

BE CHURCH

PLANTING CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

Youth Programme

WHAT IS CHURCH?

We often talk about church like it is simply something we attend on a Sunday. So, let's see what comes back when you ask the simple question, **'What is church?'**.

Write the mixture of responses on a big piece of paper.

WATCH 'ROMANIA: FOOD PACKING'

1. What did you like about the video?
2. Has anyone ever practically helped you? (cooked you a meal, given you some money, been a shoulder to cry on)
3. How did it make you feel?

READ ISAIAH 58: 6-14, ROMANS 12: 9-22

We are called to action in both of these passages. Rather than the focus of the church being rules and religious traditions, the Bible contradicts this to call us to GO, into the world, to those who are hurting, those who need food; it calls us to forget about ourselves and live for God and for others so that He might be glorified!

In Small Groups:

- Pick out all the actions talked about in one of these passages.
- Which would be hardest to act out in our culture?
- What could you do differently as a group to be the church where you are?

WATCH PON'S STORY

Take a minute to chat about the film and ask how it made people feel.

It often takes our hearts to break for us to be called to action. Pon's story is one of many who are living in dire poverty and really need people to recognise their call to action. So, considering this, **what breaks your heart?**

PRAY

One way to engage as the church with such issues is to pray. When we may feel stuck to know how to help, our amazing God can use us and our faithful prayers to change situations.

Print the lyrics of the song 'Hosanna' and get the young people to read those lyrics as they pray. Pray for God to 'Break our hearts for what breaks [His].'

GAME IDEAS

Guess the country

Find out a number of facts about 10 countries. In groups the young people have to work out which country it is you are describing.

Strengths and weaknesses

Split the group into even teams and get them to allocate a person for each of the follow skills: Strength, Perseverance, Bible Knowledge, Wisdom, Speed, Artistic

1. Strength - Arm wrestle (Best of 3)
2. Perseverance - Don't laugh. Sit the competitors opposite each other and allocate another person from each team to try and make the person laugh. The first one to last is out.
3. Bible Knowledge - Quickest to find the book (best of 3)
4. Wisdom - Large noughts and crosses (best of 3)
5. Speed - Set up a mini race course for them to run around.
6. Artistic - A mini game of pictiography with the allocated person doing the drawing (best of 3)

VIDEO LINKS:

Romania: Food Packing
<https://vimeo.com/elimissions/romaniafoodpacking>

Pon's story
<https://vimeo.com/elimissions/ponstory>