



God's Messengers



THE MISSION AIM

To provide recruits with practical tools to help them share their faith.



KEY VERSE

1 Corinthians 2:4: "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Paper
- Pencils

Directions

DO: Create Mystery journals. As recruits arrive, have them journal about their experience witnessing this past week. If they didn't witness to someone, consider having them write about another time that they did OR about their thoughts and feelings regarding witnessing. Make sure they leave their page anonymous.

DO: Collect them and share some of what was read- without revealing who it was from.



Squad Leader, if you have a young group without many proficient writers, consider pairing them with a buddy to share their experiences with witnessing.



Mission Uplink 1



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

Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 3 (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_3-Gods_Messengers.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

- Piece of paper with a check mark
- Piece of paper with an X
- Tape or adhesive
- Bible



Mission Assignment

SAY: Recruits, let's have a drumroll for our first mission of the day! (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Your mission is to separate the right and wrong way when it comes to witnessing. See if you can spot the right ways to approach others about God."

SAY: No wonder Kendall is looking for help! This is always the trickiest part when it comes to witnessing. You may know someone you want to share with, know what you want to share, but not always know HOW to share. What sort of things did the team mention could go wrong when trying to witness to others? (*Get nervous, sweaty, forget what to say, chicken out, etc.*)

SAY: We are going to play a game where you need to tell me if what is being done is the right way to witness to others or the wrong way.

DO: Have volunteers put the check mark sign and x sign on opposite walls of the room.

SAY: We will all start in the centre of the room. I will describe a situation to you and then shout "Go witness!" Once I shout "Go witness!" you run to the side you think matches. If it's the right way to talk to others about God, run to the check mark sign. If it's the wrong way, run to the x sign. Each time we will start back in the middle.

DO: Go through the scenarios below and have the recruits run to the sign that matches. You may wish to take some time to explain why it's right or wrong, or ask someone why. Feel free to add your own ideas to this game!

1. Tell your friend that they are evil if they don't believe in a God (Wrong - might scare them away)
2. Start by asking if they go to a church or have ever been to church. (Right - helps you to get an idea of what they may already know, a gentle way to start a conversation)
3. Show your beliefs through the way you act, so others may want to ask you about it. For example- forgive a friend when they do something wrong, instead of staying mad. (Right - may get friends curious about what you believe. Witness through action)
4. Pass a Bible to your friend and say "you should read this!" (Wrong - May look boring, too big and won't know where to begin...)
5. Let a friend know that you will pray for them during a tough time (Right - a gentle way to show your faith)



6. Give your friend a few scripture verses to read and talk about (Right - simple way to share the "big stuff")
7. Tell someone that you're going to heaven and they're not (Wrong - not a very kind way to share, might scare others away).
8. Ask a friend if they want to know about your faith and why it's important to you. (Right - polite, personal, not threatening)
9. Use a bunch of fancy words from the Bible and wave your arms around to express just how amazing God is. (Wrong - hard to understand, too confusing, pushy)
10. Find a friend, when they're in the middle of working on their homework at school, and start talking about God. (Wrong - they are distracted, in a public place)
11. Find a place where you and a friend can talk that is away from busy crowds. (Right - easier to talk away from crowds, less pressure)

DO: Have recruits return to seats.

SAY: Excellent work, squad! When you share your faith with others, it's important not to scare them, hurt their feelings or overwhelm them with too much information. The point is to make them see just how awesome being a Christian can be and tell the simple message that Jesus is God's Son and he died for us! The Bible actually has some scripture that talks about this.

DO: Have a recruit look up 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 and read aloud. Then read the following from The Message version:

"You'll remember, friends, that when I first came to you to let you in on God's master stroke, I didn't try to impress you with polished speeches and the latest philosophy. I deliberately kept it plain and simple: first Jesus and who he is; then Jesus and what he did—Jesus crucified."

SAY: How does the scripture say we should speak to others about God? *(Plain and simple!)* We don't need to have some big, fancy speech ready to talk to our friends about God. In fact, it would probably just confuse them or scare them away. Simple words, such as telling someone you believe in God, or that you are praying for them, can be enough to get your beliefs out there! Even showing your beliefs through your actions can be a way to start the conversation!

SAY: Let's share what we've discovered with Simon and Kate.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 3 (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

- Pencils
- Colouring tools,
- Small snack-sized baggies,
- Copies of Sweet Message cards for each recruits (see attachment pages 8, 9 and 10)
- Candies such as jelly beans: TWO each of red, green, blue, yellow, white and a dark colour per bag (For the dark colour, you may need to use a purple, forest green or another dark colour; whatever you have)



Squad Leader, quantity of supplies will depend on how many you want recruits to make!



Mission Assignment

SAY: Wow! Simon and Kate are really having a tough time witnessing to others around the camp. What are some of the problems they are running into when trying to witness? (*People are busy, Michael is too tired, Christie is distracted, they aren't sure what to say to get attention...*)

SAY: Exactly! That's why it is so important to think about when, where and how you are going to witness. If someone is busy and not ready to listen, or if they are in a situation that might make them too uncomfortable to listen to what you are saying, it's not a good time to witness!

SAY: When and where would it be a good time to witness? (*When you're alone with a friend, in a place that isn't too busy, when your friend isn't tired or distracted, when they've asked you to share...*) Also, when you do find the right place and time to witness, you need to make sure you are ready with WHAT you want to share. That's why we have been given this next mission!

SAY: Let's read our Mission together (reading mission card from satellite uplink). "Witnessing the wrong way can leave a sour taste in your mouth. Use this time to find a "sweet" way to connect with others and share your faith."

SAY: Last week we made a tool to help us remember what we want to share. What was it? (*Bracelet*)

SAY: Today we are going to use that idea to prepare another witnessing tool. We are going to put together candy bags that you can share with a friend when witnessing to them. Each bag will have two of each coloured candy. That way you can have one, and a friend can have one, as you explain each colour. We will attach a little card to it that you can use to talk through the message with your friends.

DO: Have recruits place two of each colour in each baggie. Recruits will then colour the card to match the colours for each candy. (This will vary depending on what colours you used.) Finally, have recruits attach the card to the candy bag OR seal it inside with the candies.



There are two card options: One has spaces where recruits can write their own words for each colour. The second has a written script on the cards. Both have scripture on the back. Use whichever would work for your specific group.



SAY: These bags are great to keep in a coat pocket or your backpack. That way, you have them somewhere close by, if you think an opportunity to witness might be near. You can also wear your bracelet, just in case you're somewhere where treats are not allowed!

SAY: Let's show the team what we've created! I'm sure this would be a great tool for them to suggest to Kendall. It's simple and easy to understand, just like 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 says it should be!



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 3 (3/4)". 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

- None

Directions

SAY: Today, we are going to focus on praying for each other with Buddy Prayers. Going out into the world to witness is a scary thing. We could all use some encouragement!

DO: Have recruits buddy up. If you have an odd number, you may have to be a buddy. Split pairs up into two groups and have them line up, turn and face their partner. (You should have two parallel lines facing each other, close enough to reach each other's shoulders.)

SAY: We are going to pray a prayer twice today. One line is going to pray for their partners first, then we will switch. While you pray for your partner, I'm going to ask you to place your hand on their shoulder.

SAY: As you repeat after me, remember to use your partner's name whenever you hear me say "name". For example, if I said "Please watch over name", you would say "Please watch over (recruit's name)."

DO: Have first row place a hand on their partners' shoulders and repeat after you.

SAY:

Awesome, God! (repeat)
 Today, I pray for NAME.
 You call them to be a witness for you.
 Please give NAME
 The courage to speak



Squad leader you may want to email a copy of this prayer to your recruits. Suggest that recruits call their partner and pray this prayer over the phone to encourage them to witness to others.



The opportunity to speak
 The words to speak
 So that they might share
 Your Good News!
 Amen.

DO: Repeat same steps with the other line of recruits.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Witnessing (S3) Episode 3 (4/4)". 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

- Copies of "WITNESS Guide" one for each recruit (see attachment page 11)
- Copies of "Witness Who?" cards (see attachment page 12)

Mission Project

SAY: It's time for our final mission. Let's countdown from three and read it together, 3-2-1 (read mission card from satellite uplink). "Put your new info to work! Practice how you might witness to others by role playing with your squad. God bless!"

SAY: Just like any skill, the best way to improve is to practice, practice, practice! That is why this last mission is such an important one. We are going to play a game like charades. One recruit will draw a card that tells them to act like a certain type of person. Another recruit will practice trying to witness to them.

DO: Hand out copies of the WITNESS guide to each recruit.

SAY: Before we begin, let's review some important reminders for witnessing that we learned today.

DO: Read through to clarify with team.

SAY: Awesome! Let's play.



Squad Leader,
 If you have a large group, you may wish to buddy up, take some time to rehearse a scenario and then have groups present to the whole team.



DO: Have recruits draw cards and act out a scenario. If stuck, ask questions such as:

- What would you do next?
- Is this a good place to witness?
- Does this person seem ready to hear what you're saying?
- How can you make this situation better for witnessing?

You can also have other recruits suggest what they could do next.

SAY: That was a great practice, team! Your goal for this week is to try and use your new information and tools to witness to others. If the chance to witness doesn't appear, you can always use other friends or family to practice witnessing just like we did here! God bless recruits!

NOTES:

LESSON 3



Sweet Message - Front

Print enough copies front and back for your recruits to have two copies each of the six cards. Cut apart.

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>This dark candy reminds me of the bad things we all do. No one is perfect! We all make mistakes, sometimes. Christians call it sin. I know I've sinned.</p> | <p>This dark candy reminds me of the bad things we all do. No one is perfect! We all make mistakes, sometimes. Christians call it sin. I know I've sinned.</p> |
| <p>Red makes me think of blood. The Bible mentions that Jesus died, so that we could be forgiven of all those mistakes. It's like he took our punishment for our bad choices.</p> | <p>Red makes me think of blood. The Bible mentions that Jesus died, so that we could be forgiven of all those mistakes. It's like he took our punishment for our bad choices.</p> |
| <p>This is white just like a clean sheet of paper. Because I believe that Jesus died for me and I am sorry for my sins, I get to start over! My mistakes are erased and I'm like a fresh sheet of paper.</p> | <p>This is white just like a clean sheet of paper. Because I believe that Jesus died for me and I am sorry for my sins, I get to start over! My mistakes are erased and I'm like a fresh sheet of paper.</p> |
| <p>Green candy is a lot like a tree in spring. It reminds me that I want to keep growing. I do this by praying and learning more about how God would want me to live. I find a lot of information about how to grow in my Bible.</p> | <p>Green candy is a lot like a tree in spring. It reminds me that I want to keep growing. I do this by praying and learning more about how God would want me to live. I find a lot of information about how to grow in my Bible.</p> |
| <p>Blue is like the sky and the winds that blow from it. It makes me think about the Holy Spirit. Just like the wind, the Spirit can be felt, but not seen. When you start believing in God, he sends the Holy Spirit into your heart to help you make good choices.</p> | <p>Blue is like the sky and the winds that blow from it. It makes me think about the Holy Spirit. Just like the wind, the Spirit can be felt, but not seen. When you start believing in God, he sends the Holy Spirit into your heart to help you make good choices.</p> |
| <p>This colour is just like gold. The Bible says that if we believe, we will get to live in Heaven a place where the streets are made of gold. Heaven will be awesome because we will live there with God forever.</p> | <p>This colour is just like gold. The Bible says that if we believe, we will get to live in Heaven a place where the streets are made of gold. Heaven will be awesome because we will live there with God forever.</p> |

Sweet Message - Back

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 |

Sweet Message - Blank Front

Print enough copies front and back with page 9 so each recruit has two copies of the six cards. Cut apart.

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| DARK | DARK |
| RED | RED |
| WHITE | WHITE |
| GREEN | GREEN |
| BLUE | BLUE |
| GOLD | GOLD |

WITNESS GUIDE

When witnessing,
always remember...



- W** wait until someone isn't busy
- I** in a quiet setting
- T** talk in simple words
- N** never judge
- E** explain things they might not understand
- S** share YOUR experiences
- S** step back! Let them decide

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Witness WHO?

Below are some different characters that your team must witness to. Feel free to make your own in the extra boxes.

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Someone who is a school bully. | Someone very shy. | Someone of a different faith. |
| Someone who thinks they already know it all. | Someone who is busy watching TV. | Someone who is really interested in knowing. |
| Someone who always needs proof about things. | Someone who is sad. | Someone who has been coming to youth events, but not church. |
| Someone who... | Someone who... | Someone who... |