

Before the Story:

Say: CBF field personnel Matt and Michelle Norman share the good news of God's love in Spain. Matt and Michelle's son, Aaron, helps them, too. (Show picture.)

Share the Story:

Coffee in Barcelona

"Just one little sip," Sofia's mom told her. Sofia and her mom were at a café with their friend Michelle Norman. Her mom poured coffee. She gave Sofia a little sip of the coffee. Sofia sniffed the coffee. She was not sure if she liked how it tasted. Michelle and Sofia's mom talked about their church. First, they planned a worship service. Then, they talked about grown-up stuff. Sofia was getting bored. Then, she heard Michelle and her mom start to talk about God. Sofia liked to learn about God, so she started to listen.

Michelle said, "God invites us all to God's table. God has a big table, and everyone is included." Sofia took out her crayons and paper. She drew a big table. Sofia thought about all of the people she would want to share her table. She drew her family. She drew her school teacher. Of course, she drew Michelle, too. She drew her best friends. Then Michelle said, "God's table is big enough even for the people that we don't really like or want to include. God loves everyone, and we should show love to everyone, too." Sofia looked at her picture. She had drawn all the people that she loves. Sofia thought about who else could be at her table. She thought about her neighbor who yelled at her to stay out of the flowers. Sofia thought God wanted her neighbor to be at the table, too. Sofia thought about the boy in her class who tried to take her pencil yesterday. Sofia thought God wanted him at the table. Sofia decided that God would include her pets, too, and she added her pet dog to the picture. Sofia drew a cup of coffee in front of each person. The people in the picture smiled, because Sofia knew that people were happy when they shared a cup of coffee and God's love. Sofia was excited to have such a big table. Sofia showed her picture to her mom and Michelle.

Sofia said, "This is God's table." She told them about each person at the table. "I like how they are all smiling." Michelle said. Sofia smiled and nodded, "Yes! Because people are happy when they share a cup of coffee and God's love." Michelle, Sofia, and Sofia's mom all smiled and laughed together. When she got home, Sofia put her drawing on the wall in her room as a reminder to invite everyone to God's table.

After the Story:

- Ask:** What happened in this story? Have you ever had to wait patiently like Sofia did in the story? How did that make you feel?
- Say:** The world is a big place. God created the world and loves everyone in the world.
- Pray:** God, thank you for Matt and Michelle Norman. Please let the people in Spain and all over the world feel your love.



Learning Activity:

Talk at the Coffee Shop

Items needed: assortment of coffees and teas; zip-top bags; coffee cups and saucers; spoons; hot chocolate

- Place a few tablespoons of each type of coffee in zip-top bags. Place individual tea bags into the zip-top bags. Prepare hot chocolate.
- Say:** In Spain, people love going to the café. They drink coffee at a café, but the best part of going to a café is meeting friends and talking to people. The Normans spend a lot of time at cafes talking with friends and pastors.
- Say:** Let's pretend that we are in a coffee shop or café in Barcelona.
- Serve hot chocolate in coffee cups with saucers.
- Have children take turns smelling the various zip-top bags of coffee and tea. **Ask:** Do you think these smell good? Which one smells best? Which one smells worst?

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.