The mission emphasis to your VBS program provides a unique opportunity for children to participate in giving to ministries that share the gospel. You can feature the Mission Moment during the assembly time or during one of the rotations.

This year, we’ve partnered with Children’s Hunger Fund (CHF) to provide food and the hope of the gospel to children facing food insecurity in the US and across the globe. *Forged in Hope* is a powerful addition to your VBS program. Your kids will explore five different countries and learn how they can make a difference for children living in poverty around the world.

As your students explore Nepal, Kenya, Albania, Honduras, and the US, they’ll hear the stories of boys and girls whose lives have been touched by poverty. These children have no guarantee of meals, shelter, or an education. They need help. And they need the hope that only comes from salvation in Jesus Christ.

The good news is you and your kids have the power to make a difference!

The Bible says that giving generously to the poor is really giving generously to God Himself (Proverbs 19:17). Teach your VBS class the great joy that comes from sacrificing for the sake of Jesus and His gospel.

**Forged in Hope!**

During the Mission Moment, your group will meet Agnes, an enthusiastic—if slightly clumsy—apprentice blacksmith who has a heart for children in need. As she helps her kingdom prepare for the upcoming battle, Agnes will share what she’s learned about standing strong in God’s truth. Every day, she’ll introduce you to a child in another part of the world who needs your help.

Your mission is to collect coins to fill Children’s Hunger Fund Coin Paks and help provide meals for children in need, just like the ones Agnes introduces throughout the week.

When your VBS children earn coins for their Coin Paks, they make it possible for Children’s Hunger Fund to fill Food Paks. A Children’s Hunger Fund Food Pak is a box of nutritious food that can meet a family’s need for food. In a Food Pak, just 25¢ can send one meal!

The Food Paks are provided to partner churches in the US and around the world who deliver them to homes of families in need. Along with food delivery, relationships are built and the gospel is shared.

**The following items are available on the Resource USB or for download from www.answersingenesis.org/vbs/missions**

* Daily videos
* Daily scripts and activities
* Child Profile Slides — Daily profiles of the children your VBS students will meet. These informative prayer briefings will help your kids connect with the real needs of suffering children.
* Printable Prayer Journals for the five children introduced in the daily videos
* Printable “Map of the World” activity sheet, featuring locations of the children from the daily stories
* Printable banner artwork
* PowerPoint images to help your kids track their fundraising progress
* Printable fold-up Coin Pak bank for collecting coins
* Donation Submission Form to accompany your donation to CHF at the end of your VBS program

**Available for Purchase**

Included in your starter kit is a sturdy, pop-up *Coin Pak* bank made for your kids to use as they collect quarters for meals. After VBS, these will be fun souvenirs that can be kept as reminders to always care for the needs of others. Coin Paks are available for purchase from Children’s Hunger Fund (order info below).

**To order Coin Paks, please visit ChildrensHungerFund.org/AnswersVBS.** To place an order over the phone, call Children’s Hunger Fund at 800-708-7589.

For questions regarding your Mission Moment resources, please call 800-708-7589 or email VBS@ChildrensHungerFund.org.

Orders must be received 14 days prior to your VBS date.

**Collecting Donations**

Give every child their own Coin Pak or coin bank for collecting donations. Once you’ve totaled your donations, please make out a check to Children’s Hunger Fund and indicate “*Forged in Hope*” in the memo area to ensure proper recognition. Complete the Donation Submission Form (found on the Resource USB or at answersingenesis.org/vbs/missions). Mail check and Donation Submission Form to:

Children’s Hunger Fund  
Attn: Forged in Hope

DEPT LA 24373  
Pasadena, CA 91185-4373

**Learn more about the gospel-centered mercy ministry of Children’s Hunger Fund at ChildrensHungerFund.org.**

**Tracking Your Progress**

To keep building excitement, announce each day how many meals the coins your students collect can provide.

Here are a few fun ways to help your kids see their progress as they fundraise:

1. Make your own goal tracker and update it throughout the week. Create or print an empty thermometer and put five equally-spaced marks on it. Each day, fill in the thermometer up to the next mark and write the total number of meals that can be provided so far on the corresponding line.
2. Show your progress with *Forged in Hope* PowerPoint slides. Update the slides with the total number of meals that can be provided each day.
3. Consider having a contest between different teams to see which group can bring in the most money. (Printable artwork and PowerPoint slides for your own goal tracker are on the Resource USB.)

NOTE – COUNTING COINS: It may be helpful to recruit two or three adult volunteers to count and/or roll the coins at the end of each day. Some banks provide a coin counting service, but they may require several days to do so. Check ahead with your local bank.

**Activities**

If you’d like to go a step further to illustrate to your kids the struggles faced by those in need, there are special activities for each day to go along with your Mission Moment program. These activities include talking points for you and your kids to discuss the issues presented and gain a deeper understanding of what it’s like to struggle with poverty.

The activities can be conducted at the end of each Mission Moment. An explanation of the daily activities can be found in this guide or on yourResource USB.

**Daily Scripts and Handouts**

Scripts and handouts for each day are available in the assembly guide or on your Resource USB. Special videos to highlight children in need during your Mission Moment, along with all printable resources, can be found on your Resource USB.