



# MISSION #2 NICARAGUA: EDUCATION

## RESOURCES & SET UP

- Bibles & Bible Study sheets
- Mission 2 Digital Travel Guide
- Large dry-erase board and markers (or flip-chart paper and markers)
- Story Lab cards (one per person)
- Pens or pencils
- Mobile devices to video record stories (optional)

## GET STARTED!

### Prayer

*Lead or ask one of your team members to lead your group in prayer:*

God of Wisdom, gather us together to learn from one another and from your children around the world. Open our ears to hear the stories of how we learn from one another and how your world grows from that. Thank you for the mission of sharing with others that which has first been shared with us. AMEN.

### Goal Check-in

Have your Goal Coach lead a check in with the team on the fundraising goal. Are there any questions about your goal, your outreach strategy and the online giving platform? Review the next steps in your plan.

## WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Lead your team in an exploration of what you saw and experienced through social media leading up to your mission.

- Where did you see need?
- Where did you see hope?
- Where did you see God at work?

Introduce your team to the video which will introduce you to farmers in Nicaragua.



*Play the "Knowledge is Power" video*



## WHAT IS GOING ON?

### Introduction

Begin by asking your team what they typically think about when they think about improving education around the world. Most will focus on education of children. Share with them that Lutherans did send over 46 thousand School Kits to children in Nicaragua in 2017. Learning does not stop there.

[▶ Play Education Explainer Video](#)

### Story Lab

#### Objective

Participants will recall a personal experience with learning to connect with the mission of providing opportunities for farmers in Nicaragua to learn new valuable skills.

#### Set up

1. Have team members pair up with one another. Provide each person with a Story Lab card. If you chose to have partners record each other, make sure they have the technology they need. You can later upload the recorded stories on your Project Bridge Giving Page.

#### Instructions

2. Take five minutes on your own to think through a skill, lesson or new way of seeing the world you have learned that **changed your life** and the person who helped you learn this. Use the back of your Story Lab to write down any notes you want to remember.
3. Take turns telling each other your story of what you learned that **changed your life** and the person who helped you learn. Follow the instructions on your Story Lab card.

#### Processing

After all pairs have finished sharing their stories bring them back together to process the experience with the following questions:

- What did we just do?
- How did we do it?
- Capture responses to this question on dry erase or flip chart paper. Raise your hand if your story was related to any of these categories:
  - Career or earning money
  - Survival or safety
  - Sports or athleticism
  - The arts
  - People
  - Anything else?
- What emotions did you hear people describe?
- In what way did learning change lives? Or change how you see people or the world?
- Did anyone have to pay for learning? If it was free, could you put a value on it?



Tell your team that you are going to take a slight detour in your travels, north of Nicaragua to Honduras, to see how women and men are learning together for the sake of their communities. Show the video featuring women and men working together in Honduras.

Discuss with your team using the following questions.

- How was learning communication or delivery adapted to the situation?
- How did learning traditionally gender-specific tasks lead to empowerment?
- How were families changed, beyond the skills themselves?
- Look at our lists: What do we have in common with the men and women we met in Honduras? [Circle or star those words on the lists.]
- How does learning change the way we see others? Ourselves?

## **WHY ARE WE CALLED? – BIBLE STUDY**

Send your team off into small groups of no fewer than three and no more than five with the self-guided Bible study sheets. Make sure to give them a time limit. As time comes to an end, circulate amongst the groups to let them know when they should return to Mission Central.

## **WHERE ARE WE HEADED NEXT?**

### **Process & Preview**

Gather your team back together at Mission Central. Process your experience with the following questions:

- In scripture we encountered today that everything we have and all that we are belongs to God. How does that call us to live as followers of Jesus when we see opportunities to share our skills and belongings with those in need in God's world?
- What did you experience today that you want to take back to our community?
- What did you experience today that you want to ask more questions about?

Have your Goal Coach lead a check in with the team on the fundraising goal. Are there any questions about your goal, your outreach strategy and the online giving platform? Review the next steps in your plan.

### **Preview Next Mission**

Share the reveal of your next mission found in your Digital Travel Guide.

### **Closing Prayer**

Lead or ask one of your team members to lead your group in prayer:

**Jesus, thank you for the opportunity to gather together for mission. Bless our endeavors as we go out from this place and bring us back together to explore with our partners in India how we can bring bread to the world. AMEN.**



## MISSION #2

# BIBLE STUDY

### Genesis 2:4-17; Psalm 24:1-2

#### Key Verse

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. (Psalm 24:1)

#### Main Idea

Everything that you have and all that you are belongs to God, and we have the sacred responsibility to use all things for God's purposes to bless the whole world.

#### Opening Prayer

God, Creator of everything, you have given us our very selves, the things we have in our possession and even every moment of every day. We pray that we will always see these things as your gifts and use them in a way that pleases you. Bless us in this time of study. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

#### Created to Work

*Read Genesis 2:4-17*

- 1) We are created to work in God's world. We are like managers, and God is the owner. Do you treat something that you are borrowing from another person similarly or differently than something you own? Why?
- 2) If we are all managers (or stewards) of God's world together, how does this affect how we should act and treat everything in the world around us?
- 3) But it is not all work! God gives the human permission to enjoy the garden as well. How can we enjoy God's good creation at the same time we are being good stewards?



## MISSION #2

# BIBLE STUDY

### Genesis 2:4-17; Psalm 24:1-2

#### The Earth is the LORD's

*Read Psalm 24:1-2*

- 1) These verses make it clear that everyone and everything in this world belongs to God, the King of creation. We are stewards of the gifts that God has given us. How does God expect us to use the skills, possessions, money, time, and energy that God has given us?
- 2) How can you use the gifts you have been given in your life to care for others?
- 3) In the last mission, we explored the idea that everyone was made in the image of God and how that idea should affect how we treat everyone we encounter. This mission, we are exploring being good stewards of the gifts God has given us. How can we put these two ideas together to inform how we should treat other people?

#### Closing Prayer

*In the following prayer, please name aloud or silently at least one way you can be a better steward for the sake of others.*

Lord of all creation, thank you for giving us all the amazing gifts in this world: ourselves, our relationships, our time and our possessions. We ask for your help and guidance so that we may be good stewards of these gifts, especially... We pray all these things in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### Share a Blessing

Taking turns, give the following blessing to the person on your left while tracing the sign of the cross on their forehead or hand, with their permission:

*You have been blessed by God. Go and bless others.*



# STORY LAB CARD

The person whose birthday is closest to today picks the role they want first. Use the timer on a phone.

**STORYTELLER:** Talk for five uninterrupted minutes about a skill you learned that changed your life and the person who taught you. (Variation: Film each other on phones telling the stories.)

**LISTENER:** When the storyteller is finished, give specific appreciation for aspects of the story you just heard, such as:

- Figuring out the skill in a way that worked for them
- The person who taught or encouraged them
- Why the skill makes them feel unique or proud
- How learning the skill forged unexpected relationships or gave new insight into people they thought were different
- The way the storyteller talked about the skill

**SWITCH ROLES, REPEAT.**



# STORY LAB CARD

The person whose birthday is closest to today picks the role they want first. Use the timer on a phone.

**STORYTELLER:** Talk for five uninterrupted minutes about a skill you learned that changed your life and the person who taught you. (Variation: Film each other on phones telling the stories.)

**LISTENER:** When the storyteller is finished, give specific appreciation for aspects of the story you just heard, such as:

- Figuring out the skill in a way that worked for them
- The person who taught or encouraged them
- Why the skill makes them feel unique or proud
- How learning the skill forged unexpected relationships or gave new insight into people they thought were different
- The way the storyteller talked about the skill

**SWITCH ROLES, REPEAT.**