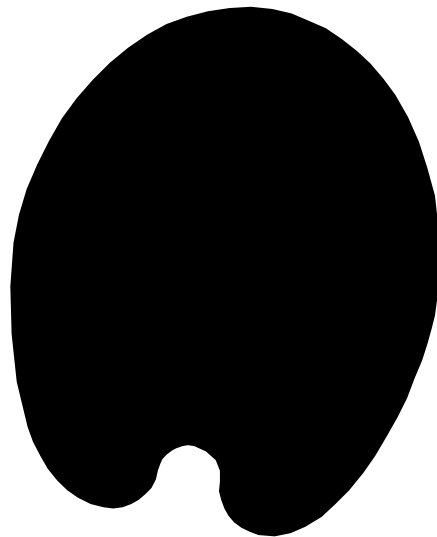
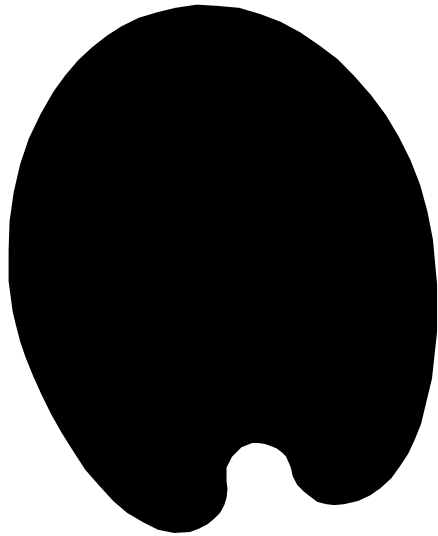


Bible stories



zebra

punda milia

Day One: Life on a Shamba

Today we heard Wayua's story about life on her family's shamba, or farm. In it, she spoke of the importance of the weir Canadian Baptist Ministries and their Kenyan partner, the Africa Brotherhood Church, helped to build in her village. There's a story in the Bible that speaks about life-giving water, listen closely.

Read: John 4:1-41

Questions: Ages 5-9

1. Who does Jesus talk to in this story?
A Samaritan woman.
2. What does Jesus ask the woman for?
A drink of water from the well.
3. Why didn't she want to give the water to Jesus?
Because she is a Samaritan woman and he is a Jewish man – Samaritans and Jews didn't interact.
4. What did Jesus offer to her, and to everyone who believes in Him?
Life-giving water – will never thirst again; salvation.
5. Wayua spoke of life-giving water from the well – who else is "life-giving" water?
Jesus.
6. How can we help others to learn about Jesus and his life-giving water?
Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, bring them to church, tell them about the Bible, etc.

Questions: Ages 9+

1. Who does Jesus meet at the well?
A Samaritan woman.
2. Why didn't the woman want to give water to Jesus?
Because she is a Samaritan and Jesus is a Jew – Samaritans and Jews did not associate/talk with one another.
3. How can we reach out to others, who are not "like" us (as Jesus reached out to the Samaritan woman)?
Answers will vary, but may include: speak to them, try to offer them friendship, ignore social biases/norms, be nice to others, etc.
4. What did Jesus offer the woman and everyone else who believes in him?
Life-giving water, which is salvation.
5. Why is water so important to all living things?
Answers will vary, but may include: to drink, survival, grow food, cleaning, etc.

6. What do you think life-giving water means for Wayua?

Answers will vary, but may include: health, drink, cooking, caring for farm/animals, etc.

7. What do you think life-giving water means for Jesus?

Answers will vary, but may include: spiritual well-being, new life/hope, spiritual growth, etc.

8. How can we teach others about His gift?

Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, invite them to church, tell them about the Bible, offer them friendship and understanding, etc.

Day Two: Fleeing to my Neighbour's Place

In today's story, we met Esther. Esther told us all about what happened after the presidential elections in December 2007 – of the violence and fighting that caused her family to leave their home. She also spoke about her neighbour Laurence, who opened up his compound and welcomed in 650 neighbours! Can you imagine letting that many people stay in your home and yard? I have a story from the Bible that speaks about welcoming neighbours into our home, let's listen to what Jesus tells us about this.

Read: Matthew 25: 31-46

Questions: Ages 5-9

1. This passage speaks of the Son of Man, or Jesus, when He is in heaven. Where does he put the sheep (those who believe) and the goats (those who don't)?

Sheep on the right, goats on the left

2. The King, or Jesus, said that when He was hungry and thirsty, His people did what for Him? How did they do this?

They helped Him – fed Him, gave Him clothes, visited Him, and invited Him in.

They helped Jesus whenever they helped those in need.

3. How did Laurence reach out to Esther and his neighbours and strangers?

Opened up his home/compound as a safe place for them when their homes were damaged/destroyed in the fighting. Laurence gave them shelter and safety.

4. What does Jesus promise to those who help the needy?

Salvation – heaven, eternal life.

5. How can you reach out to your neighbours or the needy?

Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, volunteering at shelters, donating food/clothing to needy, inviting people to church, etc.

Questions: Ages 9+

1. Who is the Son of Man?
Jesus.
2. What does the Son of Man do with His people? Why do you think that is?
Separates them like a shepherd separates his flock – sheep to the right and goats to the left.
Answers will vary, but may include: to separate good from the bad, as a way of recognizing who has done good deeds, etc.
3. When the King (Jesus) was hungry, thirsty or otherwise in need, how did His followers react?
They gave Him food, clothing and drink, they visited Him in prison, and they welcomed Him in.
4. How did Jesus' followers help? How didn't they help?
By reaching out to those in need.
By not reaching out to those in need.
5. How did Laurence reach out to Jesus?
By opening his home/property to over 650 of his neighbours. By welcoming the stranger in, Laurence and his family welcomed Christ in.
6. What promise does Jesus make to those who help the needy? Why do you think that is?
Salvation – heaven.
Answers will vary, but should include: because they treated others well, because they followed Jesus' teaching, because they tried to live a good life, etc.
7. What promise does Jesus make to those who don't help the needy? Why do you think that is?
Curses them – not welcomed into heaven.
Answers will vary, but should include: because they didn't care for others, because they didn't reach out or help others, because they didn't follow Jesus' teaching, etc.
8. How can you reach out the needy (Jesus)?
Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, fundraising, awareness raising, volunteering at shelters, donating food/clothing, inviting people to church, etc.

Day Three: Life in a Refugee Camp

Today's Kenyan story came from David. He told us about his brother Timothy and the rest of his family, and what happened to their home. He shared a little about what it is like being "Internally Displaced Persons" and having to leave all that they had behind and start a new life in a refugee camp. David spoke a lot about perseverance – of not giving up, and of holding onto hope, even when life got very tough. There are a couple of verses in the Bible that I'd like to share. They tell us more about perseverance, and what we can do when life gets difficult.

Read: Hebrews 12: 1-3

Questions: Ages 5-9

1. What are we to do when we face trouble or do wrong things?
Look at Jesus and how He lived; throw it off –run the race marked out for us.
2. Jesus is a great example of what it means to persevere. What does “persevere” mean? How did Jesus persevere? *To endure; not give up; etc.*

Jesus endured opposition to His teachings; He died on the cross – He persevered to show us that He is the Messiah.
3. How are David, Timothy and the rest of their family showing perseverance?
Living life in the camp, going to school, trying to start over, not getting caught up in despair, having hope.
4. Where does David, Timothy and the rest of their family find strength in this difficult time?
Their faith in Jesus.
5. When we are struggling and want to give up, what should we do?
Answers will vary, but may include: look to Jesus, pray, ask friends/pastor for help, read the Bible, persevere, etc.
6. How can we help others to persevere?
Answers will vary, but may include: encourage others, pray for them, tell them about Jesus, etc.

Questions: Ages 9+

1. How does sin hinder or entangle us?
Answers will vary, but may include: causes problems; conflict; lose hope; feel bad; not trusted
2. What should we do when we are caught up by sin, or struggling?
Look to Jesus; ask for help and forgiveness;
3. What did Jesus have to endure?
Being doubted by others; dying on the cross for our sins.
4. How is Jesus an example of perseverance?
He went to the cross with joy – He dealt with His hardships with grace and dignity. He didn’t give up even when death was looking Him in the face.
5. Jesus is the what of our faith? What do you think this means?
Perfecter of our faith.
Answers will vary, but may include: made things right between God and humanity, fully understands what it means to have faith in God, followed all of God’s commands, treated others with respect and fairness at all times, always willing to help others, etc.
6. How are David, Timothy and their family examples of perseverance?
They left everything they knew and had and went to live in a camp. They don’t dwell on what they have lost – instead they are trying to move forward with their lives (i.e. go to school, etc.). They aren’t complaining about what happening, but dealing with it. Showing others hope.

7. How do you think David, Timothy and their family are able to persevere?
Their faith in Jesus and the belief in His promises.
8. When we are struggling, how can we find the strength to persevere?
Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, relying on Jesus, reaching out to friends/family/pastor for help, know that God has a greater plan, know that we can get beyond what we are facing if we rely on God, etc.
9. How can we help others to persevere when they face hardships?
Answers will vary, but may include: pray, encourage them, tell others about Jesus, let them know that they aren't alone, etc.

Day Four: Life as an orphan: Nzuki's story

Who remembers our story today? Who did we meet? That's right, Nzuki. She told us about her life as an orphan, and as the acting-mother to her two younger sisters. She told us about how her aunt helped her and also about an amazing group called Guardians of Hope. She spoke a lot about God's promises and the hope she finds both from the Group and in her faith. Today I have a Bible story that may help us to understand why the Guardians of Hope groups do what they do, and how and why we too should help those in need.

Read: John 1: 1-14

Questions: Ages 5-9

1. What or who came in the beginning?
The Word – God.
2. What is found in Him?
Life.
3. Where does the light shine? What doesn't understand the light?
*Light (God) shines in the darkness (absence of God).
The darkness (absence of God) does not understand the light (God).*
4. What did John do? What did John want to show us?
*Testified about the light (God).
He wanted to show us the light (God) and teach us about God.*
5. The passage speaks of believers receiving Jesus, what do you think this means?
Answers will vary, but may include: believing in Jesus; following God's commands; following Jesus' example; treating other's with respect, etc.
6. How did the Guardians of Hope group receive Nzuki and her sisters?
With respect and love – they accepted Nzuki and her sisters, and gave them encouragement.
7. How does Guardians of Hope show God's light to others?
Encouragement, acceptance, help, hope, love, support, etc.

8. How can we show God's light to others?

Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, support, encouragement, tell them about Jesus, bring them to church, volunteer, donate time/money/things, etc.

Questions: Ages 9+

1. What/who came in the beginning?

The Word – God.

2. Through who, what is made?

Through God all things are made.

3. Who is the light?

God/Jesus.

4. Where does the light shine? What doesn't understand the light?

The light (God) shines in the darkness (absence of God).

The darkness (absence of God) doesn't understand the light (God).

5. What did John do? Why?

John proclaimed the light – he told others of the coming of Jesus so that they would accept Him. John wanted all to become children of God.

6. What right did Jesus give to all who understood/accepted Him?

To become children of God.

7. How did the Guardians of Hope group receive Nzuki and her sisters?

With respect and love – they accepted Nzuki and her sisters, and gave them encouragement and support.

8. How does Guardians of Hope show God's light to others?

Encouragement, acceptance, help, hope, love, support, etc.

9. Nzuki hasn't given up, even though her life is very hard, why do you think that is?

Answers will vary, but may include: faith, belief in the light, hope in God's promises, support of the Group as an example of God's promises, etc.

10. How can we show God's light to others?

Answers will vary, but may include: prayer, volunteering, fundraising, awareness raising, helping others, bringing others to church, telling others about Jesus, living according to Jesus' teachings, etc.

Day Five: Life as an orphan: Kyala's story

Over the past week, we've heard many stories from Kenya. From Wayua's life on a shamba, to Esther's and David's stories of fleeing from their home. We heard about Nzuki and her sisters, and how the Guardians of Hope group gave them a new family. Today we heard about Kyala and his four sisters. Kyala is only 17 but he is the head of his household – he is not only the big brother, but mother and father to his younger sisters. This is hard work for a young man, but Kyala does not give up. Instead, he tells us of hope and new life. He speaks fondly of the Guardians

of Hope and all that they have done. His story reminds me of a story in the Bible – one that explains to us how we can find the same hope and promises that has helped Kyala and his family in their difficult time.

Read: John 10: 1-18

Questions: Ages 5-9

1. Who does Jesus say he is?
The gate for the sheep.
2. As the gate, what happens to those who enter through, or believe in, Jesus?
They will be saved – go to heaven.
3. Why is Jesus a good shepherd? Who does He know, and who knows Him?
*Because He knows all of His sheep (people) by name.
His sheep (people) know Him.*
4. What did Jesus lay down for us?
His life – He died on a cross for our sins.
5. What is His promise to us?
That we will be saved – go to heaven.
6. The Guardians of Hope reached out to Kyala and his family like Jesus in what way?
They were kind and generous. They treated Kyala and his sisters with respect. They did what they could to help them.
7. How does Kyala and his family show their belief in Jesus?
They see hope despite their difficult situation.
8. How can we show our belief in Jesus?
Answers will vary, but may include: go to church, treat others with respect, show love to others, help people, pray, invite others to church, etc.

Questions: Ages 9+

1. Jesus tells us He is what for the sheep?
A gate.
2. As the gate, what happens to those who enter through Him? What do you think this means?
*Whoever enters through Him will be saved.
That our belief in Jesus is what gives us entrance into Heaven.*
3. When Jesus speaks of Himself as the shepherd, who are the sheep?
God's people – us.
4. What makes Jesus a good shepherd? Why?
He knows the names of all his sheep (people).

If Jesus knows each of us by name, it shows us how important we are to him. We aren't just a random person, but someone He knows and cares for deeply. He is a good shepherd because he wants to have a personal relationship with each and every one of God's people.

5. What gift did Jesus give all of God's people?
His death on the cross. He died for our sins.
6. What promise does Jesus offer to all who believe in Him?
Salvation – entrance into Heaven.
7. The Guardians of Hope reached out to Kyala and his family like Jesus in what way?
They were kind and generous. They treated Kyala and his sisters with respect. They did what they could to help them.
8. How does Kyala and his family show their belief in Jesus?
They see hope despite their difficult situation.
9. Do Kyala and his family rely on Jesus as their shepherd? How?
Yes – by putting their future in their hands. By not giving up hope or getting angry at their situation. By persevering. By showing love and expressing their faith to others.
10. How can we receive the same hope Kyala and his family has?
By accepting Jesus and following His teachings.
11. How can we show our belief in Jesus to others?
Answers will vary, but may include: go to church, treat others with respect, show love to others, help people, pray, invite others to church, etc.