew I couldn't walk through it alone. I was broken. I turned from my sin and asked Jesus for help, and He saved me. My life has not been the same since.”

In 2023, a decade later, Jordan, Jessamy, and a team of almost 50 people moved to West Lafayette, *Indiana*, to plant a church near *Purdue University*. They started *The Chapel* and a *Salt Company*, which is a collegiate ministry.

When looking around at the students on the campus, Jordan says, “I think they're just looking for *meaning and something to live for*, and we have it. I want them to know what we have.”

Soon, The Chapel and Salt Company grew. Jordan says, “Students here live this incredibly interconnected way of life,” Jordan says. “They eat together, live together, and go to class together. So, when you introduce one of them to Jesus, multiple students hear about it, and the gospel spreads like crazy.”

Erin Chapmond and Ellie Dunlevy are two friends who are examples. Ellie, Erin's random roommate, grew up as a missionary kid in *Argentina*. Unlike *Erin*, Ellie was “very much into church.” Shortly after Ellie started attending The Chapel a few weeks into her and Erin's freshman year, Erin did what any new best friend would do. “We'd spent so much time together, and I was curious,” Erin says. “I was like, ‘Do you want me to go to church with you?’ And she was like, ‘Yeah, that'd be fun.’”

Erin's first sermon experience at The Chapel blew her away as Jordan was speaking.

“I was so overcome with how he spoke to me. It felt like he was speaking to me directly. I learned that Jesus was, like, an actual person—that He knew exactly who I was, and I learned that He loved me for who I was, even though everything was broken about me.”

Jordan says that Erin is one of the 81 people The Chapel baptized in their first year. *Thirty-eight* students were baptized in one night.

“We had pretty big dreams of what God would do when we came here,” Jordan says. “But seeing what He’s done with students like Erin and Ellie, seeing auditoriums overflow and all these students getting baptized—this has been way more than we could’ve ever imagined. There is rapid growth that is happening as far as just college students coming to hear the gospel, so much so that we can’t find a place to put them. We’re perpetually looking for meeting spaces because they overflow our meeting spaces.”

Jordan says that the students on Purdue’s campus are the *next leaders of the world*. After they graduate, they will move and be *influencers in cities all over the world*. The impact reaches far and wide.

Jordan says, “We feel we have a unique opportunity to reach them for Jesus. They’ll go to those cities, in their occupations, in their jobs—they will be *ambassadors of Christ*. They’ll go as *missionaries*.”

Indeed, little is much in the hands of God. Because Jordan and Jessamy heard and heeded God’s call to plant The Chapel among thousands of students near Purdue University, thousands more will hear the gospel and follow Jesus. Because believers across North America pray and give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, missionaries have what they need for ministry. No gift or prayer is small in the hands of our all-powerful God.

Transition to the recap activity.

Recap: Four Corners Trivia

This is a multiple-choice game using the information from the story about missionaries Jordan and Jessamy.

Assign each of the four corners in the room, A, B, C, D. Tell the students that each of the multiple-choice questions will match a specific corner. After you read the questions, students are to move to the corner that matches the answers. They have to choose a corner before you count to five. Listen carefully. Some are tricky!

- Once everyone has chosen a corner, reveal the correct answer. Those in the wrong corner are out for that round. Those who are out can cheer on the others or join back in after three rounds.

Note: Correct answers are in italics in the story and are at the end of each question.

Questions:

1. Jordan Adams was raised _____. (C)
A) on a farm B) in a city C) in church D) in his treehouse

2. Jordan and Jessamy moved to _____. (B)
A) Florida B) Indiana C) Montana D) New York
3. The name of the college near where Jordan and Jessamy serve. (D)
A) Harvard University B) Stanford University C) University of California
D) Purdue University
4. They planted a church called _____. (C)
A) First Baptist Church B) Calvary Baptist Church C) The Chapel
D) Community Church
5. The name of the of the collegiate ministry they started is _____. (C)
A) Journey B) Crossroads C) Salt Company D) Lighthouse
6. Jordan says students are looking for _____. (C)
A) friends B) jobs C) meaning and something to live for D) an education
7. Ellie grew up as a missionary kid in _____. (A)
A) Argentina B) Europe C) Japan D) Brazil
8. The name of Ellie's new friend is _____. (D)
A) Blair B) Emma C) Jessamy D) Erin
9. How many students were baptized in one night at The Chapel? (A)
A) 38 B) 55 C) 81 D) 25
10. Jordan says that the next generation are _____. (all of the below)
A) the next leaders of the world B) influencers in cities all over the world
C) ambassadors of Christ D) missionaries

Transition to the action activity.

Dig Deeper

- Discuss that believers are all ambassadors of Christ.
- Invite the students to consider their future occupations and how those can be used by Jesus for His kingdom mission.
- Have the students examine how God is mapping their journey as He did for Jordan and Jessamy and Ellie and Erin for His purposes.

Transition to the prayer activity.

Pray

Pray for Jordan and Jessamy Adams.

- Pray God will start a movement that changes our country and our world.
- Pray students and families in West Lafayette will attend The Chapel.
- Pray God will raise up leaders in the church to disciple new believers.

Remind the students to pray for all of the Week of Prayer missionaries.

Distribute the prayer guides and bookmarks you ordered from AnnieArmstrong.com/resources.

Using the prayer guide, verbally review the ministries and prayer needs of all the missionaries featured during the Week of Prayer for North American Missions.

Note that every dollar given to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goes directly to resourcing the mission and ministry of these missionaries and more across North America. We emphasize the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering during Easter, but donations are accepted year-round.

Encourage students to set aside a designated sum of money year-round. Decorate a jar or box to put the funds in and celebrate as God blesses and multiplies the amount.

Ask for volunteers to pray aloud for the needs of a specific missionary or missionary family listed in the prayer guide. Encourage students to use the bookmarks as reminders to pray for these and all missionaries in North America throughout the year.