DJ

DIXIE JACKSON
ARKANSAS
MISSIONS
OFFERING
2022

STUDENT LESSON PLAN

We must do the works of Him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. (John 9:4)

We don't have to go around the world to share the Gospel. We can do that right where God has placed us.

Perhaps your classmates and neighbors have never heard the good news of Jesus Christ—His birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension.* That Jesus offers forgiveness of sins to all who trust Him for the forgiveness of their sins.

Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Yes, no matter your age, you just might be the one whom God uses to change a life for eternity. But time is short. John 9:4 says, "We must do the works of Him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work."

Arkansas Baptists are helping ministries right here in our own state through the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer.

Read the following passage below and answer the questions. How does God want you to display His works today?

LEARN TOGETHER

Read John 9:1–7 (CSB) and then answer these questions:

As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him. We must do the works of him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said these things he spit on the ground, made some mud from the saliva, and spread the mud on his eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So, he left, washed, and came back seeing.

1. What was the man's problem? (He was blind from birth.)
2. Did sin cause this to happen? (Neither this man nor his parents sinned.)
3. How did Jesus help the man? (He gave the blind man sight.)
4. What did Jesus mean when He said in verse 5, "I am the light of the world"? (Jesus is spiritually the light of the world.)
5. Jesus told the disciples in verse 4 that "Night is coming when no one can work." The ministry opportunities we have today may not be there tomorrow. How should this affect our lives today?
6. Psalm 121:2 says, "My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." How does God help others today through His church? (He does this through the people in the church as they help others and tell them about Jesus. Arkansas Baptist ministries provide a way that churches can do this.)

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7. What are some ways that you could tell others about Jesus?

Resource

***What Is the Gospel of Jesus Christ?** | Love Worth Finding Ministries

lwf.org/what-is-a-christian/what-is-the-gospel-of-jesus-christ

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

This year, the focus of the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer is on six ministries. This lesson will highlight two of them: **Ministry to Unreached People Groups** and **Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM)**.

UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

BEN COULTER
Pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Magnolia

"We have an incredible opportunity right now to reach the nations where we are."

How many different people groups do you think live in Arkansas?

About 150! And they come from around the world. Some are here for only a few months while others call Arkansas home for years. Perhaps you have met a foreign exchange student at your high school or university. Or maybe you have worked beside someone from another country at a temporary job.

God is bringing the nations to us, and we have a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel right where we are.

Ben Coulter, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Magnolia, frequently tells his children: "God loves you. He's on your side. He's coming after you. He's relentless." He had to smile when he heard his four-year-old daughter repeat these four sentences to a Japanese student who was in their home.

The Japanese student spoke no English, and she asked what the four-year-old said. That gave Ben an opportunity to begin a conversation about the love of Jesus Christ. "She recognized the love we were trying to show her," Ben said.

Then, through Dixie Jackson funding, he was able to give the Japanese student a Bible in her own language. He learned that she had first heard of Jesus from a family at a military base in Okinawa. "They had planted the seed," Ben said, "and we were now watering it." (1 Corinthians 3:6)

We can share the love of Christ to internationals while they are in Arkansas. Hopefully, when they leave to go to their home country, they will tell others about the eternal difference Jesus offers to all who put their faith in Him.

Pray and ask God to help you:

- Befriend international students in your school or neighborhood.
- Invite international students to your church.
- Pray regularly for ("adopt") one of the unreached people groups in Arkansas. (absc.org/arkansas-upg-prayer-page)
- Show how you might be able to help an international student in your neighborhood or school.

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY (BCM)

KINLEY LARMOYEUX
BCM student vice-president, Arkansas State University

"International students are so hungry for human connection and friends....When they come to college typically they don't know anyone."

God is literally bringing the world to us through thousands of international students on college campuses across Arkansas. And thanks to the support of the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering, there is already an avenue in place to minister to these students: Baptist Collegiate Ministry, or BCM.

Kinley Larmoyeux, ASU BCM student vice-president over international ministry, helps coordinate monthly dinners, weekly Bible studies, and much more for the international students who attend Arkansas State University (ASU). These events connect her fellow Christian students to the many internationals who are hungering for friendship and community in this strange new country far from home.

"We've found it is really important to take advantage of the time we have," said Tyler Hoffpauir, ASU's campus minister. "To be really intentional...and have the ability to speak truth into their lives and share the Gospel."

One way they do this is by working with local churches who have a heart for international students. Church members often "adopt" a student and they do life together. This might mean sharing a meal, opening their home on holidays, or even sitting by a hospital bed.

"While it is still light"

College students are on campus for just a short time, and an international student's stay may be even briefer. Night may fall for them very soon if they return to their home countries without knowing the truth of the Gospel.

But you can impact them while it is still light.

BCMs offer students friendship, a "home away from home," and a place where they can hear about Jesus.

Pray

Prayer is the greatest need for any Christian ministry. Ask God to:

- Open the hearts of college and university students to the Gospel.
- Create lasting friendships for international students through BCM.
- Give the leadership of the BCM wisdom in reaching college students for Christ.
- Connect local churches with BCMs in their area.
- Provide for the financial needs of BCMs throughout the state.
- Open hearts of Arkansas Baptists to "adopt" international students.

Many college students are searching for answers about life and have never heard about love and the hope of Jesus Christ. At a BCM, they can find not only friendships, but also discover the One Who can give them lasting peace and eternal life.

Tomorrow is not promised. *Night is coming.*

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ABSC.ORG/**DJ**