Bonus Activities

All Ages

Try a New Food (Stoemp or Speculoos Cookies): Gather and mix together ingredients for stoemp (mashed potatoes, cooked carrots and cooked kale) or purchase speculoos cookies. Provide plates, napkins, water and spoons (if making stoemp). For information about Belgian food, go here: www.intrepidtravel.com/en/belgium/what-to-eat-in-belgium.

Serve stoemp or speculoos to your class. Talk about how stoemp is a staple on Belgian dinner tables, and how speculoos cookies are very popular at Christmas time. Talk about how it can be hard to try new things, but trying new things helps us experience more of the world.

All Ages

Learn about Worship: Ask a minister or worship leader to come speak to your class about worship. Ask them to talk about the different parts of worship and why we do what we do in worship. Talk about how Janée Angel, along with others, helps people learn how to read the Bible, spend time each day in worship and prayer and learn about how they can serve God.

Older Children

Pray for Each Other: Ask each child if they have something they'd like everyone to pray for. Talk about respecting what everyone says. Write down prayer requests on strips of paper for children to take home, with each child committing to pray for someone else. Say a prayer over all the prayer requests.

Pathlight

www.cbf.net/pathlight

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

cbf

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Pathlight

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

Theme Overview

CBF Field Personnel Janée Angel serves in Antwerp, Belgium, among Arabic speaking immigrants and refugees. Along with her husband, Hary, Janée works to meet the needs of the people and teaches them what it means to be part of the kingdom of God. Together, Janée and Hary are creating a new way to do church in Belgium among Arabic speaking people. This session focuses on the theme of dreaming.

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**: "What new things are you dreaming about for this year?"

Engage

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

Share

- Tell the Story, "New Beginnings."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

New Beginnings

"Hary, I think now is the time for change," Janée Angel said to her husband. "We have tried for so long to help our Arabic speaking brothers and sisters see how important it is to serve Jesus. I think we need to do something different. There's just not enough time in worship to help them understand. I think we need a school." "That's a great idea, Janée!" Hary said. "A discipleship school, where we teach new Christians what it means to be disciples of Jesus. I love it!"

Janée and Hary worked with their local ministry partners, a couple from Egypt, and began a discipleship school. In the discipleship school, they began teaching people that they should read the Bible each day and how to start reading it. They began teaching about how to spend time worshiping God and how to share Jesus with others. They even had a lesson on how to behave at a church potluck! As servant leaders, they should not be the first in line. They needed to make sure there was enough food for everyone and to be willing to go without so that others could eat. They even talked about not being the one to eat all the rolled stuffed grape leaves! As these new Christians learn more about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, Janée and Hary hope and pray that they will grow closer to Jesus and will be inspired to share God's great love with others.

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: Why did Janée and Hary want to start a school?
- **Ask**: What are the new Christians learning at discipleship school?
- **Ask**: What are some things you are learning about Jesus here at church?
- **Say**: When we choose to follow Jesus, God doesn't want our friendship with God to stop there. God wants us to share God's great love with others. God wants us to help others and to learn more about who God is. God wants us to spend time in prayer, talking to God and listening. God wants us to lead by serving others. Janée and Hary started a discipleship school so that the Christians they work with could learn these things. You learn many of these lessons when you come to church as well. God doesn't want us to keep God's great love to ourselves—God wants us to share it with everyone we meet!
- **Pray**: Dear God, help us to share your great love with others. Show us what you want us to do. We love you. Amen.

Janée Angel

CBF Field Personnel Janée Angel serves in Antwerp, Belgium, among Arabic speaking immigrants and refugees.

STUDENT HANDOUT
JANUARY 4, 2026

Pathlight

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

Learn About

CBF Field Personnel Janée Angel serves in Antwerp, Belgium, among Arabic speaking immigrants and refugees. Along with her husband, Hary, Janée works to meet the needs of the people and teaches them what it means to be part of the kingdom of God. Together, Janée and Hary are creating a new way to do church in Belgium among Arabic speaking people. This session focuses on the theme of dreaming.

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Create a Vision Board

Items needed: poster board (one per child); markers; scissors; glue; magazines; paper; pencils; construction paper

1. At the start of a new year, many people make New Year's Resolutions. These are goals they want to accomplish. They may also create a vision board. These are pictures and words that help remind us of our goals.
2. Give each child a piece of paper and a pencil. Write down at least one thing for each of these questions:
   - What is something you want to have?
   - Where is someplace you want to go?
   - What is something you want to learn?
   - What is one way you can help others?
   - What are you praying for right now?
3. Think about how you want to put these on your vision board. With words? With pictures from magazines? With drawings? Be creative!
4. Create your vision board. This is for you, to help you remember what you want to do this year.

For examples and more detailed instructions (including affirmations and power words), go here: https://blog.gratefulness.me/vision-board-for-kids/