

Story Cards Leader's Guide



Four missions experiences on sharing Christ through Bible story cards

Location: Taiwan

Focus verse: Romans 10:17 “So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Christ.”

Overall message: With the mentoring of their supportive parents, missionary kids have used their art talent and imagination to create playing cards that help share the Gospel.

Before you begin: This resource is a collection of experiences to plug your kids into global missions. We hope you will take the ideas included here and expand your children's view of missions and their role in God's kingdom.

This leader's guide includes plans for four, short missions experiences that can be added to your existing programs or events:



Cultural experience



Prayer experience



Giving experience



Serving experience

- 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.
- [Note: If you are using the DVD-ROM, all videos and handouts are included. Please follow the directions on the cover to access all files.]

Here is a simple glossary that may be useful to you as you communicate these ideas to children:

Mission(s)—A job God gives a person He has chosen to tell another group of people the Good News about Jesus. The person God sends is called a missionary.

Missionary—A Christian chosen by God who obeys His command to go and tell another group of people the Good News about Jesus. (Preschool version) A Christian chosen by God who obeys and goes to tell another group of people about Jesus.

People group—A group of people who share the same language and way of life.

IMB (International Mission Board)—A group created by Southern Baptist churches in one sacred effort to share Jesus with people around the world who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to know and follow Him.

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Story Cards Cultural Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Children take the lead** video.
- Download and print the **China/Taiwan map**, the **Story Cards focus verse**, the **Video guide**, and the **China/Taiwan fact sheet**. Cut the fact sheet into the four paragraphs for volunteers to read.
- If you have them, bring several decks of playing cards. Set these around the room. As kids come into your room, invite them to play a simple card game like Go Fish. Divide them into small groups, if necessary.
- Consider ordering these resources for your group's upcoming missions experiences:
 - Bible story playing cards: www.123goshare.com
 - Bible storying cloth: imbresources.org or by calling **800-999-3113**

Introduction

After a few minutes of playing cards, collect the cards and explain that card games are very popular in East Asia. You'll be learning how missionaries are using cards to share the Gospel there.

Location facts

- Show the **China/Taiwan map**. Point out the size of the countries. If you have a world map or globe, show the distance between these two places and your home.
- Distribute the four readings from the **China/Taiwan fact sheet** and ask volunteers to read them aloud. If you have very young children in your group, you might want to skip the facts or be prepared to explain them.

Children take the lead

- Show the **Children take the lead** video.
- Use the **Video guide** to discuss some of the key points of the video.
- Discuss other ways that pictures can help tell the story of the Bible. Some examples of this include a Bible storying cloth (a large piece of cloth that has Bible story drawings on it), a set of pictures like those used in children's Sunday School classes, picture books, films about the Bible, Bible story pictures on computers/ phones/ tablets, etc.
- Read the **Story Cards focus verse** together.

Pray

Pray that each person in East Asia will hear the Gospel and have faith in Jesus.



Story Cards Prayer Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, download and print the **Jamie Lim photos** and the **Playing and Praying cards** pattern. Make enough copies for each child to have at least one card. Plan to display the prayer cards on a string or a poster board in the room. Another idea is to decorate a small indoor tree with the cards, using them like ornaments.

Recap

Jamie Lim* lives with her IMB missionary parents in Taiwan. She, her older sister and a friend in Taiwan used an iPad to make drawings that tell the story of the Bible from creation to Christ. Each drawing was put onto the front of a playing card and then they were printed into decks of cards. The Lim family hopes these playing cards will be taken into China or other countries where people can use the drawings as they share the Gospel.

Playing and Praying cards

- Give each child a card cut from the **Playing and Praying cards**.
- If you have not shown it already, show the **Children take the lead video** about Jamie Lim and her creative idea to share stories from the Bible.
- Show the **Jamie Lim photos** while you share the recap above.
- Ask children to think of someone or something they can pray for based on the video and write it on their cards. Some children might prefer to draw a picture. If time allows, give them several cards.

Prayer time

- Tell the kids how you plan to display their prayer cards.
- Ask each child to say their prayer aloud (or read the request aloud while someone else prays) and then to attach it to the display.
- Pause for prayer after each request.
- Use the display as a prayer reminder for several weeks. Later, let kids take their card home and ask them to continue to pray for the Lim family and the ways they are telling people about Jesus.

*name changed for security



Story Cards Giving Experience

Prepare

- Download and print the **John 3:16 translation** handout that includes the verse written in different languages. If you have access to Bibles in other languages, bring those for the kids to see instead.
- Also print the **Story Cards focus verse** if it is not already displayed in your room.
- Find out the population of the city in which you live. Bring a calculator to help with the calculation below.

Recap

Jamie Lim lives with her IMB missionary parents in Taiwan. She, her older sister and a friend in Taiwan used an iPad to make drawings that tell the story of the Bible from creation to Christ. Each drawing was put onto the front of a playing card, and then they were printed into decks of cards. The Lim family hopes these playing cards will be taken into China or other countries where people can use the drawings as they share the Gospel.

Heart language

- Read the **Story Cards focus verse** together aloud. Talk to the children about how we hear the words of Christ by reading the Bible, which is often known as “God’s Word.” Emphasize the importance of the Bible in leading people to a relationship with God.
- Explain that in the U.S., groups like the Gideons distribute free Bibles at places like hotels and schools. But there may still be people in your community without access to the Bible in their native or “heart” language.
- Explain to children that many people understand the Bible (and other books) best when they are written in the language they first spoke as a child, which is considered to be their “heart language.” Even though many Bibles are available in the U.S., people who speak other languages better than English might not understand the English Bible very clearly.
- Show the **John 3:16 translation** sheet or the Bibles in other languages. Give kids a few minutes to look through these and notice how different languages can look. What if they were trying to understand the Bible in a different language?

Bible calculator

- Researchers estimate that in China, there is only one Bible for every 222 people. That’s not very many!
- To find out how many Bibles there would be in your own hometown if you had access to so few Bibles, divide your city’s population by 222. (For example, within a city with



Story Cards Giving Experience

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a population of 45,000 people, approximately 202 Bibles would exist.) Write this formula on a white board or poster board for your group to see. Ask a volunteer to do the math on a calculator.

- Point out that many churches have more Bibles than that in their sanctuary!

Bible gifts

- Brainstorm the different ethnic groups or immigrants who live in your city, including university students. Do they have Bibles in their own language?
- If not, consider ordering Bibles to give to them. Search online for the best prices of Bibles in other languages. Plan an activity on your calendar so that you can meet some of these people in your community and distribute Bibles to them after you have purchased some.
- If you buy Bibles for Chinese people in your community, remember:
 - Chinese people living in China and Singapore read simplified Chinese characters.
 - Chinese people living in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan read traditional Chinese characters.
 - Chinese people living in the U.S. will read the Chinese characters depending on the place from where they originally came. If a Chinese person was born in the U.S. or moved at a young age, they may not know Chinese and will read English Bibles.
- If your church is already raising money for global missions or if your children are involved in another giving project, emphasize your church's project instead of the Bibles. Remind kids that giving regularly and sacrificially to missions is an important way to be a part of sharing Jesus around the world.

Pray

Pray for people around the world to be able to get a Bible they can read in their own language.



Story Cards Serving Experience

Prepare

- Provide pencils and paper. If you ordered the Bible story playing cards, bring them for the group to use.

Recap

Jamie Lim lives with her IMB missionary parents in Taiwan. She, her older sister and a friend in Taiwan used an iPad to make drawings that tell the story of the Bible from creation to Christ. Each drawing was put onto the front of a playing card and then they were printed into decks of cards. The Lim family hopes these playing cards will be taken into China or other countries where people can use the drawings as they share the Gospel.

Bible story challenge

- As children enter, divide them into pairs or small groups to make a list of Bible stories they can remember.
- After a few minutes, ask the groups to tell each other how many stories are on their lists.
- If you have the Bible story cards, give each group a few cards and let them try to guess the story based on the picture. If your group is small, hold up one card at a time and ask them to identify the story. (If you do not have the cards or a storying cloth, show them pictures from a children's Bible, but hide the description.) You might also print out a few picture examples from the story cards from the website, **123goshare.com**.
- Now ask kids to take turns telling one of the Bible stories.
- Emphasize how important it is for us to be able to tell others what we're learning from the Bible.
- Challenge them to spend more time learning the stories in their Bibles, so they will be able to share the stories with others.

Pray

Pray for the children as they go out in the coming week to share the stories of God. Pray for them to be bold and to have positive experiences.



Story Cards—Going Further

More ideas using this theme

- Download and print the **Story Cards parent letter**. Give to parents so they can continue talking about this theme as a family.
- Download and print the **Creative Missions newsletter**. This includes activities on all three missions packages in this release. Use it as an introduction to the 12 Creative Missions experiences or as a review. Make enough copies for each child to have one to take home.
- You can provide Bibles for people living in East Asia. In one area of East Asia alone, an average of 30,000 new people profess their faith in Christ each month. This equates to about 42 new believers every hour. Many believers share their Bibles or only have Bibles available at the house church meeting place. Funds provided through “Bibles for East Asians” will allow Christian workers to act through appropriate channels to get Bibles to those areas where they are seeing a harvest. Project Name: Bibles for East Asians, <http://eastasianpeoples.imb.org/give/>
- View this video on “Southern Cross Project,” an IMB project in East Asia that distributes simplified Chinese character Bibles to Chinese tourists who vacation outside of China. <http://eastasianpeoples.imb.org/feature/southern-cross-2010/>
- More age-graded activities and stories about Asian people can be found on **CaravanFriends.org**.
- For more on missions around the world and how you can be a part, visit **imb.org**.
- Don't forget to visit **kidsonmission.org** for more activities and KOM experiences you might have missed. Also, like us on Facebook and see how other churches are using KOM.