

Sports & More Leader's Guide

Four missions experiences on students who are making an impact for Christ

Location: China and Thailand

Focus verse: Romans 10:15 "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" (NASB)

Overall message: Teenagers and college students are sharing Jesus in other countries through a ministry called International World Changers (IWC). They are using things like sports, English lessons and friendship to tell people how much Jesus loves them and that they can have eternal life with Him.

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.

<p>This leader's guide includes plans for four, short missions experiences that can be added to your existing programs or events:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Cultural experience  Prayer experience  Giving experience  Serving experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture referenced is from the Holman Christian Standard Bible®, Copyright © 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Sports & More Cultural Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Playing bridges gap** video.
- Download and print the **Sports and More focus verse** and the **East Asia map**.
- Bring in a soft, foam ball or beanbag for a game of hot potato. If space allows, consider a quick game of dodge ball.
- Display a globe or world map in your room.

Introduction

Tell your group that it's time to play! One idea is hot potato. Tell kids to sit in a circle. Give one child the ball and start some music. Instruct them to pass the ball around. When the music stops, the person holding the ball is out. (Play any game that your kids would enjoy and that won't take too much time.)

Playing leads to witnessing

- Ask kids about some of their favorite games and sports.
- Explain that Christians are using games and fun events to share Jesus' love.
- Read the **Sports and More focus verse** together. Explain that disciples of Jesus are the ones who are bringing the good news.
- Introduce the video by saying that they'll see how one student named David had a chance to witness in China, and it started with some games!
- Play the **Playing bridges gap** video.
- After the video, ask how sports led to witnessing for David.
- David's Chinese friend, Eric, asked him, "Why should we believe in God?" How would your kids answer that question if a friend asked?

IWC

- Explain that International World Changers (IWC) is a ministry for teenagers and college students to go on mission trips all over the world. China is just one place that IWC teams go.
- Show the **East Asia map**.
- Now grab a globe or world map and find these other countries where IWC teams have been or are going: South Africa, Thailand, China, Brazil, Romania, Italy, Spain, Ecuador.
- IWC teams do sports ministry, English lessons, construction and more in order to share the Gospel.
- How many of your kids would want to take a trip like that one day?

Pray

Thank God for people who are willing to take the Gospel all over the world.



Sports & More Prayer Experience

Prepare

- Download and print the **IWC photos**.

Recap

Teenagers and college students are sharing Jesus in other countries through a ministry called International World Changers (IWC). They are using things like sports, English lessons and friendship to tell people how much Jesus loves them and that they can have eternal life with Him.

Power of Prayer

- Explain that the most important thing someone should do when they think God is calling them to missions – even a one-week trip – is to pray.
- Students who go on an IWC trip spend many hours praying before they go.
- Show the IWC photos and ask for volunteers to read the captions.

Prayer time

- No matter the time of year you are doing this experience, people are preparing to go on mission somewhere, people are ON mission right now and people have recently returned.
- Take time to pray for each of these groups of people.
- First, ask the kids how they can pray for people preparing to go to another country to tell people about Jesus (ex. that God would provide the money, that they would be spiritually prepared, that they wouldn't be afraid). Stop and pray now.
- Next, ask how they can pray for missionaries and others who are on a mission trip right now (for safety, that people will accept Christ, that they would remain healthy). Stop and pray.
- Last, discuss ways to pray for people who have returned (that they will continue to seek Christ, that they will look for new opportunities to share Jesus, thank God for the chance to go and tell people about Him.) Close in prayer.



Sports & More Giving Experience

Prepare

- Download and print **Carter's sacrifice** and the **Fun with fundraising** handout.
- Read through the ideas and select one or two that would be possible for your group.

What's the cost?

- Explain that a trip to another country isn't cheap.
- Most people participating with IWC will spend about \$3,000 on their trip (plane ticket, ministry costs, passports, etc.).
- Ask your kids why anyone would pay that much money to go on a mission trip.
- Explain that when God asks us to do something, He provides the way!
- We don't have to worry about the money, but we do have to sacrifice and work hard.
- Point out some of the fundraising ideas on the sheet.
- Ask everyone to choose one they think they would do.
- Ask a volunteer to read **Carter's sacrifice**.
- What do they think about a teenager who would sell his car to go on a mission trip?
- Tell them that Carter is a real person and today he lives in another country, telling people about Jesus. It was worth it to him to give up his car when he was a teenager and it's worth it to him today to sacrifice so that people can know Jesus.

Action!

- Even though your kids might not be going on a mission trip anytime soon, they can be active in saving for and giving to global missions.
- Urge them to put one of the fundraising ideas into action.
- Choose one (or several) fundraising events that you can do together or that you can lead for your church.
- Check with your church staff on any guidelines for fundraising at church.
- Give the money raised to your church global missions offering or to the budget that helps people from your church go out on mission.
- Let the kids share their own ideas and take part in the planning.
- If a student from your church happens to be going overseas with IWC or on a mission trip, consider supporting him or her.

Pray

Thank God that He provides for mission trips through faithful giving of Christians.



Sports & More Serving Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsmission.org, prepare to show the **Finding Keys** video.
- Download and print the **Sports and More focus verse**, if it is not already displayed in your room
- Have plain paper or cardstock available for kids to make encouragement cards for missionaries.

Recap

Teenagers and college students are sharing Jesus in other countries through a ministry called International World Changers (IWC). They are using things like sports, English lessons and friendship to tell people how much Jesus loves them and that they can have eternal life with Him.

Keys to your heart

- Watch the **Finding Keys** video with your group.
- Take time to explain what Summer meant by saying she needed to find the key to her heart. (Be sensitive to young children who might not understand this concept.) Now they'll meet Connor who lives with his family in East Asia and see what they're doing.
- Read the **Sports and More focus verse** again with your group. Do any of the kids in your group live on farms? What do they think about the way Connor's family is using farming to tell people about Jesus?
- Ask how Stacey in the video brought the Good News to Summer.
- Even though Summer did not choose to believe, Stacey still has hope that she will become a Christian. Ask your kids what gives her that hope?

Time for encouragement

- Stacey and other participants with IWC work alongside missionaries who live and serve in these countries all the time.
- They spend so much time serving others, that they could probably use some encouragement.
- Your kids can serve these missionaries by thanking them for their service and praying for them.
- Distribute paper or cardstock and crayons and colored pencils.
- Ask kids to get creative and design an encouragement card for missionaries in Asia.
- Show the **Sports and more focus verse** again and ask them to include that on the card.
- Ask each child to say a prayer for the missionary who will read the card they made. It's



Sports & More Serving Experience

Continued from previous page

- ok that they don't know who will get the card. God does!
- Collect these cards and send them to:
(Our staff will distribute these to workers when they come to the U.S.)

Kids On Mission
International Mission Board
P.O. Box 6767
Richmond, VA 23230-0767



Sports & More—Going Further

More ideas using this theme

- Download and print the **Sports and More 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.
- Plan to carry through with one of the fundraising ideas discussed in the giving experience. Let kids know that they can be a part of raising money that will help people all over the world know about Jesus.
- 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.