

Relentless Growth

1 CORINTHIANS 3:5-9

The aftermath of a forest fire is a disheartening sight. The silence of death punctuates the narrative told by charred trees and ash-covered ground. Though it appears an irreparable wasteland, new growth appears quickly, and eventually, the forest can regrow completely. Nature isn't the only place where growth develops from tragedy. In another narrative, one

man's horrific death allowed the salvation of the world and the creation of a Church who is still growing thousands of years later.

Growth is at the heart of God's design for creation. Incredible challenges and even tragedy cannot stop it; and yet, we cannot force it either.

Anyone who has raised a child or planted a garden knows first-hand that growth is not something humans produce. We work to create the conditions where growth is optimal, but the actual division and differentiation of the cells, the movement, the expansion that happens as living things grow is nothing short of miraculous.

In the same way, the spiritual growth of believers and the growth of the Church around the globe is out of our hands, yet we are not free from responsibility. 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 explains that Christians are "coworkers in God's service," planting and watering what He will make grow. We plant seeds of faith by telling others of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, and we water them by praying and providing resources that will enable them to grow. Then God works a miracle.

Your generosity to the Heck-Jones Offering directly promotes the growth of God's kingdom. WMU NC has over a century's experience planting and watering seeds of faith by making disciples who live on mission. Even as the past year has been filled with challenges and tragedy, God continues to grant us a beautiful vision for relentless growth.

As you pray with us this week, each day will give you a snapshot of the growth we believe God has in store. Your gifts to the Heck-Jones Offering will prepare the fields for God to bring miraculous growth.

We are excited for you to be coworkers with us - coworkers with God - in this season of relentless growth!



WEEK OF PRAYER

FOR WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF NORTH CAROLINA

SUNDAY: Thank God today for all the mission's education that happens in our churches. But especially pray for growth in children's mission education. WMU trains children to pray for, give to, and do missions. Pray for the start of new children's groups around the state. Pray for volunteer leaders to lead groups. Contact Sara Lamkin, slamkin@wmunc.org, for more information about leading a children's group.



MONDAY: Pray for growth among young women who are students, young professionals, and/or young moms. Pray for WMU NC to find effective, new ways to support young women and invite them into missions. Contact Julie Keith, jkeith@wmunc.org, for more information about getting involved in WMU NC opportunities for Young Women.



TUESDAY: Pray for continued growth in church plants around the world. Pray for partnerships between church plants in North Carolina and WMU NC. Pray for a shared vision in reaching every heart for Jesus and equipping believers to support and do missions.

WEDNESDAY: Pray for innovation as WMU NC creates new training and spiritual development opportunities in-person and online. Pray for new audiences to access these materials. Pray for leaders to be challenged, prepared, and equipped in new ways year round. Contact Amanda Martinsen, amartinsen@wmunc.org, for more about the training and leadership development opportunities available through WMU NC.



THURSDAY: Pray for WMU NC's Compassion Ministries (Minister's Wives, Military Wives, Prison Ministry, NC Baptist Nursing Fellowship, and many more!). Pray for volunteers to donate materials and to staff special events. Contact Rebecca Lindhout, rlindhout@wmunc.org, or visit our website for more information about Compassion Ministries. Rebecca is our new Adult Consultant - contact her also if you need help starting a Women on Mission group in your church.



FRIDAY: Pray for God to drive miraculous growth in churches around the world and through WMU NC this year. We know He can do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine. Pray that we have faith to trust Him beyond what we can see, and that we do not limit the growth He wants for us through our small thinking.

SATURDAY: Pray for how God will grow YOU this year. Pray for a desire to support missions by giving your time, talent, and treasure. Visit the WMU NC website to donate to the Heck-Jones Offering and support God's movement in all these areas of growth this year.

Thank you for being our coworker in God's service!



MISSIONS & MINISTRIES

MISSIONS EDUCATION

Education for Preschoolers, Children, Youth & Adults

Children's Missions Day

Prayer Partnerships

Bible Study Lending Library

Missionary Support

Monthly Resources

Sisters Who Care

Tarheel Talk

COMPASSION MINISTRIES

Pure Water, Pure Love

WorldCrafts

Mission Trips

Prison Ministry

Military Ministry

Christian Women's Job Corps*

Baptist Nursing Fellowship

ProjectHELP: Refugees

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Missions Extravaganza

ABOUND Leadership Training

Monthly Leadership Luncheons

Christian Women's Leadership Center

Carolina Women

Carolina Girls

Hispanic WMU



All of the Missions & Ministries are made possible through the Heck-Jones Offering. None of them would be possible without your generous gifts.

During the year 2021, WMU NC is striving to keep her vision and mission statement in clear focus. WMU NC seeks to inspire and equip believers to be radically involved in the mission of God.

2021 Heck-Jones Offering

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WMU NC
GOAL: \$400,000

For more information on the Heck-Jones Offering and what it supports, go to wmunc.org.

Reverentless Growth



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