Bonus Activities

All Ages

Play Follow the Leader: Ask for a volunteer to be the leader. Have that child stand at the front of the room and call out directions. Encourage everyone to do exactly what the leader says. Once the leader has called out a few directions, swap out with another child until everyone has had the chance to be the leader. Talk about how the Roma people must follow directions, even when they seem unfair.

Preschoolers

Pretend to Camp: Set up a tent, sleeping bags, a pretend campfire, pots and pans etc. Encourage children to pretend to camp. Talk about what you would do at a campsite. Talk about how the Roma may have to camp out in Spain in the fields where they pick garlic and other foods.

All Ages

Go on a Scavenger Hunt: Print pictures of fruits and vegetables like raspberries, strawberries, tomatoes and cucumbers. Print pictures of a greenhouse, a map of Europe and a trailer house. Hide them around the room and encourage children to find them. Talk about how Roma people travel around Europe to pick fruits and vegetables. Talk about how some of them work in greenhouses picking fruits and vegetables, and some live in trailers. Sometimes just mom or dad goes, and sometimes the whole family goes to help.

Pathlight

www.cbf.net/pathlight

CBF's *Pathlight* curriculum helps children explore the Good News of Jesus through stories, scripture and activities.

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Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. **Psalm 119:105 (CEV)**

Theme Overview

Mary Van Rheenen serves as CBF field personnel in Europe. She and her husband Keith, a field associate, work as resource coordinators for Romany people throughout Europe. Many Roma work very hard and are often treated unfairly. Mary and others are praying for change for them, and that they will be treated more fairly. This session focuses on the theme of Praying.

Bible Verse

Philippians 4:6

Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.

Session Outline

Prepare

- Make copies of the Student Handout.
- Review the Story and Bible Verse.

Welcome

- Greet students as they arrive.
- **Ask**: "What are some of the things for which you pray?"

Engage

- Distribute the Student Handout.
- Read and discuss the Bible Verse.
- Work on the Handout Activity.
- Transition to Story Time.

Share

- Tell the Story, "Praying for Change."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Praying for Change

"Hey Mom, what are you doing?" Mary's grown-up daughter asked as she walked into the room. Mary held up the children's book, *You Can Change the World*. "Just looking and remembering," Mary said. "Oh wow, that book is older than I am! Why are you looking at that old children's book?" Mary's daughter asked. Mary laughed and said, "Yes, it is. But this is the book that changed our lives. It's the book that brought us to Europe. See, on this page about Romany? Children prayed for God to call Christians to make recordings in Romany languages and dialects." Mary's daughter stared at *You Can Change the World*. "And Dad answered that call!" "Yes," Mary said, "your dad has made children's videos and even recorded the whole New Testament in different Romany languages. Now these are all on the Internet. Thousands and thousands of Romany around the world have heard how Jesus loves them. Knowing that Jesus loves them has changed the lives of so many. And now, we want to help the Romany share Jesus with others. Your dad wants to train Romany to record more of the Bible in their languages, and to make more children's videos teaching about God's love. Will you help me pray for several Romany to join us in helping change the world?" Mary asked. "Of course," said her daughter. "I've seen how prayer can change the world. I know God is calling people to do this. We'll pray that they hear God's call and answer!"

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: How have Mary and Keith changed things for Romany people?
- **Ask**: What are Mary, Keith and their family praying for? Why?
- **Ask**: How has God's love changed you? How do we share God's love as a church?
- **Say**: Mary and Keith work for change for the Romany people. Keith has recorded the New Testament in different Romany languages and made children's videos so that Romany can hear how Jesus loves them. They also work to make things fairer for the Romany people. They are praying for several Romany to join them and record more of the Bible in their languages. They are looking for Romany people willing to help share the transforming love of God.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for Mary and Keith and their work to help the Romany people. Please help them find Romany who want to share your great love with others. Amen.

Mary Van Rheenen

Mary Van Rheenen serves as CBF field personnel in Europe. She and her husband Keith, a field associate, work as resource coordinators for Romany people throughout Europe.

STUDENT HANDOUT
NOVEMBER 3, 2024

Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. Psalm 119:105 (CEV)

Learn About

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Play a Board Game

Grab a partner and a set of dice and learn more about the Roma people!

Go to Germany to pick strawberries. Move forward 2 spaces.		Pay for a place to stay, a hot meal once a day, and your bus fare. Move back 1 space.
		Go to Spain to pick garlic. Forget your tent- stay here until you roll a 5 or 7.
	Pick lots of tomatoes and cucumbers in North Holland. Then discover that a large part of your pay is going to housing. Stay here until you roll a 4.	
Meet Dutch Christians who help you find a cheaper place to live. Move forward 2 spaces.		
	Come home with arms and legs that are numb from working so hard.	Earn enough cash to provide for your family for several months. You win!