



FEEDING 5,000

**GEOGRAPHY
WORKSHOP**



OVERVIEW



SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:9-25, Luke 11:1-4



CONNECTION

The Lord's Prayer includes the phrase "Give us this day our daily bread." When we pray this phrase, we may also sense a call to help provide daily bread to others. Heifer is working to eliminate hunger and poverty by giving "not a cup but a cow," working with families around the world to ensure they have daily bread.



MAIN IDEAS

- Become more familiar with the Lord's Prayer
- Resources are not evenly distributed around the world
- Maps influence the way we see the world
- Heifer works with small-scale farmers around the world
- Each congregation can make a difference in helping lift families out of poverty



HIGHLIGHTS

- Open with the Lord's Prayer
- Review several maps and learn how various maps affect our global view
- Consider hosting a Scarcity Buffet for your congregation



SUPPLIES

- Traditional world map
- Peters Projection Map (available [here](#))
- Scarcity Buffet Activity
 - » 1 color-coded wristband (ribbon, yarn, etc.) per participant based on setup ratio: roughly 10% receive yellow, 50% receive blue and 40% receive red
 - » Food and drinks
 - » Tables set with chairs around them (enough for the yellow group)
 - » Chairs lining the walls (enough for the red group)
- Lord's Prayer phrase cards cut out on page 7



ADVANCED PREPARATION

- Set the buffet properly where there is plenty of food for the number of yellow group or "high-income participants," just enough for the red group or "medium-income participants" and very little for the blue group or "low-income participants"
- Select Meal Leaders to help with activity depending on the number of participants
- Set tables and chairs for the yellow group with nice table linens and décor
- Set chairs out along the walls for the red group
- Members of the blue group should sit on the floor

LESSON

OPEN THE SESSION BY RECITING THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus taught his disciples to pray. This special prayer is used by Christians around the world. Pray the Lord's Prayer with your class. If they do not know it by heart use an echo technique, in which the leader says one phrase and the children repeat it.

EXTRA:

Ask someone from your congregation to recite the Lord's Prayer in another language, or download audio files from the internet with the Lord's Prayer in different languages.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What do you think the world would be like if all Christians around the world acted on the words of the Lord's Prayer? Which phrase might be a call to action to bring Jesus' idea of heaven to existence on Earth? When we say, "Give us this day our daily bread," are we taking responsibility for those who are hungry?

Ask the children to think about how the world would be different if each phrase came true. Repeat the prayer slowly, allowing time between each phrase for the children to think.

EXPANDING YOUR GLOBAL VIEW

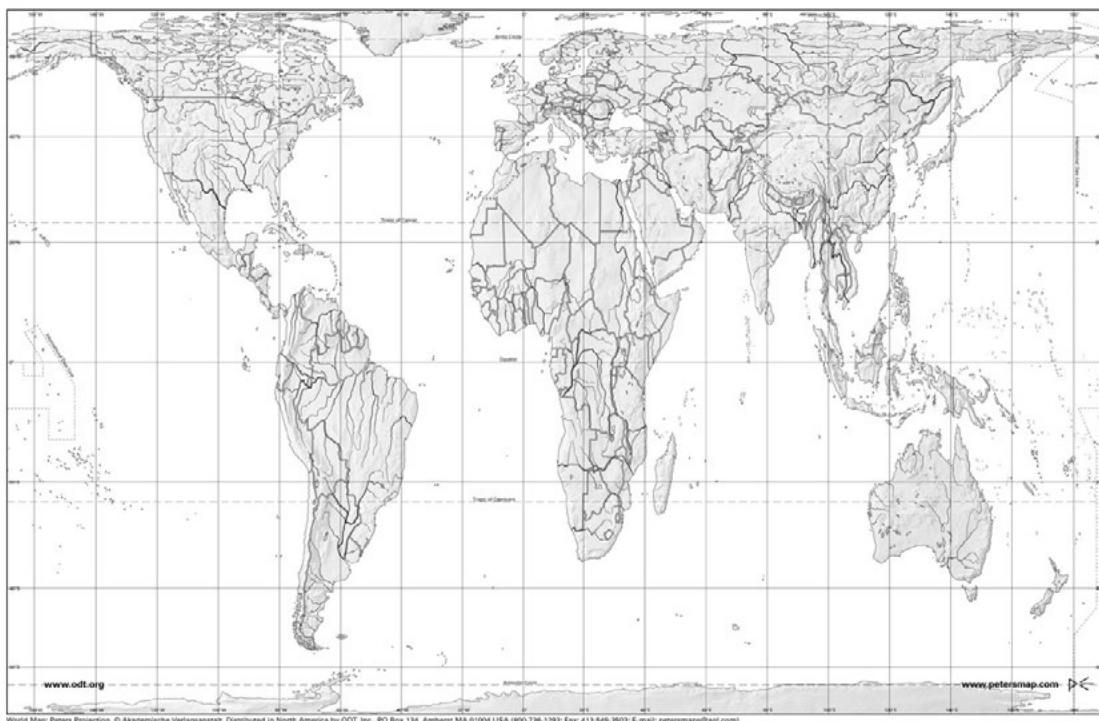
Look at a world map. If God looked down, what would he not see? (He would not see national boundaries, names, colors of countries. He would not see the boundaries or human-made separations between people.)

What would God see? (He would see land, water, people, animals, trees, deserts, etc.)

- Is everything the same all around the world?
- Is it hot everywhere?
- Is there enough water everywhere?
- Are the people the same everywhere?

Every place is different. Each community is unique. Some places and people have an abundance of resources and some have fewer resources including water, food, wood, fuel and money.

Chronic poverty remains a significant problem in human development. According to the World Bank, 1.6 million people live on less than \$1.90 per day, which is the international poverty line. Half of the extremely poor live in sub-Saharan Africa.



DR. PETERS PROJECTION MAP

Have the participants close their eyes and answer the following question. Which of the following do you think is the biggest in size: Great Britain, Brazil or Japan?

Traditionally, Brazil is put last, although it is actually the largest country on the list. We associate power with size: the bigger the country, the more powerful the country.

What is interesting is that our current view of the world is based on maps that often have Europe in the center of the Earth's surface and the equator two-thirds down from where it really is. Therefore, the Southern Hemisphere is radically reduced in size while the perceived power of the Northern Hemisphere is enhanced.

Dr. Arno Peters developed a map that presents every country and continent in its true scale in relation to the equator. The "equal area map" distorts the physical appearance of the landmasses to show all physical areas equally. Remember, it is impossible to render a round globe on a flat piece of paper without some distortions.

What does it feel like to look at this map?

When one first sees the Peters map, one is often taken aback. "That can't be right. Africa is not that big! Brazil looks as big as the United States."

How does this change the way you think about the size of the world and where hunger and poverty are most common?

SCARCITY BUFFET ACTIVITY

Students will take part in a Scarcity Buffet where the high-income families get access to more food and services and the low-income families get limited access to food and services.

Give 10 percent of participants a yellow wristband; 50 percent of students a blue wristband; and 40 percent a red wristband.

- Announce mealtime to the entire group. Instruct students with yellow wristbands to be first in line. Students with red wristbands will go next, and students with blue wristbands will be last.
- Students with yellow wristbands have a greater selection of food and drink items on the buffet and will be served their food. Meal Leaders will also seat yellow participants at the tables and take care of them. As soon as Meal Leaders see that students wearing yellow wristbands are almost finished getting their food, they should start removing some of the food from the buffet.
- As students with red wristbands move through the buffet, they will serve themselves and Meal Leaders will point out the chairs against the wall where they can seat themselves. Meal Leaders should not be rude to students wearing red wristbands but should not go out of their way to help out too much. As soon as Meal Leaders see that the students with red bracelets are almost finished getting their food, they should start removing more of the food from the buffet.
- As students with blue wristbands move through the buffet, they serve themselves and Meal Leaders can point out an area on the floor where they can sit. Meal Leaders should not be rude to blue participants but should not go out of their way to help too much.
- Meal Leaders may continue serving the yellow group, for example asking if they need refills, if they're finished with their meal and offer to remove their plates.

DISCUSSION

At the end of the meal, discuss the experience with the whole group. Ask questions such as:

- What differences in food did you notice during mealtime?
- How do you think that compares in the real world?
- Did you have any control over what you had to eat?
- What emotions did you experience during the activity? Did this change your actions or interactions with others?
- How can we help other who have less food than we do?

WHAT CAN WE DO TO REDUCE HUNGER IN THE WORLD?

In the late 1930s, Dan West stood in a line handing out milk to hungry children day after day. He struggled with this very question. His answer was "Give a cow, not a cup!" Since 1944, Heifer has set 155 million men, women and children on a path toward prosperity by giving them the training and resources they need to sustain their lives.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Consider hosting a Fair Share Meal fundraiser for your congregation. You can download the Fair Share Meal Guide [here](#).

After learning about various [Heifer projects](#) do one or more of the following:

- Make posters for the Scarcity Buffet
- Make placemats with all the animals

CLOSING PRAYER AND ACTIVITY

1. The Lord's Prayer phrase cards each contain a phrase from the Lord's Prayer.
2. Divide the class into small groups.
3. Give each group one or two of the Lord's Prayer phrase cards.
4. Have them think about the phrase and then think of a place in the world that really needs that phrase of the prayer to become a reality.
5. Have them write those places on their phrase cards.

Modify Steps 4 and 5 with younger students by asking them to place the phrase cards anywhere on the map.

Gather around the world map and slowly recite the Lord's Prayer while each group places their cards on the map of the world.

**Our Father
Who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done
on Earth as it is in heaven.**

**Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**Give us this day
our daily bread.**

**For thine is the Kingdom
and the Power
and the Glory forever.**