



November 2017

# We are One

## FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Genesis 18:1-8,  
Deuteronomy 10:17-19

## FOCUS MINISTRY

Welcoming Refugees

### *fellowship!*

“The Impact of Welcoming”

Fall 2017

[http://issuu.com/fellowship/docs/sept-nov\\_fellowship?e=1254077/52686358](http://issuu.com/fellowship/docs/sept-nov_fellowship?e=1254077/52686358)

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Kim Crowley** currently serves as the Interim Minister to Children and Youth at River Road Church, Baptist in Richmond, Virginia. She is a graduate of East Carolina University and Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. She lives with her husband Chris, daughter Erica, and Shepherd Husky Iris.

Sometimes we may wonder what we have in common with people from a different part of the world. We may not speak the same language, like the same foods, or dress alike. But we are all a part of the family of God. God has called us to welcome the stranger among us, and to let the love of family be extended to everyone.

“No matter who you are, we’re one nation. As citizens of this world, it doesn’t matter which color of skin you have, which nationality you are, which language you speak. At the end of the day, we’re citizens of this world, and communities help each other out. Families help each other out.”

Marc and Kim Wyatt provide a place of welcome to refugees in Raleigh, North Carolina. They show true hospitality to those who have been wandering searching for home. Their work, and the work of their volunteer team, gives hope to people who have been wondering if hope was anywhere to be found. They help secure permanent housing, and jobs. They help refugees with the enormous task of finding a place in a new and unfamiliar environment.

- **ENGAGE:** Students will experience hospitality from their leaders, in the form of a friendly face and food offered.
- **EQUIP:** Students will study the story of Abraham welcoming three strangers and discuss what hospitality looks like in the 21st century. Students will hear the story of Jay, being welcomed to a new place and finding a new home.
- **EXTEND:** Students will consider and discuss what hospitality looks like and how they can take care of their brothers and sisters in their community.
- **MISSION PROJECT:** Students will find organizations in their communities that are offering welcome and hospitality to refugees, and to see how they can support these organizations.



# We are One

## LEARNING GOAL

Students will learn what hospitality to the stranger can look like, and how we are all one global family called by God to care for one another.

## GETTING READY

1. Have an adult ready to receive youth in a different place from where they normally have youth group. Spread out the welcome mat and have snacks ready for them inside.
2. Have Bibles ready for scripture study, and be prepared to lead discussion on texts in Genesis and Deuteronomy.
3. Have a whiteboard or giant post-it to list ideas of how youth can show hospitality to others.
4. Print out the story of Jay being welcomed by the Wyatts in Raleigh, NC.
5. Have slips of paper that say, "I will show hospitality to the stranger by \_\_\_\_\_." Hand out to youth during bible study time so they can make a commitment to care for the refugees or strangers in their midst.
6. Look up organizations in your area that support the resettlement of refugees. Find ways your youth can help support them either by collecting needed items, making welcome cards, or look at the possibility of your church sponsoring a refugee family.
7. For more information on the Welcome House, read their recent blog post for CBF. <https://cbfblog.com/2017/09/25/welcome-house-welcoming-home-cbf-field-personnel-cultivate-beloved-community-through-welcoming-refugees-in-north-carolina/>

## ENGAGE

1. Lay out a welcome mat for the students as they walk in to their new place. Have a warm and friendly adult greet them at the door, and have snacks ready for them on the inside of the door.
2. Ask the students:
  - a. How did you feel coming to a different place? What was it like?
  - b. How did it feel to be welcomed?
  - c. Have you ever welcomed someone to a new place? What was that like for you? How do you think they felt?
3. Imagine you had to leave the life you knew in the United States and had to move to a new country. What would that be like? What would help you the most in getting settled in this new place?



© 2017 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. All rights reserved.

This publication is reproducible to the original user without prior permission of the publisher. To order CBF materials, contact the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, 160 Clairemont Avenue, Suite 500, Decatur, GA 30030, or call (800) 352-8741.

Visit the CBF Web site at [www.cbf.net](http://www.cbf.net).

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Church of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

## EQUIP

1. Have youth read Genesis 18:1-8, Deuteronomy 10:17-19, Luke 10:25-37
2. Ask:
  - a. How does God want us to welcome the stranger?
  - b. What does being a neighbor look like?
  - c. How can we be neighbors to the refugees around us?

## EXTEND

1. Read “The Impact of Welcoming,” the story of Jay being welcomed to Raleigh by Marc and Kim Wyatt at Welcome House.
2. There are 2 quotes of Jay’s in this story where he mentions we are one human family. Read those quotes again for the youth. Ask them:
  - a. “What does it mean to be one human family?”
  - b. “How can we show the love of family to our brothers and sisters?”
3. Write the question: How can I show welcome to my brothers and sisters?
  - a. Write ideas down. Post in a place where the youth can see it to remind them how they can show love to their neighbors.
4. Pass out slips of paper and pens/pencils. Have youth write on their paper. “I can welcome the stranger by \_\_\_\_\_.” Have the youth put it somewhere at home so they can be reminded to welcome the strangers and refugees around them.
5. End your time together by praying for the refugees around them, that we would be a welcoming presence, and a listening ear to those who need it. Pray that we would find tangible ways to welcome the refugees in our community and around the world.

## MISSION PROJECT

1. Find an organization in your community that welcomes refugees. Look for a list of items they need to welcome refugees. Start a collection at your church.
2. Invite a refugee to come share their story at your church.
3. Look into the possibility of your church sponsoring a refugee family.
4. Send cards to the Wyatts in Raleigh, NC offering prayers and thanks for the work they do in resettling refugees in the United States.
5. Start a collection for Welcome House.
  - a. Donate here: <https://www.classy.org/campaign/kim-and-marc-wyatt/c104599>

