



## 2 One life matters — adventure guide

Four missions experiences on the theme that one life makes a difference in the kingdom of God

Location: *South Africa*

**Focus verse:** **Matthew 1:21** “She will give birth to a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.”

**Overall message:** One life, Jesus, changed the world forever. Now we can use the one life we have to serve Him.

**Overview:** When Jesus came to earth to save us from our sins, He changed the world forever. Now we can be a part of His work by using the life that He has given us to spread His love to all nations. One school in South Africa needs our help and kids can make a difference. These missions experiences will focus on the impact that one life can make to this school. For more information on the school and on other OneLife projects, visit **Onelifekids.org**.

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

*For stories, games and activities geared for younger children, visit **AfricaTales.org**. Use these to customize the missions experiences for the age group you are leading.*



# Taking it in

## One life matters — MX 1

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A 10- to 15-minute cultural experience

### *Prepare*

- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
  - **South Africa map**
  - **One life matters focus verse**
  - **Life in the township handout.** Cut the handout into scenes. Plan to play charades with each scene.
- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show ***Olwethu's story***. This will play from a DVD player or a computer.

### *Introduction*

- Introduce the missions experience by showing the **South Africa map**. Point out that it's not just the southern part of Africa, but that South Africa is its own country.
- Read the **One life matters focus verse** aloud.
- Tell the group that when Jesus came, He changed the world forever. Now we need to use the one life we have to live for Him.
- Say that Jesus is at work in the townships of Cape Town, South Africa. A township is a very poor community where many homes – sometimes just one room made of old sheets of metal – are crammed together in a small area.

### *Activity - Life in the township*

- Distribute the scenes to volunteers. Working alone, or in a small group, they will act out a scene from a "township." The other kids will try to guess what the scene might be.
- When they are finished, say that they will watch a video about one girl's life in a township in Cape Town, South Africa, and how she is using her life for Jesus.

### *Video - Olwethu's story*

- Show the ***Olwethu's story*** video to your group. Note: Pronounce her name [Ohl-WEH-too]

### *Pray*

Ask God to use Olwethu's one life to make a difference for Jesus in her township.



# Taking it up

## One life matters — MX 2

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*A 10- to 15-minute prayer experience*

### *Prepare*

From the DVD-ROM, download and print:

- **One School prayer guide\***. Make a copy for each child.
- Have Bibles available to look up Scriptures on the prayer guide.

### *Recap*

Life in the townships of South Africa isn't easy, but one life can make a difference. One girl named Olwethu became a Christian, and now she is telling others about Jesus in her neighborhood and school. We can join with others in making a difference in one school in South Africa.

### *Prayer time*

- Distribute the **One School prayer guide** to your group.
- Tell them that you are going to have a time of prayer for Olwethu's school.
- If you have not shown the **Olwethu's story** video, consider showing it now as an introduction to Olwethu and her school.
- Follow the guide, asking for volunteers to read Scriptures and pray aloud for the requests.
- Divide your group into partners or smaller groups if this would better facilitate prayer.
- Be sure to leave time at the end for children to fill in their responses to the prayertime.
- Prayer guide for younger children:

In simple language, describe the One School project (the first paragraphs on the prayer guide). Read the **One life matters focus verse** and explain that Jesus came to save everyone from their sins, and He wants the students in South Africa to know about Him. Call out the following requests and lead the children in praying for each one – students who are hungry and poor, teachers at the school, volunteers who go and teach, missionaries who tell them about Jesus, people like your church members who can make a difference in one school.

\*This prayer guide is taken from the Ten Days of Sacrifice (Africa) prayer guide on [onelifematters.com/resources](http://onelifematters.com/resources). The complete guide encourages 10 people to pray for 10 minutes for 10 days. The complete guide is included on this DVD-ROM.



# Giving it up

## One life matters — MX 3

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A 10- to 15-minute giving experience

### *Prepare*

From the DVD-ROM, download and print:

- **Letter scrambles.** Cut out the letters of each word and put them in a separate envelope or paper clip them together. (Ex: The letters that spell “money” will be mixed up in an envelope. The letters that spell “energy” will be in a separate envelope.) Students will work together to unscramble the words.
- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show the **Musicianary** video. This will play from a DVD player or a computer.

### *Recap*

Life in the townships of South Africa isn't easy, but one life can make a difference. One girl named Olwethu became a Christian, and now she is telling others about Jesus in her neighborhood and school. We can join with others in making a difference in one school in South Africa.

### *Activity - What we can give*

- Explain that kids can make a big difference for Jesus by using their one life for Him.
- When we talk about giving, we're not just talking about money. Jesus wants us to give our whole lives to Him.
- Ask the kids what they think it means to give their whole lives to Jesus.
- Let the kids unscramble the words you cut from **Letter scrambles**. The words are things we can give to Jesus. They can work as one large group, small groups or pairs.

### *Video - Sean Michel-Musicianary*

- Watch the **Musicianary** video.
- Discuss the things that Sean is giving so that people in South Africa can hear about Jesus. (his time, his talents, etc.)

### *Pray*

Thank God that we have a chance to join in His work through our giving.



# Taking it personally

## One life matters — MX 4

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*A 10- to 15-minute serving experience*

### *Prepare*

No extra preparation needed

### *Recap*

Life in the townships of South Africa isn't easy, but one life can make a difference. One girl named Olwethu became a Christian, and now she is telling others about Jesus in her neighborhood and school. We can join with others in making a difference in one school in South Africa and in our own schools. We can be God's heart, hands and voice right where we are!

### *Discussion*

- You've been talking about helping a school in South Africa.
- Ask the students how they can use their one life to be an influence in their own school.
- List the things we can give (from MX 3) and allow time to discuss how kids can use those things to show the love of Jesus: time, money, energy, skills, education, life.

### *Plan a project*

- Together, plan a service project for a neighborhood school. Let the kids think of ideas, but here are a few suggestions: pick up trash, stay after school to help teachers, plant flowers outside, bring breakfast to staff.
- Be sure and check with school administrators, but plan to follow through with the event.
- Let parents know about the event and invite them to participate with their kids. Your church family might also want to participate. Let the kids lead them in the project.
- Remind the kids and the church that being on mission with Jesus means that you can serve at home (like your school) and on the other side of the world (like the school in South Africa).

### *Pray*

Ask God to show the kids ways that they can be on mission every day.



# Going further

## One life matters

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*Ideas for mission projects based on this theme*

Follow through on the service project at a local school. This could be as simple as taking a few kids to pick up trash on the playground, or as big as the church family throwing an appreciation lunch for school staff. Let the school know that you are committed to showing the love of Jesus in your community.

Go to the [onelifekids.org](http://onelifekids.org) website and read over the One School project. Kids On Mission everywhere can make a big difference by praying for and giving to the One School project. Help your children understand more about the people in need and how their one life can make a difference for people there. Also consider making this project one that your group can give to all year long. The website will give you complete details about the vision of OneLife and how your kids can be involved in this project and others.