



Rise Up and Shine 2017 Children's Sermon

Prepared by Joy Bolton

Materials needed:

- Rise Up and Shine Prayer guide (one for each child)
- Eliza Broadus Offering® envelope (one for each child)
- Map of the world
- Canned or packaged food items. (Choose some with pictures of what it inside and some that do not have pictures.)

Ask children if they know of anyone at their school or in the neighborhood that came to Kentucky from another country. Find that country on the world map.

Ask children: how did you know that your school friend was from another country? (Teacher told the class, he or she dressed differently, could not speak English, sounded different, etc.)

When someone is new, what can we do to welcome the new friend? (Share, play with them, invite them to sit with us on the bus or in the lunch room, invite them to church, etc.)

Think about what it would be like for you to move to another country where the people speak a different language. What would it be like to go to the grocery store and you could not read the product labels? Hold up several canned food items (with pictures). If you could not read the label, how might you know what is inside? (by the pictures).

Hold up items without pictures. If you could not read the label because it was in a different language, how would you know what was inside?

Say: A ministry that helps people who have come to Kentucky from other countries is called Friendship International. Can you imagine selling almost all of your possessions and moving nearly halfway around the world? That was the experience of a student from an Eastern European country where the government does not believe in God. After being approved to come to the United States, the family made plans to leave their country and chose to live in Paducah. They quickly found their way to Friendship International sponsored by West Union Baptist Association where they could study English as a Second Language. The father was surprised to receive a Bible! It was in his native language and in English. This family is now attending a church near their home as they experience their new culture.

Say: This month in Kentucky we are observing the Season of Prayer for State Missions. Our theme is Rise Up and Shine. (Show theme side of Rise Up and Shine prayer guide.) The theme

was taken from Isaiah 60:1-3 which reminds us that we are to rise up and let God's light shine through us.

Read:

Rise up and shine, for your light has come. The shining greatness of the Lord has risen upon you. For see, darkness will cover the earth. Much darkness will cover the people. But the Lord will rise upon you, and His shining greatness will be seen upon you. Nations will come to your light and kings will see the shining greatness of the Lord on you (Isaiah 60:1-3 NIV).

When we believe in Jesus, He lives in our hearts and helps us share His love with others. We rise up and shine when we are kind to new people, when we share, when we invite them to play, when we sit with them, etc. There are people from many nations of the world that have come to Kentucky. Some go to college. Some have jobs. Some are here with their parents. Some have come from countries that are at war and they want to live in peace. There are many reasons that they have come to Kentucky. You may not know anyone right now from another country, but one day you will meet someone. Right now decide that you will rise up and shine for Jesus by being kind and becoming their friend. Think about what you can do to help new people feel welcome, learn to speak English, and come to church.

Give each child a Rise Up and Shine prayer guide and Eliza Broadus Offering envelope. Say: The most important thing that each of us can do for Kentucky missions is to pray. This prayer guide has a prayer request for each day of the week. You can pray for Kentucky missions with your family. Giving is also an important way that we support Kentucky Missions. The Eliza Broadus Offering supports missions in Kentucky and provided the Bible in our story. Eliza Broadus lived a long time ago and she helped to start our annual offering for state missions. We remember her work for Kentucky missions when we give. (Show picture of Eliza Broadus.)

Close in prayer for internationals living in Kentucky, for Kentucky missionaries and ministries, and for the Eliza Broadus Offering.

Missions for Children

As a leader of children in your church, you can teach them to "Rise Up and Shine" through Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors, and Children in Action. These missions organizations:

- Help children apply the Bible to their lives
- Teach children what God desires of them and are encouraged to live out the Great Commission
- Teach children the importance of tithing and giving to support missions
- Teach children how God is at work in the world through missions stories
- Teach children how to pray and intercede for others

For help in starting missions education for children, contact Kentucky WMU:

- Stacy Nall, Preschool/Children's Consultant
- Jon Auten, Royal Ambassadors Consultant

Kentucky WMU sponsors a number of missions events and activities for children throughout the year. Learn more: kywmu.org/children.



Eliza Broadus