1. Workers in God's Harvest

"³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

- Matthew 9:35-38

- 1. Read these verses together, especially verses 37-38.
- 2. Explain the metaphor Jesus uses using the pictures provided.
 - a. The harvest is the world, people who need to hear about Jesus. There are many people all over the world who don't know Jesus yet! God wants all of them to hear the Gospel and believe that Jesus is their Savior so they can be His children, too.
 - b. Workers are all Christians who tell others about Jesus. This includes pastors and teachers - but it also includes you and me. Jesus says the workers are few. This means it's really important for us to tell other people about Jesus and to pray for God to send more people to tell others.
 - c. God is the Lord of this harvest. The whole world belongs to Him, and He is the one who can give people faith to believe in Jesus. All of this work is really His work. He chooses to let us help!
- 3. Show pictures and share the stories of some of the people MCN mission partners are reaching with the Gospel. Help make this idea of "the harvest" real to the kids!
 - a. Sam, Maria, and Ashley teach children in Cambodia about Jesus. Many of these children believe in other gods and have never heard about Jesus. These missionaries tell them that God loves them like a Father, that God is always with them, and that Jesus loved them enough to die and rise again for them.
 - b. Clara and Anastasia teach high school students in Slovakia about Jesus. Many of their students were baptized as children and have gone to church before, but they don't really know or believe in Jesus. Maybe they think the Bible is just made up stories or Christianity is only for old people, like their grandparents. Clara and Anastasia tell them how Jesus is real and living and wants a relationship with them right now!
 - c. Sarah teaches children in Taiwan about Jesus. Many of her students believe in other gods or don't believe in any god at all. Most of them have never heard anything about Jesus. Some of them think that Jesus is just a god for Americans. Sarah tells them about how Jesus died and rose again for them and that He is the God of every country and the Savior of the whole world.

- 4. Give them a picture of a piece of wheat to write a name on.
 - a. Who do you know who doesn't know Jesus? You can be praying for them and telling them about Jesus because you are a worker in God's harvest, too!
 - b. If they can't think of someone they know personally, encourage them to pray for some of the students mentioned in the previous stories.

***All images included in service PPT and attached below for printing.





The Harvest



The Workers

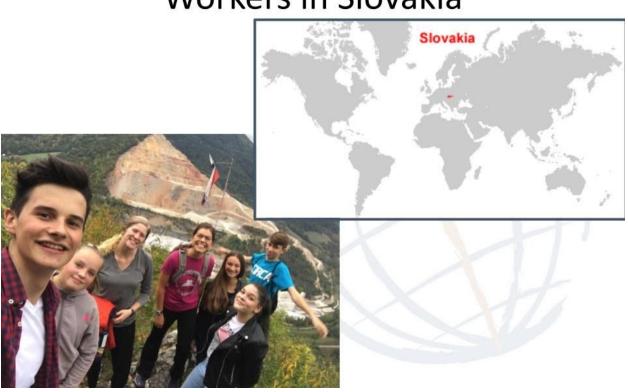
The Lord of the Harvest



Sam, Maria and Ashley Workers in Cambodia



Clara and Anastasia Workers in Slovakia



Sarah Worker in Taiwan









2. Lost Children

"³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

- Matthew 9:35-38

- 1. Read these verses together, especially verse 36. Explain that when Jesus said the people were "like sheep without a shepherd" this means lost. He saw people all around Him who were lost.
- 2. Ask if any of the kids have been lost before. Share a personal story about getting lost yourself or about one of your children getting lost.
- 3. The Bible says God created all people to be His children and He loves all of them very much. But many people in the world don't know God the Father. They are like lost children.
- 4. What would your parents do if you were lost? (Let the children give ideas) They would look everywhere! They would ask everyone to help them look! They wouldn't stop until they found you again!
 - a. This is what God is like. He is always looking for his lost children and He asks us to help. He wants everyone in the world to know Him and be His children.
- 5. Our Bible verse today tells us to "ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field." This means we can pray and ask God to send lots of people to help find his lost children, not just in the US but all over the world!
 - i. Who are some of these workers? (Let them give examples from their church and life encourage them to include themselves!)
 - ii. Some of these workers even go to far away countries to tell people about Jesus! We can pray for them and pray that God would send more and more people to go tell lost children about their Father who loves them so much.
 - iii. Give them a card with a picture and name to pray for one of MCN's mission partners. Encourage them to pray for these mission partners, for the lost children that they are telling about Jesus, and for more Christians to tell others about Jesus, too!



^{**}Printable picture cards below.



Adam Mission Partner Central Europe



Melissa (Karges) Asmamaw Mission Partner Ethiopia



Zach Barz Mission Partner Costa Rica



Sarah Berta-Somogyi Mission Partner Hungary



Hannah Brown Mission Partner Senegal



AJ Davis Mission Partner Slovakia



Tim & Diane Esala Mission Partner Cambodia



Adam Mission Partner Central Asia



Amanda Groshek Mission Partner Ukraine



Hannah Hester Mission Partner Taiwan



Brandon and Lynnea Holmes Mission Partner Phillippines



Greg Holz Mission Partner Cambodia.



Sarah Huhn Mission Partner Taiwan



Olivia Hunt Mission Partner Taiwan



Ethan & Amanda Hutton Mission Partner Costa Rica



Ashley Johnson Mission Partner Cambodia



Haragewen Abraham Kinde Mission Partner

Ethiopia



Josh & Coco Mission Partner Asia



Fungchatou & Kalia Lo Mission Partner Thailand



Rich and Miriam Mission Partner Hong Kong



Clara Rich Mission Partner Slovakia



Anastasia Rosnau Mission Partner Slovakia



Maria Sasieta Mission Partner Cambodia



Iantha Scheiwe Mission Partner Hong Kong



Angie Steinbacher Mission Partner Asia



Nathan and Beth Toenjes Mission Partner

Asia



Samantha Welch Mission Partner Cambodia



Lyman and Ruth Stone
Mission Partner
Canada