

Leader's Guide



Tough Territory

Four missions experiences on sharing Jesus in a culture unlike your own

Location: Uganda

Focus verse: **Matthew 5:16** “Let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Overall message: IMB missionaries living among the Karamojong people of Uganda have a simple strategy: *be the church*. Through their actions, through their hospitality, through their friendship and through their willingness to live simply in conditions most Americans would deem unacceptable, the mission team is making a difference. This set of missions experiences will help kids discover that sharing Jesus can happen any time, any place, with anyone!

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 to share Jesus with people around the world who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to know and follow Him.



Tough Territory Cultural Experience



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Worth it all** video.
- Download and print the **Karamojong photos**, the **Tough Territory focus verse** and the **Cow know-how** list.

Introduction

Teach kids three sound/motion combinations:

Moo! (Make imaginary cattle horns.)

Baa! (Run hands through imaginary sheep's wool; wiggle fingers)

Neee! (Pull chin to simulate a goat's beard.)

Lead kids to form a circle. The player to your right may make any of the three sounds and the accompanying motion. The player to his right will make the first sound and add the sound/motion of his choice. Continue adding to the sequence one person at a time until everyone has participated or the sequence becomes too long and difficult to remember. Explain that for the Karamojong [ke-rah-moh-jong] people, wealth is measured in the size of one's cattle, sheep and goat herds.

Cow know-how

- Display the **Karamojong photos**.
- Continue explaining that the Karamojong people make everyday use of nearly every part of a cow's body and waste products.
- Tell kids you have a list of 10 things that are produced or provided by cattle for the Karamojong. Give kids 60 seconds to shout out as many ideas as possible before you display the **Cow know-how** list.
- Find out more about this people group by showing the **Worth it all** video.

What else they need to know

- Share this observation from a missionary on the team working with the Karamojong: *They live in fear of starvation, fear of the next cattle raid, fear of death and fear of God. They see God as a far-off, vengeful spirit, and many of them have never heard the story of Jesus.*
- Comment that many Karamojong practice traditional religious beliefs that center around a false god called Akuj. Some who do know about Jesus have difficulty learning more because many cannot read.
- Read the **Tough Territory focus verse** with the kids. Display it in the room.

Pray

Lead kids to pray that the Karamojong discover that the one true God is a God of love and grace.





Tough Territory Prayer Experience



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or **kidsonmission.org**, prepare to show the **Worth it all** video again.
- From the DVD-ROM or **kidsonmission.org**, download and print the **Uganda map**.
- Provide drawing paper and markers.

Recap

Missionaries have courageously and joyfully exchanged first world comforts, and at times, personal safety, to “be the church” in the presence of the Karamojong people of Uganda. As a result, the Karamojong are being drawn to Jesus. One worker reports, “[We just] had our first group of Karamojong saying, ‘We want to follow Christ and leave the old ways of doing things.’”

Tough territory

- Show the **Uganda map**. Tell the kids that this missionary team also works in the country of South Sudan (which they might notice in the videos), but that this experience will focus on Uganda.
- Comment that missionaries like Jeremy and Susan Taliaferro live in flat country dotted with odd, craggy rock formations. Warriors in colorful clothes can be seen watching and working with their cattle. Missionaries’ quarters are very simple with solar panels for electricity, hand pumps for water, and when conditions are right, maybe an hour or two of Internet access each week.
- Distribute drawing paper and challenge kids to draw what they think a missionary compound in Uganda might look like. These drawings will be used as a prayer reminder.

Tough people

- Comment that missionaries live in very hard places and in very hard conditions to share Jesus with the Karamajong people. But they don’t mind because they want to be obedient to Jesus.
- Divide the kids into two groups before you watch the video. Tell them that as they watch the video, group one should focus on ways they can pray for the Karamajong people. Group two should focus on ways to pray for missionaries. Show the **Worth it all** video.

Prayer time

- Call for each team to share its prayer ideas. Guide kids to flip their drawings over and write down the comments others share. (Omit this step for beginning readers.)
- Invite a volunteer from each team to pray aloud.
- Encourage kids to display their pictures at home as reminders to pray for the tough and loving missionaries working with the Karamojong.





Tough Territory Giving Experience



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Being bold** video.
- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, download and print the **One tough team** handout. Cut out the descriptions of the different team members to distribute to kids.
- Bring a yardstick.

Recap

Missionaries have courageously and joyfully exchanged first world comforts, and at times, personal safety, to “be the church” in the presence of the Karamojong people of Uganda. As a result, the Karamojong are being drawn to Jesus. One worker reports, “[We just] had our first group of Karamojong saying, ‘We want to follow Christ and leave the old ways of doing things.’”

That’s one tough team!

- Before the video, ask the kids to watch for the different types of people God is using in Uganda and the different ways God is asking them to be bold in their ministry.
- Show the **Being bold** video.
- Distribute the missionary descriptions from the **One tough team** handout. Ask for volunteers to read the descriptions about the different kinds of people who are willing to serve God among the Karamojong people.
- Discuss the challenges that each person is facing and the sacrifices they are making.
- Explain that volunteer missionaries have paid all their own expenses to serve in Africa.
- Remind kids that when they give to missions, during the year or through special offerings like the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®, they help provide career missionaries with things they need to do their jobs.

Get a jump on it!

- Explain that the Karamojong people often express enthusiasm by jumping as high in the air as they can, landing flat-footed on the ground. Jumping is done for entertainment, competition and celebration.
- Lead kids to form a circle. Recruit two challengers to stand face to face in the middle of the circle.
- The group in the circle will jump three times, while saying, “One, two, three, jump!” At that time, the two challengers will jump as high as they can. Measure, as closely as possible, the height of their jumps with the yardstick.

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Tough Territory Giving Experience



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- Challenge the winner of the jump-off to name a way kids can be good givers to missions. *(Make giving a regular habit, save loose change, learn about what missionaries need, limit unnecessary or luxury spending, etc.)*
- Call for two new challengers. Continue the jump-off process until everyone has participated.

Pray

Encourage kids to pray silently, asking God to help them become good givers. End the prayer time with a verbal signal: *...and everybody said...* Let kids jump as high as they can as they say *Amen!*





Tough Territory Serving Experience



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, download and print the **Tough Territory focus verse** or make sure it's already displayed in your room.
- Option: From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show or replay the **Being bold** video.
- Bring a package of pipe cleaners.

Recap

Missionaries have courageously and joyfully exchanged first world comforts, and at times, personal safety, to “be the church” in the presence of the Karamojong people of Uganda. As a result, the Karamojong are being drawn to Jesus. One worker reports, “[We just] had our first group of Karamojong saying, ‘We want to follow Christ and leave the old ways of doing things.’”

Lights on!

- Lead kids to read the **Tough Territory focus verse** aloud together. Invite volunteers to explain what it means to “let their light shine” through loving deeds and godly behavior.
- Explain that missionaries let their light shine in Uganda by working, worshipping and just being together. One missionary says: “We’re not building any buildings; we’re not hiring any pastors. Quite frankly, we’re not preaching any sermons. We’re living life together; we’re sharing Jesus with each other. We’re talking about what He is teaching me today; we are confessing our sins to one another; we’re helping each other overcome difficulties in our lives and we’re seeing the Lord grow us and disciple us as a body of believers.”

Let’s shine!

- Comment that while inviting people to church is always a great strategy to help them learn about Jesus, sometimes it is better to show others Jesus at work outside the church building.
- Distribute chenille stems. Lead kids to create sculptures that represent ways they can be a godly influence to others through everyday activities or acts of kindness. Invite kids to describe their sculptures.
- If time permits, rewatch the **Being bold** video and review the types of missionaries serving in Uganda.
- Take time to discuss how each of you can serve in your communities, like this team serves in Africa.

Pray

Pray for kids by name. Ask God to help them light up their schools and communities with love and kindness in Jesus’ name.





Tough Territory Going Further



More ideas using this theme

- Download and print the **Tough Territory parent letter**. Give to parents so they can continue investigating this theme as a family.
- A treasure trove of kid-adaptable resources, short videos and printables, including a “Party for the Karamojong” guide, can be found at **fugeforafrica.org**.
- Call attention to the colorful clothing patterns and beadwork worn in the **Karamajong photos** and videos. Bring laces and bright beads. Allow kids to make bright necklaces or bracelets. Challenge them, when people notice their beads, to share something they’ve learned through their missions experiences.
- In Uganda, *rolaxes* aren’t watches. They’re a fried-egg treat served on *chapatis* (flat bread). Serve kids a similar dish by placing hard-fried eggs on warm tortillas; top with sliced tomato and strips of cabbage.
- 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.

