

PROGRAM GUIDE
DAY ONE



OVERVIEW

THEME: COMPASSION AND EDUCATION

•
Song Service

•
Welcome by Program Leader

•
Flags and Pledges

•
Prayer

•
Theme Song

•
ADRA Video Segment: Mali-Friendship

•
Dismiss to Learning Centers

KIDS AROUND THE WORLD CENTER

CONTINENT/COUNTRY:

Africa/Mali

ADRA STORY:

“She Wanted to Cry”

SNACK:

A variety of fruits are grown in Mali including: oranges, bananas, mangos, and strawberries.

Peanuts are also popular, and peanut butter is made and enjoyed.

INTRODUCTION

Decorations reflect the international theme of this learning station, with maps flags, simple costumes, pictures of kids, and a large world backdrop. The ADRA Storyteller welcomes the children and their tour guides, then proceeds to share details about the focus country of the day. Have a child come forward to locate the country on a globe or large world map.

Ideally the ADRA Storyteller should wear a costume, which can be as simple as wearing an ADRA hat and shirt, or khakis with a safari shirt and jungle helmet. A few props relating to the story will enhance it. Following the story, the host leads a short discussion about the story’s humanitarian theme.

SHE WANTED TO CRY

(Help the children find the continent of Africa)

Jan’s bright orange blanket looked as dirty and tired as she felt. It seemed out of place against the dark red African soil. The blanket would be her bed for the night. One small blanket on an extremely hard ground. Jan had accompanied her father, a regional ADRA leader, to get a better understanding of ADRA’s work.

The huts in the African village were very hot and humid, so the visitors had chosen the cooler temperature of the dark African night and the hard surface of the ground. But it was impossible to sleep. The ground was uncomfortable. The moon lit up the little eyes of the goats and who knows what else! Sounds of snoring and restless tossing and turning resounded from the huts.

But the real reason they had gone outside was that the air was so clear that it made the world seem larger, happier, and at peace. Jan heard no hum of traffic and saw no distant lights of towns or cities, only blackness and the sounds of nature filled the night. Against the velvet backdrop of the sky, the stars put on a spectacular show. After counting about 20 shooting stars, Jan finally drifted off to sleep.

The beauty of the night began to fade with the first kiss of sunrise. Goats bleated. Babies cried. Mothers began to build fires, and little children crowded around them, smiling shyly. Jan’s blanket looked even worse than it had the evening before, and she decided that it won the prize for being the dirtiest. A young boy of about 12 brought half a bucket of water to wash in, and with that the day began.

It was a day Jan would never forget. They played with the children and chatted with the chief about the needs of his village and how they could help. Then they talked with the women, admiring their strength as they did most of the hard physical work required for survival. Walking around with her camera, Jan smiled and snapped pictures, trying to catch on film something of village life. She tried drawing water from the nearby well, but her weak arms struggled with the weight. Young girls laughed and reached over to help. They were strong from years of having to struggle drawing water. Jan couldn't understand how they survived on just one main meal a day.

As she walked around the circular huts, Jan saw an old, wrinkled woman with an equally wrinkled, crying baby. She realized that the woman had to be young enough to have a child, but the sun and hard physical work had made her look very old. Jan smiled in greeting.

The woman grinned back, placing the baby into Jan's outstretched hands. Then she invited Jan inside and asked her to sit down. It was dim and hot inside the hut, and there was not a lot to see—a few earthen pots, a little bedding in the corner, a few scrawny chickens running around. It was hard not to compare the hut to her home in America with its thick plush carpets, modern conveniences, windows that opened, and soft beds with thick, clean comforters. Her bedroom alone was bigger than the entire house.

As they talked, she told Jan about her children and laughed when Jan said that she didn't have any yet at her old age of 17! When Jan finally indicated that she would rejoin the ADRA group, her hostess shook her head while getting up and heading for a pot in the dark area of the house. Shortly she after returned with a plate of beans and stiff porridge.

From the looks of her malnourished baby and her own thin figure, Jan knew that it was an enormous sacrifice. She was giving away her one meal of the day! Jan shook her head, "No! No!" She held out the plate.

What about you? Jan wondered. What about your baby?

The woman shook her head even more violently and pushed the plate into Jan's unwilling hands.

Jan stood there confused. In front of her was this poor, but cheerful woman giving away her entire day's ration of food. Bible stories flashed through Jan's mind. She thought of the Bible story of the widow who gave her last coins to God. She thought of sitting in church with fellow church members, their stomachs full, as they put \$5 notes in the collection plate with well-manicured hands. Jan wanted to cry.

HOST: What impressed you most about this story? Are you willing to share even when you only have a little bit? How can we be more helpful to people who need it?



KIDS BIBLE CENTER



BIBLE TEXT/TOPIC:

Luke 10:30-37/Good Samaritan

BIBLE CHARACTER:

Person helped by The Good Samaritan

MEMORY VERSE:

“I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” Matt.25:40 (NIV)

ACTIVITY SHEETS:

(Age 5-6) Dot-to-Dot of refugee child

(Age 7-9) Memory verse puzzle

(Age 10-12) Word Search—Food and Countries

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10:30-37

PREPARATION: The setting for this story could have some large stones or hills in the background. Characters could wear biblical type garments consisting of long robes or cloaks tied at the waist with a rope or sash, and head turbans. The injured man's clothing could be dirty, ragged, or torn. If you have plenty of help from teens, you could turn the story into a skit complete with robbers, and the other characters (priest and Levite) could walk by while the injured man is telling his story. Be careful the characters do not get too dramatic and frighten the children. If you make your background like a desert, with trees and hills in the background, you can use it for any of the stories.

INJURED MAN: Hello! I want to tell you about the time I was traveling all the way from my home in Jerusalem to the city of Jericho to visit my cousin. I had mapped out my journey months in advance, marking the roads I would take and the places I would stop at along the way. I had even taken care to pick a scenic route, filled with rolling hills nearby and majestic mountains in the distance. There were trees scattered here and there along the trail. This was especially nice since I knew that I would need to rest and they would provide shade from the scorching sun. Everything was perfect!

Everything that is, except for one part. The road I would be traveling was known for robbers. I tried to find another route, but there wasn't another one to take. Don't worry, I finally said to myself, I'm sure nothing will go wrong.

I set off on my journey, leaving early in the morning so that I could walk slowly and appreciate God's wonderful nature. I was having a wonderful time, happily enjoying the beautiful scenery, when suddenly I realized I was in the middle of a dangerous place on the highway. Rocks and caves lined the dusty road, a great place for robbers to hide and stash their stolen treasure.

I admit that I was very frightened and almost turned back toward home, but I somehow managed

to calm myself enough to continue. I walked carefully, watching between the boulders for signs of trouble. Fortunately, nothing happened. At last I saw the end of the dangerous part of the road up ahead. I breathed a sigh of relief. Whew! I made it, I thought.

Suddenly a band of robbers leaped out from behind some rocks. One of them struck me in the head with a heavy stick. They tore the clothes off my back and began to beat me. I don't remember anything after that. Everything went black.

When I awoke I was lying in the middle of the road, in terrible pain and unable to move. Oh, how my head hurt. If someone did not help me soon, I would probably die, I thought.

Just then a holy man walked by. He is someone who knows about God, I thought. Surely he will help me. I groaned. Instead of looking at me, he pinched his nose with his fingers and crossed to the other side of the road! I lay back in the dirt feeling totally alone. Not even a holy man thought I was worth his time.

Then another man appeared. He was a Levite who worked in the temple. Maybe he would help me. But when he saw me, he looked very frightened and hurried along on the other side of the road just like the holy man. By then my hopes were just about gone. If the holy man wouldn't help me, and the Levite passed on the other side of the road without even coming close, who would help me? It seemed, at that time, my only friends were the animals that lived along the road.

As the sun began to sink slowly behind the mountains, another man came riding on a donkey. As he came closer, I realized he was a Samaritan. All my hope disappeared because the Samaritans and Jews are enemies. I am a Jew.

To my surprise and relief, the man reached into his bag, pulled out pieces of cloth, and bandaged my wounds. Then he put me on his donkey and took me to an inn for the night. He gave the innkeeper two silver coins and told him to take care of me until I was well. He even offered to pay the innkeeper for any extra expenses I might have! I'm so thankful the Good Samaritan saved my life despite our differences. Most Samaritans hate Jews. I hope you are just like him and help people too, even though they may be different from you.

HOST: Have you ever looked at someone who is different from you and decided, even before you knew them, that you did not want to be their friend? This story helps us to understand that we cannot judge people by their looks or where they come from. Have you ever helped someone? (Allow several children to respond.) How did you feel? (Allow several children to respond.) Jesus cares how we treat each other. He told His disciples that people would know Him because of the way His believers act. He didn't say to treat people nicely because they will do something for us or because they are pretty or handsome. He said that we help Him when we are kind to the least of His brothers or sisters.

ADRA is like the Good Samaritan in our Bible story. ADRA helps people regardless of what they look like or what town or country they live in. ADRA works in more than 125 countries. ADRA feeds hungry people. It digs wells so that the people in these countries can have clean water to drink and cook with. It gives clothing and blankets to refugees from natural disasters as well as wars. Believing that education is important, ADRA teaches people how to read and to do basic math. It also gives schoolbooks and supplies to students and trains teachers.

Let us say a prayer of thanks for people like the Good Samaritan that are willing to help others.

MEMORY VERSE: *"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

There is a verse in the Bible that tells us how we should treat other people. Each day on our adventure we will be memorizing a verse from the Bible. This is our memory verse for today. The verse is on the board. Let's read it together, then we will play a little game. (Put the verse on a chalkboard or dry eraserboard). Have the children find it in the Bible and read it again from the Bible. The children who are not too familiar with where things are in the Bible will need a lot of help finding the verse. After the children have read the verse from the Bible, go to the board and remove a couple of the easy words. Have them read the verse, filling in the words you have removed. Keep removing words until the children are able to say the verse without any words on the board. Allow children to work on the activity pages for the day.



KIDS CARE CENTER (CRAFTS)

COLLECTION BAGS

Goal: To decorate and distribute collection bags to neighbors or family members, bringing the collected food and toiletries to be packed into baskets for families in need. Set a date and notify the children and parents when collected items are to be brought. If you feel the children will not be able to collect as much food as you will need, ask church and/or community members, ahead of time, to bring in food. If you have food left over, give it to a local community service center or the food bank in your area.

Materials Needed: Brown grocery bags (enough for at least two per child, with some extras). You may be able to get a grocery store to donate them, or you can purchase them at food service stores. Use new ones, if possible so that they will look nice.

- Art Supplies
- Printed note about project (Appendix)
- ADRA's Adventures for Kids logo
- Crayons
- Markers (colored)
- Stickers

STEP BY STEP

1. Each child decorates two bags (older children could do more) to hand to neighbors or family members with a printed explanation of why they are collecting them. Items can include: canned or boxed foods, nearly new children's clothing, and new personal care items like bars of soap, shampoo, deodorant, new toothbrushes in wrappers and new tubes of toothpaste. You may have a

dentist in your area who would supply you with some of the toothbrushes. They receive promotion samples. DO NOT COLLECT MOUTHWASH.

2. Parents should accompany children as they hand out bags as soon as they get home from the program. They should return in an hour, or the next day, to collect bags of food. Older children can do more bags.
3. Collected food and toiletries will be used for "Day Four" Kids Care Center activity.

CONCLUSION

Finish with all groups together
Connect each of the activities and stories together
Review the memory verse
Distribute prizes (if they are a part of your program)
Preview the next day
Benediction

NOTE: If you will be doing the "Day Three" Kids Care Center activity, you will need to take a picture of each child today.



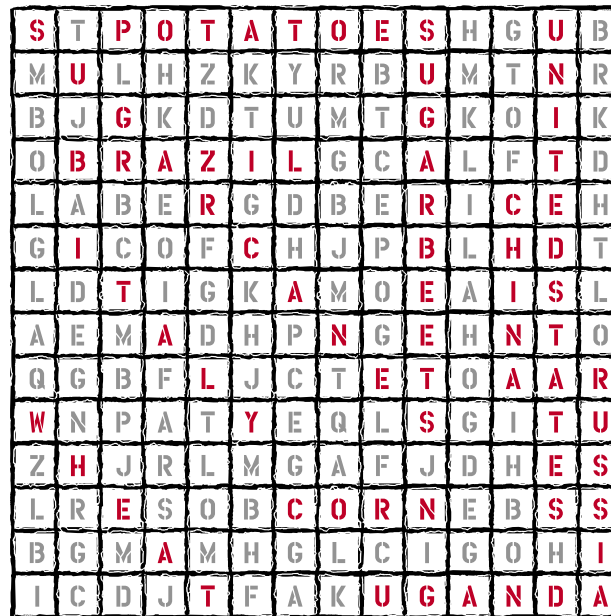
CULTURAL TIDBITS

- Temperatures in Mali can range from 85°F to 125°F
- After shaking hands upon greeting, one might touch a right hand to the forehead or heart.
- Never offer the left hand for a handshake, offer food or money with it, or accept anything with it.
- Do not look an elder in the eye during conversation.
- After greeting someone, you might say "I somogo be di wa?" (how is your family?)



ACTIVITY SHEET ANSWERS

Activity Sheet (Ages 10-12)



FOODS

Potatoes
Sugarbeets
Sugarcane
Corn
Wheat

COUNTRIES

Italy
Brazil
China
United States
Uganda
Russia

