

Pack the Love: Backpack Giveaway

Pack the Love: Backpack Giveaway is a back-to-school community initiative designed to equip students in underserved communities with essential school supplies—while also sharing the love and hope found in Jesus Christ. By providing free backpacks filled with supplies, churches can make a lasting difference in the lives of local families as the school year begins.

Objective:

To distribute fully stocked backpacks to at least 100 students in the church's local community, offering practical support and spiritual encouragement through intergenerational service and connection.

How It Works:

Church Involvement:

- Organize a donation drive for backpacks and school supplies (notebooks, pencils, crayons, folders, glue sticks, etc.).
- Invite church members, youth, and young adults to "adopt a backpack" and fill it with gradeappropriate materials.
- Partner with local schools or community organizations to identify students and families in need.

Backpack Blessing Day:

- Host a community event on a Sabbath or Sunday featuring:
 - A prayer station for students and families
 - Light refreshments and music
 - o A short devotional or children's story about God's plans for their lives (Jeremiah 29:11)
 - Free backpack giveaway and optional sign-up for ongoing church-supported tutoring or kids' programs

Personal Touch:

• Include a handwritten note of encouragement or a Bible verse in each backpack (e.g., "The Lord is my shepherd..." Psalm 23:1).

Why It Matters:

"Pack the Love" helps ease the financial burden for families and reminds students that they are seen, supported, and loved—by their community and their Creator. It's a practical way to touch lives and launch the school year with hope.