Bonus Activities

All Ages

Enjoy a Favorite Snack: Provide your class's favorite snack, plates/bowls, napkins and water. As children are eating their snack, talk about some of their favorite foods and things they would like to eat at a party. Talk about how when Melrose Baptist Church got together with four other churches and 150 people were packing disaster buckets, they probably also brought snacks to share with each other.

Older Children

Create a Human Knot: Stand closely together in a circle. Encourage children to reach their hands into the middle of the circle and randomly grab someone else's hand. Once every hand is grabbed, have children untangle themselves without letting go. After they have untangled themselves, talk about using teamwork and how we can do more as a team than we can alone.

All Ages

Go on a Scavenger Hunt: Gather a trash bag, a sponge, cleaning gloves, adhesive bandages, a roll of paper towels, dish soap, clothespins, masks, laundry detergent and other cleaning supplies. Make a list of the items on your scavenger hunt and hide the items around your space. Divide up the list of items for teams of children and encourage them to work together to find their items. Then, have everyone bring them back to a central location. Talk about how five churches split up the items they were collecting for disaster buckets and were able to pack 600 of them.

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

Melrose Baptist Church in Roanoke, VA, partnered with four other churches in their area to put together 600 disaster buckets. These buckets help people have the supplies they need to clean up after natural disasters and remind them that they are not alone. This session focuses on the theme of responding to disaster.

Bible Verse

Micah 6:8

The Lord God has told us what is right and what he demands: "See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your 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 things you do in a team?"

Engage

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

Share

- Tell the Story, "Responding to Disaster through Buckets."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Responding to Disaster through Buckets

"Hi, Sally, it's Amy Mofield from Melrose Baptist Church," Amy said as Sally picked up the phone. "Hi, Amy! It's good to hear from you," Sally said. "We've been talking at our church about how we can help the people affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. And we had a crazy idea. What if several of our churches got together to pack disaster buckets? The supplies can get pretty expensive, and we're just a small church, but we thought if we could all share the load, maybe we could make a difference," Amy said. "Oh, Amy, that's a great idea! Our church has been trying to figure out how we could help too. And the needs are so great. But you're right. I think if we work together, we can really make a difference," Sally said. Amy and Sally started planning and making phone calls. Soon, five churches: Melrose Baptist Church, Church of Hope at Pheasant Ridge, Grandin Court Baptist Church, Radiance Church and Vinton Baptist Church were all collecting supplies for the buckets. The churches split up the items from the list of supplies and soon it was time to start packing! Over 150 people showed up with their supplies and snacks and got to work. Pretty soon, they had put together 600 disaster response buckets! After they were finished, they gathered around the buckets and said a prayer for the 600 families who would eventually receive them. And they thanked God for helping them find a way to do their part to help!

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: How did Melrose Baptist Church work to help others?
- **Ask**: Why did Melrose Baptist Church partner with other churches? How did working with others make a difference?
- **Ask**: With whom can we work to help others? What can we do to help others together?
- **Say**: Melrose Baptist Church wanted to do something that could make a difference after Hurricanes Helene and Milton hit. But they are a small church, and they wanted to help in a big way. So instead of trying to do small things on their own, they got together with other churches to pack 600 disaster response buckets. By working together, they could do so much more than they could on their own. When we work together with others, we can make more of a difference than we can on our own.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for people willing to work together to make a difference for the kingdom of God. Help us look for ways to work together so that we can make a difference for you as well. Amen.

Melrose Baptist Church

Melrose Baptist Church in Roanoke, VA, partnered with four other churches in their area to put together 600 disaster buckets.

STUDENT HANDOUT
JUNE 14, 2026

Pathlight

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

Learn About

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Bible Verse

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Word Search

Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden down and across.

V	I	N	T	O	N	Z	P	P	I	J	D
E	P	K	O	X	E	N	R	A	T	G	I
B	U	C	K	E	T	S	E	C	A	R	A
F	O	F	O	R	G	O	T	K	P	A	S
I	H	T	Z	J	X	I	T	I	E	N	T
S	O	Y	I	N	G	L	I	N	D	D	E
D	P	U	U	Y	Y	A	E	G	H	I	R
M	E	L	R	O	S	E	R	Y	G	N	F
R	Y	H	U	R	R	I	C	A	N	E	U
T	K	C	T	U	A	R	E	V	E	N	T
S	U	P	P	L	I	E	S	Y	H	J	P
R	A	D	I	A	N	C	E	L	E	S	S

Word Bank

MELROSER
RADIANCE
SUPPLIES
PACKING
GRANDIN
VINTON
HURRICANE
EVENT
HOPE
BUCKETS
DISASTER