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By DENISE MORRIS  
Staff Writer

Tolar home boy Jeremy Lane, 26, has found his mission.

The 1999 Tolar High School graduate got married, moved to Weatherford, and took a technical job with TTI Inc.

Then he found himself simultaneously enrolled at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

"Most people who enter Seminary are called to traditional church or missionary work," Lane said. "I knew that none of those paths were for me -- although I enjoy speaking at churches, and do so fairly often."

He knew he attended seminary for a reason, but wasn't sure what it was.

"Then one night my wife and I were just watching TV and we stumbled across a special about global poverty, and I was captivated. My wife and I looked at each other and I knew this is where I needed to be. As I continued to study the Bible I realized how many passages there were on serving the poor and feeding the hungry. I asked myself, how could I have missed that?"

Lane was thus inspired to adopt another pursuit -- which has become his primary passion.

"I am an ambassador for The ONE Campaign. I raise awareness however I can, from telling my friends and family to speaking at youth rallies about global poverty."

The ONE campaign is not affiliated with Southwestern, but the faith-building experience of school pushes him to "do my part in helping those who suffer."

It was Lane who approached Granbury mayor David Southern about making this a "City of ONE".

"Mayor David Southern has placed Granbury as a leader and an example in the battle against world poverty and AIDS, by proclaiming Granbury a City of ONE," Lane said.

The "City of ONE" initiative is the offspring of The ONE Campaign, whose goal is making poverty history. Details can be found at [www.one.org](http://www.one.org) <<http://www.one.org/>> .

Southern said he readily signed the proclamation, joining cities around Texas and the nation.

"Who would be against any of those things?" Southern said. "There is nothing the city can do about (world poverty) but encourage its citizens to promote those issues. We are a world of one regardless of any proclamations."

Lane is also a child ambassador for World Vision ([www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org) <<http://www.worldvision.org/>> ) which is a child sponsorship organization.

"I speak wherever I can in order to gain sponsors for children around the world that, without sponsorship, would not have access to food, clean water, or the ability to go to school," he said.

"I am very passionate about the causes supported by The ONE Campaign (as well as World Vision). I will continue to search

for an avenue where I can have the greatest involvement and effect on these issues. Whether that is in the political arena, the non-profit sector, or somewhere else time will tell."

At Southwestern he is pursuing his undergraduate degree and expects to continue there toward a master's degree.

Lane and his lovely wife, April, sponsor a child themselves -- a 3-year-old girl in Sri Lanka.

In addition to being a full-time employee, seminary student and active volunteer, Lane is a family man.

"I am also a husband and father," he said. "I have been married to my wife April for going on six years."

They have their own daughter named Abigail, who celebrates her fourth birthday this month. The family attends Cedar Point Baptist Church in Stephenville.

"Nothing I have accomplished, or will accomplish, in my life would be possible without my wife," he said. "She is the foundation that my entire life is built upon."

April Lemond graduated from Tolar High School in 2001. She went on to become a licensed aesthetician in Fort Worth at the Legacy Salon and Day Spa.

Lane explained that both World Vision and The ONE Campaign are partners in supporting the promises America made at the G8 Summit regarding the Millennium Development Goals. He has been instrumental in bringing numerous cities on board with the program.

"When a city signs on as a City of ONE, it places that city as a leader, an example, in the battle against extreme poverty.

"It is important that citizens understand Granbury has made no financial commitments with this declaration. Granbury has done something even more powerful; they have used their 'voice' to speak out on behalf of those less fortunate.

"America is a generous and compassionate nation, but when it comes to the percentage of federal funds we allocate toward poverty relief and assistance, we rank far too low among wealthy nations.

Lane suggests citizens can help in several ways:

-- Go to [www.one.org](http://www.one.org) and add your name to The ONE Campaign.

-- Tell your friends and family about the issues, and ask them to add their names as well.

-- Take these issues into consideration during election time. What candidate will do the most in the battle against world poverty? Once a person joins the ONE Campaign they can stay up to date on new ways to make a difference in this fight.

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