

LESSON

2



Welcome Back!

It's time to focus on the mission we began in our last session. Who remembers what our mission is called?

(Time for kids to answer)

Yes! Mission Kid! Who remembers what "missions" means?

(Time for kids to answer)

Missions is a really awesome part about following Jesus. It means that we learn about Jesus and the Bible, just like we're doing together, and then we get to go and tell other people about what we learned! AND we get to help people by doing the good things Jesus taught us to do.

Who can remind us what mission we're on? Who are we trying to help?

(Time for kids to answer)

Yes, we're working together to help vulnerable children! An orphan is a child who doesn't have a mom or dad. At-risk children do have parents, but they can't take care of them. And we're learning about at-risk children from where?

(Time for kids to answer)

Yes, Ukraine!

Last time we learned several fun facts about Ukraine. In their culture, they love playing basketball, rugby, and chess. They eat food like fish, sausage, and bread.

However, because of poverty (being very poor) and addiction in Ukraine, many parents aren't able to care for their children. Kids in Ukraine who live in vulnerable situations may not have access to basic things like food or access to school. They may even live in dangerous situations where they can be hurt by others or get sick.

One ministry that helps kids have a better life is Heritage Ukraine. They help educate children who are orphans, who are at-risk, or who have special needs.

Today, I want to tell you about one of the ministries of Heritage Ukraine. We will meet kids who are just like all of us! In fact, all orphans or at-risk kids are just like us. They like to play sports. They have favorite colors and dream of what they want to be when they grow up. They like to have fun and laugh with friends just like you do!

The ministry we'll learn about today is the Jesus and Me Day Center, or JAM.

Can everyone say "JAM?"

JAM is a special place for kids in Ukraine who need a safe place to go. Kids come to JAM every Saturday.

Do you like to play outside?

(Time for kids to answer)

The boys' club has fun playing outside just like you do. The boys learn how to make fires and they cook hotdogs. They also learn woodcarving and knot tying.

Do you like to play games?

(Time for kids to answer)

The girls club plays games with each other and makes crafts. In one of their favorite games, they are blindfolded!

The boys' and girls' clubs at JAM are so much fun! All kids like to have fun, and even though these kids at Heritage Ukraine are having a lot of fun, they are also learning a lot!

Volunteers spend time with these kids by teaching them life skills and discipling them. These mentors, who love God and all of His creation, also share the Bible with these kids. As the boys and girls learn they can trust their mentors through playing games and learning life skills like cooking, they also learn about trusting God in their own lives.

Sharing the gospel is the most important part of JAM and the most important part of our mission as Christians. It's important to remember our mission because the more we remember it, the more we will get excited to help these kids! Plus, any time we start a mission we need to make sure we understand why doing it is so important. And helping vulnerable children is so important because the Word of God tells us to.

In your Bible, Luke 8:14-15 says "The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear the Word, but as they go their way they are choked by life's worries, riches, and pleasures and they do not mature. But the seed that fell on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the Word, retain it, and patiently produce a good crop."

Let's do two things to strengthen our mission.

1. As JAM reaches out to at-risk children in Ukraine, let's pray that more and more children come to JAM to not only learn life skills, but also learn about Jesus Christ. Prayer is so important, and we know God hears us!

2. And as we pray, we can also serve together. We may not be able to travel to Ukraine, but there is one thing we can do.

One way you can serve children in Ukraine is through raising money to send to Heritage Ukraine so they can continue to share the good news of Jesus with boys and girls in Ukraine. The really exciting idea we have to help you raise money is that you can host a Stand for Orphans! It's pretty simple and VERY fun! you can make lemonade or bake cookies or make just about anything to sell at your stand to help raise money for at-risk children to be a part of Heritage Ukraine! (Find out more about that online at www.stand-fororphans.org.)

What could you make to raise money for at-risk children in Ukraine?

Can we circle up and hold hands to pray? Let's pray for the at-risk kids in Ukraine and that God would help us to remember that at-risk children are kids just like us who need love from Jesus.

(Lead them in prayer.)

Day 2 Activity Options

1. Individual Option- Pray for Ukraine Small Flags

Using yellow and blue construction paper, cut out pieces for children to make Ukrainian flags. Give every child one strip of blue paper, one strip of yellow paper, and a piece of white construction paper. Using the white paper as a base, have the children tape or glue the blue strip onto the paper. Then, add the yellow strip. They can then write "James 1:27" or "Pray for Orphans" or another message on the flag. Remind the kids they can hang that up at home as a reminder to pray for at-risk and orphaned children in Ukraine.

2. Group Option- Pray for Ukraine Big Flags

Form a few small groups and put a volunteer with each one. Using a white poster board with a pre-drawn design of the Ukrainian flag on it, let the kids in each small group work together to paint the blue and yellow parts onto the flag. You may want to have a picture of the flag handy (See the last two pages of this lesson for printable examples. One is in color and one is in black and white.) You can also write "blue" and "yellow" in pencil where they are supposed to paint those colors. Hang each small group's flag in your area as decorations for the rest of the week.



Join the Parents!
Take a closer look at what we learned today!

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Color your own copy of Ukraine's flag

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