



BOLD HOPE

2012 State Missions Emphasis and Eliza Broadus Offering

Teaching Guide for Children

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This teaching guide may be used with children including Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Children in Action, and other groups for children. This study can be used instead of one of the sessions in the GA, RA, Children in Action, or other children's ministry lesson plans in September. You may also choose to set aside a special time for this study during the Season of Prayer. Please make additional copies of this material as needed.

2012 State Missions Emphasis Highlights

Suggested Date: September 9-16, 2012

Suggested Scripture: "Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold"
(2 Corinthians 3:12 NIV 1984)

Suggested Music:

Hope Changes Everything by New Song
Cry Out to Jesus by Third Day
Go Light Your World
Hope Now by Addison Day
In Christ Alone, 2008 Baptist Hymnal, page 506
Out of My Bondage, 1991 Baptist Hymnal, pg. 310
The Solid Rock, 1991 Baptist Hymnal, page 406
Because He Lives, 1991 Baptist Hymnal, pg. 407
I Must Tell Jesus, 1991 Baptist Hymnal, page 455

Music video: *Jesus Saves, Hope is Here* by Jeremy Camp (YouTube video:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53yCnxTd9Wg>)

Master Article (print from DVD) – information about eight ministries in Kentucky.

Video Segments (suggested for each Sunday in September and/or for mission study):

- In Deep (Jail Ministry)
- Changing Direction (Addictions Ministry)
- Great Expectations (Crisis Pregnancy Ministry)
- Take It to the Streets (Food Ministry)

Bonus Videos (for additional mission study options):

- Hope House (Community Ministry)
- Open Door of Hope (Homeless Shelter Ministry)
- Scarlet Hope (Adult Entertainment Industry Ministry)
- West Liberty Tornado (Disaster Relief)

All 2012 state missions materials and videos are also available online
www.kywmu.org/ebo

Leader Background Information

Kentucky Baptists observe the Season of Prayer for State Missions in September. The suggested date is September 9-16, 2012. The theme is **Bold Hope**, which is based on Paul's challenge to the Corinthians, "*Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.*" (2 Corinthians 3:12 NIV)

Throughout the state of Kentucky, there are many children and adults who face each new day without hope. They do not have the most basic spiritual, physical, and mental resources that they need in order to be healthy, stable, and productive members of their communities. As believers in Christ, full of hope and love, our challenge is to boldly meet the needs of the hopeless and to tell them about Jesus, the giver of hope.

This study will focus on the food ministry of Elkhorn Baptist Association which has boldly offered hope to the homeless people living on the streets in Lexington. The churches of Elkhorn Association minister to these people by giving away sack lunches, serving hot meals, distributing Bibles and tracts, and providing school supplies and toys. They also strive to build ongoing relationships with the homeless through compassionate prayer ministry and non-condemning counseling. Through it all they seek to tell these people who are struggling in the darkness about the light and love that can be theirs through Jesus Christ.

For more information about this ministry, see the Master Article and video clip which are included with the other state missions materials. You can also learn more about Elkhorn Baptist Association by visiting their website at www.elkhorn.org.

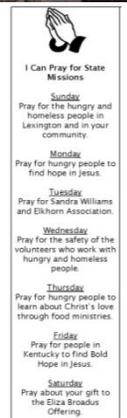
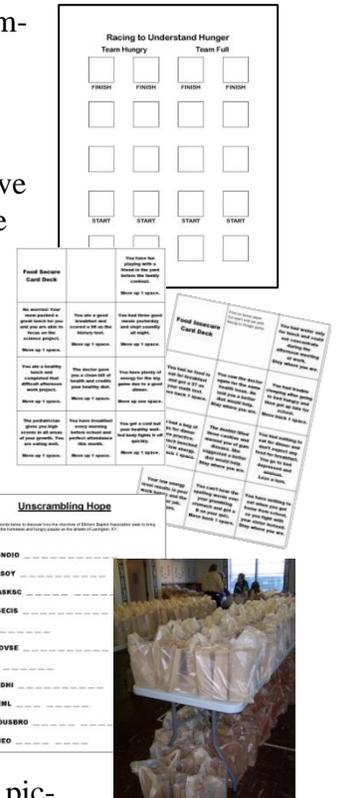
Session Outcomes

Through this study children will:

- Learn information about the extent and impact of hunger.
- Discuss how not having enough food to eat can lead people to feel hopeless about tomorrow.
- Discover how Elkhorn Baptist Association is addressing hunger in their city.
- Become active in fighting hunger in their community and the world.
- Be encouraged to support missions through praying, giving and doing.

Teacher Preparation

1. On a sticky note pad write “48.8 million” on the first note. Gently fold up this first note without pulling at loose and write “32.6 million” on the second note. Continue this process, keeping the sticky notes intact, and write the following numbers on each successive note: 16.2 million, 20.6 million, 5.6 million, 17.3 %, 15.3%, and 20 %. Place the completed note pad in a brown paper lunch sack and staple it closed. Make enough of these “snack” sacks for each child to have one.
2. Print the “Snacking on Numbers” signs from the Bold Hope DVD (computer files section) or download from www.kywmu.org/ebo. Post the signs on the walls or bulletin boards around the classroom.
3. Prepare real snack sacks using additional brown paper sacks. Place a juice box (or similar juice pack) and a healthy snack (apple, banana, orange, or something similar) in each sack. Make enough real snack sacks for each child to have one.
4. Print copies of the “Racing to Understand Hunger” game board from the Bold Hope DVD. You will need one game board per playing group. Each playing group will have 2-4 children in it. Depending on how many are in your class, you could have multiple playing groups.
5. Print a copy of the “Food Secure” card set and the “Food Insecure” card set for each of your anticipated playing groups. These are found on the Bold Hope DVD. Print the card sets on two different color sheets of card stock or heavy weight paper to help set them apart. Cut the cards out.
6. Collect small items to use as game pieces. You can use buttons, wrapped pieces of candy, small pebbles, or whatever you think is appropriate.
7. From the Bold Hope DVD, print copies of the “Unscrambling Hope” word scramble activity sheet for each child.
8. Have sharpened pencils ready for the children to use.
9. Print a copy of the sack lunches picture from the Bold Hope DVD.
10. Secure enough Eliza Broadus Offering envelopes to provide one for each child. Or collect small potato chip cans (or any small container). Bring markers, paint, glue, pictures from magazines, or other supplies that you will use to decorate them.
11. Print copies of the “I Can Pray for State Missions” bookmark sheets from the State Missions DVD. There are three bookmarks per sheet. Print on colored card stock (or heavy weight paper) and cut apart enough bookmarks for each child to have one.
12. Plan a missions project that will engage the children in meeting hunger needs. See suggested project ideas.



Leading the Session

Opening

If you are substituting this lesson plan for one of the sessions from your GA, RA, or Children in Action leader guide be sure to begin your time with the children just like you would begin a regular session. Say your group's respective pledges, mottos, and memory verses, as well as an opening prayer.

Inform the children that this session is unique because it is a part of the Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering. (For information about the Season of Prayer and EBO, please refer to the Bold Hope Planning Guide and DVD.)

Tell the children that during this lesson they will learn about the extent and impact of hunger and how the churches of Elkhorn Baptist Association are meeting the needs of hungry people in Lexington, Kentucky and offering them hope in Jesus Christ

Snacking on Numbers

Give each child one of the closed lunch sacks containing a prepared sticky note pad (See "Teacher Preparation") and tell them that it is time to have a snack. Have them all open their sacks at the same time. Give them a couple of moments to react to finding a notepad instead of food in their sack.

Ask the children how they felt when they didn't find food in their "snack" sack. Allow several children to respond. (They may use words like: sad, disappointed, angry, still hungry, cheated, etc.) Ask them what it would be like to have a lot of their meals be like this "snack." (Listen for, and highlight, words like: scary, uncertain, insecure, very hungry, etc.)

Say: When adults and children live in conditions where they are anxious and afraid of running out of food, or the money to buy food, this is called "food insecurity." A person who is food insecure does not have access to enough food to fully meet their basic needs at all times. (These definitions are based on information found at www.highered.mcgraw-hill.com and www.foodbankmoc.org.)

Tell the children that before having a real snack, the class is going to use the numbers that they found in their sacks to learn about the extent of hunger in America and Kentucky.

Direct their attention to the prepared signs (See "Teacher Preparation") hanging on the walls and bulletin boards around the room. Tell the children to place each sticky note on the statement that they think goes with the number on that particular note. Give them a few minutes to do this. (The statistics for this activity were found at <http://feedingamerica.org>.)

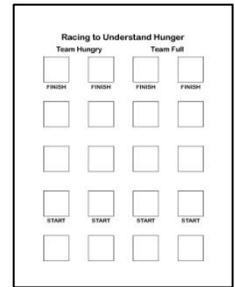
After they have returned to their seats, review the statements one at a time, giving the correct number for each one. Remove any incorrect numbers, leaving only notes with the right number for that particular statement. (See the "Snacking on the Numbers Master Sheet" for the correct number for each statement.) *Say: These numbers show us that there are a lot of children and adults in our country and state that do not know if they will have something to eat at their next meal. That's a lot of people who are food insecure.* Point out the fact that Elkhorn Baptist Association is located in Fayette County where 14.7% of the people are food insecure. Remind them that the class will be learning about how the churches in this association are addressing the needs of people who are food insecure.

Tell the children that the class is going to chew on more than just numbers today. Give them a real snack sack. (See "Teacher Preparation" above for suggested snacks.) Take a few minutes to eat the snack. Continue to talk with the children during snack time about the reality of hunger in your community. You might call your local food pantry ministry for local statistics to help facilitate this discussion. Have the children clean up after snack.

Racing to Understand Hunger

When the tables are clear, say: *When adults and children don't have enough food to meet their basic needs, it has a real impact on their lives. We are going to play a game that will help us understand the impact that hunger can have on the lives of adults and children.*

Divide the class into groups of 2-4 children. Give each group a "Racing to Understand" game board. (If you have more than 4 children in your class then you will have more than one game going on at the same time.) Divide each group into two teams (Team Hungry and Team Full) with either one or two children on each team. Give Team Full in each group a set of "Food Secure" cards and a game piece for each member. Give Team Hungry in each group a set of "Food Insecure" cards and a game piece for each member. Have the team members place their markers on a "Start" space under their respective team name.



Team Hungry in each playing group will go first. Have each team member draw a card from the "Food Insecure" deck. Instruct the children to read their cards to the rest of their playing group and then follow the instructions on the card.

Team Full in each playing group will go next. Each team member will draw a card from the "Food Secure" deck, read his/her card to the playing group, and then follow the instruction.

Play continues in this manner with one exception. Team Hungry members will be allowed to draw from the "Food Secure" deck every third round. Team Full will always draw from the "Food Secure" deck. First team to have all of its members arrive on the "Finish" space wins. Reshuffle and reuse cards as necessary. If time allows, play again but have the children swap team names and card decks.

Gather the children back together. Talk with them about what they learned from the cards. Ask: *What are the effects of a good diet and plenty of food?* (Possible answers: better concentration, good grades at school, good relationships with others, better social skills, better test grades, sleep better, better energy levels, improved health, good physical development, better Attendance at school/work, etc.)

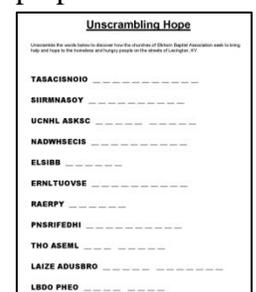
Ask: *What are the effects of a poor diet and lack of food?* (Possible answers: hard to concentrate at school/work, poor grades, chronic health problems, trouble sleeping, low stamina and energy, poor oral health, depression and anxiety, job loss, troubled relationships with others, poor social skills, etc.)

Ask the children who played on Team Hungry: *After drawing a couple of cards, did you feel like you had any hope of winning the game?* Talk with the children about the connection between the lack of food and hopelessness. Help them see that when a person does not have enough to eat, this food insecurity can lead to many different problems that can cause them to feel hopeless about their situation.

Unscrambling Hope

Open your Bible to 2 Corinthians 3:12 and read the verse, *"Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold."* Talk briefly with the children about the hope that we have through Jesus Christ. Be prepared to share a Gospel presentation with the class. Transition to the next activity by saying, *"Because the churches in Elkhorn Baptist Association have hope in Jesus Christ, they are very bold in their efforts to help the hungry and homeless in Lexington by feeding them and telling them about Jesus."*

Give each child a pencil and a copy of the "Unscrambling Hope" word scramble. Have the students work individually or in pairs to unscramble the words. Depending on the amount of class time left, decide how much time the children have to complete the exercise. When the time is complete, review the correct answers. Using the following guide, discuss what these words can teach us about the food ministry of Elkhorn Baptist Association.



- **ASSOCIATION** – An association is a group of churches in an area that has agreed to work together in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Elkhorn Baptist Association is made up of Baptist churches in the Lexington area. For sixteen years they have been offering **Bold Hope** to homeless and hungry people living on the streets of their city.
- **MISSIONARY** – Sandra Williams is a North American missionary serving as the Church and Community Ministries Director for the Elkhorn Association. She works with the coordinators of several ministry sites to enlist, train and coordinate the work of 300-350 volunteers every month.
- **LUNCH SACKS** – Every week, Sandra and the volunteers use about 2,000 lunch sacks and 5,000 sandwich bags to pack lunches that they give out to the hungry. (Show picture of sack lunches.)
- **SANDWICHES** – The volunteers put sandwiches, chips and cookies in the sacks and give them away to people who need food. It's not a gourmet meal but it helps to meet their physical needs. By meeting these needs the volunteers have unique opportunities to share the love of Christ with people who feel hopeless.
- **BIBLES** – The volunteers of Elkhorn Association also hand out Bibles and tracts to the people so that they can read for themselves about Jesus and the love of God that He came to share with the world.
- **VOLUNTEERS** – The volunteers range in age from six to 90 years old. Why do they come and help pack and hand out sack lunches? One volunteer said, "When you look in their eyes and see the hurt and need, how can you not tell them about Him?"
- **PRAYER** – The people often stand in line for two hours to receive the sack lunches. A volunteer stands at the door and takes prayer requests. Sandra says, "At first, we didn't get many prayer requests, but now people who aren't getting food stand in line to share requests. They need to know someone is listening to them and praying for them."
- **FRIENDSHIP** – The volunteers have learned that they need to be patient and understanding as they build relationships with the homeless. Sandra tells about how making friends can open doors to the Gospel. "One lady who started coming to the meal was very angry and didn't want to hear about the Bible or Jesus," Sandra says. "We became friends with her and she started asking questions about God. Then, she began helping with the sack lunches and became friends with the other volunteers. Last summer, she accepted Christ."
- **HOT MEALS** – Elkhorn Association also serves hot meals to 150-200 low income and homeless people at Grace Baptist Church every Monday. Volunteers share a devotional and pray for the people who attend.
- **ELIZA BROADUS** – Eliza Broadus was a Kentucky Baptist leader who helped organize what became WMU in Kentucky in 1878 and led the Kentucky WMU to promote the taking of an offering once a year for state missions in all the churches. This offering is now named after her: The Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions. The food ministry of Elkhorn Association receives funding from the Eliza Broadus Offering, as well as donations from churches and individuals, World Hunger and the Elkhorn Association WMU. You can help Elkhorn Association and other ministries around our state by giving to the Eliza Broadus Offering this year.
- **BOLD HOPE** – The churches of Elkhorn Baptist Association are bringing **Bold Hope** to the homeless and hungry people of the streets of Lexington, KY by giving away sack lunches, providing hot meals, handing out Bibles, praying for needs, being a friend, and telling about the hope that can be found in Jesus Christ.



Missions Project

Transition to the Missions Project section by asking, “*What can we do to help those who are hungry and offer them **Bold Hope** in Jesus?*” Discuss the selected project. Start or carry out the project as time permits.

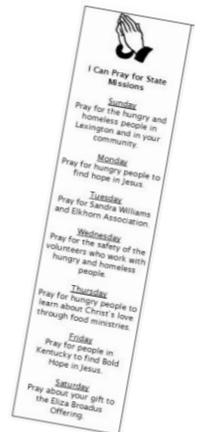
Missions Offering

Lead your class to support the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions. Give each child an envelope and encourage the children to participate in the offering. You can also have your children make banks for collecting change out of small potato chip cans or other similar containers. Let the children decorate the banks with pictures of healthy food. Remind them that the Eliza Broadus Offering helps Elkhorn Baptist Association provide food and share Jesus with hungry people. Have the children take the banks home and fill them with change. Encourage the children to enlist the help of their parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends. Set a date for the banks to be returned so the money can be counted and placed in the Eliza Broadus Offering at the church.

Prayer Time and Closing

Ask the children if they have any questions about what they have learned. Clarify the information for them. Tell them that another way we can support Elkhorn Association and other ministries to the hungry and homeless is by praying for them. Give each child an “I Can Pray for State Missions” bookmark. Ask them to place these in their Bible and use them to remember to pray for state missions, Elkhorn Association, and hungry and homeless people in our communities.

Close the class time in prayer. As you pray, model for the children how you would pray for state missions.



Suggested Missions Projects

1. In the weeks leading up to this special lesson, ask the children and their parents to collect packages of lunch sacks and/or sandwich bags. Let them know that these items will be sent to Elkhorn Baptist Association to help with the food ministry there. Bring a box to class in which to pack the items. Include a card signed by the children telling Sandra Williams that the GA, RA, CiA or other children's class of your church prayed for the food ministry that is being done for the homeless and hungry in Lexington. Mail the package to Sandra Williams at Elkhorn Baptist Association.
2. Contact your local food pantry (your church may have one), community area ministry, or homeless shelter and talk with the director about how your group can partner with them to meet the needs of hungry people in your area. This could lead to a canned food drive, the collection of needed paper goods and supplies, or helping to serve a meal to the hungry.

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