

## Before the Story:

**Say:** We are learning about Matt and Michelle Norman, CBF field personnel in Barcelona, Spain. (Show photo.) The Normans have two children, Aaron and Cayden. Aiden is fifteen years old. Cayden is nineteen years old and goes to school in North Carolina in the United States. They share the Good News of God's love with the people of Barcelona by spending time with friends and helping pastors and churches in Spain.

## Share the Story:

### Meet the Normans

"He shoots, and he scores!" Robert pumped his fists in the air to celebrate his point. Robert's dad went for the rebound and the basketball went into the air. "Air ball!" Robert yelled. Robert and his dad both laughed when the ball bounced off the backboard. Robert's dad was teaching him about passing and teamwork. Robert liked to shoot the ball and score points, but his dad told him that it is important to pass the ball and work together as a team. "You can score more points with teamwork than you can alone" his dad said.

Robert's dad played in a basketball league, and Matt Norman was on the same team. Sometimes Robert went along with his dad and got to shoot a few hoops together before the game. Robert loved spending time with his dad. He loved playing basketball with him.

Before the game started, Matt Norman greeted Robert and his dad. "Hey, Robert, did you come to cheer us to victory?" Matt asked. "Yeah, I love watching my dad play and cheering for your team," replied Robert. Robert clapped, shouted, and cheered the whole game. With ten seconds left, the game was tied! 10, 9, 8. Robert's dad got the ball from the other team. He dribbled it down the court. 7, 6, 5. He passed the ball to Matt. 4, 3, 2. Matt jumped up and shot the ball into the basket. 1, *buzzzzzzz*. The buzzer sounded and the game was over. The team won by two points! Robert clapped and high-fived his dad. "Great pass, Dad!" Robert said. "Thanks, Robert! Remember, working together helps us all to be winners!"

Robert waited with his dad while the team talked. The players gave each other high-fives. Then they sat together for a few minutes and talked about life. Robert heard them talk about God. They thanked God for each other's help both on and off the basketball court.

## After the Story:

1. **Ask:** What happened in this story? How did Matt show God's love?
2. Teach the children the Spanish phrase, Dios te ama [DEE ohs tay AH ma], which means "God loves you." Have the children repeat the phrase several times.
3. **Pray:** Thank you, God, for the Normans. Help them spread the good news of your love in Spain.



## Learning Activity:

### Create a Family Game

*Items needed:* Pieces of paper or index cards for each child with discussion questions, such as: What is your favorite place to go? What made you smile today? What is one thing you learned today? What is something that is hard for you?

1. **Say:** In Spain, people love to sit together and talk after a meal. This is called "sombremesa."
2. **Say:** We are going to make a game for our family to play when we eat together. The game has special questions that you can ask each other. It will help our family with sombremesa.
3. Give children time to color or decorate their question cards. Assist children in placing them in zip-top bags. Ask if they have other questions that they want to include in the game. Help the children write their questions on blank cards.

## Meet the Field Personnel:



Matt and Michelle Norman are CBF field personnel in Barcelona, Spain, where they train churches and pastors, host Bible studies, and partner with local organizations to address community needs.