

AWAKE Pastor Guide

Pastors can root AWAKE in Ephesians 5:14 and lead their churches to pray for a nearby school, walk its campus, gather with other churches, and commission students.

Pastors and leaders Senior pastors, campus pastors, ministry directors, and Sunday service planners can use the same call to prayer.	Before Sunday Prepare the announcement, sermon anchor, staff decision, and volunteer huddle before the invitation goes public.	Claim one campus Invite the church to claim one campus and choose a path: prayer, a prayer walk, a gathering, or student commissioning.
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Lead the church from invitation to action.

Make AWAKE clear from the platform, connect it to Scripture, and give the congregation one next step for August 2026.

The goal is simple: help every church choose a campus, choose a way to pray, and pray with expectation for students and schools.

01

Platform announcement

Read this as written, or adapt it into your own Sunday language.

60-second version

Church, this August we are joining churches across Florida for Back to School Prayer. AWAKE is our call to ask God to awaken His Church, strengthen our students, and bring hope across our state. Today we are choosing a campus to cover in prayer, and we are inviting every family, student, leader, and small group to take part throughout the month.

Clear invitation

Before you leave today, choose one way to join: pray with us, join a campus prayer walk, help host a gathering, or take part in student commissioning. We want every school near us to be covered in steady prayer.

USE THIS CHECKLIST

- Name the campus or campuses your church is claiming.
- Show the claim form during announcements or in the weekly email.
- Assign one leader to own follow-up for prayer walks, gatherings, and commissioning.

THEME PRAYER

Lord, awaken Your Church, awaken our students, and awaken our state. Make every school a place covered by faithful prayer.

02

Sermon anchor from Ephesians 5:14

Tie the invitation to a biblical call to wakefulness, light, and public witness.

Wake up

Call the church out of passive concern and into prayerful responsibility for the next generation.

Rise up

Move from awareness to obedience: claim a campus, bless students, and seek peace for schools.

Christ will shine

Keep the focus on hope, humility, and the Gospel rather than fear or culture-war language.

USE THIS CHECKLIST

- Use student, parent, teacher, and school staff examples that fit your congregation.
- Name local schools with honor and care.
- End with one visible action step rather than several competing asks.

Church decision checklist

Use this in a staff meeting to assign clear responsibility before the invitation goes public.

Choose the campus

Start with a nearby school, a campus with church families, or a school where a member already serves.

Choose the pathway

Pick one primary action first: month-long prayer, prayer walk, multi-church gathering, or student commissioning.

Choose the leader

Name one point person who can answer questions and keep the next step moving.

USE THIS CHECKLIST

- Add the AWAKE month and campus name to the church calendar.
- Prepare one announcement slide, one email paragraph, and one lobby conversation point.
- Follow up with everyone who responds within 48 hours.

Sunday follow-up plan

Do not let the announcement die in the room. Use this rhythm to move people from interest to participation.

Same Sunday

Send a short email with the claimed campus, the selected ways to pray, and the next meeting or prayer time.

Same week

Ask ministry leaders to personally invite students, parents, educators, and small-group leaders.

Each week in August

Remind the church what to pray, where gatherings or walks are happening, and how to share a story afterward.

USE THIS CHECKLIST

- Keep all signups in one place.
- Prepare a simple prayer card or text message with three prayer prompts.
- Claim the campus as part of Florida's shared prayer effort.

Ready to lead your church in Back to School Prayer?

Claim a campus, name how your church will pray, and give your congregation a concrete way to cover students in prayer.