

Unto Little Explorers

AROUND THE WORLD

LEADER GUIDE



RELIEVE SUFFERING | **RESTORE** DIGNITY | **REVEAL** HOPE[®]

Get Ready for an Adventure

AROUND THE WORLD



Welcome to Little Explorers: All Around the World!

Over the next few days, we will embark on an adventure designed to help children understand the physical and spiritual needs of people around the world. Together with our Little Explorers, Naomi and Daniel, we will learn about how God is working and how each of us can make a difference.

Each lesson includes a short devotional, group discussion, regional highlight, humanitarian spotlight, and fun activity. We have included everything for you — leader cards, discussion questions, and supply lists. **So gather your children and let's get exploring!**

We help you make a difference in the world by providing people with humanitarian aid and telling them about Jesus. We do this in three ways.



FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Provide nutritious meals and sustainable food sources



CLEAN WATER

Drill and repair water wells and distribute water filters



CRITICAL AID

Supply blankets, tarps, clothing, hygiene items, mobility aids, and more

Daily Guide



READ

the daily Bible verse, devotional, and discuss the questions



EXPLORE

the regional facts and humanitarian spotlight



EXPERIENCE

more by completing the activity or craft



A Grand Plan

"I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed."

— Genesis 24:6

God always had a plan. From the very beginning of the Bible, He made it clear that despite humanity's mistakes, He planned to save us. This verse about Abraham, considered the father of the Jews and the father of faith, is one example of God's promise to rescue and bless all nations through His people and ultimately through the gift of His Son Jesus.

Discussion Questions

- God made Abraham three promises. What are they?
 - **Leader Answer:** Land, seed (descendants), blessing.
- Why do you think these promises are important?
 - **Leader Answer:** God was showing Abraham His plan to bless His people and rescue humanity.
- How do you think all the nations will be blessed?
 - **Leader Answer:** From Abraham would come salvation through Jesus.



Africa

Did you know?

- Made up of **58 countries**
- Home to more than **1.4 billion people**
- More than **28% of people have never heard about Jesus**

Humanitarian Spotlight

One of the greatest needs for people in Africa is clean water. Currently, millions of people do not have easy access to the water they need. As a result, women and children are often forced to walk 1-2 hours a day — and often much more — to collect water for their families.

Providing safe, clean water is one of the most effective ways missionaries can help meet physical and spiritual needs. Drilling a well, or repairing a broken one, allows families to have water for drinking, cooking, hygiene, and growing food. At most well-opening ceremonies, the gospel can be shared and new churches are often established nearby.



Women and children often balance their water containers on their heads to keep their hands free and to make it easier to navigate the rough terrain.

Activity

BUCKET BALANCE



Instructions

Fill a bucket with 2-3 inches of water. Have the children see if they can balance it on their head. Then have them walk with it and see how far they can go while balancing the bucket. For a less messy option, fill the bucket with packing peanuts or other small or soft objects.

Supply List

Water option

- Bucket
- Water
- Towels

Non-water option

- Bucket
- Packing peanuts
- Other small objects, such as cotton balls or craft pom pom balls

Prayer

Here are some ways you can pray for people in Africa.

- Pray for the provision of clean water for those who are currently in need.
- Pray that missionaries serving in Africa will be able to meet people's physical and spiritual needs.
- Pray for the 28% of people — more than 426 million individuals — who have yet to hear about Jesus.



A Great Light



"I will make you as a light for the nations, that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

— Isaiah 49:6b

God wants His people to be a light to the nations. Beginning with the people of Israel, and now with His church today, He calls us to shine brightly for Him. He desires to use us to take the light of His gospel to the ends of the earth.

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think God calls us to be a light for Him?
 - **Leader Answer:** God wants His people to work alongside Him to accomplish His plan.
- Where has God called us to be a light?
 - **Leader Answer:** To those near us and far away — everywhere!
- What are some practical ways you can be a light?
 - **Leader Answer:** Encourage practical ideas about how they can be a light by how they talk and act around their family, friends, and teammates.

Asia

Did you know?

- Made up of **50 countries**
- Home to nearly **4.9 billion people**
- More than **60% of people** have never heard about Jesus

Humanitarian Spotlight

As one of the largest regions in the world, Asia faces many humanitarian challenges. Depending on the area, people may need food, clean water, or other basic items. Sometimes they need all of these things and more.

One of the biggest needs of people in Asia is eyeglasses. More than 1.4 billion people struggle with vision impairment — yet they have little-to-no access to eye care. That is why missionary teams host vision clinics in unreached communities across Asia. As they test people's vision and provide them with eyeglasses, they also have opportunities to tell people — who have never heard the name of Jesus — about His great love for them.



Imagine not being able to complete your homework or see your family clearly. The gift of eyeglasses helps restore clear sight to those in need!

Activity

DESIGN YOUR OWN GLASSES



Instructions

Start by testing each child's eyes using a vision chart. Post it on a wall. Then position the children far away from the chart — so far that they could not possibly read it! Explain that this is what people with vision impairment experience every day.

Next give each child a pair of DIY glasses and some building blocks. Encourage them to decorate their glasses with the blocks. Then allow each child to test their vision again holding a vision chart in their hands (you may wish to have multiple copies so the vision test go more quickly this time). Now they can see clearly!

Supply List

- DIY building block glasses (1 per child)
- Vision charts

Prayer

Here are some ways you can pray for people in Asia.

- Pray for those living in poverty and who struggle to access basic items and healthcare.
- Pray for missionaries serving across Asia — in some places, it is dangerous or even illegal to share about Jesus.
- Pray for the nearly 3 billion people who do not yet know Jesus.





Let's Go

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

— Matthew 28:19-20

Before Jesus returned to heaven, He gave us a command — go and make disciples. We are to go to people everywhere and share the gospel. As they come to faith, we are to baptize them and teach them how to follow Jesus. While the command may seem simple, it is not always easy! So Jesus gave us a promise — He will be with us always.

Discussion Questions

- What has Jesus called His followers to do?
 - **Leader Answer:** Go and make disciples.
- Where has He called us to go?
 - **Leader Answer:** Everywhere — He wants everyone to hear the gospel.
- How can you make disciples where God has called you?
 - **Leader Answer:** Encourage practical ideas about how they can share the gospel with those around them.
- Do you find sharing your faith easy or hard? What promise has God given you to help?
 - **Leader Answer:** Sharing our faith can be scary at times, but Jesus promises to be with us and to help us.



North Africa & the Middle East

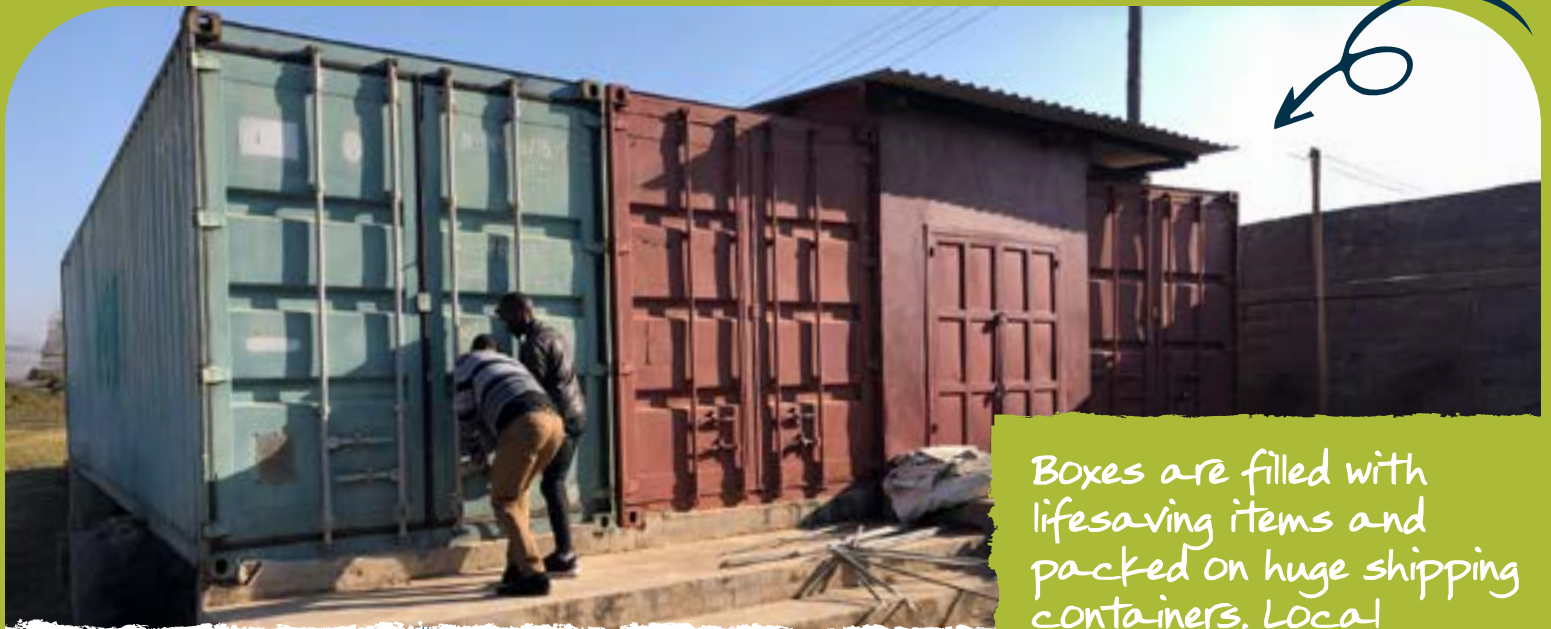
Did you know?

- Made up of **19 countries**
- Home to more than **415 million people**
- More than **68% of people have never heard about Jesus**

Humanitarian Spotlight

Conflict is one of the primary reasons people face humanitarian crises. Many times, war leaves people without the basic items they need for survival. If they are forced to flee their homes for safety, this makes getting supplies even harder.

During times like these, suffering people need our help. Missionaries and many others can make a difference by providing them with food, clothing, tarps for shelter, hygiene supplies, and more. These items are often first packed into huge shipping containers that are sent to local teams for distribution. As teams deliver supplies, people will often ask, "Why do you care enough to help me?" That is when they can share about God's love.



Boxes are filled with lifesaving items and packed on huge shipping containers. Local missionaries distribute the aid to those in need.

Activity

PACK A CONTAINER



Instructions

Tape off a large rectangle on the floor (the bigger you make it, the longer the activity will take). Make sure you have enough boxes or blocks to fill the space and also be able to stack them up.

The tape is your shipping container. Have the children arrange and stack the boxes to fit within the container. They have to pack it neatly in order for it to ship correctly! For older children, you can break them into teams and add a competition to see who can pack their container the fastest and/or the neatest.

Supply List

- Cardboard boxes or blocks
- Masking tape (enough for the size of container you want to make)

Prayer

Here are some ways you can pray for people in North Africa and the Middle East.

- Pray for peace in this area that is often affected by conflict.
- Pray for the missionaries serving here. It can often be difficult or dangerous to even talk with people about Jesus.
- Pray for those who have never heard the name of Jesus — that they would be able and open to hearing about Him.





Go Everywhere

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

— Acts 1:8

Jesus did not leave us on our own to carry His message to the world. Instead, He gave His followers the Holy Spirit, who is the Helper, to live inside of them. The Spirit enables us to be witnesses for Christ. Jesus also gave us a plan for carrying out His work — go to those closest to you (Jerusalem), then to those farther away (Judea and Samaria), and finally to the ends of the earth. When Jesus calls us, we can be certain He will also equip to do His work.

Discussion Questions

- What has Jesus called every one of His followers to do?
 - **Leader Answer:** To be witnesses for Him.
- Who has Jesus given to help us?
 - **Leader Answer:** The Holy Spirit who indwells those who trust in Jesus.
- How does Jesus instruct us to take His message to the world?
 - **Leader Answer:** He calls us to witness to those closest to us and then to those farther away.
- Can you think of someone you could tell about Jesus?
 - **Leader Answer:** This answer does not have to be shared. Encourage the children to think about one person they could tell about Jesus. If they are older, they may wish to write the name down and pray for that person daily.



Latin America

Did you know?

- Made up of **22 countries**
- Home to more than **623 million people**
- While only .1% have never heard about Jesus, that is still **851,000 unreached people**

Humanitarian Spotlight

Across Latin America, one out of every four people face poverty. That means they struggle to earn enough money to provide for basic needs like food, clothing, and shelter.

Many parents struggle to provide adequate nutrition for their families. To help, missionaries provide meals such as rice and beans to those facing food insecurity. They also host agriculture workshops where families can learn to grow a small garden that provides for their nutritional needs — and allows them to sell their extra vegetables for income. In this way, we help families with both immediate and long-term solutions to hunger.



A garden allows families to grow their own food. They can also sell extra produce at local markets for income to meet other needs.

Activity

WATCH IT SPROUT



Instructions

Give each child a plastic zipper sandwich bag, a bean, and a paper towel. Have the children wet their paper towel and then gently squeeze out the excess water. The paper towel should be damp but not soaking wet.

Place the bean in the middle of the paper towel and gently fold it over the bean once or twice. Slide the bean and paper towel into a plastic bag, making sure the bean stays inside the damp towel. Place the bag in a warm, sunny place (like near a window). Encourage the children to check their bean each day. Make sure the paper towel stays damp, and rewet it as needed. In three to seven days, they should start to see it sprout!

Supply List

- Plastic zipper sandwich bags
- Dried beans (such as lima or pinto)
- Paper towels
- Water
- Bucket (if a sink is not available)

Prayer

Here are some ways you can pray for people in Latin America.

- Pray for God's provision for those facing poverty.
- Pray for missionaries serving here, that God would create opportunities for reaching people in remote and indigenous communities.
- Pray for God to soften hearts so unreached people will be open to hearing about Him.



Live it Out



"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

— 1 Timothy 2:1-4

In a world of big problems and powerful leaders, it can be easy to wonder how you can make a difference. Yet no matter your age, God wants to use you to make a difference. One way you can do this is by praying for those around you and for the leaders God has placed over you. As you live out your faith, others will have the opportunity to see Jesus in you.

Discussion Questions

- How can you pray for those around you and for leaders over you?
 - **Leader Answer:** Encourage the children to discuss ways to pray for those around them, such as for a friend's specific need or for their salvation. Also talk about ways they can pray for leaders, such as wisdom, knowledge, and salvation.
- What are some ways you can live a godly and reverent life?
 - **Leader Answer:** Talk about specific ways they can be a godly example in how they speak, treat their friends, respond to parents and teachers, and care for classmates.
- What difference do you think it makes when we pray for others and live out our faith?
 - **Leader Answer:** God answers His people's prayers. He also wants to use us to point people to Him. When they see our faith practically lived out, they might want to know more about Jesus.

North America

Did you know?

- Made up of **38 countries**
- Home to more than **606 million people**
- Nearly **3% of people have never heard about Jesus**

Humanitarian Spotlight

You may not think of North America as a place of great humanitarian need. Yet even here, people still face hunger. They struggle to afford housing, clothing, or healthcare. Then when disaster strikes, life suddenly becomes even more difficult.

Hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and other crises often leave thousands of people without the resources they need for daily life. That is why disaster response is such an important part of humanitarian work. Showing up with meals and water filters, assisting with storm cleanup, or participating in rebuilding efforts allows our teams to demonstrate Christ's love in tangible ways during people's greatest time of need.



When a disaster strikes, people need immediate care – such as meals, water filters, and clothing. They also need help rebuilding their lives.

Activity

BUILD AND REBUILD



Instructions

Give the children a set of building blocks, LEGOS, or wooden tower blocks (like Jenga®). Have them work together or individually to build a house. If it falls, have them build it again.

Supply List

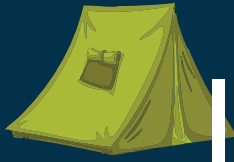
- Building blocks, LEGO bricks, or wooden tower blocks

Prayer

Here are some ways you can pray for people in North America.

- Pray for those facing poverty and for those recovering from crises or natural disasters.
- Pray that people's physical and spiritual needs will be met as local churches and partners serve their communities.
- Pray for the people served through disaster relief projects to be open to the gospel and to connect with a local church.





Invite Everyone

"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"

— Revelation 7:9-10

At the very end of the Bible, God gives us an amazing glimpse into the future. We see a scene from heaven where people from every nation, people group, and language are gathered to praise Jesus. It is a beautiful picture of God's finished work. God's plan to save humanity is complete.

Discussion Questions

- Where is the scene taking place?
 - **Leader Answer:** Heaven.
- Who is there?
 - **Leader Answer:** A multitude from every nation, tribe, people group, and language.
- What are they doing?
 - **Leader Answer:** Praising God and His Son Jesus for the gift of salvation.
- Why do you think this is significant in light of all we have studied?
 - **Leader Answer:** The Bible starts with God's plan to save humanity, and it ends with His completed work.

Europe

Did you know?

- Made up of **51 countries**
- Home to more than **602 million people**
- More than **4% of people have never heard about Jesus**

Humanitarian Spotlight

Europe is home to more than 13 million refugees. A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee their home country due to persecution, war, or violence. Many times, they come to a new land with only the items they can carry on their back.

Refugees are often dependent on others for help as they settle in a new place. Many end up living in tents — often called tent cities — and rely on humanitarian aid for survival. Missionaries serving in these places can help by providing meals, water filters, clothing, blankets, and other critically needed items. When the time is right, they can also tell people from all over the world about Jesus.



Making a tent is not easy. It has to be properly built and sealed with a tarp or other covering to protect from wind, rain, and heat.

Activity

BUILD YOUR OWN TENT



Instructions

Have each child build their own tent with popsicle sticks and glue. Since this is not enough by itself to keep the wind and rain out, they may also wish to cover their building with strips of cut paper or fabric. Lastly, encourage the children to decorate their tent and make it their own using crayons or markers.

Supply List

- Popsicle sticks
- Glue
- Paper or fabric
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers

Prayer

Here are some ways you can pray for people in Europe.

- Pray for the millions of refugees who have been forced from their homes and are now resettling in a new land.
- Pray for the missionaries serving refugees — that they would be able to meet physical needs and share the hope of Jesus.
- Pray that people from around the world, who have never heard about Jesus, would be open to hearing about Him.