



**Prayer and Praise
Keith & Rita Haywood
Operation Mobilization
Church Connections Team
May 2019**



**“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.”
Ephesians 3: 20-21**

Prayer Requests:

Thank you for praying with us for these requests this month:

- Keith will be visiting 6 churches in North Carolina and Florida with one of our leaders from Egypt from May 13-16. Pray for good connections and new partnerships to help advance the work going on in Egypt.
- Keith will be traveling to India from May 29-June 7 with three other OM leaders. Keith is going to help facilitate this group getting to know the work in India and having discussions with the Good Shepherd/OM India leadership team. Pray for fresh cooperation and ministry opportunities to result from this trip.

We appreciate your prayer for the following church teams moving out this month:

- A Vision Trip to Nepal from May 2-12 with 5 participants, including our team member Dean Dawson
- Crossroads Church, Newnan, GA to Haiti from May 25-June 1 with 8 team members. This will be their third try to go to Haiti this year! Pray that the nation will be free from unrest and strife during this time.
- A team of 5 to Bosnia from May 30-June 8, led by Myrtle Smalls, an African American mobilizer in the Atlanta area

Praises and Answered Prayers:

- Keith’s time in California was very productive. The churches and organization that he met with are all moving forward with plans for future teams and projects. While the travel was very wearying, the results were encouraging!
- We received some feedback from the teams that went on mission in March. Here are a few quotes:
 - “We were uncertain how we would be received, but they welcomed us with open arms and gave us permission to return. God used our team to open the doors for the Gospel to enter Cabecar. Truly amazing! Also, we were told that 7 people gave their lives to Christ following the service that we led in San Jose.” Team leader from the Pleasant Grove Team to the jungles of Costa Rica
 - “I was humbled by my own inabilities, saw the answered prayers of encouragement to our missionary partners and the church we worked with, saw the answered prayer of team unity, saw growth in those who have never been on a mission trip, and was encouraged by the church in Cootehill's growth from last year.” Team leader from The Summit Team to Ireland for the St. Patrick’s Day Outreach
 - “Dear OM/Rita Haywood: I just want to say thank you for opening up (this trip for me) even I am not a follower of Christ yet and giving me the privilege to help serve and teach English with our mission team. It was an amazing experience to see the Good Shepherd schools and how well established they are. The OM staff members & teachers were wonderful and they even helped translate anything that the kids did not understand. I was so grateful to see how OM has helped the Dalit children to have an education so that they can also have a chance to have hopes & dreams that the Caste system denies. It was such a privilege to learn about their culture

and we will continue praying for strength for OM and to be able to keep doing the good work.” George, a member of the Chinese Evangelical Church team to India (pictured above).

- “Arriving at an empty clinic early in the morning. I don’t think we had any idea what we were in for. Soon teeming with 100 Syrian refugees, we quickly learned some new words to associate with the refugee crisis. Afraid. Lonely. Homesick. Unsure. Working with the local clinic here, our team came home with stories of seeing people at their most vulnerable. Women unveiling in a safe place to receive treatment. Children smiling with local nurses who had blown up balloon gloves and drawn smiley faces on them. Men seeking help for medical ailments for their family that they can do nothing about. One of our team members put it perfectly when we were debriefing afterwards when she said, **“Today humanized the refugee crisis.”**” Taylor, leader of the Crosspoint Church team to Egypt

You can read the full story at <https://hopeformena.org/stories/realities-of-the-syrian-refugee-crisis>.

Will you pray with us that our heavenly Father will do abundantly beyond all we ask or think in the requests that we have shared in this update? May He also accomplish more than you expect Him to do in your own life this month!

**Yours in Christ,
Keith & Rita**