

Conquering Fear Leader's Guide

Four missions experiences on not being afraid to do God's work

Location: North Africa and the Middle East (country of Egypt)

Focus verse: 2 Timothy 1:7 "For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment."

Overall message: Some places in North Africa and the Middle East (NAME) can seem very scary. Many people there do not like Christians, so it's hard to be bold and share about Jesus. Some people, however, have conquered their fear and are willing to risk their lives so that people in NAME can hear about Jesus. *Note to leaders:* Because this area of the world can be dangerous to believers, we cannot name Christian workers. While we will focus on specific countries for learning purposes, we will use these experiences to help children understand all NAME people groups and God's plan for them to know 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.]
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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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Conquering Fear Cultural Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Egypt needs Jesus** video.
- Download and print the **NAME map (Egypt)**, **Conquering Fear focus verse** and the **NAME testimonies**.

Introduction

Ask kids what kinds of transportation they have used this week (walking, cars, bikes, buses). Act surprised that no one said “camel.” Tell them that if they lived in the desert like some of the people they will be learning about, they would probably have ridden a camel every day. Camels are great at walking over sand and are very strong.

Show the **NAME map** highlighting Egypt. Explain that Egypt is one country in NAME. Most of Egypt is desert. Not everyone rides a camel there, but many people do, and most of the people do not know Jesus.

Egypt needs Jesus

- Introduce the video by saying it’s time to learn more about Egypt and people who live in desert regions.
- Many things might make people afraid, like persecution of Christians, violence and war.
- Show the **Egypt needs Jesus** video.
- After the video, explain that when Christians have love in their hearts for these people, they are willing to face their fears and tell them about Jesus.

Facing fear

- Distribute the NAME testimonies to kids who feel comfortable reading aloud.
- Ask them to take turns reading the testimonies.
- After the testimonies, ask the kids how they would feel in these circumstances. Would they be willing to stay and tell people about Jesus? What about the boy who has never heard about Jesus. Would they be brave enough to travel into the desert to find him?
- Explain that it’s natural for them to want to stay safe. God wants us to protect ourselves and our families, but we also have to be bold and face our fears if God asks us to do something scary.
- Read the **Conquering Fear focus verse** together.

Pray

Ask God to help Christians in NAME face their fears and be bold in telling others about Jesus.



Conquering Fear Prayer Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, download and print the **Egypt photos** and the **Pyramid drawing**.

Recap

Some places in North Africa and the Middle East (NAME) can seem scary. The people are often at war, and there is a lot of violence. In places like Egypt, church buildings have been burned, and many people do not like Christians. Thankfully, some Christians are not afraid and are willing to stay there in order to tell people about Jesus.

Prayertime

- Show the **Egypt photos** to your group, asking for volunteers to read the prayer requests at the bottom.
- Ask for volunteers to pray as each photo is shown.
- Encourage children to keep their eyes open and look at the photo as you pray.
- After this initial time of prayer, hand out the **Pyramid drawing**.
- Instruct the kids to write a prayer for Egypt on their picture.
- If time allows, let them color the picture.
- Give a minute of silent prayer for each child to pray their prayer to God.
- Ask the kids to post their picture at home to remind them to pray for the people of NAME.



Conquering Fear Giving Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Can't stop them** video.
- Download and print the **Chore sale tickets**.

Recap

Some places in North Africa and the Middle East (NAME) can seem scary. The people are often at war, and there is a lot of violence. In places like Egypt, church buildings have been burned, and many people do not like Christians. Thankfully, some Christians are not afraid and are willing to stay there in order to tell people about Jesus.

Can't stop them

- Ask the kids what scares them. Are they afraid of the dark? Of monsters? Of strangers?
- What do they do when they feel afraid?
- Explain that a pastor in South Carolina travels to scary places to tell people about Jesus. He's even been arrested, but he's not afraid to go back.
- Now his whole church prays for him and others who go, and they give money so that Christians can live in places like Egypt.
- Play the **Can't stop them** video.
- After the video, ask about some of the ways the people in that church made money for missions (selling barbecue, collecting money in piggy banks, giving in the church offering).
- Explain that this church participates in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.® If your church also gives to this global missions offering, make the connection with your kids.

Chore Sale

- Plan a chore sale for your kids to make money for international missions.
- Ask them what kinds of chores they could do around their house or in someone else's home (wash dishes, rake leaves, fold clothes).
- Give each child at least one **Chore sale ticket**. Some may prefer to do more.
- Direct them to fill it out with their name, the chore that they are willing to do for someone and the amount the chore will cost. Keep most chores between \$5-\$10 to make them affordable for people in your church.
- Let your kids make signs advertising the chore sale. After the video, ask about some of the ways the people in that church made money for missions (selling barbecue, collecting money in piggy banks, giving in the church offering).
- Plan a time to set up a sale table, and encourage adults to hire kids for chores, with all the proceeds going to missions.



Conquering Fear Giving Experience

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- The **Conquering Fear parent letter** will explain the chore sale to families who may wish to participate.
- It might be easier to plan a one-day event, so that adults in the church can provide transportation and supervision for the chores done in homes.
- If an event is not possible to set up with your group, ask children to look for a way to sell their chore this week.

Pray

Thank God that even kids are able to work and support the work of Christians, many of whom are facing scary situations.



Conquering Fear Serving Experience

Prepare

- Have the **Conquering Fear focus verse** ready for the group to see.

Recap

Some places in North Africa and the Middle East (NAME) can seem scary. The people are often at war, and there is a lot of violence. In places like Egypt, church buildings have been burned, and many people do not like Christians. Thankfully, some Christians are not afraid and are willing to stay there in order to tell people about Jesus.

Conquering fear at home

- Explain that most of your kids will not be going to NAME anytime soon and most won't have to be afraid for their lives.
- You have already learned how important it is to pray for and give to Christian workers in places like Egypt and other desert regions.
- Now you need to talk about facing your fears right where you are.
- What scares your kids about telling others about Jesus?
- As they talk, be sure to tell them your own fears about speaking out about Jesus in the U.S. It's not always easy and sometimes can make us feel very uncomfortable.
- Ask things like, "Is it easier to talk about God at home or at school? Why? Do you have a friend you're afraid to talk to about Jesus?"
- Ask your group what fears God might want them to face in order to be more useful for Him. (Some examples might include praying aloud, telling someone about Jesus or reading the Bible at school.)

2 Timothy 1:7

- Show the group the **Conquering Fear focus verse**.
- Take turns reading the verse aloud, asking each kid to put their names in place of the word "us." For example, "For God has not given SARAH a spirit of fearfulness ..." "For God has not given JASON a spirit of fearfulness ..."
- Encourage them to face their fears and try something right now that scares them.
- Don't force anyone, but perhaps someone would be willing to stand and tell people how they became a Christian or someone who is afraid might voice a prayer aloud for the first time.
- Remind them Jesus wants them to conquer their fears and be bold about telling people about Him.



Conquering Fear Serving Experience

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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.



Conquering Fear Going Further

More ideas using this theme

- Download and print the **Conquering Fear parent letter**. Give to parents so they can continue talking about this theme as a family.
- Continue with plans for the chore sale. Talk with your church staff about a Saturday that can be set aside for this event. Consider involving the youth group and take time to advertise it to adult Sunday School classes. Encourage parents to be involved as support, but let the kids be the workers and celebrate their willingness to work hard and support missions around the world.
- For more on IMB's work in all of North Africa and the Middle East, go to **namepeoples.imb.org**. Search "desert peoples" for specific stories, photos and videos from this region.
- 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.
- Download and print the **Breaking Barriers newsletter**. This includes activities on all three missions packages in this release. Use it as an introduction to the 12 Breaking Barriers experiences or as a review. Make enough copies for each child to have one to take home.