2020 AiG VBS

Recipient Child Stories

**DAY 1: Meet Hennrick, from Haiti**

WHERE: Today during our treasure hunt, Walter shares with us about his trip to the country of Haiti. Located in the Caribbean, this tiny country is often in the direct path of tropical storms and hurricanes. Haiti is also located along a major fault line. Today, we’ll meet a Haitian boy named Hennrick.

WHO: Hennrick used to live in an apartment. He had a kitchen with running water and his own bedroom. When a massive earthquake destroyed his home, his family had to move into a tent in very poor conditions. Hennrick’s parents were unable to find enough work. That made it hard for them to provide enough food for their family. Hennrick often went to bed hungry.

One day, a pastor from a local church brought a Food Pak from Children’s Hunger Fund to Hennrick’s tent. A Food Pak can hold up to 20 pounds of nutritious food that can feed a family of four for about a week. The pastor also shared with Hennrick and his family about Jesus and how much He loves them. He told them that God created them, and they are precious to Him.

**DAY 2: Meet Nimah, from Guatemala**

WHERE: Guatemala is located just southeast of Mexico. More than half of the population lives in poverty. Free education is not provided by the government, so many families living in these poor conditions cannot afford to send their children to school. The children are unable to learn the skills necessary to move themselves out of poverty. In Guatemala, we will meet a little girl named Nimah.

WHO: Nimah watches other kids her age on their way to school, and she wishes she could join them. Instead, she spends her days wandering through the dump, looking for glass and plastic bottles that she can sell to help her family buy food. Nimah’s parents grew up in the garbage dump. Her grandparents grew up here, too. She knows that getting an education is the only way she’ll ever be able to have a better life out of the garbage dump, but she doesn’t know how to make it happen.

A local pastor learned about Nimah and her family. He came to the dump and brought the family a Food Pak from Children’s Hunger Fund. The pastor shared with Nimah’s family about God, who is all knowing and all powerful. Now that her family has more food, Nimah hopes they will be able to save enough money for her to go to school.

**DAY 3: Meet Binsa, from Nepal**

WHERE: Today, we’ll meet a girl named Binsa, who lives in the country of Nepal, located between China and India. Kathmandu Valley is an area of Nepal that was once an ancient lake bed. Though the water has long since dried up, the clay in certain areas of the valley is perfect for making bricks. Unfortunately, because of the location of Kathmandu Valley, smoke and dust from hundreds of brickyards gets trapped in the air, making it difficult to breathe.

WHO: Binsa’s parents came to Kathmandu Valley looking for work and hoping for a better life. Instead, they found themselves in an unsafe living situation and unable to pay for the small hut they were given to live in. Binsa works long days in the hot sun, carrying load after load of heavy bricks. If she breaks a brick, her family is required to pay a fine. Some days, they work hard all day and don’t even make enough money to buy food to eat.

A pastor from a church nearby learned about Binsa and her family and brought them a Food Pak. He also told them about Jesus. Binsa learned that God is ruler. He is in charge, and he has a plan for her life. Now that they are receiving food from Children’s Hunger Fund, they can use more of the money they earn to pay off their debt and eventually move out of the brickyard.

**DAY 4: Meet Tavi, from Romania**

WHERE: Romania is a popular European tourist destination filled with medieval castles and beautiful landscapes. During a time of political unrest in Romania, many orphanages were closed, sending orphaned children to the streets. Many orphans went below ground, where they found safety and warmth in the sewers. Today, we will meet a Romanian boy named Tavi.

WHO: Like many children in Romania, Tavi is an orphan. He doesn’t have any parents to take care of him. Instead, he has a group of friends who are also orphans. Every day, they beg for money on the streets, but it is barely enough to buy food. At night, Tavi usually sleeps behind a dumpster or goes down into the sewers where he is protected from the cold night air.

When local pastors approached Tavi and his friends, offering to help them, the kids were nervous about accepting their help. The pastors returned a few days later and shared with the boys about Jesus, the loving Savior who came to earth to save us. With the pastors’ help, Tavi now lives in a group home for children. There, he receives meals provided by Children’s Hunger Fund and has access to clean clothes and proper medical care. He is also attending classes and learning how to read and write.

**DAY 5: Meet Max, from the United States**

WHERE: Today, we’ll meet a boy living right here in the United States. Though America is one of the wealthiest countries in the world, there are people living in poverty all around us. They might live in your neighborhood or go to your school. Many families cannot afford a home of their own, so they will move in with family to avoid having to live on the streets.

WHO: Max lives in Texas, in a house in the same neighborhood as some of his friends. Max’s dad used to work in a factory, but he was hurt in an accident and hasn’t been able to work for several months. He shares one bedroom with his parents and his siblings because his aunts, uncles, and cousins all live in the same house. Max is embarrassed and scared that his friends will make fun of him because he has to share his room with his family.

Max’s neighbors told their pastor about Max and his family, and the pastor came to their door with a Food Pak from Children’s Hunger Fund. The pastor told Max’s family about Jesus and how He came to save them. Now Max knows that God is so much bigger and greater than his questions. He’s learning that he can trust God, and that God cares about him. The pastor helped Max’s mom find a job, and someone from the church even gave Max a soccer ball so he can play his favorite sport!