

Introduction India

Pastor Linus was headed to USA for secular studies, a good job, big dreams. Everything was ready, but God called him to full time ministry in India. He decided to serve amongst the Indians of his own country. In 1990 after completing his B.Th. Pastor Linus started his ministry in Wesleyan church in the souther part of Gujarat in In 1991 he started working in Vapi, Silvassa and Madhuvan area (also in South Gujarat). He married Seema and both of them worked for the church as well in the school. Now all three churches are established and growing

Also there is full-fledged school up to 12th grade and another school up to 7th grade. God is using both Pastor Linus and Seema in different ways through Bible studies, youth and women's ministries. God has really blessed these ministries. Thanks also to all the teams from the Wesleyan conference in Gujarat. All glory and honour to Almighty, Jesus.

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India has more mosques and temples than any other country. Tirupathi has the most pilgrims. Most famous is the Taj Majal. Birthplace of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism.

India Cuisine (top to bottom)

Tandoori chicken, Kudumulu, masala, Roti, Curry

Musical Instruments: (top to bottom) Vichitra vina, Sitar, Punji, Harmonium, Dil-

Clothing styles: L to R
lehenga choli, kurta,
Salwar, sherwani,
Sari

A sign of disrespect for a wife is to say her husband's name out loud



Christians
have lived
here since 52AD
Oldest University
founded in 700BC

Never has invaded another country. Largest producer of milk

Chess, snakes and ladders, yoga, calculus and Sanskrit all originated in India.

More software and movies are produced in India than any other country. Bollywood is the Hollywood of India

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Foods from India
Radish; Eggplant
Mango; Calabash
Largest producer of
Kidney beans and
chickpeas

Grasping one's car is a sign of repentance or sincerity.


ND A

Find these animals
Bengal Tiger, Snow
Leopard, rhinoceros,
peacock

Incredible India

SIUS =
56,110 rupees

Akbar the Great
Salmon Rashdie
Ravi Shankar
Nehru
Ghandi

Sports 
Field Hockey, Cricket

Children's Story

When Sahil was in high school he and his mother had to leave home because they believed in Jesus. His father did not believe and was very upset because of their faith. For five long years Sahil's mother raised the her son alone. They had man difficulties, bu they never gave up nor did they compromise their faith in the Lord. They continually prayed for the father. Finally they got a call from their family to return back home. Sahil returned home fully equipped with God's word and God's love. He helped his father to develop his faith in Christ. They now as a family enjoy Christian fellowship and attend regularly cottage meetings and other meetings. The whole family is being used as testimony to many others

Rashmi, grew up in a Hindu home. Her father is still a Hindu, but her mother accepted Christ as her personal saviour. Hats off to Rashmi as she taught her illiterate mother to read and write. Now her mother reads the Bible in Hindi and prays. God chose Rashmi to help her mother grow spiritually, even though she is only in 6th grade.

Yet another story is of an innocent boy named Rohan. Even though his parents are Hindu, they bring both their children to church on Sundays for worship. Rohan attends Sunday school where he learned to read Bible, pray and memorize verses. Rohan and his family are not Christians yet, but we believe they will soon accept Jesus as their personal saviour. They are economically very weak but we praise the Lord for their faithfulness in coming to church.

Our prayer for all of these families is to grow in the Lord and that they may be able to bring other family members and friends to the Christ.

Memory Activity

Ps 40:3

He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
and put their trust in the Lord.

Rhythm Game

Write the verse on the chalk board or large piece of paper. Make sure it is large enough so all can see and read it.

Have children form a circle. Toss a ball or other object from person to person. Each time a person catches the ball they must say the next word of the verse. They can throw the ball to anyone. Do this several times seeing how fast they can say the verse.

If your group is large enough you could form two circles and have a competition between each group for the fastest time, least number of mistakes, best rhythm etc.

Bible Lesson

1 Kings 17:1-16

The prophet Elijah told King Ahab that there would be no rain for the next few years. Do you think that that was a popular thing for him to say? (No) Why do we need rain? (We need rain so the plants and crops will grow – giving us food to eat, so the rivers and lakes will be full, so animals can live and grow, etc.) King Ahab was likely unhappy with what Elijah told him. Maybe he wanted to hurt Elijah.

God told Elijah to go and hide near the Kerith Brook. What is a brook? A brook is a small river. God told Elijah that he could drink water from the brook and the birds would bring bread and meat to him every morning and night. Isn't it great how God provided for Elijah's needs?

But, verse 7 tells us that "...the brook dried up because of the lack of rain" (TEV). Elijah needed the water from the brook to live. It met his physical needs. What would happen if Elijah had no water for several days? (Elijah would die.) Now what could Elijah do? Do you think he panicked or became angry? Maybe. But, Elijah knew that God would take care of him. And He did.

Verse 8 tells us that God told Elijah to go to the town gate in Zerephath. God had already prepared a woman to provide for him. When Elijah got to the city, he saw a widow collecting firewood. He asked her for a drink and a piece of bread.

Read verses 12-14 as a class. Have the children retell the conversation that Elijah had with the widow.

The Bible tells us that the widow obeyed Elijah and did exactly as he told her. And, just like Elijah promised, her bowl never ran out of flour and the jar never ran out of oil.

Sometimes we are in situations where things look hopeless. Maybe we even think that God has forgotten us. But, look at the story of Elijah. He had to hide from King Ahab. The water that God gave him to drink dried up. And the widow only had enough flour for one more meal. All of those things could have made Elijah very sad and scared.

But, God took care of Elijah - just like He will always take care of you and me.

Battle of Knowledge

Game of wits, skill and good aim. (Team play)

Materials:

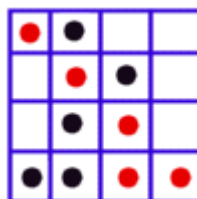
Masking tape

Small bean bag or rolled-up sock

1 piece of red construction paper

1 piece of black construction paper

16 review questions



Duration:

15 minutes

Preparation:

Before class, create 16 review questions. Cut out eight red circles and eight black circles. Take the masking tape and create a sixteen-sectioned grid on the floor. The grid should be four sections wide by four sections deep (see example above). Each section should be equal in size. Divide the children up into two teams.

What you will do:

To win the game, you must get four circles in a row for your team. Have person stand 2 meters from box. Taking turns, each team throws the beanbag or sock into an unoccupied square and then gets a chance to answer a question. If they do not land in an unoccupied square they lose their turn.

If the throwing team answers the question correctly, they get to put one of their circles in that square. If the throwing team answers incorrectly, the other team gets a chance to answer the same question. If the other team answers correctly, they get to put one of their circles in the square. Once a circle is in a square, it cannot be removed. Members of each teams can work together to answer the question, but each team member must take a turn throwing the beanbag or sock. If neither team gets four in a row, the game is a draw.

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Time for Prayer

Pray for the children of our country which makes up 40% of the total population. Most of the population live in rural area.

Pray for the children those who do not go school, that they may get the opportunity to grow and learn.

Pray for those children who do not have parents and lack love and care.

Pray for those who are ill treated and assaulted.

Pray for the children to accept Jesus as their Saviour, to study well and to get good positions in life.

Pray for the unity and peace in the nation. Also pray for all the leaders of the country.

Activity

Activity

Mine Field

This game teaches kids the value of communication and trust. It works best if you have a large area, indoor or outdoor.

Set up a series of obstacles (chairs, tables, balls, etc), creating a mock mine field.

Ask the group to pair off in groups of two. One person is blind folded and must make their way through the 'mine field' by listening to their partner. Their partner verbally talks them through but cannot enter the mine field. If the person hits a 'mine lose their turn and another group beings. After everyone has gone through, swap roles.

At the end of the game, talk about what they learned about communication and trust.

- **what was helpful communication and what wasn't?**
- **was it easy to trust your guide?**
- **what were some of their feelings - fear, safety, etc?**
- **was it easier going first or last team?**

Discuss the importance of effective communication and team work in sharing about Jesus.