

Prayer Makes it Possible

Join us for 20 Days of Prayer
May 1 – 20



SATURDAY, MAY 1

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for His vision and The Moody Church's support when By The Hand launched with 16 kids in 2001—and for the many other churches that have been supportive over the years.
- We praise God for allowing us to become a 501(c)(3) organization in 2005.
- We thank God for being able to open our first location in Cabrini-Green that fall with 32 kids.

I Am Possible

- We praise God for transformed lives and the ripple effect our kids are having in our communities.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for wisdom, faith and obedience for our board of directors and staff during the next 20 years.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for allowing us to provide clothes and gifts to our kids every Christmas since 2001, and teaching kids the true meaning of Christmas.
- We thank God for allowing us to launch our high school program in 2003—currently called NXT.

I Am Possible

- We pray that God is blessing our kids with the ability to discern His will for their lives—and that they are experiencing abundant life.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We ask for the ability to provide the holistic wraparound services that our kids need—to love and nurture every child—mind, body and soul.

MONDAY, MAY 3

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for the ability to take all our ABC kids to Six Flags Great America in 2004—and that it has become an annual celebration that incentivizes our students to earn good grades.
- We thank God for helping us move to a new building in Cabrini-Green just a week before the pipes burst and flooded our old building.

I Am Possible

- We pray for our students to continue focusing on academics,

making good decisions and growing in their relationship with God.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for every volunteer, supporter, staff member and prayer warrior who makes The Solution possible. We are asking God to bless them in every way.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

20 Years of Possible

- We thank God for the oversight and support of The Moody Church, and for all of our church partnerships, including Park Community Church, Chicago First Church of the Nazarene, Grace and Peace Church.

I Am Possible

- We pray for the physical health and mental well-being of our kids, and give thanks for our health partnerships, such as Cornerstone Counseling Center of Chicago and Glenn J. Evans, D.D.S.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for our graduates to sense God's direction for their lives and for the ability to provide them with opportunities to develop their God-given gifts.
- We thank God for the 2005 opening of a new location in Altgeld-Murray and the opportunity to serve more kids.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for the establishment of our college scholarship fund by a generous supporter in 2005.
- We thank God for Tommy Nelson publishing a beautiful book called *The Boy of Color* in 2006, and for Sherrie and Joqueese, the students who wrote and illustrated the book.

I Am Possible

- We pray for our kids and families to experience the peace and joy of the Lord, knowing they are loved, in all circumstances.
- We pray for our twelfth-grade students to smoothly transition to college or trade school and prepare for their careers.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for new, innovative ideas for serving our kids and families through technology, communications, family outreach, and staff and volunteer coordination.
- We pray for God's vision, wisdom and provision moving forward as—God willing—we help more kids and families have abundant life.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for being able to host our first annual Spring Benefit in 2006 at the Harold Washington Library, and for our sponsors and the many volunteers who helped us make it possible.
- We thank God for the opening of our Austin location in 2007 and the ability to serve 132 more kids that year.

I Am Possible

- We pray for provision for our students and alumni who are now unemployed, especially those who are the sole or primary providers for their families.
- We pray for good mental and physical health for all our students and their families.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray that we will be able to reach many more kids from under-resourced neighborhoods—and that they will experience abundant life.
- We pray that God will continue raising up supporters who want to invest in the lives of kids to help them experience abundant life.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for being able to serve 500 children in critical need of intervention by 2008.
- We thank God for the opening of our fourth location in the fall of 2008, serving 88 kids in Englewood—and for the expansion of our Altgeld-Murray location to 154 children in that same year.

I Am Possible

- We thank God that 81 percent of our kids have professed faith in Jesus, and we pray that eventually 100 percent of our students will encounter God and yield to Him as Savior and Friend.
- We pray that God will glorify His name through the lives of our kids as they share abundant life with others, being the light that this world needs.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for the health and mental well-being of our most valuable resources—our staff.
- We pray for our staff's faith, unity and ability to continue being sensitive and responsive to the needs of our kids and families—as they also continue being innovative and resourceful.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for Alderman Walter Burnett negotiating a 25-year extension on our Cabrini-Green facility in 2008—and for the miraculous provision of our facilities in Austin, Altgeld-Murray, and Englewood.
- We thank God for providing financially to ensure we could

serve our children and families during the 2008-2009 recession, when charitable giving was at an all-time low.

I Am Possible

- We pray for our eighth-grade students to do well in high school and for our twelfth-grade students to matriculate successfully at college or trade school.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray that our staff will continue to find creative ways to connect with our students and fellow workers and volunteers.
- We pray for By The Hand to continue developing friendships and community with businesses, churches, schools and other organizations.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

20 Years of Possible

- We thank God for our 10-year anniversary in 2011 and all of the milestones our kids have achieved.
- We thank God for the ability to both establish the Lend To The Lord Fund and launch our Reading Takes You Far campaign in 2012.

I Am Possible

- We praise God for the ability to publish *Generation of Hope*, in 2011, and for the students' testimonies of how human and divine love transformed their lives.
- We thank God our kids are discovering their God-given passions and talents, and for being able to provide life-enriching experiences.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for our HR team as they develop and offer online programs for leadership development and enrichment.
- We pray for By The Hand to continue increasing the effectiveness of our programming and that our kids excel in school and life.

MONDAY, MAY 10

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for our first college student, Travis, graduating from Olivet Nazarene University with a double major in business and art in the spring of 2012—and for breaking ground in Austin that December.
- We thank God for being able to open our new \$6-million 26,000-sq-ft center in 2013, now called the "gem of Austin," and for granting of the charter for a new school.

I Am Possible

- We pray for our kids' families—that they will experience God's provision and protection.
- We pray for our college or trade school graduates to experience meaningful and satisfying employment.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We thank God for our volunteers and pray for them as they help provide academic and spiritual support, positive encouragement and social-emotional connections for our students.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for receiving a \$500,000 grant from Evan's Life Foundation in 2013, and for our kids' service projects in Austin every June in Evan Samata's memory.
- We thank God for being able to launch our technology-enabled learning/reading program in 2013.

I Am Possible

- We pray for all of our students to be reading at grade level after their first year with By The Hand and that they are proficient readers and communicators.
- We pray that our kids and families experience peace and joy, knowing they're loved and cherished by God—and us.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for our corporate sponsors and partners, that their businesses will thrive and their employees will experience the joy of working with kids at By The Hand.
- We pray for our supporters' health and well-being—and for their faith, financial giving and witness to glorify God.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for being able to open our \$12-million By The Hand Club and Moving Everest Charter School in 2015.
- We thank God for being able to take three students to Colombia on our club's first international mission trip that August.

I Am Possible

- We pray that our kids will continue to be a positive force for racial equality.
- We ask God to enable By The Hand to make significant contributions in helping our kids and others overcome the challenges they face every day.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray that By The Hand is able to break down the barriers to learning that hinder academic, personal and spiritual growth—and that we are able to provide every child with the love and support they need.
- We pray that By The Hand will be able to provide students with life-enriching experiences that inspire and motivate them to commit their lives to being The Solution.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for being able to host our first Reading Playoffs in August 2016, thanks to the sponsorship of Coeur Mining.
- We thank God for the addition of a social and emotional learning specialist at Moving Everest in 2018, and for the training she provided staff on SEL practices and creating a trauma-informed culture.

I Am Possible

- We pray that our kids and families will share their concerns and prayer requests with us—for there is power when God's

people unify in prayer on behalf of others.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We thank God and pray for our prayer warriors and ask God to answer their prayers and to bless them—as well as our kids, staff, volunteers and supporters.
- We also pray for the Lord's will to be fulfilled through By The Hand.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for Keith and Camari being our first students to win scholarships to the Ron Burton Training Village summer camp in 2018.
- We thank God for being able to take our students to Washington D.C. in 2018, where we visited the White House, Gloucester Institute and the Museum of the Bible.

I Am Possible

- We pray for our graduates to sense God's direction for their lives.
- We pray for provision and meaningful employment for our graduates who are out of work.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for our faithful volunteers who serve year after year to continue finding creative and tangible ways they can support students and families.
- We pray that By The Hand staff continues praying with each other and that the Holy Spirit unifies them and their efforts to serve through By The Hand.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

20 Years of Possible

- We thank God for the opportunity to partner with CrossCity Church in 2018 to help our students grow in their relationship with Christ.
- We praise God for the 2015 opening of By The Hand – Moving Everest in Austin, enabling kids to learn in an academically rigorous environment during the school hours, then benefit from our wraparound services after school.

I Am Possible

- We pray that our kids will continue to overcome the challenges that they experience—and that God will use them to help others do the same.
- We pray that God will use By The Hand and our students to revitalize our communities.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We thank God for you and for every other volunteer, supporter, staff member and prayer warrior who make The Solution possible. And we ask God to bless them and you in every way.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for the Chicago Housing Authority completing a \$6-million renovation of our Cabrini-Green facility in 2019.

- We thank God for being able to break ground in the fall of 2019 for a new middle school facility in Austin, that will eventually help 270 sixth-through-eighth-grade students prepare for Chicago's best public high schools.
- We thank God for the Museum of the Bible, the Bible League International and other organizations we've collaborated with to provide rich learning experiences about the Bible and the love of Jesus.

I Am Possible

- We thank God for our kids and the tremendous progress they are making in school and in life.
- We pray that our kids will be able to get wise, godly advice when they need it, and that each child will learn to seek God's will before making any big decisions.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We also pray for our vision for the next 20 years, asking that the Lord enables By The Hand to reach and serve more kids from Chicago's most under-resourced neighborhoods.

MONDAY, MAY 17

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God that even during the global 2020 pandemic, construction of our site in Austin continued despite statewide shutdown.
- We thank God for being able to conduct wellness checks and provide emergency care and essential provisions to our students and their families during the pandemic, and for being able to provide computers and successfully pivot to a virtual learning platform when schools were closed.

I Am Possible

- We pray that each new child that enrolls in By The Hand will come to know Jesus as their personal Savior within a year.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for our outsourced finance vendor, Cedarstone Partners, especially Felicia and Diane.
- We thank God for Novak Construction and all of the workers who continued to move forward with the completion of the Moving Everest middle school during 2020.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

20 Years of Possible

- We thank God for the opportunity to partner with ACT (Austin Coming Together) to hand out fresh fruit, vegetables, frozen meat and groceries from By The Hand parking lot in Austin as part of the city's COVID-19 Racial Response Program.
- We thank God for Sam Acho and others for coming alongside our students to create positive change by replacing a liquor store with a market that our high school students can operate, addressing Austin's food insecurity after local grocery stores closed due to looting and arson in 2020.

I Am Possible

- We thank God for the influence our kids are having on us—for the privilege of knowing and loving them as a permanent part of our family.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We thank God for our supporters and pray that the Lord will continue providing through their generosity and commitment to making The Solution possible.
- We pray for our facilities team as they maintain our buildings and take extra measures to keep everyone safe from the spread of COVID-19 at our sites.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

20 Years of Possible

- We praise God for the 2020 completion of our Moving Everest middle school, and the opening of Austin Harvest.
- We thank God for being able to launch our social justice program in 2019—in partnership with the Chicago Bears and Chicago Police Department—which included an eight-week curriculum, a field trip to the Chicago Police Academy, and a Collaborative Community Action Project in our four By The Hand Club neighborhoods.

I Am Possible

- We thank God that our kids are The Solution—thriving, giving back and ready to soar.
- We pray that the influence of By The Hand in our communities will result in more people experiencing abundant life and our communities being transformed.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We also pray for our vision for the next 20 years, asking that the Lord's will be fulfilled through By The Hand—for His glory and our amazement.
- We pray for wisdom, faith and obedience for our board of directors during the next 20 years.
- We thank God for you and all you do to make The Solution possible. And we ask God to bless you in every way.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

20 Years of Possible

- We thank the professional athletes, business people, politicians and city officials, and our supporters and volunteers who made it possible to respond to our families' needs during the global pandemic, economic shutdown and the wake of the riots.
- We praise God for the ability to reopen our clubs in September 2020, following all safety guidelines to protect our children and staff while also continuing to offer virtual club for all those unable to attend in person.

I Am Possible

- We give thanks for every one of the 6,000 kids who have enrolled in By The Hand over the last 20 years, and we pray for their well-being and walk with the Lord.

The Solution is Ready. Make it Happen.

- We pray for God to lead and provide for us to fulfill His will as we plan to open our North Austin site in 2022 inside a 140,000-square-foot sports and recreation center, enabling us to serve 400 new kids.