



3 My big part — adventure guide

Four missions experiences on the theme that each of us has a part in God's plan

Location: *Tajikistan*

Focus verse: John 8:12 "Then Jesus spoke to them again: 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.'"

Overall message: Jesus is the Light of the world and each of us must be a part of sharing that Light.

Overview: God has a big plan to save the people of this world from their sins. He sent Jesus to be the Light of the world and to die on the cross for us. Now each of us who has accepted Him must be faithful to tell others about God's plan. It's not just the job of missionaries or pastors or adults. Even kids have a special part in God's plan. They need to know now that they can share the love of Jesus where they live and they can join the work of Christians around the world.

The country of Tajikistan in Central Asia needs the Light of Christ. Though your group probably can't travel there right now, you can learn about this country and its people. You can pray for the people and commit to living a life that supports God's plan. He wants the people of Tajikistan to hear about Him and believe.

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

Leaders: *Please be aware that none of the countries in Central Asia have true freedom of religion. In fact, all the countries have varying levels of hostility toward the Gospel and Christian evangelism. No one can work officially as a missionary, but churches do support Christian workers in the region. Also, though the cultural experiences will highlight a certain country, the material will not say where exactly a worker lives. The videos and experiences will refer in general to "workers in Central Asia." Use this information to lead your group to pray for workers and national believers who might face danger because of their faith in Jesus.*



Taking it in

My big part — MX 1

A 10- to 15-minute cultural experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **Culture corners fact sheets.** Before your group time, tape one sheet to each corner of the room or nearby.
 - **Passport to Tajikistan.** Make one copy for each child.
 - **My big part focus verse**
 - **Bow and tie patterns**
 - **Leader's introduction to Central Asia.** Read this before your group time so you will have more information about Central Asia. Share information as appropriate for your group.
 - **Tajikistan map**
- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show the **Traveling Tajikistan** slideshow and the **One big plan** music video. These will play from a DVD player or computer.

Introduction

- Have the **One big plan** music video playing as kids enter the room. Encourage them to join in the motions. If you did MX 4 in package 1, your kids might be familiar with this song. This song shares the message of this release of Kids On Mission. If your kids enjoy the song, let them practice during each MX.
- Show the **Tajikistan map** to your group.
- Explain that Tajikistan is one of the countries in Central Asia.
- If you did not do the mission experiences in package 1 – The big need – take time to give a few facts about Central Asia (using the **Leader's introduction to Central Asia PDF**).

Activity – Dress the part

- Distribute the **Bow and tie patterns**: bows to the girls and ties to the boys.
- Explain that the children in Tajikistan wear uniforms to school. The boys wear ties and the girls wear big bows in their hair.
- Give them time to cut out their bows and ties. Let them use bobby pins or paper clips to secure the bows in their hair or the ties to their shirts.
- Now they look like children in Tajikistan!

(MX 1 continued)



Taking it in

My big part — MX 1 (continued)

A 10- to 15-minute cultural experience

Video – Traveling Tajikistan

- Introduce the video by explaining that it's time to see some pictures of Tajikistan and get to know this Central Asian country.
- Show the **Traveling Tajikistan** video.

Activity – Culture corners

- Give each child a Tajikistan passport.
- Give them time to walk around to each corner of the room, completing their passports with information from the fact sheets.
- Encourage them to take their passports home and tell their families what they learned about Tajikistan. Their parents may not have even heard of Tajikistan!

Focus verse

- Show the **My big part focus verse** and read it together.
- Ask the children what it means to take the Light of Jesus to the world.

Pray

Pray that the children would understand their big part in sharing the Light of the world.



Taking it up

My big part — MX 2

A 10- to 15-minute prayer experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **ACTS prayer model.** Print one for each child. Be prepared to explain the terms: adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication (or “simply ask”).
- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show the **Prayer ACTS** video. This will play from a DVD player or computer.

Recap

Most of the people in Central Asia do not know Jesus as their personal Savior. Tajikistan is one country in Central Asia where many people have never even heard of Jesus and they don't have Bibles. Each of us has a part in God's big plan to save people everywhere – including the people in Tajikistan – and give them a chance to have eternal life in heaven. But if no one tells them about Jesus, they might not hear. We can join the Christians in Central Asia and do our part by praying for and supporting Christian workers. We can also be faithful to share Jesus with people around us.

Video – Prayer ACTS

- Introduce the video by saying that prayer is one of the most powerful ways that we can do our part to make sure people hear about Jesus.
- We need to pray for Christians who are in Central Asia telling others about Jesus, and we also need to pray for the people to hear and accept the Good News.
- Remind them that Christian workers depend on prayer and they will see that in the video.
- Play the **Prayer ACTS** video.

Prayertime

- Distribute the **ACTS prayer model** handouts.
- Take time to pray through each letter, giving children time to voice their prayers. (Note: For younger children, the term “simply ask” is more appropriate than supplication.)
- Also consider leaving a moment of silent time after each letter.
- Direct some of the thanksgiving and supplication prayers toward Central Asia and specifically Tajikistan, as appropriate.
- After a time of praying together, encourage the kids to write down a sentence prayer for each letter on their sheets and take these home as prayer reminders for the week.



Giving it up

My big part — MX 3

A 10- to 15-minute giving experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **What can I give?** Make one copy for each child.

Find out if your church supports specific missionaries and bring in a photo, if possible. Be prepared to tell the kids a little about them.

Recap

Most of the people in Central Asia do not know Jesus as their personal Savior. Tajikistan is one country in Central Asia where many people have never even heard of Jesus and they don't have Bibles. Each of us has a part in God's big plan to save people everywhere – including the people in Tajikistan – and give them a chance to have eternal life in heaven. But if no one tells them about Jesus, they might not hear. We can join the Christians in Central Asia and do our part by praying for and supporting Christian workers. We can also be faithful to share Jesus with people around us.

Discussion

- Review the ways your church gives to missions.
- If your church supports certain missionaries, tell the kids about them and find their country or region on a map.
- Remind your group that workers depend on our financial gifts.
- We are a part of God's plan by supporting Christian workers who spend their time telling people about Jesus.

Activity – What can I give?

- Distribute the **What can I give** handouts.
- Explain that this is an acrostic. Using the word “Tajikistan,” ask them to fill in the acrostic with things they can give to help support Christians in other countries.
- Encourage them to be creative! For example, the letter “i” might stand for “incredible prayers” and “t” might be “take time to learn about their country.”
- If time allows, let the kids share some of their answers.

Pray

Thank God that your group is learning that giving is an important part of being a Christian.



Taking it personally

My big part — MX 4

A 10- to 15-minute serving experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM, download and print:
 - **Central Asia maps.** Print the one without the country names for each child. Print one with the names for you to use as a guide.
 - **My big part focus verse**
- From the DVD-ROM, prepare to show the **This Light** video.

Note: This video will be most effective if your group has done the other experiences on this release. If you have not watched the previous videos or done the other experiences, consider showing the video **God's big plan** as an introduction to Central Asia. Bring a candle and lighter to show the class. If appropriate for your age group, bring one candle for each child. Or if you have several adults in the room, provide them with candles as well.

Recap

Most of the people in Central Asia do not know Jesus as their personal Savior. Tajikistan is one country in Central Asia where many people have never even heard of Jesus and they don't have Bibles. Each of us has a part in God's big plan to save people everywhere – including the people in Tajikistan – and give them a chance to have eternal life in heaven. But if no one tells them about Jesus, they might not hear. We can join the Christians in Central Asia and do our part by praying for and supporting Christian workers. We can also be faithful to share Jesus with people around us.

Discussion

- Tell your group that you have been learning about Central Asia so that you will know better how to pray for the people and how to support the Christians who live there.
- If you still have photos on display in the room, ask the kids to look around and tell you some things they remember learning about Central Asia.

Activity – Map wadness

- Distribute the maps that don't have the country names.
- Let the kids work in groups or pairs to match the country names to the correct country in Central Asia.
- If you have a world map or globe in the room, cover it up or hide it.
- If this is the first time your group is studying Central Asia, let them look at the map with the names for one minute, then try to remember the countries.

(MX 4 continued)



Giving it up

My big part — MX 4 (continued)

A 10- to 15-minute giving experience

- Walk around to each group and give clues until every group has a correct map. (Suggested clues: The country that starts with a “U” goes here. You have these countries correct. This country is one that we’ve studied, etc)

Video – This Light

- Say that you are glad to know more about the countries in Central Asia.
- Now let’s review some things you have experienced in the past weeks.
- Play the **This Light** video.

Activity – Light the world

- As they did in the video, turn off the lights in the room.
- Light your candle and hold the **My big part focus verse** close enough so you can read it aloud. If the kids can see it, read the verse together.
- Remind them that Jesus wants us to bring light to the dark world.
- Light other candles in the room, if appropriate for your group.

Pray

Ask God to make each of you a light in the darkness—wherever you live.



Going further

My big part

Ideas for mission projects based on this theme

The website peoplegroups.org is a great resource of information. Consider adopting a Central Asian people group to research and pray over for the next few months. Encourage kids to research this people group on their own and bring in information. Keep a binder of this information for the kids to see.

Consider asking the church to join the children in praying for Central Asia. You can find up-to-date prayer requests from Central Asia on imb.org/pray. Click on "Search requests by" then click "Affinity group" then "Central Asian."