

Daily Missions Scripts

Day 1: Nadya (Ukraine)

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise” slide

As we spend this week journeying from Genesis through Revelation, we are also going to get the chance to meet a boy or girl living in a different part of the world. We are partnering with Children’s Hunger Fund to help provide meals for children who don’t have enough to eat.

Besides helping provide them with meals, you can also help them hear about the message of the gospel!

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise—Nadya” slide

Are you ready to meet the first child? Pause for participation. Great! Today, we’re going to meet a little girl named Nadya, who lives in the country of Ukraine.

SHOW: Video 1—Nadya

Country: Ukraine

Problem: War

Before the war, Nadya’s family didn’t have to struggle to provide basic needs like food and a place to live. They had a home, her parents had jobs, and Nadya went to school and had plans for her future. When they had to leave their home in search of safety, everything they had was lost. Thankfully, nearby churches have worked together to help refugees (people who had to leave their homes) just like Nadya and her family.

Do you want to help kids like Nadya? Pause for participation. Great! This week at VBS, we will be collecting coins to put in these Coin Paks. Show Coin Pak. Take this home today and tell your family and friends about Nadya. Ask them to help you collect coins for meals. Just 25 cents can provide a nutritious meal for a hungry child.

These meals will be packed into a Children’s Hunger Fund Food Pak, which is a box of healthy, nutritious food. This will be enough to feed a family for several days.

Each day this week, bring back any coins you’ve collected, and we’ll count how many meals you’ve given so far. With your help, we can deliver hope to suffering families all over the world.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: WHAT WILL YOU TAKE?

1. Pass out paper and a pen or pencil to each student.
2. Tell the students, “Quick! You have five minutes to grab the 10 most important things from your home!”
3. Set a timer for five minutes and have them write down 10 things they would take with them.
4. Have the students share what they would bring with them and write a few on the board.

5. Tell the students, “Oh, no! We don’t have enough room for all 10 items! You have two minutes to cut it down to five items!”
6. Set a timer and have them cross off half of the items from their list.
7. Have the students call out what they removed from their list.
8. Tell the students, “Bad news! You can only take one item, and you only have 30 seconds to decide!”
9. Set a timer for 30 seconds and have them cross off all but one item.
10. Have the students call out what their one item was and circle those on the board.

TALKING POINTS

- Which of these lists was the hardest to make?
- Why did you remove certain items from your list and not others?
- What if you couldn’t even bring the one item left on your list?
- When Nadya had to leave her home, they didn’t have a chance to pack their bags and make a list of what they wanted to take with them. Nadya had to leave with only the clothes she was wearing.
- Think about other things you need each day. Did anyone think to include food on their list? What about a blanket or a warm jacket?
- Even if Nadya’s family could find a grocery store or a hotel that was open, the money they brought would only last so long.
- Without churches to help them, how would Nadya’s family make it to safety?
- Once there, how would they be able to start over?
- What can you do to help families like Nadya’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 “Nadya” prayer journal.

Day 2: Panit (Thailand)

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise” slide

Do you guys remember Frankie whom we met yesterday? He’s going to be introducing us to children around the world. Each one of these children lives in poverty, which means they don’t have much money for food and clothes. And they also need to hear about God’s love for them. Thankfully, you get to help!

Have you started collecting coins for your Coin Pak yet? Pause for participation. Great! Remember, each quarter you put into your Coin Pak can provide one meal for a hungry child.

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise—Panit” slide

Today, Frankie is going to introduce us to a little boy named Panit, who lives in the country of Thailand. Let’s hear his story.

SHOW: Video 2—Panit

Country: Thailand

Problem: Pandemic

Who remembers having to stay home during the COVID pandemic? Pause for participation. A lot of people lost their jobs because businesses had to shut down. Panit’s grandmother lost her job because the people she washed clothes for were afraid of getting sick. It’s a good thing the church was there to deliver food and share about God’s love, right?

Did everyone take home their Coin Paks? Pause for participation. Did you tell anyone what we are collecting coins for? Pause for participation. Every 25 cents you collect this week can provide one meal for a child like Panit—a child who doesn’t know when they will get their next meal. You are helping to deliver hope to suffering children around the world.

Now, do you want to hear how many meals we can provide so far? Pause for participation. Well, we’ve counted the coins you brought in, and we’ve raised enough to provide ____ meals! Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.

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

That’s not bad for just one day. But we’ve still got the rest of the week, so keep bringing in coins all week long! Share what you’ve learned about Panit and Nadya with someone else and see if they want to help provide meals too. 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: IS IT ESSENTIAL?

1. Ask the students to call out different types of occupations. Write the responses on a whiteboard using one color of dry-erase marker.
2. Try to cover a variety of categories by prompting them with a few of the following: retail (stores), food industry (restaurants), medical field, emergency services, entertainment, sports, education, trade (e.g., plumber, electrician, hair-dresser, mechanic), office, farming, etc.
3. Ask the kids to name which of these jobs can be done remotely, from a computer at home. Cross off the ones that cannot.

4. Some of these jobs (e.g., doctor, police officer, firefighter, grocery store clerk) cannot be done remotely but are still important. Circle these with a different color marker.

TALKING POINTS

- During the COVID pandemic, 9.6 million people in the US were unable to work because their bosses closed or lost their businesses. (According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022.)
- Even if someone with a well-paying job is suddenly out of work, they usually have food at home or at least a small amount of money saved up to live on for a short while until they find work again.
- Now think about Panit’s grandmother in Thailand.
- Do you think she had plenty of food at home to last a few days?
- Do you think she had money in the bank to last her for a month or two?
- Panit’s family, like many families living in small villages, was living hand to mouth. That means that the money they made that day paid for the food they ate that day. If they didn’t make any money, they probably didn’t eat.
- How do you think Panit felt when people showed up at his house offering him food for free?
- How can you help other children like Panit who don’t 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. Then collect the maps when finished.

Send each child home with a “Panit” prayer journal.

Day 3: Daniel (Mexico)

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise” slide

It’s time to check in on our friend Frankie and meet another child from around the world!

Who remembers how much it costs to provide one meal for a hungry child? Pause for participation. That’s right! Only 25 cents can provide a healthy meal to a child in need. So that means 1 dollar can provide 4 meals, 10 dollars can provide 40 meals, and 25 dollars can provide 100 meals! Isn’t that incredible?

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise—Daniel” slide

Today, we’re going to meet a little boy named Daniel who lives in Mexico.

SHOW: Video 3—Daniel

Country: Mexico

Problem: Generational poverty

Without getting good nutrition and education, it could be hard for Daniel to escape the poverty he was born into.

That means when he gets older, his children could be born into the same situation. Without help, that is a difficult problem to solve.

But local pastors in Mexico and around the world are working hard to give families like Daniel's the help they need to try to break the cycle of poverty. And even better, they are sharing the hope of the gospel with families in need.

What have you been doing this week to earn coins for your Coin Pak? Are you asking your parents if you can do an extra chore to earn money? Are you sharing with people the stories of the boys and girls you are meeting this week? Talk to your parents about different ways you might be able to raise money for meals.

Now, do you want to hear how many meals we can provide so far? In only two days, we can provide ___ meals! (Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.) That's pretty fantastic!

SHOW: **Daily Count Day 3** slide with current meal count filled in.

You are doing an amazing job! And don't forget that those meals are also opportunities for a local pastor to share the love of Jesus Christ. 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: ALL TIED UP

1. Hand a pipe cleaner out to each child.
2. For each of the items listed below, have the students tie a knot in their pipe cleaner after each one is read.
 - » You are born into a family living in a poor community.
 - » Your only source of drinking water is the same stream used for bathing, and it often carries diseases.
 - » You are only able to have one meal per day.
 - » You are not able to see a doctor.
 - » You are not able to go to school because your parents cannot pay the school fees or you have to work to help your family buy food.
 - » The only skills you are learning in your small village are for jobs that don't provide enough pay to meet your needs.
 - » You get sick a lot because you don't get the proper nutrients in your diet.
3. Now ask the students to try to untie all the knots in their pipe cleaners. You may want to set a timer for a couple of minutes.

TALKING POINTS

- Was it hard to get the knots out of your pipe cleaner?
- Did anyone get them all out? If so, how did your pipe cleaner look when you were done?

- Do you think this pipe cleaner will work as well for crafts as a brand-new one?
- Today, we learned about Daniel. Because of the poverty he was born into, he doesn't have the same opportunities as children who live in other areas.
- This is called generational poverty. That means a child's parents grow up in poverty (poor conditions) and then raise their children in poverty as well.
- If Daniel is unable to get a good education, he won't be able to get a well-paying job. Without help, when Daniel grows up and has children, they may face the same struggles he does.
- What can you do to help break this cycle of poverty?

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 **"Daniel" prayer journal**.

Day 4: Layla (Zambia)

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise" slide**

Are you curious what job Frankie has on the cruise ship today? Have you enjoyed hearing more about the children he's met on his travels? I know I have.

Well, today is our fourth day raising money to provide meals for hungry kids! Can anyone tell me how much it costs to provide one meal? *Pause for participation.* Right! Just 25 cents can provide a meal! Can anyone tell me what else the family receives with those meals? *Pause for participation.* Yes! They can hear the gospel message.

It's time for Frankie to introduce us to another child.

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise—Layla" slide**

Layla is a girl from Zambia, a country in the southern part of Africa.

SHOW: **Video 4—Layla**

Country: Zambia

Problem: Extreme hunger

Sadly, Layla's story is not unique. There are many children in Zambia just like Layla. Over half of the people in Zambia struggle to have enough to eat! Can you imagine waking up in the morning and not knowing if you were going to eat at all that day?

When all you know is hunger, would it be hard to see the hope through all the darkness and struggle of living in extreme poverty? *Pause for participation.* Do you think that knowing about a loving Savior can bring hope and light into even the worst situation? *Pause for participation.* Layla's family was able to hear that message of hope thanks to the pastor of a nearby church who delivered meals to their home.

We have had a few days to raise money to provide meals for kids just like Layla. Are you ready to be blown away by how many meals we can provide so far? Pause for participation. I don't think you sound excited enough. Are you ready to find out how many meals we can provide? Pause for participation. That's better! In just three days, we can provide ___ meals! Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four. That's incredible!

SHOW: **Daily Count Day 4** slide with current meal count filled in.

The pastors that will be delivering these meals won't just bring food for families in need. These pastors and church volunteers will also share the hope of the gospel with them. But the week isn't over yet! We have one more day to collect 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: THE HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

1. Tape the **caterpillar head** on the board. Have the kids give the caterpillar a name and write it on the head segment.
2. Have the kids call out one of their favorite foods and write them on a **body segment** and tape it next to the head.
3. Keep going with more food suggestions and segments until the caterpillar is nice and long.
4. Ask the kids to think back to the child they learned about today—Layla—and ask them which items they think would NOT be available where Layla lives (it should be all of them).
5. Cross out the foods that would not be available to her (leave the caterpillar on the board).
6. Place the smaller caterpillar segments on the board and explain each:
 - » A major part of the national diet (what most people eat) in Zambia is maize meal (ground-up corn).
 - » Meat, fruits, vegetables, and legumes, like beans and peas, are eaten in small amounts.

TALKING POINTS

- What is the main difference that you notice between these two caterpillars?
- Do you think the caterpillar that didn't get as much food to eat will have the same future as the one who had all the food it wanted?
- While humans don't go through the changes that caterpillars do, there are some important things that are the same here.
- Malnutrition is when you don't get enough healthy food for your body. If this happens at a young age, it can have a lasting effect.
- Who can tell me some of the long-term effects of hunger?

Stunting: without proper nutrition, children are not able to grow properly. Children who are stunted are usually very short for their age.

Wasting: without sufficient food, the body grows weaker and weaker.

Proper nutrition supports brain development; without it, the brain does not develop as it should.

Poor immune system: higher likelihood of getting sick.

Hunger is more than just pain in your stomach. Lasting hunger can have effects for a lifetime.

- How can you help children like Layla get the food they need to avoid these complications?

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 **"Layla" prayer journal**.

Day 5: Marissa (United States)

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise"** slide

Every day this week, Frankie has introduced us to several boys and girls, all facing poverty in different ways and in different parts of the world. We've also learned this week that we can make a difference!

SHOW: **"The Good News Cruise—Marissa"** slide

The child we are going to meet today doesn't live in a small village in a faraway country. She actually lives right here in the United States.

SHOW: **Video 5—Marissa**

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. Does it surprise you to know that there are children in the United States who don't have enough food to eat? It's not always easy to see either. Marissa goes to school with children who don't have to worry about food. Her friends may not even know that she gets free meals from school.

The coins that you have been collecting all week can be used to provide meals for children like the ones you met this week, like Nadya in Ukraine, Panit in Thailand, Daniel in Mexico, Layla in Zambia, Marissa in the United States, and so many others.

Children's Hunger Fund partners with churches around the world who connect with families in need of food and 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 awesome?

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! Remember, one dollar can provide four meals. To calculate your VBS meal progress, multiply the dollars raised by four.

You guys have done an amazing job collecting coins to feed children in need. Because of you, more children and their families will learn about the love of Jesus.

Did you know that you can keep sending meals to children in need even after this week is over? You can keep making a difference for children around the world with Children's Hunger Fund. Ask your parents how you can continue to share meals and the love of Christ with children in poverty.

DO MISSION ACTIVITY: LOOKING FORWARD TO IT

1. Ask the students to tell you what they look forward to most about summer vacation.
2. As they mention one of the items in the summer activity images, tape it to the board.
3. If they mention something new, write it on the board.
4. Keep going until they are out of ideas and all the icons are on the board except "Hunger."
5. Without saying anything, tape the "Hunger" icon to the board.

TALKING POINTS

- Did anyone think of hunger as something they look forward to? No. Why not?

- No one looks forward to hunger, because hunger is your body's way of telling you it needs food. Hunger doesn't feel good.
- Can you see if someone is hungry? Can you look at the person next to you right now and tell if he or she is hungry?
- What are some things that happen when you are hungry? E.g., stomach hurts, headache, inability to concentrate
- When Marissa and her brothers aren't able to eat regular meals, it makes it really hard for them to stay focused at school. They are constantly tired and struggling to ignore the empty feeling in their bellies.
- It's not always easy to tell if someone is hungry though.
- There are many people right here in America who live in poverty, without enough food to eat. They may live in your neighborhood or go to your school.
- In what ways do suffering families in America need help? What can you do?

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 "**Marissa**" prayer journal.