

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

**PRAY.** Use this Guide to continue to pray for those facing struggles; go to [unitethechurch.org/ap4c](http://unitethechurch.org/ap4c) to find additional Prayer Guides about other ongoing issues facing our city; and watch for future monthly Guides with relevant information specific to those issues.

Also pray about these **next steps**:

### LEARN.

- Attending a poverty simulation is life-changing. Go to [www.unitethechurch.org/cope](http://www.unitethechurch.org/cope) to find out more.
- The Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance has many resources and information on its website ([mdhadallas.org](http://mdhadallas.org)) and gives a annual State of the Homeless Address in mid-March.
- Go to [www.unitethechurch.org/poverty](http://www.unitethechurch.org/poverty) to learn about ongoing needs, opportunities, and assets.
- Check out and promote [MyMoneyDFW.com](http://MyMoneyDFW.com), a resource website for financial stability programs, resources, and organizations that helps families get, manage, and protect their money.
- Look at Faith & Finances ([chalmers.org/faith-finances-training](http://chalmers.org/faith-finances-training)), a Christian financial education resource written for low-income neighbors.

### SERVE.

- Volunteer personally and/or mobilize others as financial coaches. Coaches don't need to have extensive training. They just provide accountability to help families lower their stress level, and each their financial goals. See the websites above to get involved.

### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

VITA locations in the Metroplex help individuals and families file their taxes free of charge. To learn more or volunteer, visit:

[mymoneydfw.com/free-tax-preparation](http://mymoneydfw.com/free-tax-preparation)

Source:

[dallasnews.com/news/dallas-city-hall/2016/09/07/dallas-highest-child-poverty-rate-among-big-cities-city-hall-sure-change](http://dallasnews.com/news/dallas-city-hall/2016/09/07/dallas-highest-child-poverty-rate-among-big-cities-city-hall-sure-change)



## POVERTY PRAYER GUIDE

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“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed.” Acts 20:35-36

This month's topic is **Poverty**.

More than 27,300 Dallas residents with full-time jobs live in poverty. Also, roughly 50,000 children live in extreme poverty, defined as a family of four living with an income that is half or less of the poverty line.

As tax time rolls around, this month presents a wonderful opportunity for dozens of organizations to collaborate together to promote financial well-being - especially for those coming out of poverty and seeking to become financially stable.

With Dallas at the top of the list for families and children at or below the poverty line, these resources are particularly critical for our city.

Please prepare your heart before you begin to pray through the AP4C categories, so that these Scriptures and your time with God can renew your heart for our Metroplex.



AP4C model was established in collaboration with **Movement Day Greater Dallas** and is facilitated by **Unite**



All Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, NIV translation.

# SALVATION

“This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.” 1 Timothy 2:3-5

- Praise the Lord for His unconditional love for all mankind.
- Pray for Urban Pastors and Missionaries around the world who serve in poor communities.
- Pray for the salvation of those who are trapped by the criminal justice system and feel hopeless.
- Pray for the homeless that God would comfort them during this difficult period.
- Pray for those in your family, community, and workplace to come to know the Lord.

# THE CHURCH

“He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’” Luke 10:2

- Pray that the Lord would call more of His people to serve in poor communities.
- Pray that the Church would become one in the area of empowering and serving the poor and needy in our city.
- Praise God for the many wonderful churches in DFW that are concerned about others.
- Pray that the Lord will give us a fresh and innovative way to serve those outside the church in a way to break the strongholds and build disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Pray that the Churches would set aside funding, time, and volunteers to serve the poor and help urban missionaries, nonprofits, and pastors.

# OUR COMMUNITIES

“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.” Proverbs 19:17

- Pray that the poor would open their hearts and ears to the Good News of the Gospel and seek help.
- Pray that the Lord would provide places of hope where people can come and get the help and support they need to break the cycle of poverty.
- Pray for revival of the cities in the DFW region back to God.
- Pray that God’s people would come together to develop ways to help the poor obtain jobs that pay a livable wage, affordable housing, healthy food, mental wellness, and the spiritual support needed to break the cycle of poverty.

# TRANSFORMATION

“Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:7

- Pray for the leaders in the city of Dallas as they work to build new tools and systems to help reduce poverty in the city.
- Pray for the many Job Training and Workforce Development Programs being initiated by Christians to help the poor.
- Pray that Christian companies would open their hearts to create job opportunities for the poor and disciple them.
- Give individuals and churches wisdom in what organizations to fund that will not cause harm to the poor.
- Pray for the nation and the DFW region to allow affordable housing for the poor in their community, and to help fund it.