Bonus Activities

Preschoolers

Play Chaplain: Ask for a volunteer to be the chaplain. Give them a Bible and tell the other children to pretend to be sick. Then, encourage the "chaplain" to visit them, listen to them, and tell them that Jesus loves them. Let every child that wishes to have a turn. Talk about how chaplains visit people in the hospital, listen to them and share God's love with them.

All Ages

Create Cards: Gather cardstock or construction paper, crayons/markers and pencils. Encourage children to create a card reminding someone of God's love. Brainstorm other ideas of things to write in their cards. Ask children to give their card to someone who needs some encouragement.

Older Children

Go on a Scavenger Hunt: Write the words of the Bible verse (Isaiah 40:31) on index cards, one word per card. Hide them around your space. Encourage children to find the words and then put together the verse.

Pathlight

www.cbf.net/pathlight

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

cbf

Design Team

Carol Brown, Content Editor
Jeff Langford, Editor and Designer
Amy C. Cook, Designer
Aaron Weaver, Communications Director

Writer

Jessica Asbell Oravec, Roswell, Georgia

Pathlight

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

Theme Overview

CBF-endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors often find themselves able to share God's love and help those who are hurting in ways that the church cannot. They step in to care for the lonely, grieving, despairing and those dealing with mental health crises. They also help doctors understand what to do with spiritual issues. This session focuses on the theme of signs of hope.

Bible Verse

Isaiah 40:31

But those who trust the Lord will find new strength. They will be strong like eagles soaring upward on wings; they will walk and run without getting tired.

Session Outline

Prepare

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

Welcome

- Greet students as they arrive.
- **Ask**: "Who helps you when things in your life are hard?"

Engage

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

Share

- Tell the Story, "Sharing Hope in Hard Places."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Sharing Hope in Hard Places

"Good morning, everyone," Renee said as she walked into a room filled with a group of people who wanted to be chaplains. "We are so glad you are here," she said. "Chaplaincy is an interesting calling. We spend many of our days listening and comforting others. We try our best to share hope in hard places. People see us during some of their most difficult times. It's a ministry, but it's very different from the church. We see people who may never enter a church. We see people who have been given sad news, people who are upset and grieving, people who are struggling. We go to places where the church can't go. We go to ICU rooms and battlefields, to ERs and to accident scenes. And for some, we are the presence of God. It is an amazing and difficult calling. There will be times when you, too, are in hard places. There will be times when you will want to give up. Never forget that the Lord walks beside you. And God will work through you. God will help you through. We are also here for you. We are your support when you need guidance or just a listening ear. We help you understand what it means to be a chaplain, and we give you support, both professionally and personally. This week, we will be visiting an ICU, a veteran's hospital and a prison. These are all places where people need us. Now, who's ready to get started?"

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: What is a chaplain's role?
- **Ask**: How do Renee Owens and CBF help chaplains?
- **Ask**: How can we share God's love when people are having a difficult time?
- **Say**: A chaplain provides comfort and a listening ear. They go to ICU rooms, ERs, accident scenes and even onto battlefields with soldiers. They are there for people in hard times, reminding them that God is always with them and that God loves them. Renee Owens and CBF help train chaplains and offer support for them professionally and personally.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for chaplains, who help people during very hard times. Help us to also look for ways to encourage others who are having a hard time. Amen.

CBF-endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors

CBF-endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors often find themselves able to share God's love and help those who are hurting in ways that the church cannot.

STUDENT HANDOUT
MARCH 23, 2025

Pathlight

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

Learn About

CBF-endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors often find themselves able to share God's love and help those who are hurting in ways that the church cannot. They step in to care for the lonely, grieving, despairing and those dealing with mental health crises. They also help doctors understand what to do with spiritual issues. This session focuses on the theme of signs of hope.

Bible Verse

Isaiah 40:31

But those who trust the Lord will find new strength. They will be strong like eagles soaring upward on wings; they will walk and run without getting tired.

Guided Prayer Page

Draw a shape in the center of your page and write a name for God. As you color it in, think about your name for God and what God does for you. Then, draw another shape and write the word "military." As you color it in, think about the people in our military who help keep us safe. Then, draw another shape and write the word "hospital." As you color it in, think about people who are sick and in the hospital. Ask God to help them heal. Draw another shape and write the word "school." As you color it in, think about your school. Ask God to help the teachers and students in your school. Finally, draw a shape and write the word "prison." As you color it in, ask God to help the people who are in prison. Ask God to help them find forgiveness and transformation.