

Baking & Bracelets Leader's Guide

Four missions experiences on a ministry in Nepal that is bringing hope to families

Location: Nepal

Focus verse: Acts 17:24 “The God who made the world and everything in it – He is Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in shrines made by hands.”

Overall message: Jewel*, Eliza* and Alexis* are Christian workers who teach job skills and health classes to women in Nepal. As they teach and train them, they also tell them about Jesus. *names changed for security

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.]
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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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Baking & Bracelets Cultural Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Home of hope** video.
- Download and print the **Baking and Bracelets focus verse** and the **Nepal map**.
- Bring in cookies for the kids to enjoy while watching the video. They'll see how cookies are used to share Jesus in Nepal.
- If your budget allows, consider purchasing some bracelets from the shop in Nepal at missiontrade.net. Click on "Nepal Project." Your kids would probably enjoy seeing some of the actual jewelry made by the women they'll see in the video.

Introduction

As kids enter the room, give them a cookie and tell them that Jesus loves them. Explain that you will be learning how Christian workers use creative things like cookies and jewelry to tell people about Jesus. In Nepal, Christians are helping women learn to take care of themselves and their babies and also how to use their skills to make money and support their families.

Where's Nepal?

- Ask one volunteer to hold the **Nepal map**.
- Share a few facts about Nepal.
 - India borders Nepal to the south, east and west.
 - Many people from the country of Tibet live in Nepal. While the majority of Nepalis are Hindu, the Tibetans living there follow a religion called Tibetan Buddhism.
 - Nepal is home to the highest mountain in the world – Mount Everest – and many people visit Nepal for mountain trekking.

Blessed Hope

- Explain that you are going to show a video about the ministry to women in Nepal.
- Say that one of the workers, Jewel, cannot be shown because she lives in Nepal all the time. Some people might not like the fact that she tells people about Jesus. In the video, she is in shadow.
- Two other Christian workers, Eliza and Alexis are only in Nepal for a short time. We can see their faces, but still can't know their real names.
- Play the **Home of hope** video.
- After the video, ask what creative ways Jewel and the other workers are using to share Jesus' love.



Baking & Bracelets Cultural Experience

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- Review these things from the video:
 - Jewel, Eliza and Alexis are Christian workers who are sharing God's love with people in Nepal.
 - The women work in two businesses, a cookie business and a bracelet business.
 - They use these opportunities to tell women how much Jesus loves them.
- Ask the kids what they remember about Sonam.
 - Sonam is a woman who lives in Kathmandu, Nepal. She is always eager to share her faith in Christ with her friends and neighbors. Through Blessed Hope Nepal, Sonam is able to help her friends — many of whom do not follow Jesus — have meaningful work. The businesses also allow her to gather women into a group to share stories about Jesus.
- Read the **Baking and Bracelets focus verse** together. How does your group understand this verse better after what they've seen in the video? (The people in Nepal worship idols and shrines, but not the one true God.)

Pray

Thank God for Jewel's willingness to find creative ways to share God's love with women in Nepal. Pray that Sonam will continue to be eager to share Jesus with her family and friends.



Baking & Bracelets Prayer Experience

Prepare

- Download and print the **Nepal photos** and the **Meet the women** handout. Cut this handout into individual profiles to give to volunteers to read.

Recap

Christian workers in Nepal are getting creative to help people and tell them about Jesus. One Christian worker, Jewel, started two businesses that help women support their families – a cookie-baking business and a bracelet-making business. Alexis and Eliza are joining Jewel in the ministry as short-term workers.

Discuss

- Show the Nepal photos and ask for volunteers to read the captions aloud.
- Show the photo of the prayer wheel last.
- Explain that the prayer wheel is a hollow metal cylinder mounted on a rod. Inside the cylinder is a tightly wound scroll printed with a prayer or words that they believe will help them. To Tibetan Buddhists, spinning the wheel is just as effective as saying the words of a prayer.
- Ask the kids what kind of power the Buddhist prayers have. (Answer: None! They are not praying to the one true God.)
- Remind students that God cares more about our relationship with Him than about religious rituals. Prayer journals and other methods can help us as we pray, but we must always remember that God wants our prayers to be more than simply “checking the box.” He wants us to talk with Him as we would talk with a close friend.
- Our prayers to the living God have a lot of power!

Prayer time

- Distribute the **Meet the women** biographies of the workers in the Nepal shop. Ask for volunteers to read them.
- Let your kids gather in small groups or pairs around one of these worker’s profiles.
- Remind them that these prayers are real and important.
- Allow time for them to pray for that particular woman, Christians in Nepal, for people who have not accepted Jesus and for the baking and bracelet ministries.



Baking & Bracelets Giving Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Creative work** video.
- Visit missiontrade.net, where the actual bracelets from the Blessed Hope shop are sold. Click on “Nepal Project.” Plan to raise money to buy bracelets and necklaces, which can be given away or sold in the U.S. (If sold, plan to give that money back to missions.) If you’ve already purchased some bracelets, bring these for the group to see.
- Download and print the **Baking and Bracelets parent letter**. Make one copy for every child’s parent.
- Bring small, inexpensive cookie tins, boxes or plastic containers for each child.

Not just a bracelet

- Show the **Creative work** video.
- If you have some of the bracelets, pass them around.
- Remind your group that selling these bracelets and cookies is the only source of income for the women who work at the shop.
- Ask your kids what kinds of things the women probably buy with the money (food, clothes etc.).
- If you can pull up the website in your room, show them the different bracelets and necklaces available for purchase.
- Together, set a goal for how many you can purchase. For example, your group might decide it can raise enough money to buy two sets of bracelets for \$24/set.

Creative containers

- Distribute the cookie containers.
- Explain that they will use these to collect their offerings for the next month.
- Encourage them to discuss ways to add to their offering: part of their allowance, money they make for chores, money they get for lost teeth.
- If the containers are plain, give the kids time to decorate them.
- If these are old Christmas cookie tins or have other decorations on them, allow time to cover them in paper and decorate the paper. Covering them with colorful wrapping paper is also an idea.
- Remind them to take these home, collect their offerings and bring them back each week so you can track your goal.
- When you have reached your goal, order the bracelets and let the kids celebrate how they have helped these women.
- Give parents the **Baking and Bracelets parent letter**. It includes a description of the offering and how to order bracelets themselves.



Baking & Bracelets Giving Experience

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Pray

Thank God that He uses us to care for people, like the women in Nepal.



Baking & Bracelets Serving Experience

Prepare

- Plan to share the story of Zacchaeus in your own words (Luke 19:1-10).
- Bring in supplies to make simple witnessing bracelets. You can print off the **Witnessing bracelet design** or use one you find online. There are many variations of this idea.

Story to tell

- Jewel prayed for ways to share Jesus with women in Nepal. What are some ways that you can share Jesus with your friends?
- Read Luke 19:1-10 or share the story of Zacchaeus in your own words. Remind kids that Jesus talked with people every day, wherever He went. Zacchaeus was one of those people and his conversation with Jesus changed his life.
- Encourage students to look for opportunities to have Jesus-focused conversations with their friends.

Bracelets to give away

- Distribute the bracelet supplies and the patterns.
- Allow time for kids to make these simple bracelets.
- When they have finished, let them practice explaining the meaning of the beads in pairs or small groups.
- Also, let them tell each other to whom they plan to give the bracelet.

Pray

Ask God for opportunities to tell someone about Jesus this week.



Baking & Bracelets—Going Further

More ideas using this theme

- Hold a cookie bake sale at your church or in your community to make money for missions. Ask for donations or have a big cookie-making party with the children from your church.
- Download and print the **Baking and Bracelets parent letter**, if you haven't already used it. 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.
- 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.