

2022 ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING FOR STATE MISSIONS

EBO MISSION STUDY FOR CHILDREN

Written by Stacy Nall
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*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”
Luke 4:18-19*

SESSION GOALS

Children will learn that Jesus is concerned for those who suffer. They will learn about the Afghan Relief Effort and discover ways they can minister to refugees.

BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

Last year, churches of the Louisville Regional Baptist Association (LRBA) worked together to serve Afghan refugees through food distribution and becoming welcoming teams for the families that arrived over the early months or resettlement. This was primarily in partnership with Walnut Street Baptist Church and the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Mobilization team. Eliza Broadus Offering® dollars were used to prepare welcome baskets for the Afghan families. This allowed them to initially stock up their homes and get a few extras that made their new home feel more comfortable. That portion of the work has come to a close for now. Food insecurity issues were met for several months. During that time 235 individuals and 52 households were served.

Many of those families still have teams from churches serving them and building relationships. Some of those teams came through Refuge International and others were LRBA churches that connected. Several churches built relationships through the food distribution and have continued to serve the families.

Housing for these families was coordinated by the Resettlement agencies (Catholic Charities and Kentucky Refugee Ministries). Afghan children are enrolled in Jefferson County Public Schools.

Todd Robertson, Network Mission Strategist for LRBA says, “A remarkable part of this process has been that God has brought about 22 Afghan Christians to Louisville and we are now working with leaders to help them find a place to gather for worship and fellowship. Most have been attending LRBA churches but would like to begin worshipping together. We are prayerfully seeking the Lord on their behalf for what might come of these steps. The testimonies of these

believers and the persecution and certain abuse they escaped is harrowing and a remarkable evidence of the grace of God in their lives. This is a huge point of prayer. We are also praying that through these Afghan believers and their partnership with American believers that many Afghans would come to Christ and become disciples joining in worship.”

Todd requested prayer for:

- relationships of trust to grow
- seekers to ask and find answers
- basic needs of life, jobs, and language learning to progress for all the families

SESSION PREPARATION

1. Provide small pebbles for opening game.
2. Provide Bibles.
3. Download or cue the “[Afghan Relief Effort](http://kywmu.org/ebomedia)” from kywmu.org/ebomedia.
4. OPTIONAL: Provide one or more of the following snacks: green tea, dried fruit, raisins, pistachios, almonds, and walnuts. **Check food allergies before serving.**
5. Provide colored paper, pencils or markers, and scissors.
6. Print “Be a Friend” cards from kywmu.org/eboresources. Cut cards apart. Provide a map of Kentucky and a world map.
7. OPTIONAL: Prepare a Welcome Basket for a church or agency involved in refugee ministry. Print “Welcome Baskets” from kywmu.org/eboresources for a suggested list of supplies and resettlement locations. Provide notecards, pencils, and markers for letters.

OPENING ACTIVITY (5-10 minutes)

Lead children to play the following games played in Afghanistan.

1. **Oqaab** (o-qaab): Determine a home base. One child is chosen to be the eagle (oqaab). The other kids are the pigeons. The eagle tries to capture (tag) all the pigeons before they make it to a base. Game continues until all pigeons are captured. The kid who is the last to be captured is the next eagle.
2. **Sangchil baazi (sang-chil-baa-zee)**: Players toss a small pebble (sangchil) into the air, grab another pebble from the ground and catch the pebble tossed into the air. Players continue tossing a pebble in the air, picking up two pebbles at a time, then three pebbles and so on.

Say: *Are either of these games familiar to you? These are games kids play in Afghanistan. Kids all over the world play games like the games you play here. Recently, kids from Afghanistan and their families had to resettle in Louisville, Kentucky because their country was unsafe. They were afraid of persecution. Persecution is mistreatment due to a person’s race or religion. **

SESSION PLANS (40-45 min.)

1. Lead children to find Luke 4:14-16 in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read verses 14-16. Explain that a scroll was something people in Jesus' day used to read scripture. We read a Bible.
2. Ask another volunteer to read Luke 4:17-19. **Ask:** *What did God want Jesus to do?* (Proclaim good news to the poor, proclaim freedom for the prisoners, heal the blind, set the oppressed free, and proclaim the year of the Lord's favor or freedom from sin and death) Read Luke 4:20-21.
3. Write "oppressed" on a white board or piece of paper. **Ask:** *What do you think the word "oppressed" means?* (Cruel or unjust treatment) **Say:** *Jesus cares for oppressed people like the people from Afghanistan.*
4. **Say:** *Churches in Louisville, Kentucky helped to resettle Afghan refugees. Community Minister Brad Willis of Walnut Street Baptist Church helped to organize welcome baskets for families from Afghanistan. Show the Eliza Broadus State Missions® Video, "[Afghan Relief Effort.](#)"*
5. **Ask:** *What is the Eliza Broadus Offering®? How did it help Afghan refugees?*
6. Offer one or more of the following Afghan snacks (optional): green tea, dried fruit, raisins, pistachios, almonds, and walnuts. **(Check food allergies.) Say:** *These are favorite snacks in Afghanistan.*

As kids enjoy their snacks, lead them to trace their hands onto paper and cut them out. Write the following words on a chart or whiteboard in this order:

1. Food
2. Family
3. Friends
4. Fun
5. Faith

Say: *Missionaries often use these topics as they are making friends. They may not talk about each topic the first time they meet someone. Everyone has an answer for each topic. Copy the words on your paper fingers, beginning with "Food." On the back of your hand, write what you would say about each topic. For example, on the back of the "Food" finger, you might write "Pizza."*

After children have finished writing, **say:** *You could use the topics on your paper fingers to introduce yourself to a refugee.*

Assign partners. Invite kids to talk to their partners using the topics on their fingers. (Hi! My name is Kayla. I like pizza. What's your favorite food?)

Say: *We can use our real fingers as reminders as we meet new people.*

Review. Ask kids to put their paper hands in their laps. Ask kids to name the topic as you hold up each finger.

MISSION PROJECT (OPTIONAL)

Help children fill a laundry basket with supplies (see **Preparation**). Lead children to write letters to the children who may receive the Welcome Basket. Children can begin the letter, “Dear New Friend, Welcome to Kentucky!” Kids could explain the games they like to play and the foods they like to eat. They could talk about your church. Younger kids could draw a picture of something they like to do.

Say a prayer for the family that will receive your basket.

CLOSING

Display a map of Kentucky and a map of the world. Ask volunteers to find Louisville, Kentucky, and Afghanistan. **Say:** *Jesus wants us to help the oppressed. Let’s discover some ways we could help Afghan kids or other refugees in our state. We can be the “hands” of Jesus!*

Invite children to choose and read a “Be a Friend” card. Lead in prayer for Afghan families and the Eliza Broadus Offering. ®

Documentation:

Games from Afghanistan- afghan-web.com

*Persecution due to religion can include all religions and sects.