



1 Where to share

Four missions experiences on the theme that Jesus wants us to share His love in all locations

Location: *Latin America and the Caribbean*

Focus verse: Isaiah 52:7 “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news ...” (ESV)

Overall message: Missionaries share the Gospel in every kind of place! Kids can do the same in their own unique location.

Overview: God has created a very diverse world with many different types of places. Latin America and the Caribbean have rural areas, cities, islands and deserts. In each of these unique locations people need to hear the Gospel. We have no greater gift than to share the Gospel and there is no place God cannot reach. He asks those who believe in Him to share His story, which means physically taking the Gospel to these many different places. God can use you, too!

- Each missions experience is designed to last 10-15 minutes.
- Use as an addition to a weekly meeting or combine for a longer missions focus.
- Customize these resources to fit your needs.



Taking it in

Where to share — MX 1

A 10- to 15-minute cultural experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show the **All the many places slideshow**. This will play from a DVD player or a computer.
- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **Latin America and Caribbean map**
 - **Where to share focus verse**

Video - All the many places

- Show the **All the many places slideshow** from the DVD-ROM.
- After showing the slideshow, discuss how the places they just saw are different and how they are alike.
- Explain that even though these places are different, each one is filled with people who need Jesus. That's why God sends missionaries all over the world to work in every type of place He has created.
- Ask the kids if they knew all the images they just saw were from one very diverse part of the world ... Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Show the **Latin America and Caribbean map** and use the map's key to point out some of the very different places found in this part of the world.

Activity- All the many shoes

- Instruct kids to remove their shoes and place them in a pile at one end of the room. Mix up the pile of shoes.
- Help kids form three or four teams and line up at the opposite end of the room.
- Tell them the first person on each team is going to be the runner. Each team is to have one member at a time describe to the runner what their shoes look like. The runner will run to the pile of shoes and try to locate the correct pair based on the description given. (They cannot ask for any further help, unless they return to the person at the front of the line.)
- Tell them that when the runner finds the shoes, they must take them back to their owner. If they have the wrong shoes, that person goes to the end of the line and a new person begins the process.
- The first team to retrieve all the correct shoes is the winner.

(MX 1 continued)



Taking it in

Where to share — MX 1 (continued)

A 10- to 15-minute cultural experience

Discuss

- When teams have finished and all shoes have been recovered say: Our shoes are capable of taking us all over the world. When God sends us, we are to put our shoes on and go and share the Gospel with everyone. Just as all of our shoes are different, God sends us to different places.
- Read aloud the **Where to share focus verse** with the group.
- Ask them what they think this verse means.
- Summarize the discussion by explaining we have no greater gift than the Gospel and there is no place God cannot reach. He asks those who believe in Him to share His story, which means physically taking the Gospel to these many different places.

Pray

Ask God to continue sending out different missionaries to the different places in Latin America and the Caribbean and all over the world.



Taking it up

Where to share — MX 2

A 10- to 15-minute prayer experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show **The cities need the Gospel video**. This will play from a DVD player or a computer.
- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **Shoe prayer outline** (2 copies for each child)
 - **Latin America and Caribbean map** (if you haven't already done so)

Recap (optional)

Many different places and many different people exist all over the world. Latin America and the Caribbean have everything from deserts to rain forests! God calls us to put on our shoes and go share the Gospel in these many different places.

Discuss

- Ask kids to name some types of places where missionaries work in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- If they have not already mentioned the cities, remind them that missionaries in Latin America also work in big cities. Some of the largest cities in the world are in Brazil.
- Point to Brazil on the **Latin America and Caribbean map**.
- Share with the kids that they are going to watch a story about missionary Eric Reese and his family who live and work in one of these cities.
- Show **The cities need the Gospel**.

Prayer activity - Shoe swap

- Distribute two copies of the **Shoe prayer outline** to each child.
- Ask kids to share some of the needs they saw in the video for the Reese family. What are some of the things we can specifically pray for?
- Direct kids to write down one or two of these specific prayer items on one of their shoes.
- Explain that these are requests they are committing to pray for this month.
- Tell the kids they have an opportunity to share what they are praying for with the Reese family.
- Instruct them to copy what they wrote on the second shoe so you can send them to the Reeses in Brazil.
- Encourage kids to take their copy home to be reminded to pray for this family.
- Spend time praying for the requests written on the shoes.

LEADERS! Send shoe prayer request to: Kids On Mission • IMB • P.O. Box 6767 • Richmond, VA 23230



Giving it up

Where to share — MX 3

A 10- to 15-minute giving experience

Prepare

- Gather one empty shoebox for each child in your group.
- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **Ray and Ginny's story**
 - **Ray and Ginny's photos**
 - **Latin America and Caribbean map** (if you haven't already done so)

Recap (optional)

People in Latin America and the Caribbean live in many different types of places. Missionaries working in this part of the world may live in a mountainous village, desert, countryside or a large city, like the Reese family.

Story- Ray and Ginny

- Ask if anyone in the group loves animals. What kind of animals?
- Share that the Reese family, living in one of the largest cities in Brazil, may not see too many wild animals. They live miles from a farm, but Ray and Ginny are missionaries who actually work with the animals. One of the places they worked was the country of Ecuador. They took care of animals which also gave them an opportunity to share Jesus with the farmers.
- Point out Ecuador on the **Latin America and Caribbean map**.
- Share **Ray and Ginny's story** showing **Ray and Ginny's photos**.

Activity- Busy feet

- Ask the group about some of the basic needs you heard Ray and Ginny have for their work in Ecuador.
- Explain that these needs are met with money given through international missions offerings. While we are not able to walk next to Ginny and Ray to help them reach the people in Ecuador, we are a part of the work by giving through our church.
- Hand an empty shoebox to each child.
- Share that the boxes are empty because someone is walking in the shoes somewhere else.
- Explain that one empty box equals one pair of busy feet, like Ray's and Ginny's.

(MX 3 continued)



Giving it up

Where to share — MX 3 (continued)

A 10- to 15-minute giving experience

- Challenge kids to take their shoebox home to fill with offering money for missionaries with busy feet.
- Ask them to bring the boxes back at the end of the month or a later date to be given to international missions.
- Encourage them to think of ways to give their own money to international missions.

Option: Bring in just one shoebox for your group to fill with missions offerings through the month or throughout the entire year.

Pray

Ask God to show you how you can give to missionaries with busy feet and be a part of the work.



Taking it personally

Where to share — MX 4

A 10- to 15-minute serving experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **My shoe journey** (One copy for each child)

Recap (optional)

Missionaries in Latin America and the Caribbean are not only working in different places, they are using different skills and interests to relate to the people there. God is opening up opportunities for missionaries to share His story.

Activity - A walk in your shoes

- Direct kids to take a seat in a circle (you can arrange chairs or just ask them to sit on the floor).
- Ask them to take off their shoes and throw them into a pile in the middle of the circle.
- Tell kids, on your signal, to grab a pair of someone else's shoes and put them on. The shoes do not have to match or fit.
- After kids have tried to put on their selected shoes, discuss the fact that walking in someone else's shoes is difficult. In the same way, God didn't call us all to walk the same journey, either. Each one of us has a unique journey that God has planned out for us to share His love with others.
- Option: If your group prefers, sit in a circle with your feet pointed into the center. Discuss the differences in the shoes and how the shoes are made for different purposes (athletic shoes are better for sports, flip-flops are great for the beach, etc...). Say that just like shoes are made for different purposes, each of us has a special purpose.
- Share that God has purposely placed people to minister and tell others about Him in Latin America and the Caribbean. Like these missionaries, God wants to use us each day right where we are to be a witness for Him.

Activity- My shoe journey

- Distribute a copy of **My shoe journey** to each child.
- Encourage kids to think about places they go each day.
- Direct them to complete the handout by following the directions listed.

(MX 4 continued)



Taking it personally

Where to share — MX 4 (continued)

A 10- to 15-minute serving experience

- When they have completed filling in the shoes, ask them to choose one place they enjoy going the most by circling that shoe.
- Now, in the spaces provided on the handout, ask kids to write down ways God can use them to minister and tell others about Him in that place.
- Invite several kids to share what they wrote.
- Encourage them to “put feet” to their ideas and try out their ministry ideas in the coming weeks.

Pray

Pray God will use you and your kids right where you are to minister to others and make His love known to them. Pray for boldness to share the Gospel in every place God puts you.



Going further

Where to share

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Ideas for mission projects based on the theme

Plan to take children from your church to a new location. Consider a park on the other side of town, a mall where they haven't been, or even a neighborhood where most of them probably haven't visited. Work with other leaders and parents and plan to give away bottles of water or candy attached to a note saying that Jesus loves them. Perhaps your church can order Bibles or New Testaments to give away. Be sure to include a church phone number if someone wants to know more. Emphasize with the kids that God wants us to take the Gospel to all locations. Pray over the project.

Note: Some public locations, like malls, may require prior permission to distribute material.