Bonus Activities

Older Children

Play Family Feud: Use the questions and answers located here: https://wehavekids.com/parenting/Family-Feud-Questions-for-Kids to play Family Feud. Gather two buzzers or other noise making devices, one for each team. Split your class into two teams and have one person from each team come up to play. Children will use their buzzer to ring in. The first person with an answer with the most points on the board gets to choose whether their team will pass or play. Play moves to the other team after three strikes.

All Ages

Create a Mural: Use items like paintbrushes, bubble wrap, sponges, and other items to create a mural using paint. Talk about how Together for Hope partners with others to help change people's homes (transform them). Talk about the ways your class transformed the paper when they created their mural.

Preschoolers

Play a Voice Game: Using the Bible verse, encourage children to whisper a few of the words, shout some of the words, sing some of the words, and say some of them normally. Talk about one way people help others is by making sure their voices are heard.

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

Together for Hope is on a mission to transform rural America. Through partnerships with other organizations, they have been able to transform more regions and change the lives of the people in them. This session focuses on the theme of transformation.

Bible Verse

Isaiah 43:18-19

Forget what happened long ago! Don't think about the past. I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it? I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands.

Session Outline

Prepare

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

Welcome

- Greet students as they arrive.
- **Ask**: "How can we work together to help others?"

Engage

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

Share

- Tell the Story, "Transforming Rural America."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

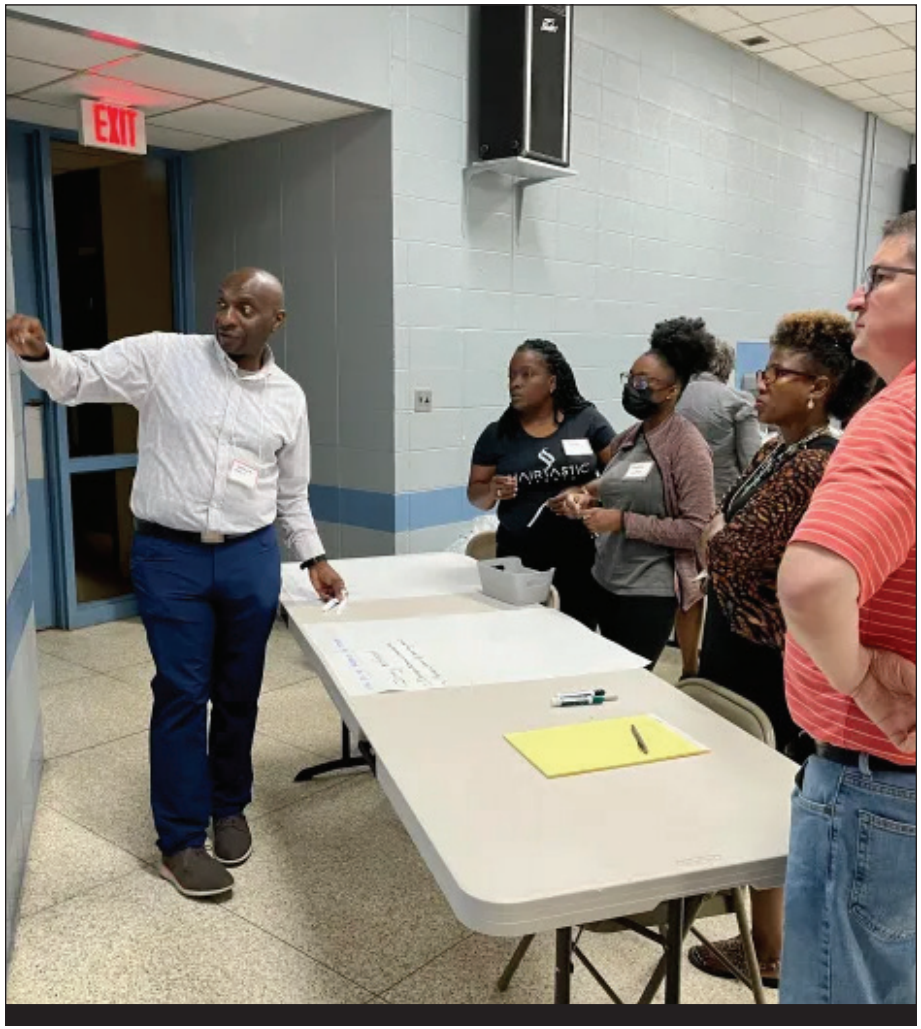
- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Transforming Rural America

When Together for Hope began, its focus was on the twenty poorest counties in the United States. But now, thanks to partnerships, Together for Hope is working to transform lives in the 338 counties in the United States with persistent rural poverty! They want to transform rural America by helping people have safe, affordable places to live. Together for Hope has divided the country into different regions. In each region, they focus on gathering partners who can help. Their goal is to have 1,000 organizations join in their work to transform rural America! Helping people in 338 counties is too much for one organization. But when multiple organizations work together, they can bring transformation. In the Lowcountry of South Carolina, for instance, CBF South Carolina, Together for Hope, and several housing organizations have come together to create the Lowcountry Rural Housing Task Force. So far, they have listened to the concerns and priorities of community members about safe and affordable housing. They have worked to receive grants to create affordable houses and help with repair work on homes. Their goal is to provide affordable, attainable housing to all those who need it in the Lowcountry region. Through listening to the community and working together, they truly are changing things for those living in persistent poverty. As they continue to work with others, Together for Hope is slowly but surely transforming rural America. They are being the hands and feet of Jesus as they share God's love through transformation.

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: What is Together for Hope's goal?
- **Ask**: How is Together for Hope working towards their goal?
- **Ask**: How can we help people in our community who need housing?
- **Say**: Together for Hope wants to transform (change for the better) the lives of people across the United States who are living in persistent poverty. That means they have been living without enough for a long time. Together for Hope partners with others to work to help people living in persistent poverty have safe places to live. When we have a safe place to live, it helps make everything else a little easier.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for the many ways that Together for Hope is transforming lives. Please help them continue to find organizations around the United States who will partner with them to provide affordable housing. Amen.



Together for Hope

Together for Hope is on a mission to transform rural America.

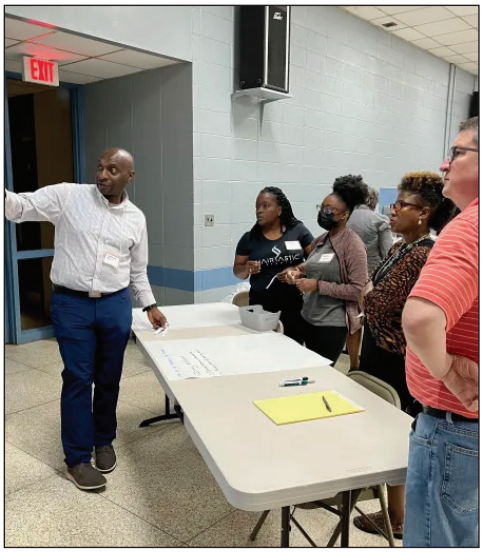
STUDENT HANDOUT
APRIL 6, 2025

Pathlight

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

Learn About

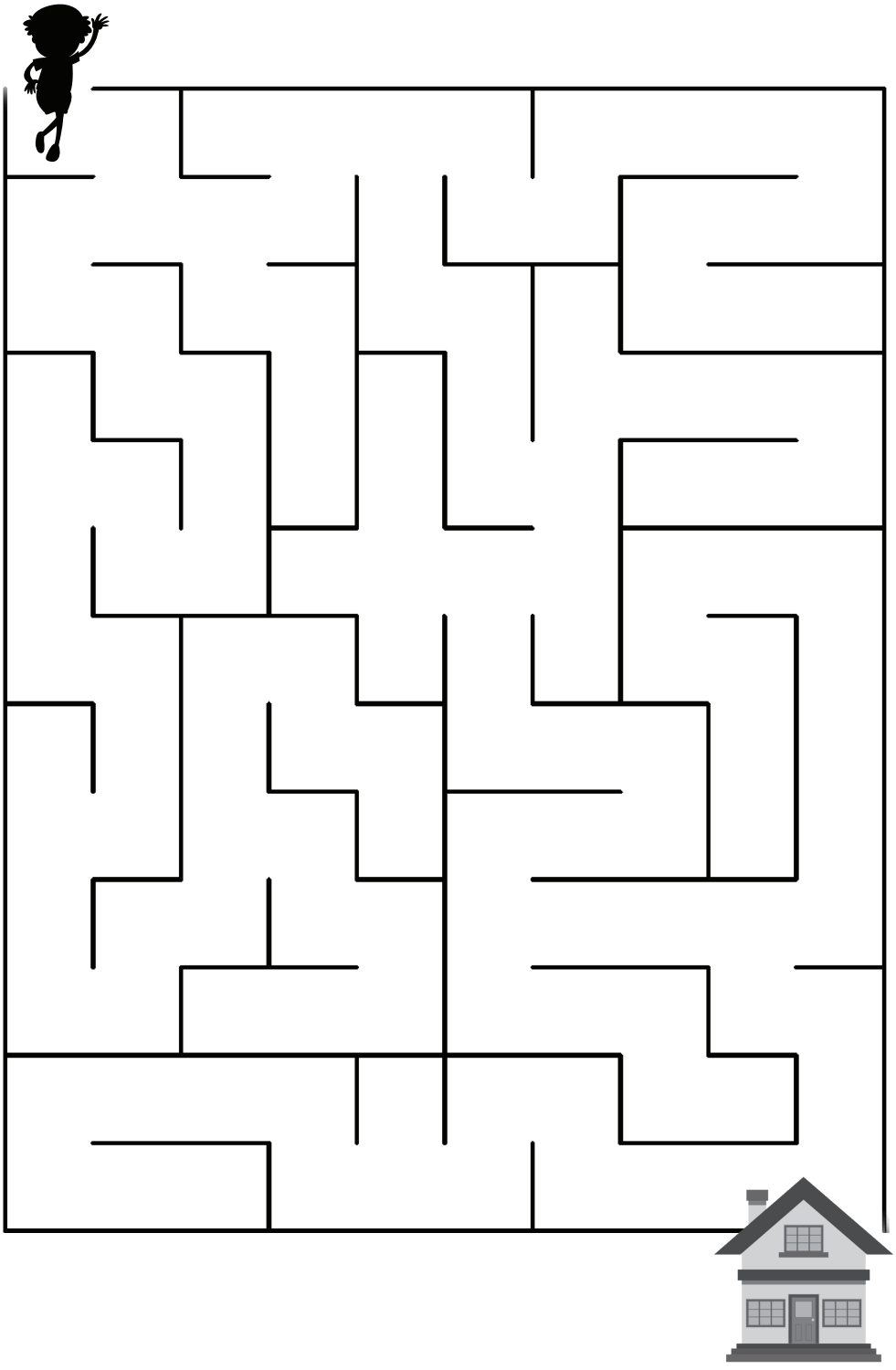
Together for Hope is on a mission to transform rural America. Through partnerships with other organizations, they have been able to transform more regions and change the lives of the people in them. This session focuses on the theme of transformation.



Bible Verse

Isaiah 43:18-19

Forget what happened long ago! Don't think about the past. I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it? I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands.

Maze

Together for Hope partners with others to help people have safe places to live. Find your way through the maze to the new home!