

INTRODUCTION—CROATIA

A church has been established in Split and a church planting effort in nearby Trogir. Ministries include English classes, computer training, Bible studies, and sport outreaches. Camps are being held to reach neighbors, class contacts, and friendships developed through sports. A church/ministry center is a current project in Split.

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Croatia

Language:

Croatian ; Roman alphabet

Religion:

Roman Catholicism

Capital City:



Flag: Consists of 3 horizontal stripes red, white and blue
Red—stands for blood of Christian martyrs

White—Croatia's peaceful lamblike nature

Blue—Croatia's devotion to God

The flag also has a checkerboard coat of arms, which is the symbol of Croatian Kings.

On the top are 5 crowning coats, representing the historical regions of Croatia

Popular Food: Sarma
Prepared with sour cabbage, hamburger meat, tomato sauce and mashed potatoes.



Geography:

Beautiful waterfalls (Plitvica Lakes and Krka National Park), Dalmatia - Coastal areas with over 1000



Independence Day - October 8th

Statehood Day - June 25, historically more important as the day Croatia

Currency: Kuna = 100 lipa

5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 & 1000 kuna bank-notes



National Flower: Hrvatska Perunika (or Iris Croatica)

National Animal: Kuna (Marten) Long ago people used the fur of the kuna (a type of weasel) for trade purposes. This is where the

Weather:

Coastal Mediterranean climate and continental climate
Dry, sunny summers and cold, wet winters.
Known for its "Bura" winds - heavy sporadic hurricane



Famous architecture:

Diocletian's Palace - Split
305 AD The retirement home of a former Roman Emperor

Walls of Dubrovnik - 14th Century
A 2 km system of fortifications around the city. It is 4–6 m thick.

Pula Roman Coliseum - 27 B.C - 68 A.D.



National Sports: Nogomet (soccer), rukomet (handball), water polo and basketball.



Famous invention:

Kravat (the



Children's Story

Viktorija

I'd like to tell you about a little Croatian girl name Viktorija. From the moment I met her, I could tell that she was a very unique little girl from other girls her age. She just seemed to have a special joy oozing out of her. The more I got to know her and her family, I've come to realize that Viktorija has a very deep, genuine love for Jesus. She came to know Jesus before I met her, but I finally had a chance to find out her story and ask her a few questions.

When did you accept Jesus as your Savior?

I accepted Christ into my heart at children's camp in 2008 when the director invited the children to pray. I prayed... I was so sorry that I had sinned.

Who helped you make that decision?

My mom helped me make this decision. She was one of the directors of the camp. She prayed for me with one other director.

How are you helping others around you know more about Jesus?

In my Vjeronauk class (catechism) I explain things that are taught in the class. In daily situations I try to behave as Christ says I should (in arguments for example).

Can you share a story about when you told someone else about Jesus?

In school we watched the cartoon "Miracles of Jesus" and afterwards I explained everything to my friend, Paula.

What kind of influence does the church have on your walk with Christ?

I love to go to church. In Sunday School we learn about Jesus and the Bible and we pray.

The fact that we have an evangelical camp for children in this country is an amazing and wonderful thing. We praise God for believers that have grown strong in their faith and have a desire to pour into the lives

Memory Verse

Isaiah 58:12b

Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; You will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

The tools I suggest using are two-fold. You could use some type of building blocks – Styrofoam, cardboard, etc. and label each one with a word from the verse and “build” the verse, while building a wall.

To reinforce you could use “paper” gray bricks/stones which have the words to the verse printed on them and again “build” the verse/wall on paper, gluing them down in order.

Bible Lesson

Repairing Broken Walls

Background Information for the teacher: Very near to Split, Croatia is an ancient city called Salona. Some of the original walls remain, enough to help us imagine what the city might have been like at one time. This area of the world was (and still is) called Dalmatia. II Timothy 4:10 tells of various workers going to different parts of the world to evangelize "...and Titus to Dalmatia." The ancient city of Salona was, at that time in history, the religious and cultural city of Dalmatia, so it makes sense that this is most likely where Titus was sent. However, now, instead of a thriving city, it lies in ruins.

Interesting enough, this parallels with the spiritual condition of most of Europe. This area of the world was home to many of the earliest Christians. Because of persecution, they spread all over Europe and the church grew and thrived. However, now this area is called "The Dark Continent" because of its enormous population that claims to be atheistic. Much of the culture expresses an absence of God. It is to these people that we have the responsibility to restore the Truth by becoming "repairers of broken walls and restorers of streets with dwellings."

Lesson

- Show a picture of some ruins (forts, walls, etc.) (see resource section p. 116 for pictures). Discuss what ruins are, what they used to be, etc. If possible, show a picture of what the ruins looked like originally.
- Discuss the rebuilding of Jerusalem's ruins mentioned in Nehemiah:

Nehemiah 1:1-4 Nehemiah is deeply saddened and troubled over the news that the city of Jerusalem is in ruins. He prays and fasts, seeking guidance from God.

Nehemiah 2:4-5 Nehemiah seeks permission from the king to go back and rebuild the walls.

Nehemiah 2:17-18 Nehemiah finds others to help him in the rebuilding process.

Nehemiah 4:13-18 In spite of opposition, the people continue to rebuild.

Nehemiah 12:27, 40-43 Nehemiah and the people thank God for the success of restoring the walls of Jerusalem.

- Tell the children the brief history of Croatia, written above. (in simple words depending on the children's ages.)
- Discuss the role of a missionary. On one hand, it is to go to unreached places, share the love of Christ, and win souls for Him. On the other hand, it is to go and awaken a nation that has Christianity in its ancient roots, but has forgotten its own history and now has a new generation of people that is lost. This is the case in Europe.

Ball tag.

It's called Neka Tuče. Sounds like: Ne ka to chay.

So the children stand in a circle and there's a ball in the middle. They all reach out for the ball, while the teacher calls out "Neka tuče, neka tuče and _____ a word that describes someone in the group like a specific color they have on, or their nickname or something they are known for or you could even give them code words before the game.

When the "it" person or teacher calls a name/person or description out, everyone except that person runs as fast as they can away from the ball.

The person called grabs the ball and yells "stop!" Everyone must stop and the person with the ball tries to hit the person closest to him with the ball.

If he hits them, he gets a point. If he misses, he loses a point.
. The person who is hit loses a point.

Everyone begins with 5 points. Repeat this cycle for a specified time. At the end of the time the person with the most points wins.

Game
Time

Time for Prayer

1. Pray that “Mara” will hunger for God and long to grow deeper in her faith.
2. Pray for funding for our Ministry Center project in Split.
3. Pray for English classes at the church for adults beginning in the Fall. Pray that trusting relationships will be built for the purpose of evangelism.
4. Pray for a couple to be raised up from the church to partner with missionaries for church planting in a second location.
5. Pray for the church planting work in Trogir. Pray that the missionaries will be able to make forward strides in evangelism there.

Activity

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T	S	L	A	R	T	P	V	C	Z	L	A	K	P	O
W	D	X	N	E	G	A	I	H	G	Q	X	P	T	Q
L	N	A	U	P	X	V	J	E	R	O	N	A	U	K
M	H	J	K	A	C	L	I	T	Q	Y	C	G	T	X
D	B	I	I	I	A	B	C	G	M	T	V	D	L	G
Z	B	R	O	R	H	I	I	O	A	V	A	X	B	B
N	N	O	A	E	A	O	T	V	J	L	D	A	M	M
O	Q	T	C	R	P	I	A	A	M	U	T	O	I	M
G	U	K	F	O	U	R	Y	A	O	I	P	U	D	A
O	A	I	Z	F	K	B	T	U	G	R	Z	H	J	O
M	M	V	Q	W	Z	I	M	W	X	T	C	H	M	A
E	S	S	I	A	A	V	J	O	H	G	J	L	Z	U
T	I	Y	Z	L	V	M	B	R	T	T	G	U	P	W
I	Z	I	B	L	S	S	U	O	P	V	P	Z	F	K
Y	L	G	I	S	L	E	S	A	R	M	A	L	O	F

bura

nogomet

croatia

repairerofwalls

dalmatia

sarma

kravat

viktorija

kuna

vjeronauk