

TRAVELERS-

Missions, Music & Memory Verses

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LEADER GUIDE

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TRAVELERS

Missions, Music & Memory Verses



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Music, Missions & Memory Verses Guide

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For more information, write:

Answers in Genesis

PO Box 510, Hebron, KY 41048

Project Coordinator: Stacia McKeever

Writers: Linda Moore, Stacia McKeever, Children's Hunger Fund

Editor: Angela Carlisle

Interior Layout: Diane King

Cover Design: Jon Seest

Illustrations: Paul Agner

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Handy Helps

It's a Jungle Out There!

Listen! Can you hear a howler monkey screeching and insects buzzing? *Look!* Do you see a sloth hanging from a tree and a jaguar crouching, ready to pounce? *Smell!* Is that the aroma of tropical flowers wafting through the air? *Touch!* Do you feel soft grass under your feet and gentle rain on your skin? *Taste!* Is that delicious milk from a coconut and exotic spices from the rainforest?

Join us in a world of wonder that will delight our senses while captivating our hearts and minds at *The Great Jungle Journey: An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation*. We will cruise through jungle rivers, making stops at seven ports of call along the way—each starting with a C. These represent seven key biblical events—the 7 C's of History.

Day 1: Creation—Our first C takes us back to the beginning of time and the creation of the universe when it was all good. Did the universe start with a big bang, or did God create it?

Day 2: Corruption and Catastrophe—Next, Adam sinned, which affected his descendants, who were so wicked that God sent a global flood as judgment for their sin.

Day 3: Confusion—The fourth C checks out the events that began at the tower of Babel. Can this be where all the people groups originated from?

Day 4: Christ and the Cross—At these stops, we realize once again that man is sinful and needs a Savior. Hallelujah, God provides one in his Son!

Day 5: Consummation—The last C shows the thrilling conclusion to history when all goes back to very good again, and—best news ever—God wins against sin and Satan.

Excitement and adventure await from the first minute of each day when kids meet in travel groups. The groups gather at the **Jungle Jam Assembly**, a high-energy beginning that includes wacky intros, lively songs, a Mission Moment, and prayer.

Then they're off to rotate through five fun sites:

Rain or Shine Bible Time, where God's Word is taught in creative, hands-on ways.

Tree-mendous Science and Crafts, where kids make jazzy jungle crafts and explore God's amazing world with science experiments.

Canopy Café Snacks, where travelers go bananas, munching on tropical treats and eats.

Rainforest Recreation, where kids rumble in the jungle with some wet and wild games.

Travelers' Missions, Music, and Memory Verses, where kids sing songs, learn their memory verses with fun games, or go in-depth with the Mission Moment featuring Children's Hunger Fund.

Finally, everyone heads back to the **Jungle Jam Assembly** for the closing, where there's more singing, contest results, and the highly anticipated daily drama. This follows a jungle river cruise that plans to make stops at different ports of call but faces a catastrophe that affects the plan, resulting in lots of unexpected rainforest adventures.

Prepare to swing into the fun as we head out on our jungle river cruise. See you in the rainforest!

Our Goal

We are so thankful for how God has chosen to use the Answers VBS programs over the past years! But why did we decide to embark on such an undertaking in the first place, and why are we still at it by God's grace?

Our primary goal has always been to bring God glory by boldly and unashamedly proclaiming him to a strategic group—young people! From both a biblical and statistical point of view, young people are a big deal. They're not only awesome—we love 'em!—but they're also dearly cherished by our Lord and tend to be softhearted toward spiritual things. Researchers generally agree most people become Christians when they're children, so it's apparent this age group is a huge mission field!

Children are loved by their Creator, and Jesus said to let them come to him (Luke 18:16). We want children to come to Christ and not be hindered in any way from doing so. To that end, we combine a biblically rich VBS with off-the-chart, irresistible fun. In a day and age when content sometimes suffers, we don't want to sacrifice rich teaching. But it's also crucial that the most exciting book in the world not come across as boring or irrelevant. We want to reflect our creative, inspiring, joy-giving God who made laughter and fun.

So why do we do it? We want kids around the world to hear about and personally meet our awesome God and understand how they can receive eternal life through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus. We believe VBS is a great way to introduce them to God, as it is one of the biggest outreaches of the year for most churches.

We pray you will find that every prayer prayed, every minute invested, every dollar spent, and every word spoken will bring God glory as you reach kids for Christ. Just remember—VBS is worth it. May God richly bless your VBS. We're praying for you!

Frequently Asked Questions

The content of *The Great Jungle Journey* may be new to you. For a list of helpful articles on the topics covered in this VBS program, please visit AnswersVBS.com/junglefaq.

Terms to Know

Throughout the VBS curriculum, various terms will be used. Here is a list of some of the most common terms you should know.

Travel Groups/Travelers: Groups of children (individual classes) named after jungle animals, such as Bengal Tigers, Butterflies, Toucans, or Howler Monkeys.

Group Guides: Group leaders who lead the travelers from place to place during VBS. No teaching is required of this position.

Rain or Shine Bible Time: Bible and apologetics lesson time in the jungle.

River Guides: Teachers of the Rain or Shine Bible Time.

Tree-mendous Science and Crafts: Rotation site where crafts are made and science experiments are explored.

Canopy Café Snacks: Indoor or outdoor location where snacks are served.

Rainforest Recreation: Indoor or outdoor site (outdoor is preferred) for recreation time.

Travelers' Missions, Music, and Memory Verses: Rotation sites where kids can spend additional time learning songs, memory verses, and missions.

Memory Verse: Daily Bible verse to learn.

Animal Pals: Our friendly animal mascots that remind us of the main themes of each day.

Toddlers: 2–4-year-olds.

Pre-Primaries: 4–6-year-olds or children ages 4 through those who have completed kindergarten.

Primaries: 6–9-year-olds or children who have completed grades 1–3.

Juniors: 9–12-year-olds or children who have completed grades 4–6.

For multi-age K–6 travel groups, we recommend using the material for the Primaries.

Swinging Songs

This section is for those who may want to add a music rotation to their schedule. A Music Leader Download (including both contemporary and traditional) is included with the purchase of a Super Starter Kit or is available to purchase separately at AnswersVBS.com. The Music Leader Download includes memory verse hand-motion videos (contemporary only), song lyric videos, and audio files for you to choose from. Check with your director for the link or the files.

To help the children learn the VBS songs, spend some time singing them during this rotation. The theme song is fun to sing every day along with several other songs. Choose the songs your kids will enjoy and repeat them throughout the week or use the suggestions given below. You may also want to include the day's memory verse song. (See the Memory Verses Review section.)

Materials

- Music Leader Download
- Music Station Poster (12-1-034)
- Device to play songs

Day 1

Theme Song
Contemporary: "The Manatee Song"
C: "No One Does Good"
C: "Jesus Is My Light"
Traditional: "God Is Good"
T: "Messing It Up"
T: "Hello, Hello, Babble, Babble"

Day 2

Theme Song
C: "No One Does Good"
C: "Jesus Is My Light"
C: "O God Our Help in Ages Past"
T: "Messing It Up"
T: "Hello, Hello, Babble, Babble"
T: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Day 3

Theme Song
C: "Jesus Is My Light"
C: "Peace, Love, Joy"
C: "You Made a Way"
T: "Hello, Hello, Babble, Babble"
T: "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
T: "At My Journey's End"

Day 4

Theme Song
C: "You Made a Way"
C: "The Manatee Song"
C: "No One Does Good"
T: "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
T: "God Is Good"
T: "Messing It Up"

Day 5

Theme Song
C: "Peace, Love, Joy"
C: "The Seven C's of History"
C: "You Made a Way"
T: "At Mys Journey's End"
T: "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
T: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Memory Verse Review

This section is for those who want to add a memory verse rotation to their schedule. Display the memory verse posters in your area. Review the memory verse by playing the appropriate song from the Music Leader Download (either video or audio) several times, encouraging the kids to sing along. Then play a game to review the verse. You may want to combine this with the song rotation time.

The Music Leader Download, including both contemporary and traditional music, is available with the purchase of a Super Starter Kit (12-1-002) or separately at AnswersVBS.com. Check with your director for the files or go to AnswersVBS.com to purchase the music download.

Materials

- Music Leader Download
- Memory Verse Posters
- Memory Verse Sign (12-1-035)
- Device to play songs

Day 1

To review the verses, play a creation game. Write several kinds of animals on small pieces of paper (e.g., bird, kangaroo, gorilla, butterfly, dolphin, frog) and place them in a bag or box. Have students take turns picking a paper and leading the others in acting out the animal while reciting the verse together. Repeat the process several times for each verse.

Theme Verse

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (1 Timothy 1:17, ESV)

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (1 Timothy 1:17, KJV)

All Ages

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1, ESV)

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Genesis 1:1, KJV)

Day 2

To review today's verse, have students sit down in a circle. Choose a student to say the first word in the verse as he raises both hands (and keeps them raised). Continue around the circle as each student raises his hands and says the next word. When the verse is finished, start over with the next person. If his hands are raised, have him lower them; if his hands are

lowered, have him raise them. Keep going around the circle, repeating the verse faster and faster—doing “the wave.”

Juniors and Primaries

They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. (Psalm 14:3, ESV)

They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one. (Psalm 14:3, KJV)

Pre-Primaries and Toddlers

There is none who does good, not even one. (Psalm 14:3, ESV)

There is none that doeth good, no, not one. (Psalm 14:3, KJV)

Day 3

Juniors and Primaries

To review today’s verse, write each word of the verse on a plastic or paper cup. Use a different color of cups for every group of 2–3 students. Groups (or individuals) will build a tower with their cups, putting the words in order as they build.

Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth. (Genesis 11:9, ESV)

Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth. (Genesis 11:9, KJV)

Pre-Primaries and Toddlers

To review today’s verse, recite the memory verse once or twice. Have students move around the room in a specified action you give, such as marching, skipping in circles, or galloping. When you say, “Freeze!” the students must freeze in position. Recite the memory verse together. Then begin the game again with a different action.

Babel . . . there the LORD confused the language of all the earth.
(Genesis 11:9, ESV)

Babel . . . the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth.
(Genesis 11:9, KJV)

Day 4

Juniors and Primaries

To review today’s verse, choose a student to place a sticky note over one word or phrase on the verse poster. Recite the verse, including what’s covered up. Continue choosing students to place sticky notes, one at a time,

reciting the whole verse between each turn. When all of the words are covered, try to say the whole verse together! Optional: You may choose to write the verse on a whiteboard and have students erase one word at a time.

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12, ESV)

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. (John 1:12, KJV)

Pre-Primaries and Toddlers

To review today's verse, lead the students in reciting it by using different kinds of voices for each word (e.g., whisper, shout, squeaky, silly). Have students echo each word and the way you say it.

But to all who . . . believed . . . he gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12, ESV)

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God. (John 1:12, KJV)

Day 5

To review today's verse, have students squat down on the floor. As you say the verse, slowly stand up, twisting and turning, growing like a jungle vine. Reach hands above the head as you finish the verse. Reverse the motions, shrinking the vine, as you repeat the verse. Do several times. Let older students take turns leading.

Juniors and Primaries

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. (Revelation 21:4, ESV)

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. (Revelation 21:4, KJV)

Pre-Primaries and Toddlers

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. (Revelation 21:4, ESV)

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.
(Revelation 21:4, KJV)

Mission Moment

The VBS mission emphasis provides a unique and practical opportunity for children to learn about and participate in the work of gospel-centered ministries that serve the poor. Each day's segment will take 15–20 minutes.

This year, we've partnered with Children's Hunger Fund to provide food and the hope of the gospel to hungry children in the US and across the globe. The Good News Cruise is a fun and meaningful addition to your VBS program, teaching kids about poverty around the world and empowering them to make a difference.

Note that the Children's Hunger Fund scripts are also provided in the *Assembly Guide* for those who would like to offer a mission time then. Coordinate with your director and assembly leader on who is doing what concerning the mission time.

*Don't forget to download your resources from
AnswersVBS.com/junglemissions*



The Good News Cruise



The Good News Cruise is a powerful addition to your VBS program. Your kids will explore five different countries and learn how they can make a difference for children living in poverty around the world.

As your students explore Ukraine, Thailand, Mexico, Zambia, and the US, they'll hear the stories of boys and girls whose lives have been impacted by poverty. These children have no guarantee of meals, shelter, or an education. They need help. And they need the hope that only comes from salvation in Jesus Christ.

The good news is you and your kids have the power to make a difference!

The Bible says that giving generously to the poor is really giving generously to God himself (Proverbs 19:17). Teach your VBS class the great joy that comes from sacrificing for the sake of Jesus and his gospel.

During the Mission Moment, your group will meet Frankie, an energetic and accident-prone deckhand on the Good News Cruise. Frankie has worked a variety of jobs on ships all around the world, and he's met some amazing people with incredible stories. As he takes on different jobs on this week's cruise, he'll share stories of people he's met on his travels.

Your mission is to collect coins to fill Children's Hunger Fund Coin Paks and help provide meals for children in need, just like the ones Frankie introduces throughout the week.

When your VBS children earn coins for their Coin Paks, they make it possible for Children's Hunger Fund to fill Food Paks. A Children's Hunger Fund Food Pak is a box of nutritious food that can provide meals for a family in need. In a Food Pak, just 25¢ can provide one meal!

The Food Paks are provided to partner churches in the US and around the world who deliver them to homes of families in need. Along with food delivery, relationships are built and the gospel is shared.

The following items are available from AnswersVBS.com/junglemissions.

- **Daily videos**
- **Daily scripts and activities**
- **Child Profile Slides**—Daily profiles of the children your VBS students will meet
- Printable **Prayer Journals**—These informative prayer briefings will help your kids connect with the real needs of suffering children
- Printable **Map of the World** activity sheet, featuring locations of the children from the daily videos
- Printable **banner artwork**
- **PowerPoint images** to help your kids track their fundraising progress
- Printable fold-up **Coin Pak** for collecting coins
- **Donation Submission Form** to accompany your donation to CHF at the end of your VBS program

Coin Paks Available to Order

Included in your starter kit is a sample of the sturdy, pop-up **Coin Pak**, made for your kids to use as they collect quarters for meals. Check with your director for this sample. After VBS, these will be fun souvenirs that can be kept as reminders to always care for the needs of others. Coin Paks are available from Children's Hunger Fund.

To order Coin Paks, please visit ChildrensHungerFund.org/answersvbs.

For questions regarding your Mission Moment resources, please call (800) 708-7589 or email coinpak@childrenshungerfund.org.

Orders must be received 14 days prior to your VBS date. Available while supplies last.

Collecting Donations

Give children their own Coin Pak for collecting donations. Work with your director to set up a fun area for kids to deposit their money each day as they begin VBS. Encourage your kids in the weeks leading up to VBS to save their money and then begin collecting the first day. Or plan on passing out the Coin Paks on Day 1 and begin collecting on Day 2.

Once you've totaled your donations, you can submit your donation online at ChildrensHungerFund.org/answersvbs. If you would like to mail a check, please make it out to Children's Hunger Fund and indicate "Good News Cruise" in the memo area and then fill out the Donation Submission Form. Send your check with the **Donation Submission Form** (from the resource download at AnswersVBS.com/junglemissions) to:

Children's Hunger Fund
Attn: Good News Cruise
DEPT LA 24373
Pasadena, CA 91185-4373

Learn more about the gospel-centered mercy ministry of Children's Hunger Fund at ChildrensHungerFund.org.

Tracking Your Progress

To help your kids maintain their excitement, announce how many meals their coins can provide each day. Check with your director to find out when to do this: either during this time or during the opening or closing assembly time.

Here are some fun ways to help your kids see their progress as they raise funds:

1. Show your progress with the **Daily Count PowerPoint slides**, found on the resource download (AnswersVBS.com/junglemissions). Update the slides with the total number of meals that can be provided each day.
2. Make your own goal tracker and update it throughout the week. Create or print a jungle vine with leaves and put equally spaced marks on it, going up. Each day, you can color in leaves as you climb the vine. Color to the mark representing the kids' offering and write the total number of meals that can be provided so far on the corresponding line.
3. Consider having a contest between boys and girls or between teams to see which group can bring in the most money. (Printable **Teams** and **Daily Count artwork** are available to download.)

NOTE ON COUNTING COINS: It may be helpful to recruit two or three adult volunteers to count and/or roll the coins at the end of each day. Some banks provide a coin-counting service, but they may require several days to do so. Check ahead with your local bank.

Materials Needed

EVERY DAY

- Glue
- Child safety scissors
- Extra **Coin Paks** (printed or ordered ahead) for new students each day
- Extra **Map of the World** activity sheets for new students each day

DOWNLOADS

Download these resources from AnswersVBS.com/junglemissions.

- Slides** for Children's Hunger Fund for each day
- Videos** for Children's Hunger Fund for each day
- Map of the World** activity sheet, 1 per child
- Child Prayer Journals** for each day, 1 per child

DAY 1

- Coin Paks** (printed or ordered ahead), 1 per child
- Paper, 1 per child

- Pen or pencil, 1 per child
- Timer (or use the timer on your phone)
- Whiteboard and marker

DAY 2

- Whiteboard and markers (at least two different colors)

DAY 3

- Chenille pipe cleaners, 1 per child

DAY 4

- Whiteboard and marker
- Caterpillar segments**—1 set for each class
- Sharpie or marker
- Tape

DAY 5

- Printed summer activity images**
- Tape
- Whiteboard and markers

Daily Scripts

Day 1: Nadya (Ukraine)

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise” slide

As we spend this week journeying from Genesis through Revelation, we are also going to get the chance to meet a boy or girl living in a different part of the world. We are partnering with Children’s Hunger Fund to help provide meals for children who don’t have enough to eat.

Besides helping provide them with meals, you can also help them hear about the message of the gospel!

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise—Nadya” slide

Are you ready to meet the first child? Pause for participation. Great! Today, we’re going to meet a little girl named Nadya, who lives in the country of Ukraine.

SHOW: Video 1—Nadya

Country: Ukraine

Problem: War

Before the war, Nadya’s family didn’t have to struggle to provide basic needs like food and a place to live. They had a home, her parents had jobs, and Nadya went to school and had plans for her future. When they had to leave their home in search of safety, everything they had was lost. Thankfully, nearby churches have worked together to help refugees (people who had to leave their homes) just like Nadya and her family.

Do you want to help kids like Nadya? Pause for participation. Great! This week at VBS, we will be collecting coins to put in these Coin Paks. Show Coin Pak. Take this home today and tell your family and friends about Nadya. Ask them to help you collect coins for meals. Just 25 cents can provide a nutritious meal for a hungry child.

These meals will be packed into a Children’s Hunger Fund Food Pak, which is a box of healthy, nutritious food. This will be enough to feed a family for several days.

Each day this week, bring back any coins you’ve collected, and we’ll count how many meals you’ve given so far. With your help, we can deliver hope to suffering families all over the world.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: WHAT WILL YOU TAKE?

1. Pass out paper and a pen or pencil to each student.
2. Tell the students, "Quick! You have five minutes to grab the 10 most important things from your home!"
3. Set a timer for five minutes and have them write down 10 things they would take with them.
4. Have the students share what they would bring with them and write a few on the board.
5. Tell the students, "Oh, no! We don't have enough room for all 10 items! You have two minutes to cut it down to five items!"
6. Set a timer and have them cross off half of the items from their list.
7. Have the students call out what they removed from their list.
8. Tell the students, "Bad news! You can only take one item, and you only have 30 seconds to decide!"
9. Set a timer for 30 seconds and have them cross off all but one item.
10. Have the students call out what their one item was and circle those on the board.

TALKING POINTS

- Which of these lists was the hardest to make?
- Why did you remove certain items from your list and not others?
- What if you couldn't even bring the one item left on your list?
- When Nadya had to leave her home, they didn't have a chance to pack their bags and make a list of what they wanted to take with them. Nadya had to leave with only the clothes she was wearing.
- Think about other things you need each day. Did anyone think to include food on their list? What about a blanket or a warm jacket?
- Even if Nadya's family could find a grocery store or a hotel that was open, the money they brought would only last so long.
- Without churches to help them, how would Nadya's family make it to safety?
- Once there, how would they be able to start over?
- What can you do to help families like Nadya's?

Pass out the **Map of the World** activity sheets. Have kids put their names at the top then cut out and glue the item for today on the map. Collect the maps when you're finished with the activity.

Send each child home with a **"Nadya" prayer journal**.

Day 2: Panit (Thailand)

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise" slide**

Do you guys remember Frankie whom we met yesterday? He's going to be introducing us to children around the world. Each one of these children lives in poverty, which means they don't have much money for food and clothes. And they also need to hear about God's love for them. Thankfully, you get to help!

Have you started collecting coins for your Coin Pak yet? *Pause for participation.* Great! Remember, each quarter you put into your Coin Pak can provide one meal for a hungry child.

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise—Panit" slide**

Today, Frankie is going to introduce us to a little boy named Panit, who lives in the country of Thailand. Let's hear his story.

SHOW: **Video 2—Panit**

Country: Thailand

Problem: Pandemic

Who remembers having to stay home during the COVID pandemic? *Pause for participation.* A lot of people lost their jobs because businesses had to shut down. Panit's grandmother lost her job because the people she washed clothes for were afraid of getting sick. It's a good thing the church was there to deliver food and share about God's love, right?

Did everyone take home their Coin Paks? *Pause for participation.* Did you tell anyone what we are collecting coins for? *Pause for participation.* Every 25 cents you collect this week can provide one meal for a child like Panit—a child who doesn't know when they will get their next meal. You are helping to deliver hope to suffering children around the world.

Now, do you want to hear how many meals we can provide so far? *Pause for participation.* Well, we've counted the coins you brought in, and we've raised enough to provide ___ meals! Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.

SHOW: **Daily Count Day 2 slide** with current meal count filled in.

That's not bad for just one day. But we've still got the rest of the week, so keep bringing in coins all week long! Share what you've learned about Panit and Nadya with someone else and see if they want to help provide meals too. Ask your parents if you can earn money for your Coin Pak by doing some special chores around the house. Get creative!

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: IS IT ESSENTIAL?

1. Ask the students to call out different types of occupations. Write the responses on a whiteboard using one color of dry-erase marker.
2. Try to cover a variety of categories by prompting them with a few of the following: retail (stores), food industry (restaurants), medical field, emergency services, entertainment, sports, education, trade (e.g., plumber, electrician, hairdresser, mechanic), office, farming, etc.
3. Ask the kids to name which of these jobs can be done remotely, from a computer at home. Cross off the ones that cannot.
4. Some of these jobs (e.g., doctor, police officer, firefighter, grocery store clerk) cannot be done remotely but are still important. Circle these with a different color marker.

TALKING POINTS

- During the COVID pandemic, 9.6 million people in the US were unable to work because their bosses closed or lost their businesses. (According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022.)
- Even if someone with a well-paying job is suddenly out of work, they usually have food at home or at least a small amount of money saved up to live on for a short while until they find work again.
- Now think about Panit's grandmother in Thailand.
- Do you think she had plenty of food at home to last a few days?
- Do you think she had money in the bank to last her for a month or two?
- Panit's family, like many families living in small villages, was living hand to mouth. That means that the money they made that day paid for the food they ate that day. If they didn't make any money, they probably didn't eat.
- How do you think Panit felt when people showed up at his house offering him food for free?

- How can you help other children like Panit who don't have enough food to eat?

Pass out the **Map of the World** activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with a **"Panit" prayer journal**.

Day 3: Daniel (Mexico)

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise" slide**

It's time to check in on our friend Frankie and meet another child from around the world!

Who remembers how much it costs to provide one meal for a hungry child? Pause for participation. That's right! Only 25 cents can provide a healthy meal to a child in need. So that means 1 dollar can provide 4 meals, 10 dollars can provide 40 meals, and 25 dollars can provide 100 meals! Isn't that incredible?

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise—Daniel" slide**

Today, we're going to meet a little boy named Daniel who lives in Mexico.

SHOW: **Video 3—Daniel**

Country: Mexico

Problem: Generational poverty

Without getting good nutrition and education, it could be hard for Daniel to escape the poverty he was born into. That means when he gets older, his children could be born into the same situation. Without help, that is a difficult problem to solve.

But local pastors in Mexico and around the world are working hard to give families like Daniel's the help they need to try to break the cycle of poverty. And even better, they are sharing the hope of the gospel with families in need.

What have you been doing this week to earn coins for your Coin Pak? Are you asking your parents if you can do an extra chore to earn money? Are you sharing with people the stories of the boys and girls you are meeting this week? Talk to your parents about different ways you might be able to raise money for meals.

Now, do you want to hear how many meals we can provide so far? In only two days, we can provide ___ meals! (Remember, one dollar

can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.) **That's pretty fantastic!**

SHOW: **Daily Count Day 3** slide with current meal count filled in.

You are doing an amazing job! And don't forget that those meals are also opportunities for a local pastor to share the love of Jesus Christ. I think more children around the world need to hear this good news, don't you? I can't wait to see how many more meals we can provide tomorrow.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: ALL TIED UP

1. Hand a pipe cleaner out to each child.
2. For each of the items listed below, have the students tie a knot in their pipe cleaner after each one is read.
 - » You are born into a family living in a poor community.
 - » Your only source of drinking water is the same stream used for bathing, and it often carries diseases.
 - » You are only able to have one meal per day.
 - » You are not able to see a doctor.
 - » You are not able to go to school because your parents cannot pay the school fees or you have to work to help your family buy food.
 - » The only skills you are learning in your small village are for jobs that don't provide enough pay to meet your needs.
 - » You get sick a lot because you don't get the proper nutrients in your diet.
3. Now ask the students to try to untie all the knots in their pipe cleaners. You may want to set a timer for a couple of minutes.

TALKING POINTS

- Was it hard to get the knots out of your pipe cleaner?
- Did anyone get them all out? If so, how did your pipe cleaner look when you were done?
- Do you think this pipe cleaner will work as well for crafts as a brand-new one?
- Today, we learned about Daniel. Because of the poverty he was born into, he doesn't have the same opportunities as children who live in other areas.

- This is called generational poverty. That means a child’s parents grow up in poverty (poor conditions) and then raise their children in poverty as well.
- If Daniel is unable to get a good education, he won’t be able to get a well-paying job. Without help, when Daniel grows up and has children, they may face the same struggles he does.
- What can *you* do to help break this cycle of poverty?

Pass out the **Map of the World** activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with a **“Daniel” prayer journal**.

Day 4: Layla (Zambia)

SHOW: **“The Good News Cruise” slide**

Are you curious what job Frankie has on the cruise ship today? Have you enjoyed hearing more about the children he’s met on his travels? I know I have.

Well, today is our fourth day raising money to provide meals for hungry kids! Can anyone tell me how much it costs to provide one meal? *Pause for participation.* Right! Just 25 cents can provide a meal! Can anyone tell me what else the family receives with those meals? *Pause for participation.* Yes! They can hear the gospel message.

It’s time for Frankie to introduce us to another child.

SHOW: **“The Good News Cruise—Layla” slide**

Layla is a girl from Zambia, a country in the southern part of Africa.

SHOW: **Video 4—Layla**

Country: Zambia

Problem: Extreme hunger

Sadly, Layla’s story is not unique. There are many children in Zambia just like Layla. Over half of the people in Zambia struggle to have enough to eat! Can you imagine waking up in the morning and not knowing if you were going to eat at all that day?

When all you know is hunger, would it be hard to see the hope through all the darkness and struggle of living in extreme poverty? *Pause for participation.* Do you think that knowing about a loving Savior can bring hope and light into even the worst situation? *Pause for participation.* Layla’s family was able to hear that message of

hope thanks to the pastor of a nearby church who delivered meals to their home.

We have had a few days to raise money to provide meals for kids just like Layla. Are you ready to be blown away by how many meals we can provide so far? *Pause for participation.* I don't think you sound excited enough. Are you ready to find out how many meals we can provide? *Pause for participation.* **That's better! In just three days, we can provide ___ meals!** Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four. **That's incredible!**

SHOW: **Daily Count Day 4 slide** with current meal count filled in.

The pastors that will be delivering these meals won't just bring food for families in need. These pastors and church volunteers will also share the hope of the gospel with them. But the week isn't over yet! We have one more day to collect coins, so see if there is anyone else you can ask to help donate coins or if there are any chores you can do to earn extra money.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: THE HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

1. Tape the **caterpillar head** on the board. Have the kids give the caterpillar a name and write it on the head segment.
2. Have the kids call out one of their favorite foods and write them on a **body segment** and tape it next to the head.
3. Keep going with more food suggestions and segments until the caterpillar is nice and long.
4. Ask the kids to think back to the child they learned about today—Layla—and ask them which items they think would NOT be available where Layla lives (it should be all of them).
5. Cross out the foods that would not be available to her (leave the caterpillar on the board).
6. Place the smaller caterpillar segments on the board and explain each:
 - » A major part of the national diet (what most people eat) in Zambia is maize meal (ground-up corn).
 - » Meat, fruits, vegetables, and legumes, like beans and peas, are eaten in small amounts.

TALKING POINTS

- What is the main difference that you notice between these two caterpillars?

- Do you think the caterpillar that didn't get as much food to eat will have the same future as the one who had all the food it wanted?
- While humans don't go through the changes that caterpillars do, there are some important things that are the same here.
- Malnutrition is when you don't get enough healthy food for your body. If this happens at a young age, it can have a lasting effect.
- Who can tell me some of the long-term effects of hunger?

Stunting: without proper nutrition, children are not able to grow properly. Children who are stunted are usually very short for their age.

Wasting: without sufficient food, the body grows weaker and weaker.

Proper nutrition supports brain development; without it, the brain does not develop as it should.

Poor immune system: higher likelihood of getting sick.

Hunger is more than just pain in your stomach. Lasting hunger can have effects for a lifetime.

- How can you help children like Layla get the food they need to avoid these complications?

Pass out the **Map of the World** activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with a **"Layla" prayer journal**.

Day 5: Marissa (United States)

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise" slide**

Every day this week, Frankie has introduced us to several boys and girls, all facing poverty in different ways and in different parts of the world. We've also learned this week that we can make a difference!

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise—Marissa" slide**

The child we are going to meet today doesn't live in a small village in a faraway country. She actually lives right here in the United States.

SHOW: **Video 5—Marissa**

Country: United States

Problem: Invisible poor

Be sensitive to the population of children you are serving. Rephrase as necessary to be sure all children feel welcome and included. Does it surprise you to know that there are children in the United States who don't have enough food to eat? It's not always easy to see either. Marissa goes to school with children who don't have to worry about food. Her friends may not even know that she gets free meals from school.

The coins that you have been collecting all week can be used to provide meals for children like the ones you met this week, like Nadya in Ukraine, Panit in Thailand, Daniel in Mexico, Layla in Zambia, Marissa in the United States, and so many others.

Children's Hunger Fund partners with churches around the world who connect with families in need of food and the hope of Jesus. Every box of food means a chance to share the gospel. Your quarters are making a huge difference! Isn't that awesome?

Are you ready to see how many meals we can provide this week?

Pause for participation.

The grand total number of meals we can provide this week is ____ meals! Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.

You guys have done an amazing job collecting coins to feed children in need. Because of you, more children and their families will learn about the love of Jesus.

Did you know that you can keep sending meals to children in need even after this week is over? You can keep making a difference for children around the world with Children's Hunger Fund. Ask your parents how you can continue to share meals and the love of Christ with children in poverty.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: LOOKING FORWARD TO IT

1. Ask the students to tell you what they look forward to most about summer vacation.
2. As they mention one of the items in the summer activity images, tape it to the board.
3. If they mention something new, write it on the board.
4. Keep going until they are out of ideas and all the icons are on the board except "Hunger."
5. Without saying anything, tape the "Hunger" icon to the board.

TALKING POINTS

- Did anyone think of hunger as something they look forward to?
No. Why not?
- No one looks forward to hunger, because hunger is your body's way of telling you it needs food. Hunger doesn't feel good.
- Can you see if someone is hungry? Can you look at the person next to you right now and tell if he or she is hungry?
- What are some things that happen when you are hungry? E.g., stomach hurts, headache, inability to concentrate
- When Marissa and her brothers aren't able to eat regular meals, it makes it really hard for them to stay focused at school. They are constantly tired and struggling to ignore the empty feeling in their bellies.
- It's not always easy to tell if someone is hungry though.
- There are many people right here in America who live in poverty, without enough food to eat. They may live in your neighborhood or go to your school.
- In what ways do suffering families in America need help? What can you do?

Pass out the **Map of the World** activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Kids can take the maps home today.

Send each child home with a **"Marissa" prayer journal**.



It's a jungle out there! There's adventure around every bend at *The Great Jungle Journey*, where kids are equipped to answer questions about who God is and what his Word teaches about salvation. Excitement galore awaits as you learn how to reconnect the Bible to real life through the Seven C's of History. Children will be encouraged to seek their Creator and Savior!

During this rotation, children will have the opportunity to explore the Mission Moment in more depth, memorize verses, or sing their praises with a song time.

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