



God's Witnesses



THE MISSION AIM

To help recruits know that it is important to share God's plan because God calls us to share it.



KEY VERSE

Mark 16:15: "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'"



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Beads (one of each colour/recruit: red, navy, white, green, light blue, gold or yellow) (Double the quantity if you want to make an extra bracelet to give to a friend this week.) (These bracelets will be used during the Field Mission Project time.)
- String or cord to make bracelets
- Scissors
- Optional: Additional decorative beads to put on the bracelet

Directions

DO: As recruits arrive, have them make a salvation bracelet. Place the beads in the following order: navy, red, white, light blue, green, yellow/gold. You may wish to have a sample ready and/or have kits assembled for the recruits to use.

Check online for different versions and ways to make the bracelet. They can be really simple or quite ornate, if you choose.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 3 – Witnessing Episode 2: God's Witnesses"

Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 2 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have W-Episode_2-Gods_Witnesses.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- Treat or snack for your group (i.e. Popcorn, popsicles, mini chocolate bars, etc.). Place enough of these treats for only a couple of your recruits in a different location. Keep the remainder hidden in your meeting room. NOTE: Please be aware of any allergy concerns in your squad!
- Copies of "God's Plan of Salvation Review" pages. Cut into strips and give one set to each small group or pair of recruits. Place strips into a baggie or envelope to keep together (see attachment pages 9 and 10)
- Copies of "Top Secret Mission" Card (use with only a couple kids or pairs). Fill in the location of the secret mission. (See attachment page 11)
- Slips of scrap paper
- Pens



Mission Assignment

SAY: Wow! There are certainly a lot of uncertain members on the squad today. I'm not sure who is feeling worse: Simon and Charlie with their nervous tummies or Kate with her sick one! I hope they all start feeling better soon.

SAY: We'll check back on them in a few moments, but first we have a mission to complete! Let's give a cheer for today's first mission! (Reading mission card from satellite uplink) "To start this assignment, your mission is to review all you learned from our last meeting. You can't fully understand WHY we are to share the message, if you don't remember WHAT the message is!"

SAY: Who remembers what we talked about during our last meeting? (God's Plan of Salvation-the bad, good and awesome) Excellent! Our first mission is to review the details about God's plan, so we are ready to share that news with others.

DO: Put the recruits in small groups of two or three. Pass out envelopes with the Plan of Salvation strips to each group.

SAY: When I say go, I want you to work with your partner (or group) to match the scripture verses with the titles: GOOD, BAD and AWESOME. These are a review from the ones we talked about last week. If you finish early, take some time in your group to decide which of the verses is most important to you and why they are important.

DO: Have groups work on the job assigned. As you begin, choose a couple recruits to assign the TOP SECRET MISSION to. Make sure these are reliable recruits, as they will be leaving the room to do the job!

While this is happening, mingle with the other groups. When picking verses that are most important to them, recruits may need guidance. Ask questions like "If you had to pick a verse that you could share with someone, which would it be?" or "What verse is most important?"

WHEN SECRET MISSION RECRUITS RETURN, REGROUP!



Squad Leader, if you need an answer page, use the "God's Plan of Salvation Scripture Reference Page" from Lesson One: "What Is God's Plan?"



DO: Take up answers for the review, to make sure that all groups matched the right headings to the right scripture!

SAY: Nice work on the review! It looks like we all remember God's Plan of Salvation from last meeting. Now, not all of us were working on the same mission. _____ (secret mission crew), do you have a report on your secret mission?

DO: At this time, allow those kids to talk all about the treat, how good it tasted, how much fun it was, etc.

BE PREPARED FOR A LOT OF COMPLAINING FROM THE OTHERS! POSSIBLY SOME ANGER... Act very surprised about the response. (What's wrong? The squad had some other jobs for us to do, but they only needed a couple helpers, etc.)

SAY: I can see that some of you feel like it was unfair for me to only share information about the treats with a couple of recruits. How did it feel to find out that some of our squad knew about a treat, while you didn't? (Not good, I was mad, upset, feeling left out) For those of you who did get the message about the secret mission, how do you feel? (Happy that I got a treat, special)

DO: At this time, pass out the treat to those recruits who weren't on the secret mission!

SAY: This is a great example of why it is so important for us to witness to others about God's Plan! As Christians, we have great news about eternal life. Imagine how others would feel if they discover that we had this wonderful news and they never got to know about it?!

SAY: Let's take our review about God's Plan of Salvation back to the Recon Team, along with our thoughts on how it feels to be left out from something wonderful!



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 2 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.



Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Bibles
- Dominoes (a used set or dollar store set, as you will be drawing on them)
- Permanent markers
- NOTE: If you don't want to write directly on the dominoes, you can cut pieces of paper the same size and have recruits tape their pictures onto the dominoes





Mission Assignment

SAY: Recruits, we have our next mission, let's read it together (read mission card from satellite uplink) "Take a close look at Romans 10:13-18. Figure out what it means and why witnessing is so important. Report back!"

SAY: Poor Simon. He seems REALLY nervous to talk to that girl. Just like Charlie gets nervous about talking to his friends about God. How many of you have felt nervous about something before?

SAY: Turn to an elbow buddy at the table and take a few minutes to share with each other about a time you felt really nervous or scared. Share how you felt and what you were thinking at the time. Go!

DO: Give recruits some time to share their stories with a buddy. You may need to encourage some of the recruits to share these personal situations by sharing some of your own, or prompting them with ideas (Has there ever been a time you've been nervous at school? Trying a new thing?; etc.).

SAY: Sounds like all of us have felt what it's like to be nervous at some time in our lives. Feeling that way can be awful. Your stomach might feel sick, you might get dizzy, maybe your mind goes blank and you can't remember anything! When it comes to sharing what you believe, that can be the most nerve racking thing of all! You can't be sure about how friends will react to you telling them about God, but it is so important that we do it! I'd like to show you why it's important to tell others about God.

DO: Pass each recruit a few dominoes. Have them draw themselves holding a cross on one domino and some strangers on the others (not holding crosses).

SAY: These dominoes represent us as Christians (hold up someone's domino with the cross on it). These (hold up the people without crosses) are the people who we know, and even some we don't know, who haven't been told about God. Place your domino of yourself in front of you. Now, take one of your other people in your hand.

SAY: Who has someone they know who doesn't know about God or is not a Christian? This domino in your hand is the person you are thinking about. Place them behind the domino of yourself.

DO: Give recruits time to setup the two dominoes. Make sure they are close enough so that when one is knocked over, their other domino will fall.

SAY: Now if your domino NEVER takes action, and your domino refuses to move because your domino is scared, nervous, uncomfortable, what is going to happen to the other domino? *(Nothing, they will never change, they will stay the way they are.)*

SAY: This is like when we are too afraid to tell others about God. When we are afraid to take action for Jesus, then others may never get to know the great news! They stay just where they are: the same, unchanged.

SAY: What if your domino overcame those fears and took action, what would happen with the other domino? *(They would change, they would be impacted, etc.)*



DO: Have recruits knock over their domino. It should hit the other domino and knock it over.

SAY: This is what happens when Christians are willing to spread the word, even though it can make us uncomfortable to do it. God will give us what we need to share his plan with others. He will give us courage, and he will give us the right words. All we need to do is invite him to help us. When we take action we impact others; we change their lives for the better. It's not fair to keep God's Good News to ourselves, because we are nervous or afraid! If we do that, our friends never get to be a part of the great news; they stay there unchanged!

NOTE: If you have time look up the following verses with your recruits that emphasize the truth that God will help us share his plan with others: Luke 12:11-12; 1 Peter 3:13-16; Acts 18:9-10; Acts 2:22-24.

SAY: Hold onto your dominoes for a few minutes, because you will need them again. But first, let's get into the Bible!

DO: Have the recruits look up Romans 10:13-18. Read aloud with your group. (Or you may wish to have one reader or many!)

"For 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, 'Lord, who has believed our message?'

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did: 'Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.'"

SAY: In these verses from Romans, it says "Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world." Who are they talking about? Whose voice and words have spread to the ends of the world? (Christians) God has called us as Christians to tell others about Him. That's our JOB!

DO: Have recruits put their dominoes of themselves in front of them and line up their other people dominoes behind it (in a row).

SAY: If we are willing to be brave, because we know the news of God is something we MUST share, we can have a huge impact on the lives of others. What would happen if YOUR domino took action again? Give it a try! (It will impact others.)



DO: Have recruits knock their domino and watch how it knocks all the others over.

SAY: This is how God's news is spread! Our willingness to witness to ONE person means that they can spread the news to even more. Our actions may impact people we don't even know are being impacted!

SAY: Now, does sharing the news with someone mean that they will believe in God? *(Not necessarily.)* In Romans it mentioned that not all Israelites believed, but they had heard the news. It also mentions that faith and belief comes from "hearing the message". What it means is that you can't believe in something, if you haven't heard about it. BUT, someone may hear about God's good news and still choose not to believe.

SAY: If you tell a friend about God and they choose not to believe, have you failed? Should you be disappointed in yourself for trying? *(No, God calls us to share the news; people get to make their own choices...)* It can be disappointing if a friend chooses not to believe what you tell them, but God lets everyone make their own choices. The best that we can do is share the news, and hope that one day they will make the choice to believe too!

SAY: Now that we have a good understanding of Romans 10:13-18 and of why it's important for us to witness to others, let's send the ideas back to the Recon Team!



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 2 (3/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Bracelets from Pre-Mission Activity
- Colours of Salvation cards (one per recruit or two if they made two bracelets) (see attachment page 12)
- Pens
- Colouring tools - preferably pencil crayons



Squad Leader, if they are making one for a friend, each recruit will need two cards!

Mission Project

SAY: Recruits, it's time for our next mission, let's countdown from three. 3-2-1 (read mission card from satellite uplink) "Your final mission is to prepare yourself to share God's news with ONE person this week. Because if you're prepared, you don't have to feel scared! God bless recruits!"



SAY: The Recon Team has given us a big field mission this week! It's one that's going to take courage to overcome our nerves and fears. If we take some time now to prepare as a squad though, then we can feel more confident about our mission.

DO: Pass each recruit a set of "Colours of Salvation" cards and pen. Spread the pencil crayons around the table.

SAY: On these cards are some scripture verses that go with all the major points of God's plan for salvation. As a team, we are going to go through each verse, read it and think of a way we could tell that scripture in our own words. Then we will write those ideas under each verse. That way, we have a sort of script that we can use to explain God's plan to others!

DO: Go through each verse, read aloud and put into simple terms. Have recruits write those new ideas under each verse. Then, have the recruits colour each scripture box with the colour to match the bracelet beads. Examples below:

(DARK NAVY) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 EXAMPLE: All of us have made bad choices, sinned.
(RED) While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 EXAMPLE: Jesus died to pay the price for our bad choices. He took our punishment.
(WHITE) Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7 EXAMPLE: Our sins are forgiven, if we ask to be forgiven. We get a new start!
(GREEN) Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18 EXAMPLE: With a new start, we can begin to grow as Christians.
(LIGHT BLUE) Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13 EXAMPLE: God sends his Spirit to help us make better choices and live right.
(GOLD OR YELLOW) Whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16 EXAMPLE: God promises us life forever with him in heaven!

SAY: With these new tools, it should be easier for us to explain to someone else what we believe about God and his plan for salvation.

SAY: This week's Field Mission is to choose ONE person to tell about God. This is probably one of the hardest missions we've been given, because it means having to get over our fears and nervousness and be very open with someone. But remember, we can't keep this news a secret! It's not fair! And with God's help we can do anything!





Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 2 (4/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



Supplies Needed

- Prayerful worship music

Directions

SAY: By a show of hands, who has someone they know that might not believe in God or know about God? (Give time to raise hands.)

SAY: For our prayer huddle today, I'm going to ask each of you to think really hard about that ONE person that you think God is calling you to share with this week. I'm going to play some music and we're each going to have some time in private prayer. During this time, I want you to really focus on that person, pray for them, pray over your new tools that you can use to help share the news with them, pray about how you will tell them, and invite God to give you the courage you may need to share with them.

DO: Put on a short, prayerful worship song (Example: *When It's All Been Said and Done* by Robin Mark - www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2rjfabh49A). When the song is done finish your prayer time by praying together.

SAY: Now we are going to go around the table and simply pray their name aloud. You don't need to use full names, just a first name will do. I will start by saying the name of the person I've been praying about, and then we will go around the table. Once everyone has said their name, I will close our prayer.

DO: Go around and say each name. When it comes back to you, close the prayer.

SAY: God, give us the courage to overcome our fear and worries, so that we can share your great news with these people we've mentioned today. May we be Ready to Serve. Amen.

DO: Dismiss your group in a manner that best suits the feeling in the room.

NOTES:



God's Plan of Salvation Review

Cut into strips and put in an envelope or baggie for each group. Have groups match the titles with the Bible verses.

GOOD

BAD

AWESOME

Matthew 25:45-46

"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

1 John 4:14

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

James 4:17

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

John 6:38

For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

1 Thessalonians 4:14

For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Hebrews 7:24-25

But because Jesus lives forever ... he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Isaiah 64:6

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:4

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

John 12:47

"If anyone hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge that person. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world."

1 John 1:7-9

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Luke 24:1-7

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' "

TOP SECRET MISSION:

We have a special mission for you! If your crew leader has given this mission card to you, head to the location written on this card, quickly enjoy the treat there waiting for you and return with a report on how it tasted. **Shh... it's a secret!**

LOCATION OF MISSION:

TOP SECRET MISSION:

We have a special mission for you! If your crew leader has given this mission card to you, head to the location written on this card, quickly enjoy the treat there waiting for you and return with a report on how it tasted. **Shh... it's a secret!**

LOCATION OF MISSION:

Colours of Salvation

Make enough copies for your recruits to have two copies each of the six cards. Cut apart.

For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23	For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8	While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7	Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7
Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18	Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18
Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13	Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13
Whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16	Whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16