Kids Care Lesson 5

Building Communities in Myanmar

MAIN POINT

God is good.

He cares about all our needs!

SCRIPTURE

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

BACKGROUND FOR TEACHERS

In 2017 CBM began partnering with Pastor Thuya (thŏŏya) to support needs of the Lahu (Lăhŏŏ) people. Pastor Thuya is working to bring the gospel to the villages, while CBM helps by supporting community development. The community asked for help to build a church as there are no public buildings, nowhere to meet or provide education or medical care. CBM built a church in the village that will be a multi-functional community centre, able to provide a space for schooling and medical services. Now they are working to improve water supply, farming techniques and access to medical assistance.



Kids Care Vids: Download educational videos – created by kids for kids – to better engage your Sunday school students as you teach the God is Good lessons.

There are 3 videos - watch for the Kids Vids symbols throughout the lesson to indicate when to play them. *Please note, these are completely optional!*



OPENING DISCUSSION: 3 MIN

Can you imagine having to walk for three hours?

Some areas of the world are remote: they are far from other places and can be hard to get to. The people in the Lahu villages of Myanmar is one of those remote spots.

Imagine your house right now. Imagine that you have no food in it, that there is no water and there is no power so you have no lights, tv, heat or air conditioning. If there is any medicine, imagine that it's gone and that if you got really sick there is no hospital to go to. Imagine that there are no books and you'll never be able to go to school and learn to read or do math. Today we'll hear about the Lahu people who are living like that and how God is at work in their villages.



STORY: 5 MIN

Meet Caleb. Caleb works for CBM and had the opportunity to meet a Myanmese pastor with big dreams:

I met a pastor with some very big goals to reach 100 remote Lahu villages in ten years, Pastor Thuya. I thought he was pulling my leg or something! As we got talking I realized how much love Pastor Thuya has and the call God gave him to serve the Lahu people. The people live in a remote, mountainous area with a poor supply of food and water. They have no access to education or medical care. The area they live in is dangerous with drug production and trading, armed militia, violence and mistreatment of people.

Pastor Thuya is trained in medical mission and wanted to give free medical care to the Lahu people. Since his first trip, more than 300 people have expressed faith in Christ and have been baptized. He said his hope and dream is for the Lahu people to be saved – to progress physically, mentally and spiritually.



I went to see the work he was doing firsthand. It was an adventure getting up the mountains! A lot of the three-hour journey can only be done on foot. No vehicles can access the area. I was shocked at what I saw. There was no electricity, no water, no sanitation. They just seemed hopeless. What Pastor Thuya did was offer them something very different from the dangerous conditions and risks they lived in. He offered unconditional love.

CBM began partnering with Pastor Thuya to help the Lahu people in 2017. While Pastor Thuya brings the gospel to the villages, we are helping by supporting community development. This helps us share the love of God through words and actions. When we asked the community what the best way to help was, they asked for a church. In the villages there are no public buildings so there is no place for the community to meet, no medical care or education.

Our goal is to build a church in each village that would serve not only as a church, but also a school and medical clinic all in one. It would also be used for things like training programs. To the Lahu people, these buildings are symbols of transformation that's happened in their lives. If there is a church with a cross high in the mountains, it is a witness to other villages that they are different. It will show others they have love and hope because of the gospel.

After building the first church building we are now working on how to improve water supply, farming techniques and access to medical assistance.

DISCUSSION: 3 MIN

ARTS & CRAFTS: 12 MIN

The Rainbow Principle

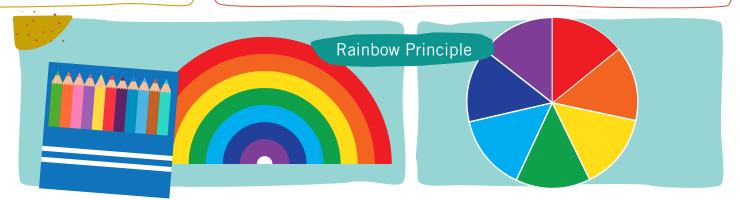
Supplies: Colouring pencils · paper or a picture of a rainbow

General questions

- What did Pastor Thuya want to do to help the Lahu people? (*Tell about God, give them hope, medical care, help with other needs*)
- What does the community centre give the people? (A place to meet, have church, school and medical care.)
- How does the community centre show that God is good? (*It shows God cares about health, education, sharing about him, and other needs.*)

Additional questions for older kids

- What is the problem that needs addressing in Myanmar? (Lack of access to many essentials: food, water, education, medical care. No where to meet, dangerous living conditions and lack of hope.)
- Why is the community centre important in addressing the problem? (It provides a place to help with all those needs, it is a witness to the other villages, it is an act of love that shares God with them and gives them hope.)



Building a community centre and sharing the gospel with the Lahu people is a wonderful opportunity to address multiple needs at once.

The Rainbow Principle:

- 1. What colours make a rainbow? Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet.
- 2. Colour a rainbow and hold it up or show a picture. There are 7 colours that make a rainbow.
- 3. These are 7 different colours, but they all work together to make one rainbow. Without a colour, the rainbow as we recognize it just isn't complete.
- 4. People, like in the Lahu villages, don't just need a building. They need love and the hope that it brings them. They need to hear about Jesus while their needs of education, medicine, food and water are being met. Each of those things is like a colour of the rainbow, when all the needs are addressed the picture is complete.

Make a Rainbow Wheel:

- 1. Have each person draw a circle on a paper (draw it ahead of time for younger children). Divide the circle into sections (like a wheel) and colour in each section with a colour of the rainbow.
- 2. Discuss and fill the wheel with as many needs people have that you can think of. Write words or draw pictures. As they fill them in discuss which needs the Lahu church addresses and which of those needs their own church addresses. Some things you could include:
 - Spiritual (Jesus)
 - Body (food, water, shelter, medicine, exercise)
 - Mind (education/training)
 - Emotional (hope, love, belonging)
 - Relationships (fellowship/a place to meet)
 - Safety & security (Free from danger)

How is CBM helping?

Caleb mentioned how the people of the Lahu villages seemed hopeless. They were lacking many necessities and didn't know God. Pastor Thuya and CBM are working to bring them hope and help them get access to the things they need. How are they doing that?

- Pastor Thuya is teaching he gospel.
- CBM is helping to build church buildings that give a place for communities to address needs including:
 - Spiritual (church)
 - Health (medical care, water, food)
 - Education/training
 - Fellowship (meeting place)
- CBM is working on ways to get better water, food and medical care.
- While Pastor Thuya spreads the gospel with words, CBM spreads it with deeds. These two go hand-inhand and help to share the gospel in powerful ways!

SNACK

Kulfee

A frozen milk dessert in Myanmar that you can experiment with the proportions to get it how you like it. Serve it like ice cream!

Ingredients:

- 1 Litre whole milk
- Granulated sugar as desired (about 1/3 cup)
- ¹⁄₂ Teaspoon vanilla
- ¹/₄ Teaspoon cardamom

Directions:

- 1. Pour whole milk in a pan.
- 2. Stir in granulated sugar until its as sweet as desired.
- 3. Add ½ teaspoon of vanilla and ¹/₄ teaspoon of cardamom.
- 4. Heat slowly (double boiler if possible).
- 5. Remove from stove when it's the thickness of condensed milk.
- 6. Pour into shallow plastic container and freeze until solid.
- 7. Freeze until solid.



BODY BREAK (5-10 MIN)

Keep It Up

Have everyone stand in a circle and hold hands. Use a beachball, balloon or other light ball and tell them their goal is to work together to keep the ball up in the air. Just like words and actions worked together with Pastor Thuya and CBM, when we work together it is easier to keep the ball up.

Actions Verse

As a group, create actions to the verse then practice it together! Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

PRAYER

Thank you, God for people like Pastor Thuya and CBM. Thank you for showing your goodness to the Lahu people by building churches as community centres and showing your love through words and actions. You are an unchanging and good God who gives us many gifts. Thank you for giving us what we need and for helping us give to others so they can have what they need. Amen.



TAKE ACTION

Keep the people of the Lahu villages in your prayers. **Pray** for their needs to be met and for them to be a great witness to the people around them.



Fundraising: In Lesson 1 we learned about the work CBM is doing to build latrines in El Salvador so that communities can have healthy and safe places to use the washroom. This is one of the many ways we can show God's lovel It costs \$750 to build a latrine

Have a squatting competition. Get your friends and family to sponsor you and pledge a coin for every squat you can do in 2 minutes!



Done this lesson? Fill out the Myanmar Postcard, take it home and pray for Myanmar.



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