

Bible Activity

About Refugees and Immigrants

Cut the following twelve stories with questions into separate strips.

Divide into small groups of no more than four individuals. Make sure each group has at least one Bible. Ask them to select a leader to represent the group.

Let each leader choose one of the strips with the story, texts, and questions on it.

Ask them to pray together and then examine the story answering these important questions:

- A) Why did the people in the story move from one place to another?
- B) What difficulties did they encounter during and after their migration?
- C) What bigger purpose did God have for their moving?
- D) How did God take care of them through the whole process?
- E) What lessons did the people learn?

Here are the stories they are choosing from:

- 1. Abraham and Sarah (migrating from Ur to Haran to Canaan)
- 2. Joseph (forced migration by slavery, family as famine refugees to Egypt)
- 3. Moses and Israel (Moses fleeing to Midian, Israel fleeing from Egypt)
- 4. Naomi and Ruth (migrating to Moab and then back to Judah)
- 5. Daniel (immigrant in the two cultures of Babylon and Medo-Persia)
- 6. Esther (second or third generation immigrant in Medo-Persia)
- 7. Nehemiah (chosen migration from Babylon to Israel)
- 8. Jesus (from heaven to earth, refugees to Egypt, then migrating to Nazareth)
- 9. Disciples (from various backgrounds and places to a lifestyle of migration)
- 10. Persecuted early Christians (refugees from Jerusalem into many places)
- 11. Paul (refugee by choice, fleeing persecution, constantly migrating to share the gospel in new places)
- 12. Adam and Eve (refugees from Eden, immigrants into a heavenly kingdom)

After the groups have had sufficient time to discuss the Bible story, invite them to discuss the following questions:

- F) How are these stories similar to what refugees and immigrants face today?
- G) What purposes might God have for the migrations happening now?
- H) Since God cares so much about those migrating, how can we help them too?

Ask each leader to report what they've learned to the entire group.

Discuss with the entire group what you will actually do to help immigrants and refugees, laying specific plans.

Pray together for those who are migrating and for your plans.

1. Abraham and Sarah (migrating from Ur to Haran to Canaan)

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2. Joseph (forced migration by slavery, family as famine refugees to Egypt)

- A) Why did the people in the story move from one place to another?
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6. Esther (second or third generation immigrant in Medo-Persia)

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10. Persecuted early Christians (refugees from Jerusalem into many places)

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