

Trucking the Gospel Leader's Guide

Four missions experiences on a storying ministry to truck drivers

Location: country of Burkina Faso (West Africa)

Focus verse: Mark 16:20 “And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them.”

Overall message: Christian workers are using a method called Bible storying to share the Gospel. Storying is used in places where many people don't read and where stories are an important part of the people's culture. Kids can learn to witness through storying, too! This method of witnessing is being used by truck drivers who drive through West Africa. Christians have started Bible storying groups and have trained truck drivers to share these stories along their routes.

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>		<p>Cultural experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each of these missions experiences is designed to last 10 to 15 minutes.
		<p>Prayer experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use these as an addition to a weekly meeting or combine for a longer missions focus.
		<p>Giving experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customize these resources to fit your needs.
		<p>Serving experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [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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Trucking the Gospel Cultural Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Keep on truckin** video and play the **Paralyzed man Bible story**.
- Download and print the **West Africa map**, the **Paralyzed man Bible story**, the **Trucking the Gospel focus verse** and the **Truck stop signs**.
- Make at least three copies of the stop signs. If possible, prepare a path around the church with “stops” where children will hear a story. If this is not feasible, tape the truck stop signs around your room.
- Note: You will use the **Paralyzed man Bible story** for each missions experience in this package.

Introduction

Welcome the kids to a time of learning about West Africa and a way of witnessing called Bible storying. Explain that Christian workers tell stories from the Bible in a way that points to Jesus and leads people to ask questions about faith and the truth of Scripture. Storying is a great way to share the Gospel in places where many people don't read and where stories are an important part of the people's culture.

Christians in West Africa teach these stories and train others to tell them. It's a great way to spread the Gospel. Learn a story, and then teach it to someone else! As they tell a story to a trucker, they also teach him to tell that story to someone else at a truck stop. As the trucker travels, he may meet other Christians who teach him another Bible story.

Where is West Africa?

- Show the **West Africa map**. Point out the many countries on the truck routes.
- Ask a child to point to the country of Burkina Faso on the map.
- Say that this is one country where missionaries are teaching the stories about Jesus.
- Explain that you will learn more about this country in the next weeks.

Keep on truckin'!

- Show the **Keep on truckin** video.
- Say that you are all going to listen to a Bible story, like the truckers do. Then you will travel on a short truck route to practice the story.
- Play the **Paralyzed man audio** story. Tell the kids to listen closely to the way the story is told. It comes from Luke 5 in the Bible.
- Now line up and travel to the first truck stop. Bring a paper copy of the **Paralyzed man Bible story** with you.



Trucking the Gospel Cultural Experience

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- At the first stop, ask the kids what they remember from the story. Use your copy to help them get the story straight. Retell it to them if needed.
- At the second stop, tell them the story again. Pause, where suggested, and ask the kids to tell you what happens next.
- At the third stop, ask for volunteers to tell the story to you. Let the kids work together to tell the story correctly.
- When you return to your room, explain that you will practice this story each week so they will learn it and be able to tell it to others.
- Ask for a volunteer to read the **Trucking the Gospel focus verse** as you close. Explain that the disciples were faithful to tell others the story about Jesus.

Pray

Thank God for Christians in Burkina Faso and other places in West Africa who are sharing the Gospel through stories.



Trucking the Gospel Prayer Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, download and print the **West Africa prayer requests** and the **Truck picture**. Provide at least one copy of the truck for each child. Cut the prayer requests into strips and put them into a bag.
- Have a copy of the **Paralyzed man Bible story** available, or plan to play the audio story again.

Recap

Christians in Burkina Faso and other countries of West Africa are sharing the Gospel with truck drivers by telling Bible stories and teaching them to tell others. Storying is a great way to share the truth of Scripture with people. All they have to do is listen and learn and then tell it to someone else.

Practice the story

- As kids gather, read them the **Paralyzed man Bible story** again. Encourage them to listen carefully.
- Explain that storying is not about fancy videos or pictures. It's about learning exactly what the Scripture says.
- Allow them a few minutes to repeat the story back to you. Gently correct them if they include something that is not in the story.

Prayer time

- Ask for five volunteers to choose a prayer request from the bag and read it aloud.
- Pause after each one to pray for that request.
- If possible, you might want to use the truck path with stop signs you used in the cultural experience. Walk the path, stop at the signs and ask the volunteers to read the requests.
- After you have prayed for each request, give each child a truck picture.
- Give them a few minutes to color it and write a prayer request on it so that they will remember to pray this week.
- Make sure they take the trucks home as a reminder.
- Encourage them to invite their families to pray with them that the Gospel will spread through West Africa.



Trucking the Gospel Giving Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Thanks from Anna** video.
- Download the print the **Burkina Faso photos**.
- If possible, find or borrow a toy truck to use to collect a missions offering for the next few weeks.

Recap

Christians in Burkina Faso and other countries of West Africa are sharing the Gospel with truck drivers by telling Bible stories and teaching them to tell others. Storying is a great way to share the truth of Scripture with people. All they have to do is listen and learn and then tell it to someone else.

More about Burkina Faso

- Ask for volunteers to hold up the **Burkina Faso photos**.
- Ask for other volunteers to read the captions aloud.
- What do your kids think it would be like to live in Burkina Faso?
- Ask them why a Christian might choose to live in Burkina Faso or other places in West Africa. (Answers will vary, but make sure that kids understand that as Christians we should be willing to go wherever God asks us to go.)

*Meet Anna Faruer**

- Tell them they are going to watch a video and meet a woman who has chosen to live in West Africa.
- She is thanking churches that give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®. This is an offering collected in many Southern Baptist churches to support international workers.
- Play the **Thanks from Anna** video.
- After the video, emphasize that people willing to give to missions provided the truck that Anna uses to visit villages and share stories from God's Word with the villagers.
- Explain that Anna also trains West African truck drivers to share stories with people they meet along their trucking routes.
- Encourage kids to bring in a missions offering next week. Show them the truck where they can put their offering.
- If appropriate in your church, have your children walk around to others in the church with trucks and ask for an offering for missions. Tell them to explain that they have been learning about people who tell truckers about Jesus in West Africa.

* name changed



Trucking the Gospel Giving Experience

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Time to practice

- Remind the kids that they have been learning the **Paralyzed man Bible story**.
- Ask them to practice telling the story.
- Again, remind them to use only what they have heard, as the story comes from Scripture.
- You might need to read this to them again.

Pray

Thank God that we can be a part of His work by giving to support Christian workers.



Trucking the Gospel Serving Experience

Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Thomas sings** video.
- Download and print the **Trucking the Gospel focus verse**, if you haven't already, and the **Thomas' song** translation.
- Provide rubber bands and small pieces of cardboard (like a cereal box) for younger children to make an instrument. (You might also use margarine tubs, books, or tissue boxes to make a simple instrument).

Recap

Christians in Burkina Faso and other countries of West Africa are sharing the Gospel with truck drivers by telling Bible stories and teaching them to tell others. Storying is a great way to share the truth of Scripture with people. All they have to do is listen and learn and then tell it to someone else.

Thomas sings

- Show the **Thomas sings** video.
- After the video, ask for someone to read the translation of **Thomas' song**.
- Explain that Thomas has been hearing Bible stories for more than a year and has decided to follow Jesus.
- He makes African instruments like you see in the video and has composed this song about his faith.
- Songs are also being written to go with Bible stories, so that truckers can listen to them as they travel along their truck routes.
- Singing is a good way to share about Jesus!
- Ask if anyone knows a song about a Bible story or a Bible verse.

Sing along

- Younger children may enjoy making a simple instrument by putting rubber bands around a cereal box, margarine tub or even a book.
- Play the video again, letting kids play along with their instruments.

Ready to tell the story

- One last time, tell the **Paralyzed man Bible story** aloud to the children.
- In small groups or with a partner, let them practice telling the story to each other.
- Read the **Trucking the Gospel focus verse** together.
- Explain that with God's help, they will be able to tell others this and other stories about Jesus.



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- Remind them that they are an important part of God's kingdom and His mission.

Pray

Thank God for kids who are willing to be on mission for Him.



Trucking the Gospel Going Further

More ideas using this theme

- Download and print the **Trucking the Gospel parent letter**. Give to parents so they can continue talking about this theme as a family.
- Ask your pastor about having a special collection in a Sunday morning worship service. A volunteer child can explain to the congregation what they have learned about storying and workers in West Africa. Other children can use toy trucks to collect this special offering.
- For more on IMB's work with orality strategies around the world, visit **oralitystrategies.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.
- Download and print the **Tell the Story newsletter**. This includes activities on all three missions packages in this release. Use it as an introduction to the 12 Tell the Story experiences or as a review. Make enough copies for each child to have one to take home.