

Evangelism

The evangelism component of your team is critical to a successful mission trip because everything centers around the worship services that your team will provide. While the medical-dental services are of tremendous value, the spiritual healing and growth your team offers will have eternal effects.

The Evangelism Team will be divided into two main groups: 1) those working with adults, and 2) those working with children. The information in this section is designed to give the Team Captain and Evangelism Team Members a general overview of:

- Adult Evangelism (daily worship services, evening revival services)
- Children's Ministry
- Miscellaneous supplies for the evangelism team.

The evangelism team is normally made up of a variety of personnel, including pastors, lay people, and Central American translators (provided by the Mission). Working together will enhance your opportunity to reach the people of Central America with the message and compassion of Christ. Take time to familiarize yourself with this information, knowing that preparation is essential and will provide tremendous results on the field.

As you read through this material, make notes of any questions you may have for the Team Captain and/or the Team Activities Office of Baptist Medical & Dental Mission International.

ADULT EVANGELISM

As villagers arrive for treatment, they will first acquire a medical and/or dental clinic registration card. Upon receiving the card, they will proceed to team tent where worship services are held. A service lasting 30 minutes to an hour will be held to ensure that every villager has a chance to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. At the conclusion of the worship service, the registration cards will be marked in such a way as to indicate that person's attendance of worship. Once the card has been marked, the patient may proceed to the dental or medical clinics.

It is our hope that every villager would make a commitment for Christ that has not already done so; however, it is not a requirement for treatment. Every villager may receive the free services of your medical and dental clinics regardless of his/her spiritual beliefs and/or decisions.

Worship Services During the Day: These adult worship services will be held at key times during the day. The actual number of worship services held will depend upon the number of villagers arriving for treatment and the flow of the registration and clinic lines. On average, you can count on holding at least three or four worship services during the day.

The Evangelism Team is responsible for the messages preached during these daily worship services. The Mission will provide a translator as well as a Mission employee who will help coordinate the singing and other pre-sermon components of the worship services. Also, the local pastor of the church may be present to assist with these services. These Central Americans will assist your team with the invitation time after the sermon as well as counseling any villager that makes a decision.

The villagers who arrive at daily worship services will have a wide variety of church experiences. Some will have heard the gospel before; others will not have. Some may already be members of a Christian church; others may be in opposition to the Christian church. But the vast majority of people who arrive will be attentive and respectful in the worship services.

It is best to keep the sermon in the daily worship services very basic, i.e. a clear presentation of the gospel for people who may have never heard it before. The sermon does not have to be a certain length but we suggest that you keep it focused and clear. If you have several pastors and lay men on the evangelism team, you may want to rotate the preaching to keep it fresh and to avoid wearing out any one person's throat.

After the worship service, you will have to mark each card of the villagers in attendance so that they will be permitted to enter the clinics. *We strongly suggest that you use some type of unusual hole punch (i.e. a hole punch that leaves an odd shape) or an unusual color marker that cannot be duplicated easily by a local villager.* At times the Mission is able to provide an "ink dip" to mark a finger of the person in attendance.

Evening Worship Services: After the evening meal, special revival services will be held each evening for anyone in the village that would like to attend (adults and children). These are often quite exciting worship services — lots of music and presentations. All team members are strongly encouraged to attend these evening worship services unless they are ill or in true need of rest. The lack of team participation in these evening worship services can convey a terribly negative message to the Christians and non-Christians living in that village. Our goal is to strengthen our local Baptist church in that village.

The evening worship service is usually an extended service lasting up to 2 hours. It is a time of celebration with lots of Central American music, scripture reading, prayers, and a sermon. The Mission employees, working in conjunction with the Evangelism Team, will coordinate the structure of the worship services and prepare the music. The members of the Evangelism Team will be responsible for the sermon preached during the service. The Evangelism Team may also request to have other team members involved in the evening worship services as desired (e.g. testimonies, prayers, special music).

Many of the people coming to the evening worship services are members of local Christian churches. The evening worship service is a good opportunity to preach sermons directed more toward the growth and faith of Christians. However, it is always good to offer an opportunity for first time decisions too.

One-on-One Evangelism: Some on the Evangelism Team may want to do some one-on-one adult evangelism in the village going door to door, in the streets, or with people waiting in line. If this is the case, be sure to let your Team Captain know in advance so that he can request an additional translator. This is also an option for the Evangelism Team member in between the daily worship services.

Adult Evangelism Supplies (Bibles, Tracts, Discipleship materials): The Evangelism Team should talk with the Team Captain about the purchase and shipping of Spanish Bibles, tracts, and discipleship materials to be distributed in the village. If you cannot purchase all of these, we suggest you focus on purchasing Spanish Bibles first. Central Americans are always excited to receive a copy of the Bible, especially a complete Bible (i.e. Old and New Testaments). Your team must decide how many Bibles to purchase and to whom they will be given (i.e. those that makes decision in the worship services, one-on-one evangelism, etc.).

Because of some wording discrepancies in translations, we *strongly recommend* that your team purchase the Reina-Valera Version (**Edition 1960**) or the Antigua Version of the Bible. Please do NOT purchase the 1977 version.

Source for Spanish Bibles

- 1. The Family of Mr. Wallace Norman.** For years, Mr. Norman donated Bibles to BMDMI teams. He passed away in 2004 but his family continues to provide this ministry of donated Bibles in his memory. If you will contact the Norman family business at 662-456-3338 and let them know you are leading a BMDMI to Central America, they will send you 100 complete Bibles or 500 New Testaments free of charge. I'm sure the Norman family would appreciate a note of thanks once you get back from your trip at P.O. Box 208, Houston, MS 38851.
- 2. American Bible Society**
Phone: (800) 322-4253
Cost: \$2.50 per Bible + shipping & handling (each box contains 20 Bibles)
Item # 106337 (Reina-Valeria Version, edition 1960)
- 3. Bible & Literature Missionary Foundation**
713 Cannon Blvd
Shelbyville, TN 37160
Phone: (931) 684-0304
Cost: \$2.50 per Bible + shipping & handling (each box contains 32 Bibles)
Ask for the "Antigua Version"

Source for free copies of the books **JOHN** and **ROMANS**

- 1. Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church**
Mr. H.B. Kearney
Harriman Highway
Oliver Springs, TN 37840
Phone: (865) 435-7742

Source for Spanish Discipleship Material

Creciendo En Cristo (A Guide for New Believers)
Baptist General Convention of Texas
333 N Washington
Dallas, TX 75246-1798
888-269-3826

Sources for Spanish Evangelistic Tracts

1. World Wide Tract Ministry

P.O. Box 1660
Bessemer, AL 35021-1660
Phone: (205) 426-4308

World Wide Tract Ministry has three Spanish tracts. *There is no charge for the tracts; you pay only the cost of shipping these tracts to you.* The minimum number of tracts they can ship you depends upon which tract you order. World Wide Tract Ministry requests that you order these tracts at least 4 weeks before you need to receive them.

2. Fellowship Tract League

P.O. Box 164
Lebanon, OH 45036
Phone: (513) 494-1075
Website: www.fellowshiptractleague.com

Fellowship Tract League has 28 Spanish tracts available. You may call them or visit their website for more information or to place an order. *There is no charge for the tracts; you pay only the cost of shipping these tracts to you. However, they gladly receive donations as well to help pay for the tracts.*

3. Baptist General Convention of Texas

888-244-9400
Como Llegar A Dios (How to come to God)

Decision Cards: Since our Mission's goal is evangelism *and* discipleship, we want to have a record of the various decisions made during worship services during the day and in the evenings. Below is a decision card that you can print to take with your team to facilitate making a record of these decisions. Make as many copies as you think you may need.

The top half of the card talks about the decision to be a Christian and should be given to the person making the decision. The bottom half of the card is for making a record for the local pastor and our Mission to follow up with; after filling in the information, give the bottom half of the card to the BMDMI missionary, the BMDMI employee in charge of worship services that week, or to the local BMDMI pastor.

Also, be sure that someone keeps a count of all decisions made during the week. This information will be needed for reports after the trip.

(Please see the decision card on the following page. A copy of this decision card with two to a page may be found on the CD provided with this manual for easier printing.)

¡ BIENVENIDO A LA FAMILIA DE DIOS !

Su decisión de invitar a Jesucristo a vivir en su corazón es la decisión más importante que hará en su vida. Varias cosas maravillosas le acaban de suceder. Sus pecados le han sido perdonados y Jesucristo es su Salvador personal. Ahora usted es un hijo de Dios y el cielo será su eterno hogar cuando se muera.

Los pasos iniciales para seguir a Cristo son:

Paso 1: Siga el ejemplo de Cristo y sea bautizado. El bautismo es simbólico de lo que Cristo ha hecho en usted – lo ha limpiado de sus pecados. Por ejemplo, el anillo de matrimonio no casa a una persona; simplemente indica que esta persona está casada. El bautismo no trae a Cristo a su corazón, sino que es un acto que demuestra que ahora usted es un seguidor de Cristo. La Biblia confirma esta en el libro de Hechos capítulo 8, versículo 12 que dice: “Pero cuando creyeron a Felipe, que anunciaba el evangelio del reino de Dios y el nombre de Jesucristo, se bautizaban hombres y mujeres.”

Paso 2: Unase a una iglesia local. La Biblia nos da un ejemplo de unos nuevos creyentes que se unieron a la iglesia en Hechos capítulo 2, versículo 41 que dice: “Así que, los que recibieron su palabra fueron bautizados; y se añadieron (a la iglesia) aquel día como tres mil personas.” Una iglesia es un grupo de Cristianos que se reúnen para alabar y adorar a Dios, para orar, para estudiar la Biblia, para tener compañerismo y para prepararse para hablarles a otros de Cristo. La Iglesia Bautista local recibe con los brazos abiertos a aquellos nuevos creyentes que desean unirse con ella.

Record de Decisión para Jesucristo

Fecha: _____

Nombre y Apellido: _____

Dirección: _____

Su Aldea: _____

Edad: _____ Hombre: _____ Mujer: _____

Estado Civil: Casado _____ Soltero _____ Viudo: _____

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY – BASIC INFORMATION

The ministry your team provides to the village children plays an equally important role to adult evangelism. Experience reveals that many Christians made decisions for Christ as children! When done effectively, a children's ministry can have a tremendous effect on children, their families and even entire communities. We encourage you to meet regularly with the team members that will be working with children to plan well for the ministry being offered to the children. *The Mission will provide at least one translator for your Children's Ministry team. So plan to do all of your teaching in English and then have it translated into Spanish.*

In most instances, you will either hold the children's ministry under a tent or in a classroom of some sort. In either case, you should expect to have a limited number of chairs for the children (if any at all) and probably no tables. But the children are accustomed to working on the floor or in their laps. They will be excited to do whatever you have planned!

Every team does Children's Ministry differently. However, most teams choose to do something like Vacation Bible School where you have a Bible lesson time, craft time, recreation time, etc. You do not have to plan something for every minute of the day. On the contrary, your children's ministry team will need breaks during the day to recoup and prepare for the next children's activity. In general, most teams expect to have the children for several hours each day; perhaps a couple hours in the morning and a couple of hours in the afternoon. The type of activities offered during these times can be mixed up for a variety. Your team must decide what works best.

If you are doing this for the first time, you may want to talk with a veteran team member who has done this before. If your Team Captain cannot give you the name and number of such a team member, feel free to contact the BMDMI Team Activities Department to get the name and number of team member from another team who has led the Children's Ministry. You may reach the Team Activities Department at 601-544-5007 or by email at Jane@bmdmi.org.

Following is a list of steps that you may wish to follow to determine how you are going to structure your ministry to children.

STEP 1: Determine the number of times you will meet with children each day. You have several options in this regard. Team Captains are fairly autonomous and can choose their own format. Some like to have a children's service scheduled at the same time as every adult preaching service that is being held in the tent. Others allow their children's workers the freedom to do 1-2 sessions a day for longer periods of time and then work in other areas of ministry. Some Team Captains prefer to have a Children's Church with every adult service and then a Bible School in addition. Some teams combine a Bible School atmosphere with a Children's Church approach. Whatever method you prepare, bear in mind that the future of Central America is the children and that how we prepare them today is what our churches will be tomorrow. Check with your Team Captain and/or head of the adult evangelism workers to see how many times each day they plan to hold worship services for the adults who must attend before going to the clinics.

Once you get an idea of what the schedule is for adult worship services, you can decide if you want to plan your children's ministry times in conjunction with them or not. All teams do it differently. *However, in many cases, the children's ministry workers choose to have their own schedule of meeting times because they need more time than is usually allotted for the adult worship services.* That is to say, if you are going to do a Bible lesson, then some arts-n-crafts, and perhaps even some recreation, you are probably going to need more than 45 minutes at a time. Your children's workers will feel less hurried and more relaxed if they are not trying to meet a time deadline to finish up the exact same time the adults are finishing up. NOTE: If you choose to set up your own schedule for children's ministry, you will need to coordinate with your Team Captain how the children will get their registration cards stamped, i.e. if the parents will get them stamped for the children in the adult worship services.

STEP 2: Determine how many children you can work with during each session. It's almost impossible to know exactly how many children will show up daily to be a part of your planned activities; attendance varies from village to village. However, in general, you should count on 50 – 150 children showing up each day. In many cases there will be more children than you expect or can plan for. Choose a number of children you think you can work with at each session (say, 75-100 children) and purchase your supplies based on that. If you should have more children than that show up, just make adjustments as you can. Perhaps not every child will be able to do every activity; and many times they are willing to share. If space and supplies are such that you have to set a limit to the number of children you see each session, then you may choose to cut off entrance to more children once you've reached your capacity for that session.

STEP 3: Determine the type of activities you are going to offer. Most teams offer Bible lessons, arts-n-crafts, and sometimes recreation. If you are going to meet for a couple of hours in the morning and a couple in the afternoon, you can mix up what you are going to offer and when. Some teams choose to have a Bible lesson in the morning with songs and skits; then in the afternoon they offer arts-n-crafts and recreation. Other teams try to do both a Bible lesson and arts-n-crafts in both sessions and then have other children's workers lead recreation in between times. Again, there is a lot of flexibility. You and your Team Captain can decide what will serve your team best.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IDEAS

In an effort to give you an example of what other teams have done in the area of Children's Ministry, the following materials were put together by BMDMI missionary Cathey Johnson in conjunction with several experienced team members. Feel free to use it as you need or disregard it if you have other plans.

Keys to Successful Children's Ministry in Central America

1. PRAY for God to guide you
2. MAKE a plan.
 - a. Am I going to use Bible stories or evangelistic topics (i.e. plan of salvation, etc.)?
 - b. Remember that you will be teaching children who may have never heard of Jesus Christ. Make your message and plans simple.

3. SEARCH for details by looking at resources for ideas
 - a. Magazines
 - b. Catalogues
 - c. Church literature
 - d. Church leaders
 - e. Craft stores

4. ORGANIZE!
 - a. Make detailed lesson plans for each day
 - b. Once you get your ideas on paper, create a checklist that can be checked off
 - c. How will you structure each session on the field?
 - d. Will you have a snack time? Or play time?
 - e. Who will come? How will you invite them?
 - f. How much preparation will you do and how much will you let the children do?

5. SEEK HELP
 - a. Ask people in your church to help cut items or prepare other things
 - b. Determine who will be working with you on the field and work with them now
 - c. How much will supplies cost? How are we to pay for these things?
 - d. How can we get donations of supplies and/or money?

6. PREPARE
 - a. Do as much work ahead of time as possible; you do not want to wait until you have 100+ kids staring at you to begin to cut items
 - b. How many will you prepare for?
 - c. Make copies as needed
 - d. Purchase other supplies needed for lessons, crafts, recreation, etc

7. PACK it all up
 - a. Talk with your Team Captain to see how you must pack all these items and when they have to be packed by
 - b. Pack the supplies day by day in small boxes if possible
 - c. Double check your checklist to see if you have gathered all the necessary supplies
 - d. Make sure your boxes are packed well and are full to avoid getting crushed.
 - e. Ask your Team Captain about what should or should not be written on the boxes to identify them properly and where and when they have to be turned in with the rest of the team cargo

8. BE FLEXIBLE
 - a. When you get to the field, realize that your best laid plans will always have to be changed to accommodate each situation
 - b. Your helpers may change (translators, etc) may change throughout the week
 - c. Wherever you end up holding your children's ministry, see if there is a way to have an entrance and an exit that will allow you to have good crowd control. This is especially important as you begin to give items away. You may get mobbed by onlookers wanting those items if you have no way of controlling the crowd.

Sample Lesson Plan for Children's Bible School

Theme: *New Life in Christ*

This theme will reflect on how Jesus Christ gives us life. We will begin our journey in the Old Testament with the beginning of time. Our first story will tell about the creation of the world and then we will continue our travel on from there. In presenting the Gospel to the children of Central America we want them to see God working in many lives in the Bible to bring about His plan of salvation. We want them to understand how they too may have *new life* in Jesus.

We will use stories from the Bible to reflect this theme. Songs will be used to emphasize this theme, as well as crafts designed for this purpose. In telling the stories, we should remember to keep the Gospel simple and understandable. It should always reveal Jesus' love and divine provision for new life. The crafts will be simple and easy to do, and we will try to include games for fun. We will have candy as a reward of good behavior and goody bags at the end of the week. We want to encourage children to come to each session and provide a time for them to accept Jesus Christ into their hearts.

Everything we say and do should reflect the love of Jesus and show the children the way of His truth.

Day 1 – Afternoon

Story: Creation of the World

Scripture Text: Genesis 1

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1 *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*
(Color sheet Genesis 1:1)

Purpose: This story tells how God created the world. God wanted someone to be friends with, so He created the world and He put men and women in it. God wanted to love people and give them good things. He also decided to let us choose whether we wanted to love Him back or love ourselves more. People chose not to love God more than himself. Adam and Eve chose not to obey God, but ate from the tree that they were forbidden to eat from. Therefore God could not have a close friendship with them. He told us from this time how He would bring Jesus Christ to the earth to make a way for all of us to have a restored friendship with Him. In this way, Jesus would give us a new life. This story tells us how God made people from the dust of the ground and how He breathed new life into them. It also tells how God made a way for us to have a new life in Jesus.

Song: Este Mundo Creo Mi Dios (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity Time:

Boys: Name Tags & Butterflies
Girls: Name Tags & Butterflies
Small Children: Name Tags & Butterflies

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse	Color sheet Colors	Copy
Name Tags	Safety Pins Note cards Stickers	Punch holes
Butterflies	Clothes pins Tissue paper Pipe cleaners	Cut in 4" x 4" squares

Day 2 – Morning

Story: Noah and the Ark

Scripture Text: Genesis 6:9 - 8:22

Memory Verse: Genesis 8:22 *“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”* (Ark Animals)

Purpose: This story reveals the wickedness of people and how God was unhappy with them. God decided that He would destroy His creation. However, He found one man who still loved and obeyed Him. This man’s name was Noah. God told Noah to build a boat and take his family and two of all kinds of animals into the boat. Then God sent the rain, which caused the flood. The water covered all of the earth and all other people were destroyed. God preserved Noah’s life. In this way God gave Noah a new life and a new earth that had no other wicked people on it. In this way, God preserved our life and allows us to have a new life in Him.

Song: Quien Hizo El Arca? (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity Time:

Boys: Super Dough Animals
Girls: Plastic Canvas Rainbow
Small Children: Hand Art Ark

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse	Paper tubes Glue Copies of Animals (from recycled books)	Count 250 Copy animals w/ verse
Super Dough Animals	Super Dough Cookie Cutters	
Plastic Canvas Rainbows	Yarn Needles Plastic canvas circles	Cut yarn
Hand Art Ark	Construction Paper hands Construction Paper Paper punch design Glue	Copy, cut out Cut in half Punch out of construction paper

Day 2 – Afternoon

Story: The story of Joseph

Scripture Text: Genesis 37,39,40,41,42,43,44,45

Memory Verse: Genesis: 50:20 *You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.* (Joseph’s Coat)

Purpose: Joseph

Song: Cantaré (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity Time:

Boys: Sharing Go Round Pencils

Girls: Love Others

Small Children: Color Picture

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse	Joseph Coat Design Colors	Copy, cut out
“Sharing Go Round” Pencils	Pencils Cardboard Wheel Design Cardboard Glue Color picture of Joseph	Cut out Copy, cut out, glue to cardboard Cut out Copy

Day 3 – Morning

Story: The Birth of Jesus

Scripture: Luke 2

Memory Verse: Luke 2:11 *Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you, He is Christ the Lord.* (Birthday Card)

Purpose: Today we want to bring the theme into the New Testament. This story introduces us to the birth of Jesus Christ. New life is brought into this world for everyone through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The angels sang in the heavens about peace and favor on man. God can bring this peace to each of us as we accept the new life Jesus can give us.

The Song: Alla En El Pesebre (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity Time:

Boys: Nativity set

Girls: Nativity set

Small Children: Color sheet

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse	Designs for birthday cards	Copy to construction paper
Birthday Card		
Nativity Set	Paper bags	Cut off
	Paper tubes People design Glue Construction Paper	Count 250 for each Cut tubes for Jesus Copy
Color Sheet – Luke 2:6-7	Colors Color sheets	Copy

Day 3 – Afternoon

Story: Jesus talks to Nicodemus

Scripture: John 3

Memory Verse: John 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, *“I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”* (picture)

Purpose: Jesus talks to Nicodemus about what it takes to have new life. In the classic verse 3 Jesus states that unless you are born again you can not enter into God’s kingdom. Nicodemus, in his lack of understanding, questions how a man can be born again. Jesus tells us that it is not a flesh birth but a spirit birth that He is talking about. To be born in the Spirit is to believe in Jesus, His virgin birth, His substitutionary death, and His miraculous resurrection. This is the only way to the kingdom of God.

Song: Dios Es Bueno (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity Time:

Boys: Wind Catcher

Girls: Wind Catcher

Small Children: Wind Mill Pencils

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse	Color Sheet Colors	Copy
Wind Catchers	Beads Plastic Drinking straws Yarn Needles Colored Clear-Lay transparent film	Cut Cut Cut 5”x5” squares, make slits & Punch holes
Wind Mill Pencils	Pencils Construction Paper Pins	Cut 4”x4” squares, make slits

Alternate Lesson Plan – Morning

Story: The Crucifixion and Resurrection

Scripture: Luke 22, 23, 24

Memory Verse: John 3:16 “*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*” (Salvation Bracelet & Color Sheet)

Purpose: The purpose of the crucifixion is to redeem people from the penalty of death. The purpose of the resurrection is to gain victory over death and the grave. Only Jesus has the power to conquer the penalty of sin and the victory over death. In this way Jesus gives us new life. We can accept this new life if we accept Jesus Christ in our hearts.

Song: Admirable Es Jesus (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity:

Boys: Egg carton Cross

Girls: Egg carton Cross

Small Children: Egg carton Cross *substitute construction paper for egg carton

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse (salvation bracelet*)	Plastic lacing or leather string Beads	cut into lengths
Egg Carton Cross	Egg carton bottoms Tissue paper Glue Construction Paper	Cut tops & flaps off Cut into 3” squares (for substitute of egg cartons)

***Salvation Bracelet**

Black – Darkness of sin, the absence of light (Isaiah 8:20)

Red – Bloodshed at Calvary by Christ (1 Peter 1:18 –19)

White – Redemption of Sin, having maximum light (1 John 1:5)

Blue – Waters of Baptism (Matthew 3:16)

Green – New growth in Christ (2 Peter 3:18)

Yellow – Heaven (Revelations 21:18)

Alternate Lesson Plan – Afternoon

Story: Choosing Christ

Scripture: Romans 6:23, John 3:16, Luke 24:5,6; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9,13 (scriptures referred to in the tract)

Memory Verse: 1 John 4:10 *This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.* (My Book about Jesus)

Purpose: We always want to give the children time to make a decision for the Lord. We want to be sure that they understand the decision and that they are given an opportunity to make a public decision. In sharing this Bible verse they will be able to understand that they can come to God with all their burdens and cares and He will give them the spiritual rest they need. We will not cease from being burdened by the world but we can have rest in God through Jesus Christ, His Son.

The Song: Canto Muy Feliz (or other song that translators will know and can lead)

Activity Time:

- Salvation Tract
- Draw a poster
- Gift Bags

Project	Supplies	Preparation
Memory Verse	Construction paper My Book about Jesus (tract) Colors	Make cover & cut out Copy, cut & punch holes
Draw a Poster	Long sheet of paper Colored markers	
Gift Bags	Bags Anything left over from the week	

The Spanish Music from these example Bible studies come from:

Cedaromont Music
Sue Gay
P.O. Box 680145
Franklin, TN 37068 -0145

Parable Group
(800) 299-6299

Benson Music Direct
365 Great Circle Road
Nashville, TN 37228
(800) 444-4012

Once you get to the field, talk with the translators assigned to the Children’s Ministry about the songs that they know and can lead. You do not have to use the songs listed above. Do whatever works best for you.

Other Thoughts about Children’s Ministries on Teams (Cathey Johnson)

Bear in mind as you go through this protocol that these are only guidelines and suggestions. There are a variety of ways to work with children, but there is one rule that should be followed—be well prepared, but flexible!

ANNOUNCE IN THE FIRST ADULT CHURCH SERVICE WHAT TIME YOUR CHILDREN’S CLASSES WILL BEGIN. YOU CAN ALSO USE PREPRINTED FLIERS TO ANNOUNCE THE TIMES OF THE CHILDREN’S CLASSES. 9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. for the first session has worked well in the past, but the time is left up to you and your Team Captain. By scheduling the first session between 9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m., this will give the Children’s ministry workers time to prepare their sessions. I have never seen the children fail to show up.

One of the greatest problems you will encounter is CROWD CONTROL. A number of methods have been tried and all are successful to a certain degree. Trial and error works best here. Bring some good, sturdy, long rope to enclose the area you want the children to wait in before bringing them in to the tent or facility you will be using for the children's ministry. My suggestion is to bring them in one at a time to lessen confusion and to have them line up in 1 or 2 rows. You will need a Spanish-speaking (bilingual) person to help you in this area. Also, the presence of a man is very helpful as an authoritative figure.

As you bring them in, you can do a number of things. Some teams bring cassettes with pre-recorded Spanish music (preferably children singing—these tapes can be found in any of the larger Christian music stores). This is a good time to let them color. Give them 2-3 colors and a coloring page (one that perhaps corresponds with your Bible lesson for the day) then ESCORT them to a place on the floor to color (if you do not escort them you will find they will all bunch up and when you have 80-90 children, it is hard to get them to spread out). They can be coloring while you are escorting the other children in and getting them placed on the floor.

Then a time of singing is a good idea. You can buy a LARGE tablet and write the words of Spanish choruses on them. It is helpful to have a person who can play the guitar for you, but if you do not have one, simply use a tape recorder with the music or sing a cappella. How much music you have to sing will determine the length of this music time. Children love to sing and it can set the tone of the Bible lessons to follow. Try and have a song that goes along with your lesson. Utilize different hand instruments to help teach rhythm.

Allow the Holy Spirit to direct you in choosing your lesson materials — the choices for lesson plans are innumerable. Try and utilize props with your lessons (i.e. flannel graphs, puppets, object lessons, etc.). You may even want to include puppets, not as a part of your Bible lessons, but after your singing time. You could have the puppets teach a short "lesson on life" using different scripts. Children love the puppets and can gain a great deal of wisdom from them. For your Bible study time, you will need a translator to help you or else a Spanish-speaking person to do this portion of your children's ministry session.

An invitation time is important but it has to be done properly or ALL the children will be raising their hands to accept Christ and a public prayer (where the children repeat the Sinner's Prayer), will be said by all. I have found the best way is to ask the children who want to receive Christ to come to the front where I then take them off to a private area of prayer and counseling while the others sing or do some other activity.

You may want to end your sessions with games. This can also be a time when you give them a small gift or piece of literature to take with them. This also has to be done with a great deal of control through trial and error. I have found that making them sit on the floor with you choosing a child and escorting them out with their gift saves mass confusion. It takes a little time, but it is worth it in the long run.

The more helpers you have the better control you will experience. This is important since the children can get pretty rowdy. Men also are good for Children's class since the children often need a role model and their authoritative figures help with discipline. It is essential to have people who speak Spanish work with you in the Children's Ministry area. The Mission will provide you with a translator or two, but you may be able to recruit some bilingual team members.

As you can see, a Children's Ministry has a number of possibilities and needs to be adapted to your team. Each team is unique due to their size, number of available workers, availability of Spanish-speaking people, the amount of money that can be spent on materials, and the individual preferences of the Team Captain and the Children's Ministry leader. Remember that FLEXIBILITY is the key to any successful team. What you have planned may not be at all what you end up implementing on the Mission Field, but the Holy Spirit is the one who will take what you do to reach the hearts of the children and use it to the glory of God. PRAY about everything and let Him lead.

God bless you as you take on this challenge!

Sources for Children's Evangelism Materials

1. Helping You Evangelize Children
P.O. Box 348
Warrenton, MO 633-83

Wordless book visualized; Spanish edition is entitled "El Libro Sin Palabras (Visualizado)". Tracts are also available (i.e. "Primeros Pasos" and a tract on the Salvation Bracelet). Ask for one of their catalogs for a listing of other available products in Spanish.

2. International Bible Society
1820 Jet Stream Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

"La Vida de Jesus" (Comic magazine on the Life of Christ). Also available is a children's tract entitled "Primeros Pasos". Ask for catalog of other Spanish products available.

3. Casa Bautista de Publicaciones
P.O. Box 4255
El Paso, TX 79914

Excellent literature in Spanish (i.e. puppet scripts, skits). Ask for catalog of other Spanish products available.