

Series: Born to GO

Lesson 2: Mission. There

Lesson Objectives:

As a result of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Dialogue with a missionary who has served in another country and hear about the country/culture in which he or she served.
- Brainstorm possibilities for mission trips in other countries
- Engage in an immediate action to support foreign mission

Materials Needed:

- ☐ World map or globe
- ☐ Board and markers
- ☐ Blank cards, envelopes, stamps
- ☐ Mailing addresses of missionaries that your church is connected with. For CBM field personnel check www.cbmin.org.
- ☐ Guardians of Hope DVD (HIV/AIDS program in Angola, Kenya and Rwanda) (Note: *This can be obtained through CBM at www.cbmin.org.*)

Preparation:

Early preparation is a must for this lesson. It is essential that you have a connection with a foreign missionary for this lesson. However, this person might be right under your nose in your church. Typically, your pastor or youth pastor or someone in your church has been on an international mission trip. This person qualifies as a foreign missionary. If

you have access to someone who has actually served long-term, overseas, use them! If not, find someone in your church or in a neighbouring church who has served on a mission trip or as a missionary on foreign soil.

This lesson will be more of a mission presentation than work session for your students. Arrange your room in a circle allowing a speaker to be positioned by a board or front of room setup.

Lead In:

Include your visitor in this Lead In. Introduce him or her to the students. Ask everyone in the group to think of place that they would like to travel to if they could just hop on a plane today; money, time, safety, family and so on are not obstacles in this imaginary lead in. Do not have students reveal their destinations. Then ask them to identify what they would bring home from that destination. Have the students share their answer to this second question and have the first group guess where they wanted to go. For example, Ryan decided to go to Jamaica on his imaginary trip and he wants to bring back a little bottle of white sand. Ryan discloses that he wants to bring back a little bottle of white sand and the rest of the group guesses where Ryan wants to go on his trip. Florida? The Dominican Republic? And so on until they guess Jamaica. If the size of your group permits, allow students to share why they chose that location. As students arrive, have them answer the following questions that you have written on the board:

At the end, ask your visitor, *Did you ever believe as a teenager that you would go to _____ and serve God by serving others?*

Part One:

Invite the missionary to tell his or her story. Ask the students to listen carefully and be prepared with at least one question for the guest. Encourage the missionary to cover the following issues. If he or she can bring pictures or objects, encourage that too.

- ☐ The geographic placement of the country in which he or she served (use map or globe)
- ☐ The general well-being of the people (health, nutrition, socio-economic setting)
- ☐ The nature of his or her service and activity (construction, education, evangelism, health/wellness)

- ☐ The cultural barriers that he or she had to overcome in order to serve there
- ☐ The mission they worked toward

When your guest is finished speaking, allow students to ask some of their questions.

Part Two:

Select a student who will act as a scribe at the board as you discuss the possibility of going on a mission trip. Include your guest in this discussion. Brainstorm possibilities: organizations to go with, individuals with connections, areas of passion for your group, places your church is committed to or has been before. Research some of these in advance so that you can guide the conversation. Here are some questions to consider and brainstorm on the board:

- ☐ Where will we go?
- ☐ What will we do?
- ☐ How much it will cost?
- ☐ Who will go?
- ☐ What can those who can't go do to make an impact?

Conclude this discussion by assessing a course forward. Are any of these plans viable? If so, who will check them out?

Part Three:

Transition by saying something like, *A mission trip like the ones we are talking about takes quite a bit of preparation. However, there are ways that you can immediately begin impacting overseas service. Let's brainstorm some of those now.*

Have the same scribe or a new one record options on the board. Some might include sponsoring a child, giving to the Sharing Way, sending cards for missionaries and their families, hosting a fundraiser for a particular mission or cause, and so on.

We suggest you close Part Three by giving your students the chance to do something tangible for overseas mission. Bring in cards that they can decorate and write and send to missionaries that your church is connected to. Tell the students about the missionaries. Allow your guest to give guidance—what kind of letter is the best to receive? Gather the letters, address and stamp them, and mail them as soon as you can. If you receive any word back (which won't necessarily happen), make sure to share it with your students.

Closing:

In conclusion, invite a student to pray for the needs of those serving around the world.