



**WHERE KIDS LEARN THAT
LOVE H.E.L.P.S.**

**LEADER
GUIDE**



GREETINGS!

Welcome to Kingdom Safari VBS: *Where Kids Learn How Love H.E.L.P.S.* Throughout this VBS, we hope and pray that many children will hear and accept The Gospel of Jesus Christ. We also hope that as children experience Jesus, they would also be empowered to realize how their love can make a difference in the world. We believe deeply in the upcoming generation! We have written these materials in a way that connects children to the love of Jesus and then connects them to the mission of Forgotten Voices. It is our mission at Forgotten Voices “to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ by equipping local churches in southern Africa to meet the physical and spiritual needs of children orphaned by AIDS in their communities.” What an absolute joy to connect children all over the world through the love of Jesus! We pray that you would be blessed by these materials and expectantly look forward to how God might use you, your children, and your church to connect with the mission of Forgotten Voices as we further God’s Kingdom.

KINGDOM SAFARI

PROGRAM LOGISTICS

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

**Please note this is simply a suggestion. Feel free to adjust accordingly to the time you have allotted for VBS.*

6:00-6:25	Base Camp
6:25-6:50	Bible Path
6:50-7:15	Games
7:15-7:40	Snacks
7:40-8:05	Craft
8:05-8:30	Base Camp

ORGANIZATION

Assign children to “Safari Tour Groups” by age/grade level (5-10 kids in each tour group).

- *Suggestion:* Tour groups could be named after African animals (lion, elephant, hippo, cheetah, zebra, etc.).

Assign an adult or teen “Tour Guide” and assistant to lead each Safari Tour Group.

- Tour Guides will stay with their Safari Tour Group throughout the entire VBS program leading them to each of the program segments.

PROGRAM SEGMENTS

Please find a general description of each of the program segments below. You will find a corresponding booklet for each segment with detailed daily suggestions and instructions.

BASE CAMP (*Opening & Closing*)

- Each day, all Safari Tour Groups begin and end by gathering in your main meeting area (i.e. a sanctuary, auditorium, multi-purpose room or outdoors) for Base Camp.
- Children sit with their Safari Tour Group supervised by their Tour Guide.
- Parents drop-off and pick-up their children at the same place each day.
- Includes welcome, singing, skits, daily instructions, announcements, offering, etc.

BIBLE PATH (*Bible Lesson*)

- Following the acrostic of Love H.E.L.P.S., teachers focus on a different Bible Story and memory verse each day demonstrating the Big Idea. In addition to teaching the daily Bible Story, teachers also have an opportunity to share a real life story of a child who has been positively impacted by the love of God through Forgotten Voices.
- The Bible Path segment may be organized according to two different options:

Option A (*Large Group*): Safari Tour Groups gather in one large room each night for the Bible lesson taught by a dedicated teaching team.

Option B (*Small Groups*): Safari Tour Groups divide into separate classrooms each night for the Bible Lesson taught by their Tour Guide.

GAMES

- Safari Tour Groups gather in a gym, multi-purpose room, or outdoors for games.
- Each day, there are two games suggestions:
 1. One game suggestion reinforces the daily Big Idea.
 2. The other game suggestion is for an African game to help children connect with the work of Forgotten Voices.
- Games are led by a team. Tour Guides are encouraged to assist the team and participate with their Tour Group.

SNACKS

- Safari Tour Groups gather in a multi-purpose room or outdoors for snacks.
- The Snack team preps and serves snacks. Again, Tour Guides are encouraged to assist the team and participate with their Tour Group.
- Each snack was intentionally chosen to reinforce the daily Big Idea and Bible Story.

CRAFTS

- Each day, children create a take home craft or participate in a service project designed to help them remember and/or apply the daily Big Idea and Bible Story.
- The Craft team preps and leads crafts. Again, Tour Guides are encouraged to assist the team and participate with their Tour Group.

VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES

VBS Program Director

- Organize and lead program
- Recruit and train volunteers
- Promote program

Registration & Welcome Team

- Help promote VBS
- Organize and perform registration details (*prior to and during program*)
- Organize and implement a follow up plan after VBS to continue to connect with families

Decorations Team

- Create a safari atmosphere to enhance the experience (*especially in the entry & base camp areas*)

Tour Guides & Assistants

- Lead Safari Tour Groups (*small groups*) throughout the entire VBS
- Support and Assist the leaders of each segment
- Connect with and disciple children

Music & Drama Team

- Organize and lead Base Camp opening & closing programs
- Set the tone for each day
- Reinforce the daily Big Idea and close with a challenge

Bible Story Teaching Team

- Organize and teach daily Bible Path lesson & memory verse (*This team is only needed for Bible Path Option A - Large Group format.*)
- Share the daily Forgotten Voices story
- Connect the daily Big Idea and Bible Story to the work of Forgotten Voices

Games Team

- Organize & lead the Games Segment
- Use games as a way to reinforce the daily Big Idea and connect children to the work of Forgotten Voices

Snacks Team

- Solicit snack donations
- Shop for supplies
- Organize and serve snacks during VBS
- Use snacks as a way to reinforce the daily Big Idea and connect children to the work of Forgotten Voices

Craft Team

- Solicit supply donations
- Organize & lead crafts and/or service projects
- Connect with local organizations where Day 1 and Day 3 service projects can be donated and used

Nursery (Optional)

Provide childcare for volunteers' younger children.

MISSIONS OFFERING

- By choosing to give their offering money to Forgotten Voices International, children at VBS are actively helping churches in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi care for children who have been orphaned or made vulnerable by the AIDS pandemic and other factors of poverty.

MORE ABOUT FORGOTTEN VOICES:

Forgotten Voices International is a 501(c)(3) non-profit committed to: Demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ by equipping local churches in southern Africa to meet the physical and spiritual needs of children orphaned by AIDS in their communities.

- We encourage you to create a goal and use the giraffe offering chart provided in this Leader's Guide to daily track progress towards the goal (See page 6 - a PDF downloadable file is also available).
- We have also provided daily take home sheets with each day's memory verse and Forgotten Voices story (See pages 7-11 - PDF downloadable files are also available).
- We also encourage you to create a Missions Offering Display to help children visualize how their donations help children orphaned in Southern Africa. Items you might consider including in your display to demonstrate ways that Forgotten Voices supports the local church to care for orphaned children in their community are:

1. **Water Jug** = Clean Water Access
2. **Corn** = Agriculture Training/Food Supplements
3. **School Supplies** = Paying School Fees
4. **Hygiene Kit** = In-Home Health Care
5. **Tools** = Income-generating Projects
6. **Bible** = Spiritual and Counseling Support

PROCESSING DONATIONS

At the conclusion of VBS week, missions offering donations may be sent to Forgotten Voices International as follows:

1. Checks

- Checks should be payable to *Forgotten Voices International*
- **Mail to:** Forgotten Voices International, 1215 Gettysburg Pike, Dillsburg, PA 17019.
- If possible, please include a brief note so we know the donation is from your VBS program.

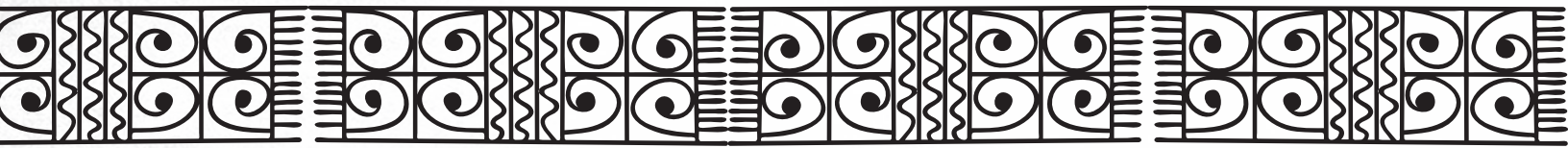
2. Credit/Debit Cards

- Process via secure server at www.forgottenvoices.org/donate



Forgotten Voices

forgottenvoices.org



DAY 1

PETERSON

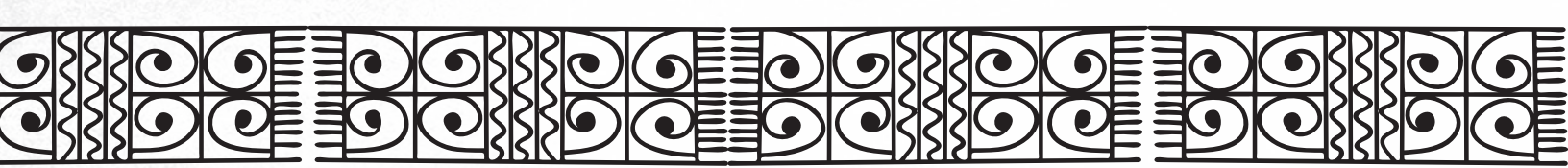
Forgotten Voices has helped a lot of children in southern Africa. I'd like to tell you about a boy named Peterson who was seven years old when his mother died. She died from an AIDS related disease. Peterson lives in Zimbabwe in Africa. His little sister, Prudence, was four years old when their mommy died. Prudence was also sick with the same illness that her mother had. Her sickness made it impossible for her to walk and she couldn't even talk. She spent her days sitting under a tree watching the world around her. She couldn't eat much, so she was quite small for her age. After their mother died, Peterson and Prudence had to live alone in their little village. Peterson heard about a hospital two miles away that would give Prudence medicine and help her learn to talk a little and try to move her arms and legs more. Peterson had to go to school, but on his way he carried his little sister to that hospital. At the end of the school day he came back to the hospital to get his sister and he carried her home. Then he worked in the fields, fed the goats, and got a meal together for them. After she went to sleep he did his homework. At the hospital Prudence learned to wave her arms and to say a few words. She was able to sit and chase the monkeys from the garden. She had a job that she could do. She no longer had to just watch from under a tree.

Prudence never did get strong and after a year she, too, died from her sickness. Peterson was able to move in with his grandparents and continue to go to school. Peterson never gave up. He was very brave in the face of such pain and loss. Unlike us. We want to give up when our team isn't winning or when we don't get the toy we wanted or get to do something that is important to us. But Peterson didn't give up on his sister when their mother died. He didn't give up on himself when his sister died. He kept going to school and planning for his future. His story helped Forgotten Voices learn how to help orphans in Africa like Peterson. Now we can help Forgotten Voices do that!

MEMORY VERSE:

*“Love your
neighbor
as yourself.”*
Galatians 5:14b





DAY 2

MRS. ZULU

Yesterday we heard about Peterson, a seven-year-old boy in Zimbabwe who carried his little sister two miles to the hospital every day for a year. He did all he could to heal another's hurts.

Today we are going to hear about Ashton. Ashton lives in a small village in Zambia. His dad died when his little sister was born. His mother, Mrs. Zulu, is now a widow with three children. When her two sisters died from an AIDS related disease, Mrs. Zulu took in their children. Now she has six children to care for.

Ashton's mother is a businesswoman. She gets up at 4:00 a.m. to buy vegetables and fruit from local farms. Then she sets up her produce shop in the village and sells the fruit and vegetables to the people in her community. In the evening after she feeds the children their supper, she cooks fresh nuts and cassava vegetables to sell to her neighbors from the roadside. She works very hard for very little money.

Her church has helped to encourage her and lift her tired arms by providing extra school supplies for the children and some medical care for her. The church also helped her start her vegetable business so she can make enough money to feed her family. Now that she is able to provide for the children in her care, Mrs. Zulu can give back to the church by helping with the women's programs and taking care of some of the sick members of the church.

Forgotten Voices gave money to Ashton's church to purchase several machines or mills that grind nuts, corn, and other items. With the money the church gets from these mills, the church can help people like Ashton's mother. Mrs. Zulu can take care of her family and help others who are sick because of the money the church gave her to start her business.

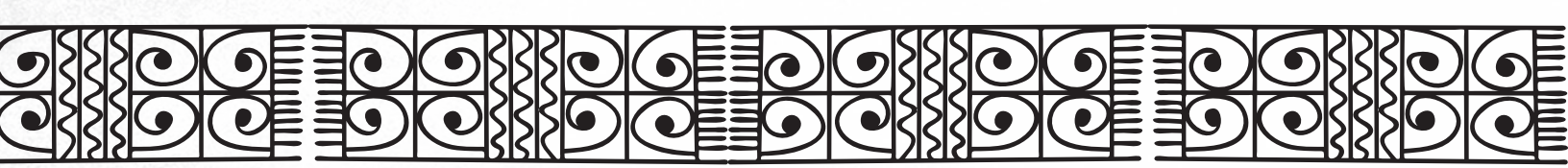
We can help Forgotten Voices help local churches so they, in turn, can help people like Ashton and his mother.

MEMORY VERSE:

*"Therefore encourage
one another and build
each other up."*

1 Thessalonians 5:11a





DAY 3

PRIVILEGE

Today's story from Africa is about Privilege, an 11-year old 4th grade girl who lives in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. She is a brilliant young girl! She lives with her mother and four brothers and sisters. After her father passed away, her mother had to work to support the family. For four years she did not make enough money to pay the school fees for Privilege and her older sister, Dorothy, to go to school full time. She was able to send them to a special program where for two hours a day they could go to school in a class with children in grades one through seven – all in one room.

A teacher in this special program realized what a quick learner Privilege was. She talked to the local church about her and asked if they could help with school fees. Through their partnership with Forgotten Voices, the church was able to begin paying for the girls to return to school full time.

Since then the church has been helping them with school fees, providing them with school uniforms and supplies, and helping to meet their spiritual needs. Both girls are doing exceptionally well in school. Privilege was the highest ranking student in her entire primary school. Her favorite subject is math and she plans to become a nurse because she wants to help others.

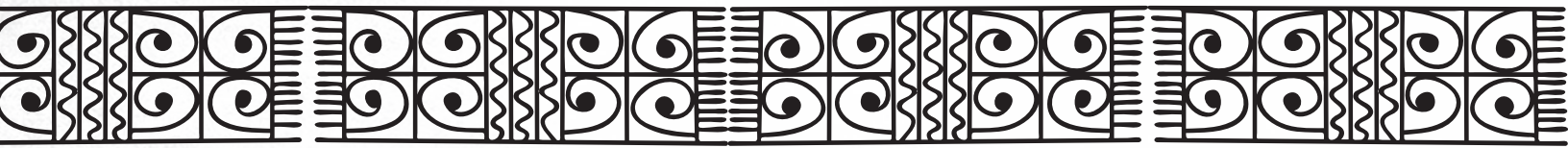
Because a teacher was a friend who cared and the church was able to lend a hand, Privilege was able to return to school and now has a bright future. We can be a friend and help children like Privilege through our gifts to Forgotten Voices.



MEMORY VERSE:

*“A friend
loves at
all times.”*

Proverbs 17:17a



DAY 4

DORIS

Today's story from Africa is about Doris, a young girl who lives in Zambia. Doris LOVES going to school. She likes to study civics, history, geography, and English. She also loves to sing. When Doris grows up she wants to become a doctor to make people feel better and save lives.

Doris is NOT an orphan, but her father has physical disabilities that make it hard for him to work. He makes shoes when he is able. Her mother dyes fabric to make wrap-around dresses called chitenges. Her mother and father take care of Doris, her two brothers, two cousins, and her grandmother.

When she was ten, Doris couldn't go to school for an entire year. Her parents did not make enough money to pay her school fees. Her parents prayed and asked God to help them find the money to allow Doris to go back to school. God answered their prayers through the local church. The Care Ministry heard about the family's needs and came alongside them to help. They paid the school fees for Doris, provided her uniform, and necessary supplies for school. They even helped the family in other ways.

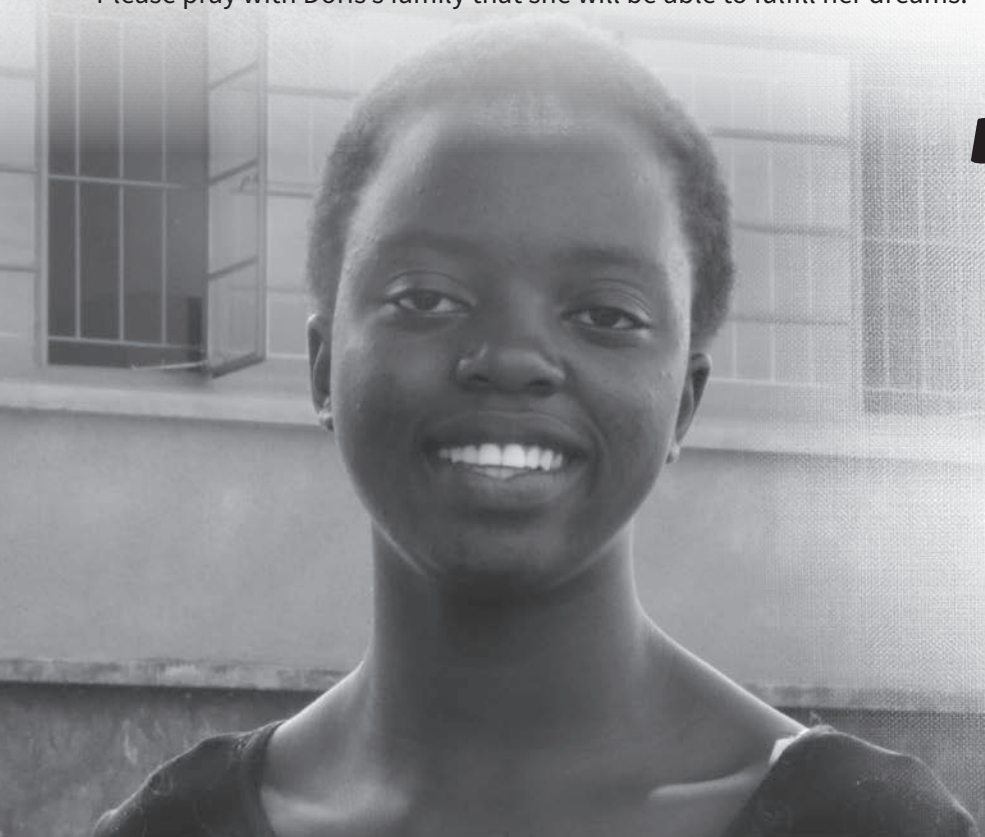
When Doris returned to school, she was a star pupil. She was top student in her class of 100. A very special private school that can help Doris achieve her dream of being a doctor noticed how bright she is and accepted her into their program. God answered her family's prayers in ways they never expected! Forgotten Voices is now partnering with Doris's church to allow the Care Ministry to help other families in their community.

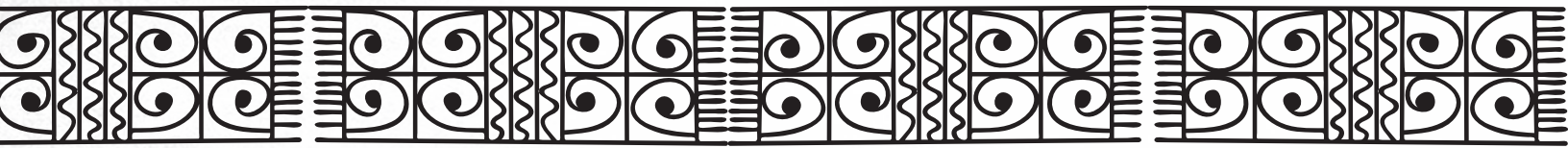
Please pray with Doris's family that she will be able to fulfill her dreams.

MEMORY VERSE:

*"The prayer of
a righteous
person is
powerful
and effective."*

James 5:16b





DAY 5

PRETTY

Pretty was a happy teenager. She had lots of friends and loved going to school, although she was not a very good student. When she was 15, her daddy died. “It’s not fair!” Pretty said to her mother. “Why did Daddy have to die and leave us? Without his provision, I can no longer go to school or do the fun things I used to do.” Pretty’s mother had to go to work to support the family and put food on the table. She could not take Pretty to school or to after school activities and parties. Pretty became angry. She missed her daddy and she wished for the life she used to have.

A church in Pretty’s neighborhood heard about how hard her mother had to work. They discovered that Pretty was no longer able to go to school. The people of the church decided to help. They paid for Pretty’s school fees, bought her a uniform, and talked with her about how much she missed her daddy. They helped Pretty see how much her mother loved her and was trying to help.

Because those who believe in Christ came to help her family and showed her God’s love, Pretty realized that she needed to become a child of God. She gave her life to Christ!

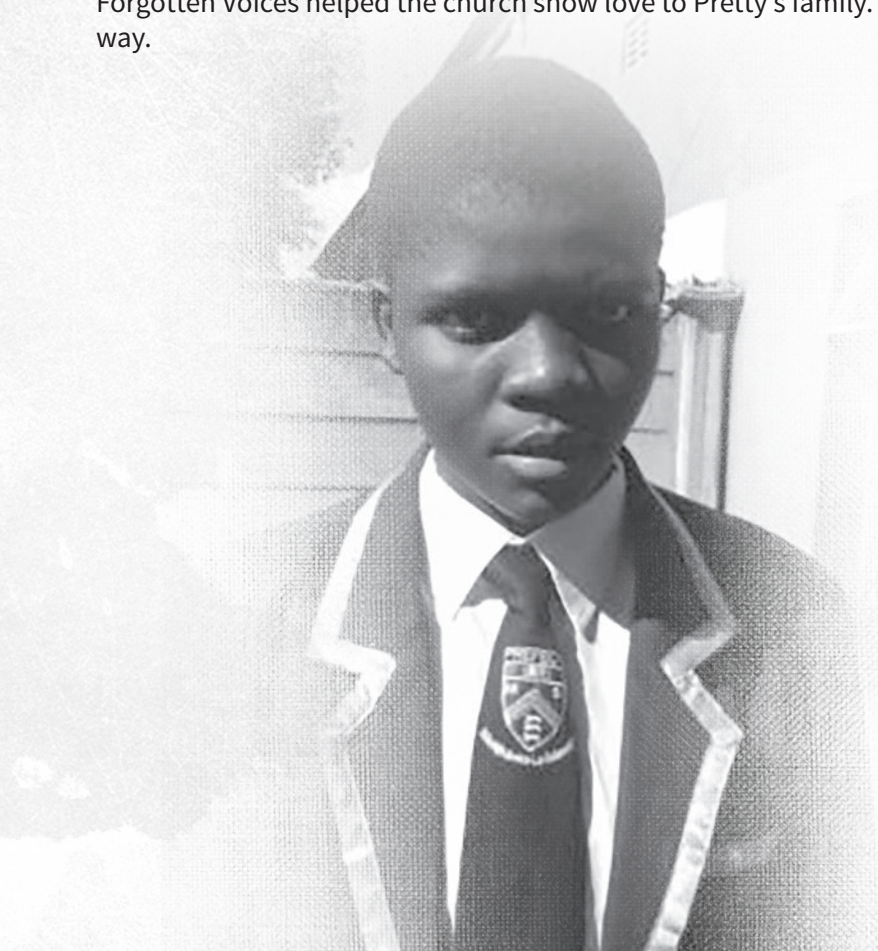
Pretty returned to school and started to get very good grades. She is determined to continue her education no matter what happens to her, and she is no longer angry with her situation.

Forgotten Voices helped the church show love to Pretty’s family. We can help Forgotten Voices help other families that way.

MEMORY VERSE:

*“Dear children,
let us not love
with words or
speech but with
actions and
in truth.”*

I John 3:18





FORGOTTEN**VOICES**

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