

Introduction to Dreams

The mission leader (Tommy or Tammy Traveler, depending on who plays the part) comes running in, all dressed up in silly travel clothes such as big hat, gaudy sunglasses, raincoat, umbrella, binoculars around the neck. Lugging a huge suitcase. Ham it up!!)

TAMMY: Wow, girls and boys, I am SUPER excited today because I heard we are going to travel AROUND THE WORLD!! So I am ready for ANYTHING!! All packed up... (Open suitcase and pull out items to throw randomly) I brought sweaters, coats, a bathing suit and sunblock and winter boots- just in case...my umbrella..."

JOHN or JUDY, a teacher from audience or mission assistant: (Comes up and taps her shoulder)
Um...Tammy, um, we are not actually GOING around the world today at VBS but we ARE going to visit some really special kids on our videos this week who LIVE around the world!

TAMMY (looking embarrassed, drops the suitcase): Ooooh, OK...

JOHN: You see, Tammy, Children around the world have hopes and dreams about what they want to be and do, about what they want and need for their lives.

In this VBS Mission, we invite you- all of you (point to kids) to become part of the International Dream Hunters team, as we travel the world and search for the dreams of God, and the dreams of young people like you!

Are you ready to sign on for this exciting mission?

TAMMY: Yes!!!! Let's go!! Right kids?!

Yes!!

TAMMY: Now, close your eyes and think about dreams YOU have for your life? What you want to be or do or have.... What are some of your dreams? (Let kids tell their dreams by raising hands)

JOHN: What do you think God's dream is for you? (Let a few kids share ideas)

Let's check out a Bible verse about God's dream. Jeremiah, one of God's special messengers, shared a word from God with people at a time when they were really feeling down and sad. (Hold up Bible)

God said "I have it all planned out- plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for." (Jeremiah 29:11, Message Bible)

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God's dream for you and for every child is to be cared for and helped to have a good future, filled with all their hopes and dreams!

TAMMY: But some children have big struggles in their lives. This is why Zoe Empowers joins in God's plan to help the poorest children in 7 countries to have a chance to dream!

The children that Zoe helps around the world have had many bad things happen to them- like having their parents die, being hungry with no food, and having their neighbors and friends be mean to them. With no parents, how can they take care of themselves and their younger sisters and brother? What would you do?

Zoe puts the children in a group so they can learn together and help each other. When they first meet they are asked to fill in the Dream Chart.

(Show them a big copy of a dream chart on a flip chart or chalkboard and explain each part briefly)

Drawing pictures and sharing their stories with each other helps the Zoe kids deal with sad feelings, and learn that they are not alone. You will see some dream charts in the videos so be on the lookout for them!

JOHN: Now, before we take our video trip, here are some journals to take along!! (Hand out journals and pens) Open up to the page for day 1, so you can check off what you see!! (Hold up journal and pen)

Let's watch this video of Marie Claire in Rwanda and see what her dream picture shows.

Launch Video

After the video have children talk about what they saw and answer these questions.

What are her dreams? (hens, pig, and get training to have sewing machine)

Was she able to reach her dreams? What is her new dream? (her own house)

Where do you get your clothes? How would the sewing machine help Marie Claire and her family? (Earn money for food, sew their own clothes and school uniforms)

Did you notice how her group was helping to build a house? What were they using? (Sticks, mud balls)

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JOHN: Let's go to India now and see the dream of Shanmukh. Keep your eyes open for his dream chart!

[Launch Video](#)

What was his dream? (Selling chili powder) Who was he trying to help with his chili powder shop? (his brother to stay in school, his grandmother)

Have a large basket where the children can place their offerings each day during the closing time or mission time. (Some will have brought offering on Day One)

TAMMY: If we can collect \$250 this week we could help buy a sewing machine for a Zoe kid!! So bring your offerings every day and help make dreams come true! Let's pray!

PRAYER: Dear God, thank you that you love us and want us to have good dreams for our lives! We pray for all the children who do not have parents to help them. Please watch over them! Thank you that we can help them be part of the Zoe program and fulfill their dreams. Amen.

COLLECT JOURNALS TO KEEP IN THE MISSION ROOM AS CHILDREN LEAVE

Give each child/or parent the following as they leave:

- 1) Zoe Hope Jar (If time allows, you can let them decorate their own jar or box in the craft time. If not, have jars ready to give out on Day 1.)
- 2) Mission letter to parents
- 3) Fundraising Ideas flyer
- 4) Copy of Dream Chart (Older children and youth may fill it out for themselves. Younger ones can take it home and do it with a parent. Encourage them to discuss their dream chart with their families.)