

MISSION EXPLORERS KENYA, LESSON FOUR

Kiambethu Tea Farm, Kijabe Hospital

SAFARI FACTS

LIMURU, KENYA



FACTS ABOUT LIMURU

Limuru is a rich agricultural area located about 17 miles northwest of the capital city of Nairobi, Kenya. It is known for producing large amounts of tea for export. The year-round temperature is a mild 75°F/23 C.

Population: 4800

Elevation: 7200 feet/2194 meters

KIJABE, KENYA



FACTS ABOUT KIJABE

Kijabe is a town in central Kenya located on the edge of the Great Rift Valley. The area is heavily forested. Its name is Masai for “Place of the Wind.” Interestingly, Kijabe is an alcohol- and tobacco-free town.

Population: 18,000

Elevation: 7200 feet/2194 meters

Lesson Purpose: To give a biblical perspective concerning careers, healing, and trusting God's will.

Lesson Objectives:

- To help children seek God's wisdom in what they want to be when they grow up.
- To help them understand that even though doctors and nurses help people who are sick, it is really Jesus who heals and saves.
- To show the importance of spiritual healing through the gospel of Jesus Christ and the demonstration of His love.
- To show them the importance of trusting God's plan for their lives.

VIDEO INTRODUCTION

Besides water, tea is the most popular beverage in the world with six billion cups being consumed each day around the world. Despite the fact that China has been growing tea for 5,000 years, Kenya is the world's top exporter of black tea. This is incredible considering tea has been grown in Kenya only since 1903. Twenty-seven percent of the world's black tea comes from Kenya. Jesse visits the Kiambethu Tea Farm in Limuru where tea was first grown in Kenya. He learns the process of making tea from starting and growing the plants to tasting the finished product.

Next, Jesse visits Kijabe Hospital, which was established by missionaries in 1915. He meets several staff members and doctors, including Dr. Patrick. He used to clean floors at the hospital, but is now an eye surgeon. The mission of the hospital is to "glorify God through medical ministry." Over the years, missionaries have trained local Kenyans to work in the hospital as nurses, technicians, and even doctors. Their goal is to share the gospel and Christ's love with every patient and to show them that Jesus is the One who truly saves.

PLAY VIDEO NOW (15:17)

STOP 1

Lesson Objective: To help children seek God's wisdom in what they want to be when they grow up.

Materials needed: "A Letter from the Future" template at the end of this lesson or blank sheets of paper for the older children to write their own letters; pencils or pens

Last week we learned that God gave the first man, Adam, a job to do. Do you remember what his job was? He was to name all of the animals and take care of the garden of Eden. Have you ever thought about what you want to be when you grow up? *(Let the children say what they would like to be.)*

Have you ever thought about asking God what He wants you to be? That is very important. God created you, and He knows you better than anyone – even your mom or your dad or yourself! He knows whether or not you should be a doctor, a teacher, a firefighter, or a missionary. Even though you are young, you can start asking God now about it. Let's pray and ask God to give you wisdom as you seek His will for your life. *(Lead a simple prayer asking God to guide them in their career choices as they grow up.)*

In the video we just watched, Dr. Arianna Shirk said that she wanted to be a doctor since she was a child. In fact, when she was only 7 years old, she wrote a letter to her parents describing what she would be doing in twenty years. Do you remember what she said? She told them she was a doctor in Africa. And that is exactly what she is doing now!

What do you think you will be doing in twenty years? Try to imagine what job you think you will have. Let's do what Dr. Arianna did. Let's pretend like we are twenty years into the future. Let's use our imaginations and pretend we have a job. Then let's write a letter to our parents describing what we are doing and where we are living.

Pass out "A Letter from the Future" (or a blank piece of paper) to each student. Younger children may need help filling in the blanks.

STOP 2

Lesson Objective: To help children understand that even though doctors and nurses help people who are sick, it is really Jesus who heals and saves.

Materials needed: Picture of the mural at Kijabe Hospital (at the end of this lesson)

When Jesse went to Kijabe Hospital, he was shown a mural painted on the wall outside the rooms where people have surgery. Do you remember what the mural was? *Show the picture of the mural.* It was a picture of Jesus pulling His disciple Peter out of the water. Let's take a look at that story in the Bible.

Read Matthew 14:22-33:

"Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out for fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.' And Peter answered Him and said, 'Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.' So He said, 'Come.' And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!' And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?' And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God.'" (NKJV)

This is the story that is portrayed in the painting on the wall outside the operating rooms at Kijabe Hospital. This is what they want the patients to see before they go into surgery. Why? They want the patients to know it is Jesus who saves them. The doctors and nurses have been trained very well. But they understand that Jesus is really the one who heals.

Read Matthew 15:30:

"Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them." (NKJV)

This verse is talking about when Jesus came down to earth from heaven and lived as a man. Many people came to him who were blind and who couldn't walk or speak or hear. They had all kinds of sickness and diseases. They came to Jesus and He healed them. When Jesus left earth and went back to heaven, He gave His followers the authority to heal people, too. But they could only do it through His power.

It is the same way today. Doctors and nurses go to school and learn about medicine and how to help people who are sick. However, it is the power of God that truly heals a person. He may use a doctor as part of that healing or He may use a miracle to heal someone. Either way, it is God who heals.

Do you know someone who is sick and needs to be healed? *(Write their prayer requests on the board being careful to keep them focused on praying for those who need healing. Then take time to pray for their requests.)*

STOP 3

Lesson Objective: To show the importance of spiritual healing through the gospel of Jesus Christ and the demonstration of His love.

In the video we met a man name Geoffrey. He explained that at Kijabe Hospital they do more than just help sick people get well. One of the things he said that they do is share the gospel with each patient. They don't want people to only be physically healed. They want them to be spiritually healed, too.

Read John 20:30-31:

“And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” (NKJV)

Every time Jesus or one of His disciples did a miracle in the Bible, it was so that people would see that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus wanted them to see that He is the Son of God. Then He wanted them to believe in Him so that they would have eternal life. He didn't do miracles just to show off His power. He did miracles to show who He is. That is what the staff members at Kijabe Hospital want, too. Yes, they want people to get well through the services and medicines they offer. But, more importantly, they want people to see who Jesus is and understand the gospel so that they can be saved.

Another thing Geoffrey said they do at Kijabe Hospital is share the love of Christ with the patients.

Read 1 John 3:18:

“My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.” (NKJV)

This Bible verse tells us not to love in word or tongue. What does that mean? It means not to use only your words or your mouth to tell someone that you love them, but to love in deed and in truth. “Deeds” are things that we do. This is saying that we should do things to show our love for others. Don't just tell someone you love them; show them that you love them by the things that you do. We need to show people that we love them because God has shown us that He loves us. And He wants us to show His love to others.

Read 1 John 4:10-11:

“In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” (NKJV)

God loves us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to be the payment for our sins. If God loves us that much, then we should love others that much, too. The people of Kijabe Hospital show God’s love to the patients by praying for them and with them and by taking good care of them while they are at the hospital. What are some ways that you can show God’s love to others?

FINAL DESTINATION

Lesson Objective: To show children the importance of trusting God’s plan for their lives.

Game: Pom-Pom Race



Pom-Pom Race made with colored duct tape on a table top

Materials needed: Colored duct tape or masking tape, small pom-poms, plastic straws

Links to supplies for this craft can be found at our website www.KidsTalkAboutGod.org/supplies.

Use the tape to create an obstacle course on the floor or a table top with a start line and a finish line. Make sure you have two identical courses side by side. Divide into two teams and give each child a straw. Place a pom-pom on each start line. Let the children take turns competing in a race to see which team can get its pom-poms over the finish line first by blowing through the

straw. If they blow it off the track, then they have to start over. Encourage those watching to cheer on their teammates. Encourage those playing to keep going until they cross the finish line. When one person crosses the line, the next person on the team goes until all have finished. This game could also be played at the beginning of the class while children are arriving and at the end of class while waiting for parents to arrive.

Was it easy to get your pom-pom over the finish line? Or was it hard? What would have happened if you had blown through the straw one time and then had given up? You would never have reached the finish line. You had to keep going until you made it. You had to have determination.

Do you remember Dr. Patrick? Do you remember what his first job was at Kijabe Hospital? He cleaned the floors. What does he do now? He is now an eye surgeon! How was Dr. Patrick able to go from being a janitor to being a doctor?

Dr. Patrick had determination. When you are determined, you won't stop until you achieve your goal. You keep going no matter what. That's what Dr. Patrick did. Do you think he was cleaning the floors one day and the next day he was operating on someone's eyes? No. It took him many years of study and work to become a doctor.

Even though Dr. Patrick had determination, he had something even more important than that. He had trust in the Lord.

Read Psalm 37:5:

"Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." (NKJV)

This verse teaches that if you will determine to follow God and trust His plan for your life, He will make that plan happen. You have to be determined to keep following God. Sometimes circumstances or other people might try to keep you from following God. Sometimes following God might be a little scary. But you have to keep trusting Him and His plan for your life.

No matter what job you have when you are older, do you know what the most important thing is? The most important thing is to do your best.

Read Colossians 3:23:

"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men." (NKJV)

Whatever job you have, you should do it like you are doing it for God. Whether you are a floor cleaner or a doctor, it doesn't matter. The important thing is to work like God is your boss. You would want to do your best if God were your boss, wouldn't you? Of course, you would. This isn't just talking about a job when you are grown up. This is talking about right now. When you

are doing your homework for school or your chores at home, do it heartily (sincerely or wholeheartedly) for the Lord!

Go over the Memory Verse:

Colossians 3:23:

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.” (NKJV)

A Letter from the Future

Date: _____

Dear _____,

Today I have been very busy doing my

job which is _____.

My favorite thing about my job is when I get

to _____.

I love living in _____.

Hope to see you soon!

Love,

KidsTalkAboutGod.org provides lots of opportunities for kids to have a real voice in sharing the gospel around the world. To find out about upcoming opportunities for children, sign up for the newsletter at KidsTalkAboutGod.org/news.

ADDITIONAL CRAFTS

Mini First Aid Kit



Materials needed: Hinged metal boxes (link below), adhesive bandages, individual packets of antibiotic ointment, alcohol wipes, and hand sanitizer; stickers, Matthew 15:30 printed out from template at the end of this lesson

*NOTE: Do not include any type of medication such as aspirin or ibuprofen, etc.

Links to supplies for this craft can be found at our website www.KidsTalkAboutGod.org/supplies.

Give each child a selection of the items to put into a small container and a copy of Matthew 15:30. Let them decorate the outside with stickers. Since most kids receive a sticker at the doctor's office, save some to put inside the box as well. Older students may want to write "First Aid Kit" on a label to stick on the outside. (You may also write First Aid on the outside with a Sharpie as shown in the photo.) Put the Scripture cards inside. Remind them that the doctors and nurses at Kijabe Hospital don't just give their patients medicine; they give them the gospel, too. Now they can do the same thing.

MINISTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

Kijabe Hospital
FriendsOfKijabe.org

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KIJABE HOSPITAL MURAL



Dear Parent,

Today we continued on our safari to Kenya! Today we learned:

- that we should seek God’s wisdom in what we want to be when we grow up
- that even though doctors and nurses help people who are sick, it is really Jesus who heals and saves
- the importance of spiritual healing through the gospel of Jesus Christ and the demonstration of His love
- the importance of trusting God’s plan for our lives
- the Swahili words for tea (chai) and doctor (daktari), and the Masai word for “place of the wind” (kijabe).

This week’s Memory Verse is Colossians 3:23:

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.” (NKJV)

This week’s ministry is Kijabe Hospital. Find out more about their work at friendsofkijabe.org.

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