

God's work

The strategy

God created a vast array of people groups, each designed to reflect His image and glory. God's heart is for all peoples to know and worship Him, yet many are still waiting to hear the Good News of Jesus for the first time. Introducing our family to God's plan for all peoples, and exploring the current reality of the unreached, allows the Holy Spirit to begin molding our hearts to live strategically. We want to pursue things that matter most to God.



Matthew 24:14 (NIV)

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

Study it

Share the account of Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well from John 4:1–42. Jews refused to associate with Samaritans, but Jesus intentionally sought one out (v. 7). What message was He bringing to the woman and how did she respond? How did her belief affect the entire village (v. 42)? What does this teach us about God's strategy in reaching the nations?

Experience it

- ▶ Play a strategic game (board game, cards, checkers) and discuss your moves. Why is strategy important?
- ▶ Prayer is strategic in God's global work. Use the THUMB acronym to pray for major religious blocs – Tribal (animist), Hindu, Unreligious, Muslim, and Buddhist. Cut pictures from magazines to make a collage of people of varying ethnicities and ages. Trace and make a paper cutout of your hand. Label each finger T, H, U, M, or B. Place the paper hand on the collage. Spend time praying for THUMB peoples to find hope and truth in Jesus.

Discuss it

- 1 Millions of people have never heard of Jesus or met a Christian. How does that make you feel?
- 2 Why do we believe in the Good News of Jesus? Why do we want all people to know and believe this Good News of Jesus?
- 3 Is our family being strategic in sharing about Jesus? If so, in what ways? If not, how can we move toward being strategic in sharing with others?

Map it

Place your thumb on a country or region of your choice. Take turns praying for THUMB people who live in that area. Pray they will be reached with the Good News of Jesus.