SHOW HIS LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY—

Pour Our Lives and Resources into Others

Use with articles on pages 11, 26, and 28 in Missions Mosaic.

Attention-Getter

1. Say, Raise your hand if you have put money into a savings account, the stock market, or other investments.
2. Discuss the risks of any investment.
3. Ask, What is the wisest advice you have received about investments? Be sure to include that wise investors look at the long-term rather than short-term yield.
4. Say, Today we will explore how prayer, God-focused use of our talents, and missions work can be considered investments.

Transition to Prayer article

(See Missions Mosaic, p. 28.)

1. Brainstorm ways prayer can be considered an investment. List responses on the whiteboard.
2. Introduce the volunteer to share Carol Ghattas’s story and its similarities to Paul’s investment with the people of Ephesus.
3. Focus on the statement, “An investment of witness, discipleship, and prayer had yielded return for eternity.”
4. Explore ways to deepen personal prayer lives. Include Carol Ghattas’s ideas:
   a. Ask for specific prayer requests for those you’re mentoring, discipling, or studying the Bible with.
   b. Follow up with a text or email to see how God is answering those prayers.
   c. Encourage them with cards, texts, or phone calls that share a word of Scripture related to their specific need.
   d. Reconnect with those who’ve moved away physically, but for whom you’ve been praying. Find out how they’re doing and ask if there is anything you can ask for, on their behalf, in prayer.
   e. Any time you engage in Bible study or share lunch with a sister in the Lord, make sure you pray for specific needs.
   f. Keep a prayer journal for your investments.
   g. When God answers, give Him the praise, thanks, and glory for working in that person’s life. Model a thankful spirit to those you’re discipling.
5. Quote, “Are you sitting on your prayer funds and thus seeing no returns? Take a risk! Pour your life into ... another person for His glory.”

Transition to Bible Study article

(See Missions Mosaic, page 26.)

1. Ask, What is a quilt’s purpose? Summarize that, although a beautiful craft, a quilt’s ultimate purpose is to be used, not displayed.
2. Explain how the same applies to the gifts God gives us. God intends that we use our gifts to serve others and for His glory.
3. Call on a volunteer to read Acts 9:36–43.
4. Discuss how Dorcas was remembered by her community.
5. Quote, “Dorcas allowed God to use her gift to make an impact on others. God used her kindness to bring others to Him.” Explore why we sometimes fail to use our gifts.

6. Encourage participants to listen for a word that stands out to them as you read 1 Peter 4:10. Analyze the significance of the word whatever.

7. Display the two small squares of cloth held together by one stitch. Talk about the seeming insignificance of one stitch (while running the needle through the cloth to form several other stitches).

8. Explain that, just as each stitch plays a role in a quilter’s design, so does the application of each of our God-given gifts. Quote, “Through Dorcas’s seemingly insignificant gift, God was able to deliver eternal benefits.”

9. Distribute pens and paper with the reflection questions. Ask participants to answer the questions (at home or in the meeting, depending on time constraints).

10. Call for answers, if time allows.

Check out pages 20–21 of Missions Mosaic to add a little extra oomph to your meeting. Run a computer slide presentation of the “FAST FACTS ABOUT REFUGEES” before the meeting and during refreshments. Play Grab the Handkerchief with early arrivals. Serve Greek Lemon Sponge Cake for refreshments; place recipe cards with the suggested idea for meeting refugees on the back of it. Craft beaded bracelets, discuss the Refugee Beads artisan group, and place a group jewelry order.

Transition to Missionary Spotlight article
(See Missions Mosaic, page 11.)

1. Instruct participants to turn over their papers.

2. Introduce the eight people enlisted to role-play each of the eight stories for the week of prayer.

3. Say, The speakers will have two (or three) minutes each to highlight their work. As they speak, write one sentence explanations of how God’s love plus that person’s life yields eternal rewards.

Wrap Up

1. Invite the eight speakers to read their individual prayer requests from Missions Mosaic.

2. Distribute paper quilt squares with names and assignments of missionaries.

3. Pray sentence prayers in circular fashion for all the missionary needs.

4. Explore beginning a local international or refugee ministry (crafts, English as a second language, or others based on the group’s talents) or another ministry idea triggered by this study. Close with a prayer of commitment.
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<tr>
<td>1. Larry Pepper</td>
<td>A. His church fully funds a missionary family in East Asia.</td>
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<td>2. Steve Lakin</td>
<td>B. IMB missionary to Ukraine, who reaches out to people displaced by war.</td>
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<td>3. Daniel Tuchez</td>
<td>C. In three years, his church sent 80-plus students on East Asian missions trips.</td>
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<td>4. Scott and Joyce Pittman</td>
<td>D. God called him to leave his job and church in Texas and move to Africa.</td>
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<td>5. Russell Woodbridge</td>
<td>E. An IMB doctor in Tanzania who appreciates churches that partner with them.</td>
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<td>6. Keith Wieser</td>
<td>F. A Kentucky church partners with their work in São Paulo, Brazil.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Larry Pepper</td>
<td>G. His church has invested in refugee ministry both in Georgia and overseas.</td>
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<td>8. Bryant Wright</td>
<td>H. Originally from Guatemala, he now helps reach the unreached in Southeast Asia.</td>
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**Missionary Match**

**Answers:**

“We pray, we give, we go—not because we have to, but because of what God has promised He’s going to do among the nations.”

—J. D. Greear