

Daily Missions Scripts

Day 1: Hani (Ethiopia)

SHOW: Guided by Grace slide

This week, we are learning all about how the Lord is our Shepherd, but we aren't the only ones who need to know this. There are boys and girls around the world who need to know about God too, and this week, we're going to meet some of them. Sadly, many of them don't have enough food to eat. We are partnering with Children's Hunger Fund to help provide meals for children who don't have enough to eat.

You can not only help provide them with meals but also help them learn about Jesus!

SHOW: Guided by Grace—Hani slide

Are you ready to meet the first child? [Pause for participation](#). Great! Today, we're going to meet a little girl named Hani, who lives in Ethiopia.

SHOW: Video 1—Hani

Country: Ethiopia

Problem: Extreme Hunger

Hani's mother wanted nothing more than to care for her children, but without any education or skills, it was very difficult for her to find work so she could buy food. The nearby local church not only provided her family with food but also taught them how to grow vegetables and raise chickens and goats. This meant that she would always have fresh food for her children.

Sadly, many other children around the world are in need, just like Hani. But there's good news! You can help! Do you want to learn how? [Pause for participation](#). This week at VBS, we will be collecting coins to provide meals just like the ones that Hani received from the local church. You will get one of these Coin Paks that you can use to collect your coins. [Show Coin Pak](#). Take this home today and tell your family and friends about Hani. Ask them to help you collect coins for meals. Just 25 cents can provide a nutritious meal for a hungry child.

SHOW: Daily Count Day 1 slide

With the coins you collect, nutritious food can be packed into a Children's Hunger Fund Food Pak. These Food Paks can feed a family for several days. And because these Food Paks are delivered to families by local pastors and church volunteers, it provides local churches the opportunity to grow relationships with these families and share with them about Jesus Christ.

Bring back the coins you've collected each day this week so we can count how many meals you can provide. You can help deliver hope to suffering families around the world.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: WHAT CAN \$2 BUY?

1. Explain that many families living in poverty—like Hani's—have very little money and must survive on around \$2 per person per day.
2. Point to the food items on the board.

3. In the United States, each of these items can be purchased for around a dollar. Look through these options and decide which two items you would get.
4. Ask if anyone wants to share which two items they chose.
5. Ask them why they chose those items. (Commend them if they decide based on nutrition or because they provide multiple meals.)
6. Ask if anyone else who chose something different wants to share.
7. Ask them why they chose their items. (Commend them if they decide based on nutrition or because they provide multiple meals.)
8. Ask if anyone chose chips, ice cream, cookies, or candy. Why did they choose them? (No judgments; those options still provide calories, even if they have fewer nutrients.)

TALKING POINTS

- What if I told you that this was all you had to eat for the entire day?
- Many families living in extreme poverty do not have a school education, which limits the types of jobs they can find. Most of these families rely on day labor; meaning any money they earn that day is all they have; they cannot save.
- If they cannot find work, they may have to make do with less or go without any food.
- What if you only had one dollar? Would that change what you choose?
- What happens if someone in the family gets hurt and needs a bandage or ointment? [Place first aid kit and ointment images on the board](#).
- Would you give up food for a day to treat an injury?
- What if someone in your family had the chance to go to school so they could one day have the education to get a good job and have a better life?
- [Place school supply images on the board](#). Would you give up food for a day to send someone to school?
- These difficult decisions are what families like Hani's have to face everyday. What can you do to help families like Hani's?

Pass out the [Map of the World](#) activity sheets. Have kids put their names at the top then cut out and glue the item for today on the map. Collect the maps when you're finished with the activity.

Send each child home with a [Hani Prayer Journal](#).

Day 2: Ivanna (Romania)

SHOW: Guided by Grace slide

Do you remember the person we met yesterday who was training her dog? Her name was Quinn, wasn't it? Does

anyone remember the name of her dog? *Pause for participation.* That's right! Penny! In addition to showing us how she's training Penny to be a sheepdog, Quinn is introducing us to children around the world. Each one of these children live in poverty with little money to provide for their needs. But they need to hear how much God loves them. Thankfully, you get to help!

Remember, just one quarter can provide a meal to a hungry child.

SHOW: *Guided by Grace—Ivanna slide*

Today, Quinn is going to introduce us to a little girl named Ivanna, who lives in Romania. Let's hear her story.

SHOW: *Video 2—Ivanna*

Country: Romania

Problem: Displaced people

Raise your hand if you've ever been on a long car ride. *Pause for participation.* Ivanna and her family basically went on a long road trip, but instead of going someplace fun like a vacation, she was leaving her home because it was no longer safe. She also didn't know where she was going to end up. Thankfully, the church was there to help her family find a place to stay and to give them food to eat.

You can help children like Ivanna by collecting coins. Who did you tell about our goal to collect coins? *Pause for participation.* Remember, every 25 cents you collect this week means one meal for a child like Ivanna.

Does anyone have a guess at how many meals we can provide so far? *Pause for participation.*

SHOW: *Daily Count Day 2 slide with current meal count filled in*

Well, we've counted the coins you brought in, and we can provide ____ meals! One dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.

That's a great start to our week, but we've still got a few more days to go. So keep bringing in your coins all week long! If you haven't already shared with your families what we're collecting coins for, be sure to do that today! Ask your parents if you can earn money for your Coin Pak by doing some special chores around the house. Get creative!

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: UNFAMILIAR GROUND

1. Arrange the chairs, tables, couches, and other "obstacles" around the room to create an obstacle course. There should be multiple ways to go through it so two people can go through it simultaneously.
2. Split the group into teams of about four-five students.
3. Round 1: Two teams will select one person to go through the obstacle course and race to see who can do it faster.
4. Round 2: The two contestants will step outside while the course is rearranged. Then they will have to go through it again blindfolded. Their teammates must coach them verbally through the course.
5. Repeat until each team has had a chance to race.

TALKING POINTS

- For those racing, which was easier: going through on your own when you could see where you were going or having others direct you through obstacles you couldn't see and weren't familiar with?
- For those giving directions, what did you learn about trying to lead your teammate through the course? *Share your observations, especially if the team all shouted directions at once or one person took the lead.*
- When you completed the obstacle course, were you excited? Relieved? Did you celebrate?
- For children like Ivanna and other displaced people leaving their homes, it can be scary being led through unknown lands. Who do you listen to when there may be different voices telling you what to do?
- Also, escaping danger didn't mean their problems were over. They still needed to find a place to stay. They still needed to find food. Her parents still needed to figure out how they would find work.
- They relied on the kindness of strangers and the nearby local church to help them and provide them with food and shelter.
- How can you help families like Ivanna's?

Pass out the *Map of the World* activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with an *Ivanna Prayer Journal*.

Day 3: Luciana (The Philippines)

SHOW: *Guided by Grace slide*

Who remembers what we are collecting coins for this week? *Pause for participation.* And how much does it cost to provide one meal? *Pause for participation.* That's right! It only costs 25 cents to send a meal to a child in need. And the food that your coins provide is nutritious food that can be made into healthy meals for the whole family.

SHOW: *Guided by Grace—Luciana slide*

Today, we are going to meet a little girl named Luciana, who lives in the Philippines.

SHOW: *Video 3—Luciana*

Country: The Philippines

Problem: Disaster

Can you imagine living in a house that was sitting at an angle like Luciana's? *Pause for participation.* Do you think she felt safe and secure in her home? *Pause for participation.* Probably not. And with so many mouths to feed, it would take her parents a very long time to save enough money to fix their house on their own. Thankfully, there are pastors, like the ones who visited Luciana's family, who are willing to help them provide for their basic needs so they can focus on fixing their home.

There are pastors around the world ready to help other kids in need like Luciana. Have you been sharing what you have learned this week with others? Have you asked if your

parents will help you provide meals for kids like the ones you've met so far?

Do you want to hear how many meals we can provide so far? [Pause for participation](#). Well, we've counted your coins, and we've already raised enough to provide _____ meals! [To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.](#)

SHOW: [Daily Count Day 3 slide with current meal count filled in](#)

I'm pretty excited about what you've collected so far, and we still have two more days! And that many meals means more opportunities for local pastors to share the love of Jesus Christ with children in need. I think more children around the world need to hear this good news, don't you? I can't wait to see how many more meals we can provide tomorrow.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: WILL IT STAND?

1. Each group of students must build a structure at least 12 inches tall out of craft sticks and play dough.
2. The structure MUST be built on stilts—it cannot sit flat on the ground.
3. Once they have reached the designated height, they will place their structure on top of a piece of paper, and an adult volunteer will gently slide the paper back and forth to create an "earthquake."
4. If the structure falls and other groups are still building their structures, they may try again.

TALKING POINTS

- Luciana's home was built a bit like the ones you just made. Because the Philippines is prone to typhoons, many homes are raised on stilts to protect them from flooding. Unfortunately, this also makes them less stable.
- When your structure fell over, were you able to rebuild your structure stronger? Was it able to withstand a second "earthquake"?
- Unlike with your craft sticks, it is not easy to rebuild a home. Many of the support beams that held up Luciana's home were broken in the earthquake. Her home basically had to be rebuilt.
- For families living in poverty, there is not enough money to save for repairs like this. The money they make that day is the money they spend that day for food, medicine, or other needs.
- The food provided by the church meant that Luciana's parents were able to spend the money her father made on house repairs.
- How can you help children like Luciana after a disaster?

Pass out the [Map of the World](#) activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with a [Luciana Prayer Journal](#).

Day 4: Hugo (El Salvador)

SHOW: [Guided by Grace slide](#)

Well, we've been collecting coins for four days now. Can anyone tell me what we're collecting coins for? [Pause for participation](#). Right! We're raising money to provide meals for hungry kids! It just takes 25 cents to provide a meal! And when a family receives a meal, they also hear the good news that Jesus loves them too!

SHOW: [Guided by Grace—Hugo slide](#)

Hugo is a boy from El Salvador, a country in Latin America, just southeast of Mexico.

SHOW: [Video 4—Hugo](#)

Country: El Salvador

Problem: Generational Poverty

Have you ever learned something so incredible that you just couldn't keep it to yourself? You had to tell everyone you knew about it? [Pause for participation](#). That's exactly how Hugo's family felt when they learned about Jesus' love for them! And thanks to the Food Paks provided by the nearby local church, Hugo knows he will have food to eat. He has the hope that one day, he may be able to break the cycle of poverty.

It's been a few days since you started raising money to provide meals for kids like Hugo. Are you excited to hear how many meals we can provide so far? [Pause for participation](#). I don't think you sound very excited. Are you excited to hear how many meals we can provide so far? [Pause for participation](#). That's better! In just three days, you have raised enough to provide _____ meals! [To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.](#) You guys are doing amazing! Keep it up!

SHOW: [Daily Count Day 4 slide with current meal count filled in](#)

And remember, these coins are doing more than providing meals! The pastors and church volunteers delivering these meals will also share the hope of the gospel with children and families in need.

Tomorrow is the last day to turn in your coins. So see if there is anyone else you can ask to help donate coins or if there are any chores you can do to earn extra money.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: PILE IT ON

1. Instruct the students to draw a child at the bottom of their paper.
2. Once everyone has drawn their person, have them add the following above the child (these can either be written out or drawn):
 - Lack of education, no school
 - No clean water
 - No medicine
 - Poor health
 - Few work options
 - Food insecurity
3. Now, have the students take their erasers and attempt to erase the words or pictures above the child they drew.

TALKING POINTS

- Hugo experiences generational poverty. That means his family has been living in extreme poverty for at least three generations. So his parents and his grandparents all have been living in poverty (without enough money to provide for their needs).

- Take a look at your paper. Was anyone able to completely erase the words or pictures on their paper? It's really hard, isn't it?
- That's the tricky thing about generational poverty. It's tough to get out from under it.
- For Hugo and his siblings, all they know is the lives their parents and grandparents have lived. His family can't afford to send him to school so he can get an education and get a good job one day.
- Now take your pencil and write FOOD, CHURCH, and JESUS above the child.
- Because the church came to Hugo's home with food, his parents can now afford to send him to school. They also shared about Jesus, so Hugo has hope that his future will be better.
- How can you change the future for more children like Hugo?

Pass out the [Map of the World](#) activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with a [Hugo Prayer Journal](#).

Day 5: Sebastian (United States)

SHOW: [Guided by Grace slide](#)

This week, Quinn has introduced us to children all over the world who are facing poverty and don't have enough money to meet their needs. But we've done more than learn about kids in need, right? [Pause for participation](#). Did we learn how we can help them too? [Pause for participation](#). That's right! We did!

SHOW: [Guided by Grace—Sebastian slide](#)

Today, we aren't going to learn about a child living on the other side of the world. This child lives in the United States.

SHOW: [Video 5—Sebastian](#)

Country: United States

Problem: Invisible Poor

Be sensitive to the population of children you are serving. Rephrase as necessary to be sure all children feel welcome and included. For someone like Sebastian, it can be difficult to tell if he is in need. He wears a uniform to school just like the rest of his classmates, so he doesn't look any different. In some ways, this is good because it means that no one looks down on him for being poor. But it also means that no one knows that he needs help. This is why the local church is so important; they are working hard to learn about families like Sebastian's who need help.

You've also been working hard this week, collecting coins to provide meals for children like the ones you met. You met Hani in Ethiopia, Ivanna in Romania, Luciana in the Philippines, Hugo in El Salvador, and Sebastian in the United States. But the coins you collected this week aren't just going to help them.

The coins you are collecting will support Children's Hunger Fund, and they partner with churches in over 30 countries around the world! Those churches provide food to families in

need and share the hope of Jesus. Every box of food means a chance to share the gospel. Your quarters are making a huge difference! Isn't that amazing?

Are you ready to see how many meals we can provide this week? [Pause for participation](#). The grand total number of meals we can provide this week is ____ meals! To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.

SHOW: [Daily Count Day 5 slide with current meal count filled in](#)

You did such an amazing job collecting coins! This can feed so many children in need. But do you know what's even better? Because of you, more children and their families will learn about the love of Jesus.

But it doesn't have to end here! Did you know you can keep sending meals to children in need even after this week? You can keep making a difference for children worldwide with Children's Hunger Fund. Ask your parents how you can continue sharing meals and Christ's love with children in poverty.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: ONE IN SEVEN

1. Ask for seven volunteers to step out of the room. Secretly select one of the students to hide the object somewhere on their person. It must stay hidden from view, and they cannot give hints that they have it.
2. Have the students come back into the room and line up before the rest of the group.
3. Have the rest of the group decide which one they think has the hidden object and line up in front of the person they think is hiding the object.
4. Once everyone has made their guess, have the student with the object reveal themselves. Optional: The group that guessed correctly receives a treat as a reward for guessing correctly.
5. If time remains, ask for seven new volunteers and do it again.

TALKING POINTS

- For those guessing, how did you decide who was hiding the object?
- For those hiding the object, how did it feel knowing you were hiding something from the rest of the group—that people were looking for something different about you?
- Roughly one in seven children in the US lives in poverty, but they quite often look just like other children. They go to school and live in houses or apartments. The difference is that they may not have food or electricity when they go home.
- How can you help children like Sebastian who may not have enough food to eat?

Pass out the [Map of the World](#) activity sheets from yesterday (give extra maps to any new students) and have them cut and glue the item for today on the map. Kids can take the maps home today.

Send each child home with a [Sebastian prayer journal](#).