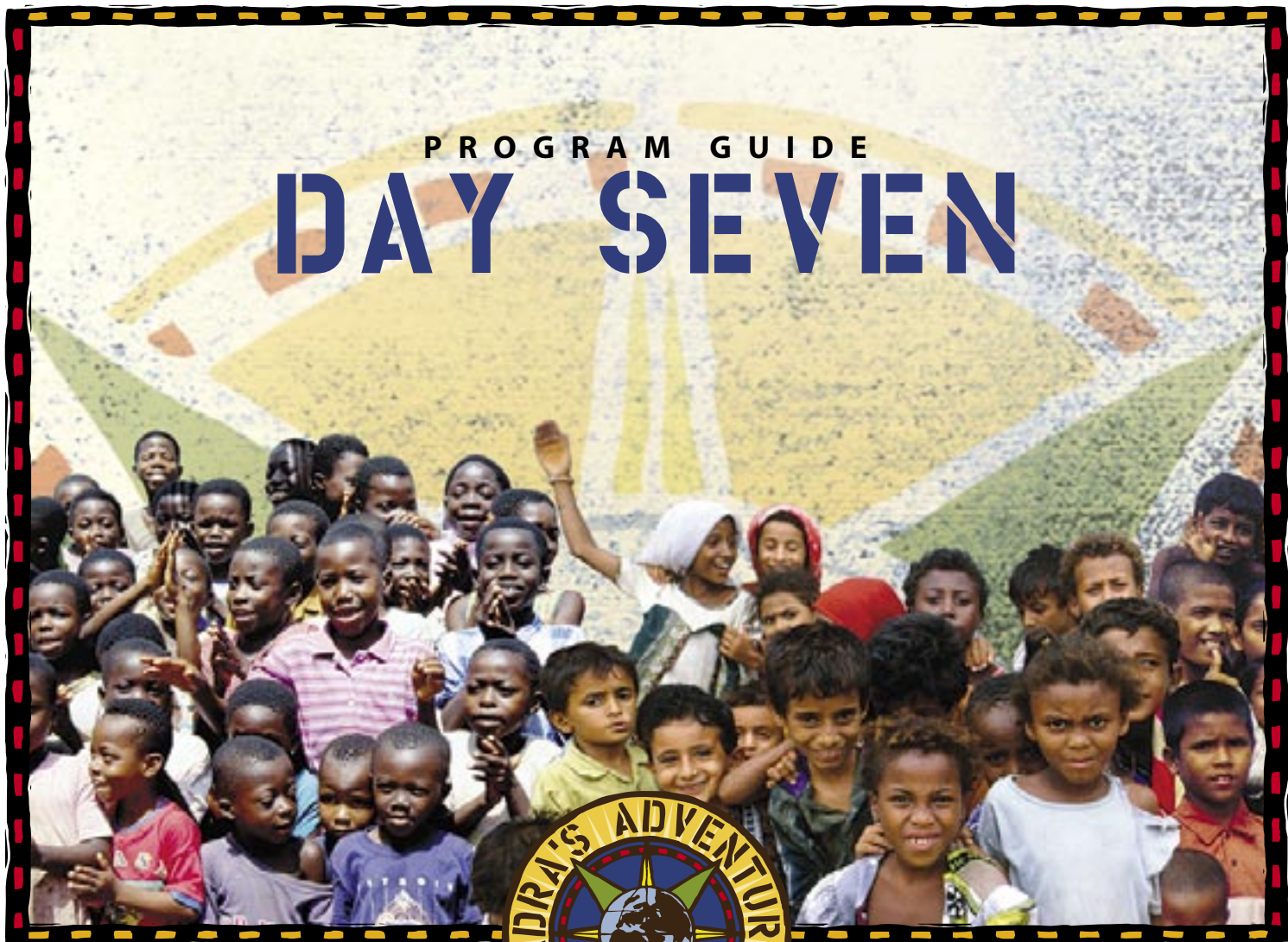


PROGRAM GUIDE  
**DAY SEVEN**



## OVERVIEW

THEME: EDUCATION

•  
Song Service

•  
Welcome by Program Leader

•  
Flags and Pledges

•  
Prayer

•  
Theme Song

•  
ADRA Video: Somalia – Dr. Sousa

•  
Dismiss to Learning Centers

# KIDS AROUND THE WORLD CENTER

**CONTINENT/COUNTRY:**  
**South America/Nicaragua**

**ADRA STORY:**  
**“Miracles at the Well”**

**SNACK:**  
**Banana chips and chili sauce. You can find these salty banana chips in major grocery stores or a South or Central American store. Dip the chips in the chili sauce.**

## MIRACLES AT THE WELL

(Help the children find Nicaragua on the map.)

When Eugene (nicknamed Jeep) and Helen enlisted as ADRA volunteers, they thought they would be going to Russia. Instead, they traveled to Nicaragua to a vocational school. School administrators there, while pleased to see them, would probably have preferred an engineer or plumber. “No,” Jeep told them, almost apologetically, “locksmith.”

But God knew what He was doing. The vocational school gets 90 percent of its water from a 600-foot deep well on campus. This well supplies staff housing, dormitories, and the dining hall; but when Jeep and Helen arrived, its pump had failed. Without it, how could the school exist?

At first, the solution seemed simple. The maintenance staff attached a support clamp and bolt to the water pipe connected to the pump and tried to pull the pump out with a chain hoist. However, after pulling only 22-foot sections of pipe from the ground, the supports broke, letting the pump, electrical cable, and more than 500 feet of pipe, fall to the bottom.

Discouraged, administrators arranged for the school tractor to haul water from a neighbor’s property. The water was rationed between dormitories, kitchen, and staff homes. Students bathed only twice a week – in Nicaragua’s steaming tropical climate. Toilets were no longer flushed. They were emptied. How would you like that job? This was what the Jeep and Helen found when they arrived.

Jeep set about to assess the situation. He tied a nylon cord to a heavy-duty flashlight. As he lowered the light, he peered down the well with a pair of binoculars. He saw the pipe end about 70 feet down, but there was nothing to grab or hook onto to pull the pipe out. No wonder the well drillers felt discouraged.

Things might have seemed hopeless to anyone other than a locksmith.

“No problem,” Jeep told Helen. They prayed for God’s blessing, and Jeep designed a new tool. Once inserted into the pipe this tool would expand when lifted.

Jeep contacted his brother, a gunsmith, who could build such a tool, faxing him the design and measurements. Meanwhile, Helen, Jeep, and many others, prayed. Within days, Jeep had a custom-made pipe puller in his hands.

Next came the hard part. The pipe had slipped some twenty feet more, so sliding the tool into it seemed like threading a needle from 100 feet away. Finally, Jeep found the opening and secured the tool.

Now the recovery team needed an electric winch (show the children a small winch if you can find one), but couldn't find one in all of Nicaragua. More prayer, and finally one came from neighboring Costa Rica. The school could not afford to pay for the winch and for bringing it from Costa Rica, so it bartered to provide services instead. With the winch in place, the work finally resumed. One section of pipe rose to the surface—two, three. Then the winch's motor quit. Why? Now What?

The crew tried hoisting the pipe themselves. It wouldn't budge. They pulled and let go, pulled and prayed. No results. Two hours of this, and still nothing happened. Then finally, after almost three hours, the pipe seemed to move a bit! Workers unhooked the "useless" winch, and did their pulling in earnest. No one was willing to risk dropping the pipes back down the well this time, so three students at a time pulled. Twenty feet of pipe rose every 30 minutes.

Finally, after dark, the students got to the last sections of pipe. Eventually, the last pipe reached ground level. Everyone agreed there had been two miracles – the pump was fixed and Jeep and Helen had been sent to Nicaragua. They praised God. Now the school could stay open.

What is Jeep's explanation for these miracles? "Faith," he says. "God never fails. When we trust Him and are willing to do all we can, He supplies the miracles." This time those miracles brought water.

**HOST:** Do you ever think about the water you drink? Do you take for granted that it's clean water? Many people don't have clean water available. Sometimes they have to walk for miles to get water. And, when they get there, the water is often dirty and filled with bacteria and germs. This causes serious health problems in villages because when people drink contaminated water, they get sick and die. ADRA helps people dig wells and pipe it to villages in many parts of the world. That helps the people to have good, clean water so they can stay healthy. Take time to thank Jesus for the miracle of clean, running water.



# KIDS BIBLE CENTER



## **BIBLE TEXT/TOPIC:**

**Luke 2/Jesus as a youth**

## **BIBLE CHARACTER:**

**A young Jesus**

## **MEMORY VERSE:**

**“Whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:14 (NIV)**

## **ACTIVITY SHEETS:**

**(Age 5-6) Dot-to-Dot Water the Garden**

**(Age 7-9) Rebus – Elephant Bones Mark the Spot**

**(Age 10-12) Code for Memory Verse**

## **THE BOY JESUS**

Luke 2

**PREPARATION:** Jesus can wear a short robe, with a scarf on His head, and sandals. Give Him an old handsaw and a piece of wood to hold.

**JESUS:** My name is Jesus. When I was a boy, I spent my time in a small village called Nazareth. I came into this world for a special purpose—to save the world from Satan.

My parents’ names were Joseph and Mary. They were not wealthy, but we had a happy home. My mother was special and carefully chosen by God. My father, Joseph did carpentry and I learned to work with him. He was a wonderful teacher and taught me a lot, not only about being a good carpenter, but about doing my job well and never giving up on what I planned to do with my life.

I didn’t go to school like you do today. My mother taught me everything I needed to know to do the job that I came to this world to do. I learned the meaning of the Scriptures, and when I was only twelve years old I was able to talk with the priests in the temple, and even explain the meaning of Scripture to them.

I always lived in harmony with what the Scriptures taught about good living. Every one of you here today can live a good life like I did. You need to study the Bible every day and pray that God will help you to follow what it says.

When I grew up, I asked twelve men, later called disciples, to help me with my work. I went all over teaching and healing people until one day some wicked men accused me of being bad. They put me on a cross to die. I did die, but these wicked people could not keep me in the grave. On the third day, God called me out of the grave. Because I am the only human being without sin, I conquered death, and became the Savior. The one who saves people from sin. I now live in heaven with God, my Father.

Someday I will come back to this earth and get rid of all the wickedness. Until then, I hope you will

do all you can to live like I did when I was on earth. Please help the poor and suffering people while you wait for my return. That's what I'd be doing if I still lived on earth today.

**HOST:** There are many people in the world who live every day without clean water to drink. They also don't know about Jesus and His offer to give them "living water," so that they will never be thirsty again (see John 4:10,11 and 7:38). What can you do to help other people learn about Jesus? (Allow several children to respond to each question.) Also, what can be done to help people who need water to get it? ADRA does a lot of things to help. Not only do they help people to find water, they also train people to take care of themselves by using technology appropriate to their region. Pray that children in Nicaragua, Somalia, and Myanmar will have clean water to drink and bathe in.

**MEMORY VERSE:** *"Whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."* John 4:14 (NIV)

(Have the children read the memory verse from the Bible. Ask them what it means and explain it to them if they don't know. Help them to say it from memory. Have them do the work on their activity sheet, providing assistance if they need it.)



## KIDS CARE CENTER

### DECORATE COOKIES FOR SHUT-INS

**Goal:** To decorate cookies for distribution to shut-ins.

**Materials Needed:**

- Bags of pre-baked, undecorated cookies
- Cookie decorating items (frosting, sugar sprinkles, etc.)
- Pretty bags, preferably decorated by the children
- Napkins
- Plastic bags for packaging cookies
- Note cards for encouraging messages to the shut-ins

**Preparation:**

1. Get needed materials.
2. Set up an area to wash hands. If you are near a restroom with several sinks, girls and boys can go there. Be sure to supervise. If there are no restroom facilities have pans of water with disinfectant soap and paper towels.
3. Get a list of shut-ins or housebound people in your community.
4. Plan extra cookies to be eaten as snacks.

## STEP BY STEP:

1. The children may not have time to decorate bags and bake cookies the same day. The day before, you may want to explain their use and have the children decorate the bags.
2. Have cookies laid out and arranged for children to decorate. Let them use their creativity!
3. Open napkin and arrange in bag.
4. Have children write notes of encouragement.
5. Arrange for delivery.

**CAUTION:** Do not consider taking your children to deliver the cookies, or anywhere else, unless you have gone to EACH parent and received their written consent. Also, be sure that your insurance covers such a thing. This takes quite a bit of time out of your program. Be sure to bring back a report to the children, though, to let them know they were delivered. You might want to take a camera with you and take a picture of the people they are delivered to for the children to see.



## 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**



## CULTURAL TIDBITS

- *Lago de Nicaragua* is the only freshwater lake in the world to have sharks and sawfish.
- In 1998, Hurricane Mitch caused widespread devastation from which the country is still recovering.
- One points by puckering the lips or extending the chin in the intended direction.
- If a person wants to pay for something, they may rub one index finger repeatedly down the other, similar to the U.S. American gesture for shame.
- Patients who need to go to the hospital must provide their own dressings and medications; many can't.

# ACTIVITY SHEET ANSWERS



## Activity Sheet (Ages 10-12)

"The water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:14)

