Bonus Activities

All Ages

Enjoy Cuban Fruits: Provide bananas, mangos, guavas, pineapples, napkins, plates, water, forks and a knife. Prepare pieces of whatever fruit you have chosen. As children are eating, talk about how these fruits are all grown in Cuba. Talk about how farmers may struggle after a hurricane comes through.

Older Children

Play a Cuban Game: Teach the children how to play Cat and Mouse (el gato y el ratón). Ask for volunteers, one to be the cat and one to be the mouse. Everyone else will hold hands and form a chain. The cat has to catch the mouse, who must escape by passing under the arms of those who form the chain. Those who form the chain, when the mouse wants to pass, will raise their arms to facilitate the passage and lower them when the cat tries to pass.

All Ages

Enjoy Cuban Music: Learn about and listen to Cuban music with this video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=saXA6vx2OZA . Encourage children to follow along and shake their Conga Shakers. Alternatively, bring out other instruments for children to use to play along.

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 Disaster Response contributed $20,000 to provide emergency assistance to those suffering in Cuba in the aftermath of Hurricane Oscar. Through this assistance, three local community kitchens were able to provide 1,000 daily meals for 20 days for children and vulnerable adults. 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**: "How does your family help others in need?"

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 Disasters."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Responding to Disasters

"Laura, thanks so much for taking a few minutes to chat about how churches can help with disaster response," Jay said to CBF Global Missions Coordinator Laura Ayala. "Of course, Jay," said Laura. "When disasters happen, when hurricanes hit, when tornadoes touch down, when earthquakes happen, people want to help," said Laura. "It can be overwhelming for an individual or even a church to try to get that help to where it's needed. And that's where we come in. For instance, when Hurricane Helene hit, churches sprang into action, packing disaster buckets. We helped get those distributed and helped with response efforts. Sometimes the best thing churches can do is to pack those buckets. Then there are times when the best thing they can do is send supplies. When the winds of Hurricane Helene came through Augusta, GA, they knocked out power everywhere. The people there needed supplies and many of our churches collected items to send. And then you have what happened to Cuba after Hurricane Oscar. The storm damaged homes, roads, crops, livestock and the electrical grid. It would've been difficult and costly to get supplies to Cuba from the United States, so CBF Disaster Response gave $20,000. That money funded three community kitchens who provided daily meals to 1,000 people for 20 days. They focused on feeding families with children, pregnant women and senior adults. The money we gave not only helped those families have food, but it also put money back into the Cuban economy that was desperately needed." Laura said.

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: How can churches help with disaster response?
- **Ask**: How can churches share God's love when disasters happen?
- **Ask**: How does our church help others in times of disaster? How can we help when there is a disaster?
- **Say**: Churches can help with disaster response by creating disaster buckets to help people have the supplies they need for cleanup. They can help by sending supplies that are needed. And they can help by donating money. All these ways can share God's love by reminding others that they are not alone. Donating in these ways helps people see the community around them and that someone cares. It also allows us to tell others why we are giving (because of all that God has given us).
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for never leaving us. Help us to find ways to help others who have been in disasters. Help us to be the helpers, sharing your great love by being your hands and feet. Amen.

CBF Disaster Response

CBF Disaster Response contributed $20,000 to provide emergency assistance to those suffering in Cuba in the aftermath of Hurricane Oscar.

STUDENT HANDOUT
JUNE 21, 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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Make a Ruffled Rumba Conga Shaker

Items needed: 9" x 12" construction paper, assorted colors; scissors; paper towel tubes (1 per person); 1/4 cup beans or 3/4 cup rice per person; glue sticks; rulers; duct tape

Directions:

1. Take one end of the paper towel tube and cover it with duct tape.
2. Cut construction paper in half making 6" x 9" sheets. Cut assorted colors into 6" x 2" sections. Cut one 6" edge of paper with scissors. Fold that edge over 1/2". Fringe folded edge: Make cuts in folded edge from scalloped edge to fold. Glue paper around tube extending fringed edge 1/2" beyond tube end. Continue cutting and fringing 6" x 2" colored paper sections. Glue each strip around tube 1/2" in from the last glued strip.
3. Continue to cut and fringe colored paper sections, gluing them all the way up your tube.
4. Add beans or rice in the open end of tube.
5. Take duct tape and cover the open end of the tube.
6. Hold conga shaker horizontally and shake.

Source: https://www.craftsforkids.com/projects/900/908_4.htm. For an easier version for younger children, go here: https://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-and-experiments/diy-rainstick