



zoe empowers

MISSION MOMENTS FOR CHILDREN

ACTIVITY SET #2

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

This resource has five activity sheets with accompanying stories, as well as offering ideas and gift equivalencies to help you dream big about the ways your children's ministry can help children living in extreme poverty help themselves.

*For each Mission Moment, share the story with your group, and reflect on the **Think About It** questions together. Provide a copy of each handout to each child, along with a Zoe offering box (on the first day). After your discussion, ask each child to take the handout and box home. Ask them to share the story with their family and complete the **Share and Pray** activities before returning the next day. You can request free foldable offering boxes to be mailed to you at <https://zoeempowers.org/resource/printable-prayer-boxes/>.*

OFFERING IDEAS

Choose a goal. *On each of the following activity sheets, children are invited to bring in an offering. Using the list of gift equivalencies on the following page, communicate what your offering will do. For example: \$500 could mean a pair of rabbits each for 50 children. Attach information about your goal to the following activity and story sheets.*

Don't be afraid to dream big. *Get your whole faith community involved. In addition to children's offering, promote extra giving ideas and/or invite your congregation to contribute to their offering. Everyone will enjoy partnering with your children to help them reach and even exceed their hopes and dreams. The Children's Ministry team in one Zoe partner church decided to raise money for a Zoe home. The congregation was so inspired, they raised enough for two homes and the children were amazed at what God could do through everyone working together.*

OTHER GIVING IDEAS

Children's Giving Tree: *Let children make donation cards that reflect your project. For instance, if you choose to raise money for 50 rabbit pairs, children could decorate fifty \$10 rabbit donation cards.*

Gifts that Help: *Children and adults can run an alternative giving market and "sell" Zoe Gifts that Help. Zoe Empowers can provide bookmarks and gift cards representing different items that can be sold at certain price levels. Visit <https://zoeempowers.org/resource/gift-catalog-alternative-gift-market-guide/> to view the gifts, download an alternative market guide, and request free resources to host a market.*

Incredible Things: *Ask pastor or church leader to do an "incredible thing" if you reach your goal such as give the worship benediction from the rooftop or wear a funny costume during worship or community activity. Come up with your own idea based on the goal you select!*

GIFT EQUIVALENCIES

- \$6** *One watering can to help children water their growing plants.*
- \$8** *One large bag of seed that a Zoe child can use to plant and grow maize.*
- \$10** *A pair of rabbits for a family of orphans to raise.*
- \$12** *Six banana seedlings that will produce big bananas for a child to eat and sell.*
- \$15** *A set of cooking utensils for an orphan to become a baker.*
- \$25** *Cooking pots for four children to boil water and cook healthy food.*
- \$50** *A goat or a pig for a Zoe child to raise.*
- \$55** *A backpack sprayer to help an orphan water plants and spread fertilizer.*
- \$85** *An ox-plough to help orphans tend large fields.*
- \$100** *Farming tools for an Empowerment Group of 60-100 children to dig gardens.*
- \$150** *A sewing machine for an orphan to become a tailor.*
- \$200** *A set of building tools for an orphan to become a carpenter.*
- \$250** *Bibles for an Empowerment Group of 60-100 children.*
- \$500** *Vocational training and small business start-up materials for one orphan to learn a skill like carpentry, hairdressing, or tailoring and start a business.*
- \$1,000** *Mosquito nets and blankets for an Empowerment Group of 60-100 children.*
- \$1,200** *Three baby calves that will grow into dairy cows that provide milk to drink.*
- \$2,500** *Seeds for 180 children to grow 30 acres of vegetables.*
- \$5,000** *All material costs for two homes for children to live in.*
- \$8,500** *Covers all the costs for an Empowerment Group of 60-100 children to change their lives through ZOE for one year. (This can be the first-year pledge towards becoming an Empowerment Group Partner, which is a wonderful experience for a church. You can learn more about becoming an Empowerment Group Partner by contacting Gaston Warner at 919.414.4167 or at gaston@zoeempowers.org. To sign up and learn more, visit <https://zoeempowers.org/empowerment-group-partners/>.)*

PRIYA'S STORY

Priya lives in India. She wears a dress that is called a sari. Although she is a girl and likes pink, she also likes to do things that boys do.

In India, fishing is boys' work, but Priya likes to fish. So when she joined Zoe Empowers, she asked for a boat so she could make money for her family by fishing. She had her own net but no boat, so Zoe Empowers gave her a boat. Now she uses her boat and net to catch fish. At first, she didn't catch many fish, but after the rains came, there were more fish and she caught a lot. Twenty-two pounds of fish to sell! Now she makes enough money to buy food and supplies for her family. Priya also gives money back to her Zoe Empowerment Group for their savings to help others in her group.



Think About It

1. *Jesus chose fishermen for his disciples. How does it seem that Priya is being a disciple?*
2. *Do you like to do things that are not usually done by girls (if you are a girl) or boys (if you are a boy)? What are they?*
3. *When you eat fish, you can think of Priya and say a prayer for her and her working group in India.*

Share

Many families have cans or packages of tuna fish or other meat in their cabinet. Count the packages of fish or meat in your cabinet or refrigerator. Give a dime for each can or package.

Pray

Dear God, thank you for the people you have created who are different from us. Thank you for your blessings to us and help us to share with those who have less than we do. Amen.

GIOVANI'S STORY

Giovani had a very hard life in his village in Guatemala. His family was poor, and he never had enough to eat. Boys in a gang wanted him to join them, but he didn't want to be in a gang. He dreamed of coming to America, and even had a plan to travel by himself on a long bus ride to get to the United States — a very dangerous trip for a 15-year-old boy.

Then Zoe Empowers came to his village and invited him to become part of a group. He was not sure that it would help him, but he decided to try. Zoe Empowers taught him how to care for farm animals and gave him five chickens. Then, he was taught how to start his own business. With help from Zoe Empowers, Giovani now raises and sells chickens in his village. With the money he makes, he buys food for his family. Now they have enough to eat. And Giovani knows that God cares for him because his group shows him love and caring like God does.



Think About It

1. *How did Zoe Empowers help Giovani?*
2. *Do you know anyone who raises chickens? What do you think people have to do to take care of chickens?*
3. *Giovani speaks Spanish. What Spanish words do you know?*

Share

Count the eggs in your home and give a nickel for each egg you have.

Pray

Thank you God for the food you give us to eat. Thank you for eggs and chickens that people raise so that we may have good meals. Bless Giovani and his family as they serve you. Amen.

ANGELIQUE'S STORY

Angelique and her sister Clementine are orphans living in Rwanda. When their parents died, they had no relatives to help them and no home to live in. They lived on the streets and begged for food, and could not go to school. They had a hard time getting enough food to eat. They were so hungry they cried and cried.

Then Zoe Empowers came to her village, and she was invited to join a Zoe Empowerment Group with other orphans. She was so happy. With her group she planted bananas on their farm, which she now eats and sells for money. Zoe Empowers helped her start her own business with a friend. The two of them buy sorghum (a kind of grain) that they roast, grind and cook into a delicious drink that they sell in the village.

Now Angelique and her sister have enough money to rent a house to live in and to buy food, clothes and other things they need. They are both very glad they can go back to school. Angelique is thankful to God for her friends in Zoe Empowers and that she no longer has to be hungry.



Think About It

1. *Have you ever been really hungry? What did you do?*
2. *Who are the people who help you have food each day?*
3. *If you could tell Angelique something to make her feel good, what would you say?*

Share

Angelique and her friends in Rwanda each have only one spoon and one bowl to eat from. Count the spoons and bowls in your home and give a dime for each.

Pray

Dear God, we have so much to eat, and people to prepare it for us. May we be grateful for the meals we have and the blessings you give us. May we remember those children who don't have enough to eat, knowing that you love them too. Amen.

GEORGE'S STORY

George has a smile now, but there was a time when he did not have much to smile about. George had to take care of his sick mother and his little sister after his father died. He tried to plant a garden in their yard. He did not know what to do and did not have good seeds. His garden did not grow very much, and no one would help him. George tried to work for other people, but they only paid him enough to buy a little bit of food. Sometimes, their neighbors had extra food they could share. Sometimes, though, George and his family just went to bed hungry.

One day, Zoe Empowers came to his village in Malawi and taught George and his sister how to farm. He received seeds to make his garden grow lots of food. Zoe Empowers also gave George a group of new friends that could help him when he needed it.

Zoe Empowers helped George and his sister return to school, which they are happy about. Thanks to the help of their friends, they also have a big, bountiful garden that provides plenty for them to eat. George is thankful to God for his new life.



Think About It

1. *George was glad to get some friends at last. Who are your good friends? Where did you meet them?*
2. *George's friends helped him plant his garden. How have your friends helped you?*
3. *How can you be a friend to someone?*

Share

How many vegetables are in your refrigerator? Count them and give a dime for each vegetable.

Pray

Thank you, God, for the food you provide for us. Thank you for friends who help us. Show us how to be a good friend and share your love. Amen.

AGNES' STORY

Agnes had a dream—a big dream. She wanted to own a store. But she was living in poverty. Her parents died a long time ago, and she had to take care of her brother and two sisters. She had no way to earn enough money to get food for them. Because they didn't get enough to eat, they got sick and they had no doctor to make them better. They were very sad and discouraged.

Zoe Empowers came to their village in Kenya. Agnes found out that Zoe Empowers would help make her dream come true. After she joined a Zoe Empowerment Group, Zoe workers showed her how to keep her house clean so her family would be healthier. They showed her how to grow food and cook healthy meals. Best of all, Zoe Empowers taught her how to run a business and gave her what she needed to open a store. Now her dream has come true. She has a store, and recently she opened a small hotel!

Her brother and sisters are back in school, studying hard. Agnes is so happy now. Each Sunday she goes to church and sings in the choir giving thanks to God for her blessings.



Think About It

1. *How did Agnes's dream come true?*
2. *Do you have a big dream? Who helps you make your dreams come true?*
3. *What are some of your blessings?*

Share

How many grocery stores are in your town? Give a quarter for each grocery store.

Pray

Thank you, God, for our blessings. Thank you for stores where we can go to buy what we need. Thank you for the people who work in the stores and help us. Thank you for Zoe Empowers for helping children far away see their dreams come true. Amen.