



Youthwork material

Sharing Jesus with the World

For 11-14 year-olds



Introduction

Why 'Sharing Jesus with the World?'

OMF International is passionate about sharing the good news of Jesus with those who don't yet know him. From Genesis to Revelation we believe that the Bible tells a story of God working to bring people from all nations to know him and live under his blessing, in Jesus Christ.

Sharing Jesus with the World is all about helping the young people in your church discover this incredible story for themselves and grow in their love for Christ as a result. Through games, Bible studies, activities and prayer they'll explore what the Bible says about making Jesus known in all nations and how they can be involved, starting right now, right where they are.



Philippine
tarsier



& its friend

How to use Sharing Jesus with the World

We've designed the five sessions to be ready for you to use, straight out of the box. But it's worth taking a little time to explore the material yourself before you begin using it with your youth group. You know what will work best for your group. You'll know the questions they'll ask and what will work best for your group. So please feel free to adapt the sessions to suit your needs. There are also a few materials you'll need to prepare beforehand. We've listed the equipment you'll need for each session.

Each of the five sessions can be run in about one hour and are divided into four sections:

Just for fun: a simple game to get everyone settled into the time together. These fast-paced activities will get those wiggles and fidgets out before group discussion and Bible study. The activity also connects with the theme of the session. We've designed these to require minimal equipment — we've listed what you'll need at the start of each session.

Getting Started: an activity-based introduction to the theme. Intended to get the conversation going and to begin developing the main theme. They require minimal equipment — we've listed what you'll need at the start of each session.

Digging In: the core of each session. These work best in the context of small group discussion so you may need to think about how you'll break up your group and facilitate these times. Depending on how long you have together you may choose to give each group more than one Bible passage, or get each group to share the main things they talked about. Largely all you'll need for these is a Bible.

Response: a time of reflection for the youth. A chance to consider what they have learned and start thinking about the practical difference it might make in their lives.

Support and Feedback

We hope you're excited about running 'Sharing Jesus with the World' with your group. But perhaps you feel a little out of your depth considering this topic. Maybe you've never thought much about world mission before yourself. Or you feel you'd struggle to lead on this topic when you don't have personal experience of doing cross-cultural mission. Whatever your questions about the material, we would love to help you get the most out of 'Sharing Jesus with the World'.

Your local OMF Area Representative will be delighted to talk you through any aspects that you want help with. They may even be able to come and be with you when you run the sessions.

We'd also love to hear your comments and feedback on 'Sharing Jesus with the World'. We're always looking for ways to improve our resources and make them as useful as possible for you and your church.

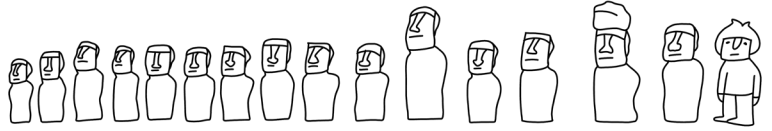
Get in touch

Find contact details for the OMF (UK) National Office and your local Area Representative at: omf.org/uk/contact

Part 1

Why share Jesus
with the world?



Just for Fun**What landmark am I?**

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: pictures of 4 country landmarks and means to reveal a small part of it.
(You could do this using PowerPoint or a large print out covered in Post-it notes.)

Aim: to see the beauty of God's creation and uniqueness of the world we live in.

A photo reveal game.

1. Split the group into equal teams
2. Explain that they have to identify the famous landmark from just one small part of a photograph and that they only get one guess in each round
3. Show a small part of the image and give teams 1 minute to confer before announcing their answer to the whole group
4. Slowly reveal the full image. Teams that guessed correctly get a point
5. Repeat for 4 Rounds
6. The team with the highest score wins
7. If a tie-breaker is needed, the team that can correctly identify one of the cities the landmark is located in wins

These are ideas for getting the time together started. To get everyone thinking about the theme of the session. Feel free to swap them for another game or activity of your choice.

Getting Started**Mind map: What is God's great plan?**

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: large paper, markers and post it notes.

Aim: gauge understanding of what the young people think God's plan is and to highlight all the wonderful things that God is currently doing in the world and within their lives.

On a large piece of paper, write 'What is God's great plan?' then ask youth to contribute their thoughts using post-it notes or markers. Everyone can respond or add to each idea presented. Revisit at the end of the Bible studies and discuss if salvation for the world has been recognised.

Please don't feel everyone has to look at all the Bible verses. Share them out between small groups or use the one that works best for your group.

Digging In**Bible Study 1**

Duration: 15–20 minutes

Aim: to explore that from Genesis to Revelation the Bible tells a story that God is working to bring people from all nations to know him and live under his blessing.

Genesis 12:1–4: Intro

In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth (*Gen 1–2*) but humanity rejected his goodness in the garden (*Gen 3*) and wanted to 'make a name for themselves' (*Gen 11:4*). After all this, Genesis 12 reveals the start of God's amazing rescue plan. God is going to save people from sin and themselves, not just from one nation, but from all over the world.

Gen 12:1–4: God's great promise

1. What does God ask Abram to do? (12:1)
2. Why does God choose to bless Abram? (12:2–3)
3. What does this promise about God's blessing teach us...
 - a. about who God is?
 - b. about what people need?
4. Why does Abram get up and go? What might that mean in our lives?

Acts 1:1–11: Intro

After Jesus' death on the cross, paying the price for human sin, he was brought back to life and spent time with his disciples. He explained that 'the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem' (Luke 24:46–47). Jesus is telling them, and us, that he is the King and we need to follow him.

Acts 1:1–11: Following the King's command

1. What did the disciples think Jesus was going to do? (1:6)
2. Who does Jesus promise will come to the disciples, and why does this matter? (1:8a)
3. Jesus tells the disciples that the Holy Spirit will use them as his witnesses. What is a witness? (1:8b)
4. Where does Jesus say that he wants people to be his witnesses? What might that mean for each of us?

Rev 7:9–17: Intro

Some of the very first churches were finding it difficult to keep going with Jesus. Being his disciples brought challenges and many people didn't want anything to do with this strange new religious group. God knew that this was happening and so he spoke to his servant John through visions about what was really real. Here is one of those visions to help the churches remember God's big picture.

Rev 7:9–17:

1. What does the song tell us about the greatest need of all people? (7:10)
2. How is this greatest need met? (7:10, 14b)
3. What does this scene in heaven tell us about the sin of racism? (7:9)
4. This is the direction that all of history is travelling towards, yet many people have still to hear about Jesus. What does that mean for us as his followers?

Summarise

Since the beginning of time, God wants his people to bless the nations by telling everyone about the salvation available through Jesus. Every one of Jesus' followers has the power of Holy Spirit in them to help them share this good news with those around them and with people around the world who have never heard of Christ. We do this because we know that one day, people from all the nations will be praising God in heaven.



Response

Creative Prayer

Duration: 10–15 minutes

Equipment: globe and newspapers

In pairs, spend 5 minutes reading through one article about world news in the newspaper. Come together as a big group and pass the globe around so that each person can give thanks and pray for events around the world today.



Cook recipes from around the world

Duration: 1.5 hours

(if you're short of time steps 1 and 2 can be done in advance)

Equipment: ingredients and cooking utensils

Aim: recognise that God made the people of this world and that one of the ways we can enjoy each culture is through their food.

Remember: please ensure the recipes chosen are suitable for the age, ability and any allergy or dietary requirements of the group.



Make Gyoza (Japanese Dumplings)

<https://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/gyoza-japanese-dumplings-56390033>

Ingredients

- 1 packet 50 gyoza wrappers

Filling:

- 1/8 cabbage
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 400 g lean pork or chicken
- 1/2 bunch garlic chives, finely chopped
- 4 dried shiitake mushrooms, soaked in hot water and finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon grated ginger
- 2 teaspoons soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil, plus 2 teaspoons extra for cooking
- Pinch of salt

Dipping sauce:

- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
- La-yu (Japanese chilli oil), optional

Method:

1. Dice cabbage finely and sprinkle with 1 teaspoon salt. Give it a bit of a massage. Leave for 10–15 minutes and then squeeze with your hands to remove any moisture.
2. With your hands thoroughly mix together cabbage, ground meat, chives, mushrooms, ginger, soy sauce, sesame oil and pinch of salt.
3. Dry your hands completely (or wrappers will stick). Place a gyoza wrapper on one hand and put 1 teaspoon filling in centre of wrapper.
4. Brush edge of half the wrapper with cold water. Make a semi-circle by folding the wrapper in half. Pinch open sides of wrapper together with your fingers and seal the top.
5. Place a large frying pan over medium-high heat, add 2 teaspoons sesame oil and arrange 20–25 gyoza in pan. Add 200ml water to cover bottom of pan, cover with lid and cook on medium-high heat for 6–7 minutes or until translucent, cooked and no liquid is left in pan. Take off lid and cook for another 30–60 seconds for the bottoms to go crunchy. Cook remaining gyoza or freeze them.
6. Mix together soy sauce, vinegar and chilli oil, if using. Serve gyoza hot with dipping sauce.

For more recipes visit

<https://www.epicurious.com/recipes-menus/international-ethnic-dinners-for-kids-gallery>

Part 2

Why share Jesus
with the world?



Just for Fun**Cat and Mouse**

(Traditional games from Cambodia)

Duration: 10 minutes**Equipment:** none**Aim:** be exposed to different cultural games from Asia.

This game is very similar to chase but with a twist. The leader selects two players, one to be the cat who tries to tag the other which is the mouse. The rest of the young people are paired off and spread themselves around the room. When in play, the mouse is able to find safety by joining the end of a pair, making the player at the other end become the new mouse. The round will end once the mouse is caught or after a specific time period (5 minutes).

Getting Started**Who said that?****Duration:** 15 minutes**Equipment:** quotes from individuals, their names and a photo of them, printed out and cut up.**Aim:** to establish other religions and worldviews and to highlight how Jesus is unique.

Split the group into equal teams. Mix up the quotes, names and photos for the young people to match them up. Ask one person to report back on a religion they didn't know about. As a group, ask if anyone can remember a quote or unique claim about Jesus, or something he said about anything mentioned in the quotes.

1. Indian Chief Seattle: Tribal

We are all children of the Great Spirit, we all belong to Mother Earth.

2. Mahatma Gandhi: Hinduism

Religions are different roads converging to the same point. What does it matter if we take different roads, so long as we reach the same goal?

3. Stephen Hawking: Atheist

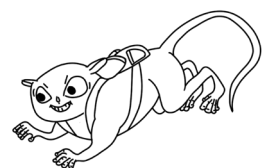
I believe the afterlife to be a fairy tale story for people that afraid of the dark.

4. Muhammad Ali: Muslim

The only thing that matters is submitting to the will of God.

5. Dalai Lama: Buddhism

True enlightenment is nothing but the nature of one's own self being fully realised.



Digging In**Bible Study 2**

Duration: 15–20 minutes

Aim: to see the uniqueness of Jesus, the man who is God and the only way to relationship with God.

Intro

The purpose of the gospel of John is to show that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing in him makes us alive, now (*John 3:3*) and forever (*John 3:16*). In John's Gospel we hear that God is one, and that before creation his plan was to save people in Jesus Christ (*John 1:1–18*). Let's look at some the unique claims of Jesus in this account of his life.

Jesus is the Light of the World: John 8:12–20

Jesus has just told the crowd of people at the temple in Jerusalem that he provides living water to anyone who is thirsty (*John 7:37–39*). Not everyone was pleased with him when he said this (*John 7:40–52*) but Jesus continues to tell the truth about God's purposes to bring salvation to the whole world.

1. What do you think Jesus means when he says people are walking in darkness? (**8:12; cf. Rom 1:18–23**)
2. Why does Jesus say he is the light of the world? (**8:12**)
3. What reason does Jesus give for trusting what he says? (**7:13–18**)
4. What does Jesus say happens if someone rejects his light? (**8:21–24**)
What does this mean for people who haven't heard about the light of the world?

Jesus is the Resurrection and the life: John 11:17–44

No matter who we are, we will all die. We don't know when, we don't know how, but we know it will happen. All over the world people are scared about what happens when they die. This why it is wonderful to hear the voice of Jesus speaking into the fear of every human heart in a way that no other religion or philosophy can.

1. What two things does Jesus claim only he can provide for all people? (**11:25–26**)
2. What does Jesus say are the requirements to inherit resurrection and life? (**11:25–26**)
3. When faced with death, all Jesus needs to do is speak (**11:43–44**).
What does this teach us about Jesus and his claims to Martha? (**11:25–26**)
4. How is this different to some of the world religions we have thought about earlier?

Jesus is the Way to the Father: John 14:1–11

On the night Jesus was about to be handed over to the Romans for public execution, he spends time with his disciples teaching them. Even though he has spent three years with them, they still do not fully understand who he is, or what he has come to do. So Jesus wants to make it crystal clear for them.

1. Lots of people claim there are many ways to God. What does Jesus have to say about this and why does it matter? **(14:6)**
2. What does Jesus mean when he says to Phillip 'whoever has seen me has seen the Father'? **(14:9)** What does this mean for people who have never heard about Jesus?
3. How would you help explain this message to someone who thought it was exclusive and unloving?

Summarise

There are many religions in the world and many gods being worshipped who invite people to earn salvation. What we have seen is something much more wonderful. The Creator of the cosmos willingly became a man so that we can know God and receive salvation as a gift by faith. Jesus is bringing in a whole new world through his church. Our role is to live and speak about Jesus among all the peoples of the world so they know death will not separate them if they trust in Jesus.

Response Play and Pray

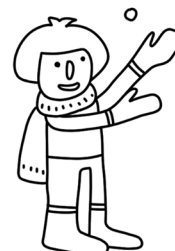
Duration: 10–15 minutes

Equipment: OMF Play and pray poster

omf.org/uk/playandpray

Break off into groups of 2–3, roll the dice and use counters to move along the board to answer questions or pray as requested. Pray together at the end for anything else the young people have on their heart.

Alternatively download prayer guides from OMF UK site



What does it
look like today?



Just for Fun | Body Sculptures

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: none

Aim: working together as a team to achieve a goal.

Split the group into even teams then assign famous landmarks. The whole team must use their bodies to recreate that landmark. Why not include moving parts and sounds? Allow time (5 minutes) for the teams to discuss their ideas before bring the groups together for the 'reveal' and guess. Leader to choose the most cooperative and creative team as the winner. Repeat game if time permits.

Landmark ideas: Great Wall of China, Angkor Wat (Cambodia), Mount Fuji (Japan), Reclining Buddha Temple (Thailand), Pyramids of Giza (Egypt), Sydney Opera House (Australia), Eiffel Tower (France), Taj Mahal (India), Mount Rushmore (US), Acropolis (Greece), Leaning Tower of Pisa (Italy), Big Ben (UK), Statue of Liberty (US). (you may want to supply photos of the landmarks)

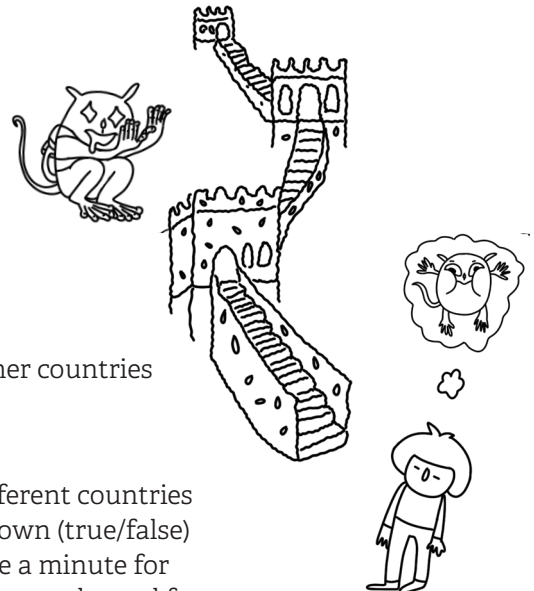
Getting Started | How much do you know?

Duration: 15 minutes

Equipment: quiz questions (see p.16)

Aim: to learn fun facts and get a glimpse of the diversity of other countries and cultures.

Tell the group that you will all be having a true or false quiz about different countries and their cultures. They can answer the statement with thumbs up/down (true/false) or moving across the room left/right (true/false). Say the sentence, give a minute for young people to make decision then reveal the answer. Allow some time at the end for the young people to share what they found interesting.



1. The Great Wall of China was built using sticky rice.

True. In 220BC, the Qin Dynasty mixed glutinous rice flour into the binding mixture so that the bricks would stick better. The official length of the wall is 21 thousand kilometres, which is equal to half the length of the equator!

2. Vietnam celebrates New Year twice.

True. Vietnamese people celebrate new years on January 1st as most countries do but they also celebrate Lunar New Year, Tet, in Feb. Tet is the biggest cultural festival in Vietnam.

3. In the Philippines, it is customary to open presents as soon as they are given.

False. it is considered rude to open gifts immediately as they may cause the giver to be embarrassed if the receiver dislikes the gift. It is acceptable to open once guests have left.

4. Indonesia is home to living dragons.

True. The Komodo dragon lives on five islands across Indonesia. They can grow up to 3m long and weigh as much as 70kgs, making them the world's largest lizards. They have a venomous saliva which it uses to kill its prey.

5. Weddings in Cambodia can last for days.

True. Traditional Cambodian weddings are full of celebration, glamorous garments and a non-stop ceremony that go on for up to three days and three nights!

6. In Taiwan, when you hear music on the streets the ice-cream van is coming.

False. In Taiwan, garbage collection trucks remind people to take out their rubbish by playing loud Beethoven music. Depending on the season and events, different songs are played.

7. Supper time in Malaysia is past your bedtime in the UK.

True. Supper is huge part of Malaysian culture. If you are a guest, don't be surprised if your host takes you to a restaurant at 11pm. Malaysians are always snacking and it's best to do so as the evenings are cooler.

8. Christmas Eve in Japan is more like Valentine's Day.

True. Christmas Eve in Japan is where couples exchange gifts and take each other out to dinner. Families may also celebrate and give gifts, but it's more of a celebration for romantic couples.

Digging In**Bible Study 3**

Duration: 15–20 minutes

Equipment: Bibles

Aim: the good news of Jesus is for all people, whatever their background or culture. Followers of Jesus connect to these backgrounds in order to share the gospel with them.

Phillip and the Ethiopian**Intro**

In the previous chapter of Acts, we read about the death of Stephen, who became the first Christian martyr (someone killed for their beliefs). His death led to persecution in Jerusalem, forcing many disciples to scatter to places like Samaria and Judea. As they moved they shared the good news about king Jesus and people believed. Philip lived and spoke for Jesus and this led to an encounter with a man from Ethiopia whose life would never be the same again.

Read Acts 8:26–40

1. Where does the angel of the Lord tell Philip to go? What does Philip do? (8:26–27)
2. How is this Ethiopian man described? (8:27–28) **(Political leader, well educated, God-fearing, materially wealthy)**
3. Can you identify three important things Philip does in his interaction with this man? (8:30–35) **(1. He asked a good question 2. He is ready to give an answer 3. He shares the gospel at the right time.)**
4. Philip is supernaturally taken to another location and never meets the Ethiopian man again (8:39–40). What can this teach us about what God values when we share the gospel? **(We are to deliver the message truthfully and timely, and leave it in God's hands to grow. It's not about us)**



Peter and Cornelius

Intro

What we are going to read about is one of the most significant events in the New Testament. No longer would there be separation between Jews and non-Jews. In Christ, God is making one new family. In Acts 10 we are introduced to a Roman centurion called Cornelius who followed Jewish customs and prayed to God (10:2). This event changes everything and continues to impact the world today.

Read Acts 10:24–48

1. How did Cornelius prepare for what God had to say through Peter? **(10:24)**
2. What does Peter correct about Cornelius's behaviour and why? **(10:25–26)**
3. What does 10:28–29 tell us about the character of God?
4. What does Peter conclude about God and the nations? **(10:34–36)**
5. What is the main message of Peter to Cornelius and his house? **(10:39–41)**
(He doesn't spend much time on the cross; instead he majors on God's king being raised from the dead who will come to judge the living and the dead (cf. Ps.2))
6. We can all be blinded to what God is doing in the world because of our culture, preference and background, that was Peter's experience. What are some of the things you can identify about your own culture and life that may make you blind to what God is doing? **(10:44–45)**

Paul comes to Athens

Intro

Athens was the intellectual capital of the Roman empire in New Testament times with many temples and religious customs. When the apostle Paul spent time in the city, he decided to take a tour and understand the people who called this place home (17:16). This simple activity was very helpful when it came to sharing about Jesus with both the Jewish community of the city and the intellectuals.

Read Acts 17:16–33

1. What surprises you about the beginning of this passage? **(17:15–16)**
(Paul was waiting to move on to the next city; being in Athens wasn't his priority yet it opened up an excellent opportunity.)
2. What does Paul feel as he moves through the city and why? **(17:16)**
3. Where does Paul spend his time telling people about Jesus? What does that tell us about evangelism? **(17:17–20)**
4. How does Paul begin his message to the intellectual elite of Athens and why? **(17:22–23)**

5. Can you summarise Paul's message? **(17:24–31) (God the king created everything, God the king has been raised from the dead; the resurrection of God's king is central to Acts)**
6. What can we learn from Paul about reaching people from different cultures and beliefs today?

Summarise

We have seen that God's people boldly share the gospel wherever they find themselves. As his word is proclaimed in the power of the Holy Spirit, people hear about Jesus and they are made alive. No matter where you live, there is always an opportunity to tell others about Jesus but do so in a loving, respectful way.

Response Watch, Discuss and Pray

Duration: 10–15 minutes

Equipment: OMF Vimeo and means to play them (laptop and projector)

<https://vimeo.com/omfmedia>

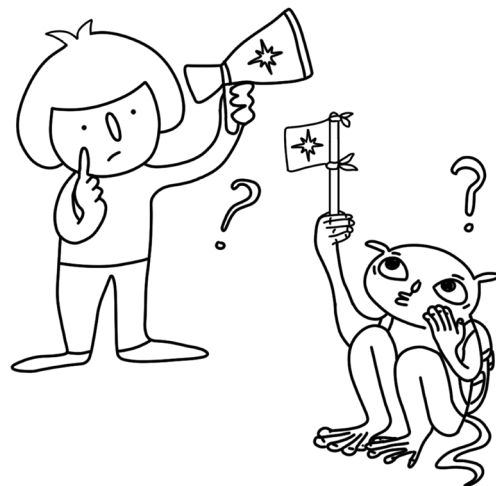
As a group, watch a story from OMF's Vimeo collection (Walking with Sochea, Levi's story or Love Yeu Vietnam). Spend a minute or two quietly reflecting on what was presented then pray together as a group for the people and country.

Alternatively; invite a mission partner to present their work and ministry then allow time for Q&A.



Part 1

How Can I Be
Involved?



Just for Fun Chopsticks Relay Race

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: chopsticks, bowls and food items

Aim: working together as a team.

Split the group into even teams. Explain that the aim of the game is to work together to transfer all the food items from one bowl to the other, with 1m between bowls. The catch is that the whole team must use the chopsticks and the first team to transfer everything wins. Variations of the challenge could be racing against time, using one hand only or transferring the item from one end of the room to the other.

Getting Started Quick Bible Study

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: Bibles

Aim: to briefly discuss Bible verses on mission.

Read *Matthew 9:35–38* and *2 Corinthians 1:9–11* together. Allow young people some time (1–2 minutes) to reflect on those verses before going through the discussion questions.

Matthew 9:35–38

1. What does Jesus notice about the crowd? How should that affect us? (9:36)
2. What surprises you about Jesus' actions after looking at the crowds? (9:37)
3. What are we to learn about the role of prayer in God's mission in the world? (9:37–38)

2 Corinthians 1:9–11

1. After describing lots of challenges to the church in Corinth, what does Paul ask them to do? (1:11)
2. Who are the 'many' that Paul is speaking about here? (1:11) **(The many are those who are not yet believers, but will hear about Jesus through Paul's team sharing him as they continue moving about; cf. 2 Cor 4:15)**

Digging In Welcome

Duration: 15–20 minutes

Equipment: none

Say

Today, everywhere you go you can see that there are many people from all around the world are coming to live, study and work in the UK. Many of these people are



looking forward to making new friends and learning about British culture. Many have come from backgrounds where they have never even heard of Jesus. By welcoming these people, we are sharing our lives with them and showing them Christ through our words and actions. When you welcome someone, you are intentionally getting to know a person from a different cultural background or nationality 'in Jesus name'. We long to get to know them, and most of all, have the opportunity to share the genuinely good news of Jesus Christ and show them his love. They may only be here for a day or a year so don't miss the opportunity to open your hearts and homes to them.

Some ways that Christians are already welcoming international friends is through group Bible studies at church, hosting a special event based on Christian holidays (Christmas, Easter etc) or just taking your new friend on a tour of your town.

Activity

In groups of three, act out a scenario where they can meet an international person (school, work, clubs or social groups) and add ways that it can lead to sharing the gospel. Allow 10 minutes for groups to think of a scenario and their evangelistic opportunity then 3 minutes to act it out in-front of the group. If time permits, let other groups suggest ways they can also share the gospel in that situation.

Pray

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: leaders to print OMF's 5x5x5 prayer resources, make sure there is enough for each person to take home. Website for resource is: omf.org/resources-for-mission/prayer-resources/



Say

The Great Commission is too big for anyone (or an individual missionary) to complete alone and sometimes, only prayer is the way to make a breakthrough when you face the impossible. Praying for mission can get overwhelming as there's so much you can be praying for and you don't know where to start or you're already praying for lots of things in your life or church! You may even wonder if God even listens but we know from Jesus' teaching about prayer (see Mark 11:24), that we can trust that our God is working behind the scenes to answer prayers. If you ask any Christian in your life, you will find that they have many stories of God working through prayer and this is the same for those working to bring the gospel to those around the world yet to hear about Jesus. God works powerfully through our prayers, so spending just 5 minutes a day praying for the world can have an incredible impact for God's kingdom.

Activity

We're going to take time to pray for some of the people and places of East Asia using the OMF 5x5x5 prayer resources. This resource encourages you pray for one people group or country for five minutes, over five days, across five important areas. If you have a world map, let the young people mark out the countries that are being covered in prayer by your group.

Response

Challenge Setting

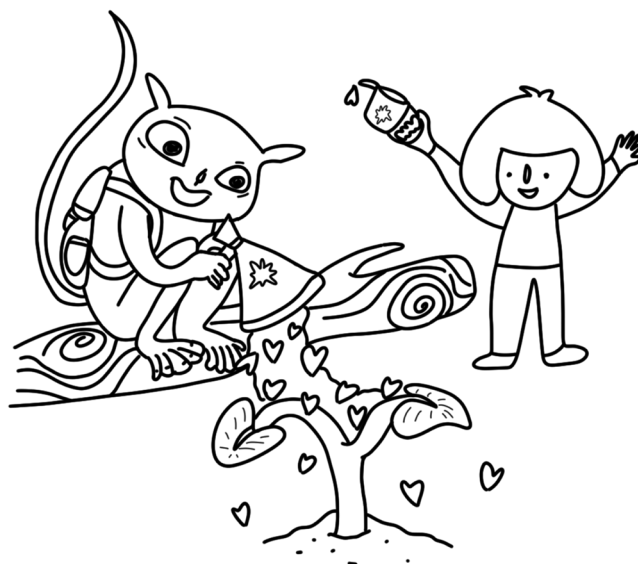
Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: none

Young people to nominate one of the 'ways' they would like to do over the week and set themselves a personal challenge based on their chosen 'way'. For example, praying for Thailand and then looking through the newspaper or searching online for things to pray over the country too. Share their challenge with another two people who will then pray for them throughout the week and check the progress with their challenge the following week.

Part 2

How Can I Be
Involved?



Just for Fun

Plant the Seeds

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: one bowl of rice and one empty bowl

Aim: working together as a team and realising that it takes everyone to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Choose two people, one to be the missionary and another to be the person they wish to reach. Say to the group, you are the church in (name country) and need to work together to send this missionary to share the gospel with this unreached person (name Asian country). Now ask the unreached person to stand at the furthest end of the room. Explain that in order to do this, they must work together to transport all the rice from the missionary's bowl to the unreached person's bowl but only one grain of rice can be in a person's hand at any time. If it is a big group, split into two and have teams compete. Time how long it takes. Once finished, have teams reflect on how the task was successfully achieved. If time permits, they can redo the challenge again and try to beat the time taken for first try.



Getting Started

Quick Bible Study

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: Bibles

Aim: to briefly discuss bible verses that show followers of Jesus have a role to play in telling others about Jesus.

Read *Matthew 28:16–20* and *Romans 10:14–15*. Allow young people some time (1–2 minutes) to reflect on those verses before going through the discussion questions.

Matthew 28:16–20

1. Who is Jesus talking to in this verse (28:16)? **(Jesus is speaking to the 11 disciples, explaining the mission of the church. This isn't a lone ranger sport, it is the whole church, with the whole gospel for the whole world.)**
2. Does the command apply to us today? If so, how?
3. In places where there are none or very few Christians, how will people hear about Jesus?
4. How does Jesus encourage his disciples in this passage? (28:18, 20) **(All authority because he is king; Always present till he returns to reign as king.)**

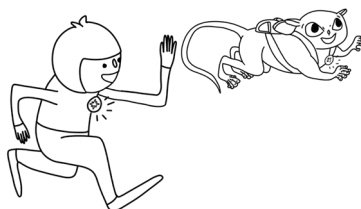
3 John 5–8

1. What is the faithful thing the church is doing for these fellow believers? **(5)**
2. What might it look like to send someone "in a manner worthy of God"? **(6; cf. John 3:16, God has already shown us what lavish sending looks like)**

Digging In Go

Duration: 20 minutes

Equipment: computer, flyers for placements



Intro/Say

The Great Commission was given to us over 2000 years ago yet it is very relevant today because there are still people who have not had the opportunity to hear the gospel. Therefore, the task is unfinished and we still need to go out to the ends of the earth to bring the good news of Jesus to all people and places. God uses people with different skills from all sorts of backgrounds to share Jesus Christ across the world today. We sometimes think that the hardest part is knowing what you can do and where you can go, but really what's more important is that you have a passion to serve God wherever you are. Even if you can't go now, you can still plan ahead for when you can! We're going to spend time finding out what our gifts are and where we can use them.

Activity

1. Have each person sign up to do the 'gifting questionnaire' on the Global Connections website, it should take 10 minutes and the results will be emailed to participants.
2. Take the time to read through your result; do you agree or disagree with the suggestions? What do your peers/leaders think of the results?
3. Now that you've had time to reflect on your gifts and skills, go onto the OMF website and have a search for an opportunity related to your gifts or interests <https://opportunities.omf.org/>
4. Share with a few people in your group what you have found and pray for each other to continue to have a heart to serve God by bringing the gospel to the people who have not heard it.

Alternatively, the leader can organise a local community outreach project for internationals in your area and everyone can contribute, or see how the youth group could use their skills to support a cross-cultural ministry such as a global café which the church.

Send

Duration: 15 minutes

Equipment: box for sending gifts, pens and colouring equipment, paper/cards and items to send.



Intro/Say

When a missionary goes overseas, they are sent out by their church — the people who love them and support the work they have been called to do. It is the church's role to identify suitable people to serve cross-culturally and in doing so, the church itself will be actively connected to world mission. But getting the missionary ready to go isn't all that church does; once a missionary is overseas, the church continues to pray for them, support them financially, visit them with a team if possible and practically support them when they come home for a break. The whole church family is responsible for sending a missionary and every little thing you do will greatly bless

them and their ministry as well. Today we are going to support your mission partner by making them a care package so that they know you all care for them.

Activity

1. Print out prayer letters of your mission partner(s) and allow some time for young people to read them. Share some things they learnt about their mission partner with others.
2. Have young people write or draw messages of encouragement to the mission partner. They can use bible verses, write prayers or replies to things they found intriguing in the newsletters.
3. Have the young people pack the items they bought with them to send to the mission partners and enclose their handwritten letters.

To finish, pray together over the packages and for the mission partner's family and ministry.

Response

Challenge Setting

Duration: 10 minutes

Equipment: none

Feedback on progress with last week's challenge in the groups from last time. How did they get on? How could they continue to be involved? Or what new challenge could they try this week?



Contact

UK National Office
OMF International (UK)
Station Approach,
Borough Green
Kent TN15 8BG
01732 887299

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