

leader background information

JOIN US FOR A **chain reaction** as Kentucky Baptists observe the Season of Prayer for State Missions during September. The suggested date is September 11-18, 2011 and the **Eliza Broadus Offering** Goal is \$1,250,000. This offering will be used to support a variety of ministries throughout Kentucky. Church planting, language and deaf ministries, evangelism, campus ministries, disaster relief, missions education activities and missions camps all benefit from the **Eliza Broadus Offering**.

Much in life comes as the result of a chain reaction, perhaps one unknown to us. This youth teaching plan builds on the **Chain Reaction** theme to lead youth to think about what they can do to start a chain reaction in state missions and sharing the gospel. This plan is designed to be taught in one session during a churchwide mission study, during a regular missions group meeting time, or other youth activity.

Note: The 2011 State Missions DVD and Master Article contain helpful background material for the leader. Additional ministries are included on both the DVD and in the Master Article. The video segments are also available as .mpg files and may be copied to a computer and played Windows Media Player. See the 2011 Planning Guide or go to: www.kywmu.org/ebo.



preparation

- Read the Master Article.
- Review the DVD especially the Hispanic segment and the Start a **Chain Reaction** segment.
- Have access to a DVD player and TV or a laptop for viewing the video.
- Gather dominoes, enough for 10-15 per person or select a YouTube video of falling dominoes and be prepared to play it.

during the session

1. Give everyone 10-15 dominoes. Ask the group to place them in a line or pattern so they can be knocked over later. If you have a small group, you may want to give each person more dominoes. If possible, have them place the dominoes in an area where everyone can see them throughout the lesson and be tempted to topple them. If you happen to have a lot of dominoes, you can build in time to add to the line or pattern throughout the lesson.
2. If you do not have access to a large amount of dominoes for this purpose, you can find many excellent examples of dominoes falling on YouTube. There is not a suggested video from YouTube because there are so many interesting ones that it is hard to select one that is the best.
3. Following the set-up of the dominoes or the viewing of the video, have a discussion on the process. Ask the students to explain what it takes to have an effective domino cascade. It takes planning in order for the dominoes to fall in a pattern. It takes team work if you are going to have a display of any size. It takes precision to place the dominoes in the right location to fall later and not fall beforehand. It takes patience as you work towards the goal; it simply cannot be rushed. Finally, you have to be willing to work; there's a lot of effort that goes into cleaning everything up afterwards.
4. Ask the students to explain how this relates to missions. A lot of what we do as Christians in missions work is like lining up dominoes. Before we have an event or go on a mission trip, a lot of planning must take place. We have to work as a team if we are doing a project of any size. We need to work with precision and do the project with excellence, so that there are few surprises and those we minister to see that we have carefully thought about it. You must work toward the goal of seeing others come to Christ patiently. And you must be prepared to follow-up afterwards. There is almost as much work to be done after the event as before if you want to water the seeds that have been planted.
5. State that this year's state missions emphasis theme is **Chain Reaction**. It follows chain reactions in ministry to Spanish speakers, church and community ministries and **Find it Here**. The hope is that it will inspire others to start a chain reaction of ministry in their community. There are examples given in the video and master article to inspire you and your youth.
6. This lesson will focus on "**Hope: Find it Here 2012**." Building on successful evangelistic campaigns of 2010 and 2011, Kentucky Baptists will host attractational evangelistic events in 2012.

during the session

7. State that it is fitting that the theme for the 2012 **"Find it Here"** campaign is hope. Perhaps the reason for the theme is that so many people around us are without hope. Ask students, *"If you hear the phrase, 'It's hopeless' what do you think of? What are some situations that are hopeless?"*
8. Next, ask students to explain how it feels when you think a situation is hopeless.
9. Say: *A person may feel lonely, dark, like there is nowhere to turn, etc. Even as Christians, we can feel this way from time to time. Those without a relationship with Christ are truly hopeless. Not only do they not have the hope of heaven, they cannot live the life they were meant to live on earth. Jesus said in John 10:10 that He came to give us life to the full.*
10. Say: *As believers we need to be ready to share the Hope that we have.* Ask students to turn to I Peter 3:15-16 and read the scripture. "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander" (NIV 1984).
11. Examine the verses with the students. Ask: *"In order to be asked about the hope that we have, how do we need to behave?"* After their responses, say: *We need to act as if we truly have hope. Our lives are to be different.* Ask students to describe what someone whose life is filled with hope.
12. Say: *When we invite others to "Find it Here" we offer them hope. This hope can begin a chain reaction.*
13. Watch the Hispanic ministry segment of the 2011 state missions DVD. This is an example of a chain reaction that can occur when we share Hope with others.
14. After watching the video, ask students to describe what they saw. If they are like many, they might not have imagined that a ministry among Hispanics in Kentucky began with an Anglo woman from a small town. They may have assumed it began with a retired missionary to South America or a Hispanic man.
15. Review the way in which the chain reaction grew.
16. Tell students that with the **"Hope: Find it Here"** campaign, they will have the opportunity to start their own chain reaction through attractational events.
17. Watch the **"Start a Chain Reaction"** portion of the video.
18. Briefly discuss the attractational events that were used by the churches in the video and in the Master Article.
19. In the Master Article, an attractational event is described as a relational bridge to the community that gives an opportunity to reach lost people for Christ. It needs to have an intentional plan to present the gospel by a speaker and believers should be equipped to share a Bible-based presentation.
20. The **"Hope: Find it Here"** campaign offers associations and churches two options for timetables for carrying out attractational events: February 1-April 30, 2012 and/or August 1-October 2012.
21. Ask students to come up with examples of attractational events that your church could host. You can use the list in the Master Article to start the discussion.
22. Divide the students into groups of no more than five. Each group is to come up with an idea for an attractational event that your church could host, preferably one which the youth could take the lead in implementing. If possible, encourage the students to develop an attractational event idea for reaching out to other students. For example, a group of teenage girls at one church in Lexington is planning "Project Prom" to help girls who don't have the money to shop for a prom dress and accessories. They are collecting gently used dresses, shoes, purses and jewelry for a day in the early spring in which girls will come to the church and "go shopping".
23. The groups should spend about 10 minutes coming up with the idea and creating "plans" to implement it. For example, if the group is discussing the car care days idea, they would need to think of mechanics who could help, parts stores to contact, publicity for the day, how to raise money for materials, etc. The groups should dream but in a very practical manner. How do they envision the event unfolding? What needs to happen before the event? How will they follow up?
24. If you have more than one group, have the groups share their ideas.
25. Decide as a group if you will follow through with one of the ideas which were developed and begin to make plans to participate in **"Hope. Find it Here 2012"**.
26. Call attention to the **Eliza Broadus Offering** for State Missions. Explain that the offering helps support a variety of ministries across Kentucky to share Christ with the lost. Provide copies of the Prayer Guide and point out the offering information. Encourage youth to start a chain reaction through praying and giving.
27. If the dominoes you set up at the beginning are still standing, knock them over. Tell the students that you hope that just as these dominoes have fallen tonight in your group, you hope a chain reaction will begin with this meeting.
28. Close in prayer.