

Feeding 5000

Midweek Program



www.heifer.org

Planning Guide

Mid-Week Program

This program is based on the Workshop Rotation Model. See the Resource Kit for more information about this model. A 10-week rotation provides an opportunity to focus on Heifer International for a whole season. This program incorporates:

- A weekly Gathering Time to learn about the Heifer Cornerstones
- Experiential workshops where the children make the connection between the Bible, their faith and Heifer
- A fundraiser –*Fill the Ark* or the *Living Gift Market*

The objectives of this curriculum are to establish:

- An awareness of the major global issues that create poverty
- A biblical connection to how Heifer International puts faith into action
- A desire to launch a fundraising event via *Fill the Ark* or the *Living Gift Market*

The Resource Kit has all of the details you need:

- How this is a Workshop Rotation Model curriculum
- Workshop overviews with scripture reference
- Fundraising ideas: *Fill the Ark* and the *Living Gift Market*
- Enhancements: Books, Amazing Math and Project Profiles, Gathering Times

Use this planning guide to help to organize the program:

1. Choose a fundraiser
2. Choose a rotation model
3. The structure of each session
4. Gathering Time
5. Opportunities for Volunteers

Choose a Fundraiser: *Fill the Ark* or *The Living Gift Market*

This 10-week program is intended to wrap global education around a fundraising event for Heifer International. Heifer provides specific resources for their major fundraising projects: *Fill the Ark* or the *Living Gift Market*. They provide valuable promotional materials and step-by-step guides for launching these events. Time is allotted in each session to work on either program. In either case, consider whether the congregation would accept the challenge of raising \$5,000 for a **Gift Ark**. All these resources can be found at www.heifer.org or by calling 800-422-0474.

Fill the Ark

Each family receives an ark bank with a four-week calendar that encourages reflection on Heifer animals and values. In the first five weeks, the arks are distributed and the children are asked to share the ways that they have been putting money into their arks. In the fifth week, the arks are collected. In the remaining five weeks, the group learns how much money they collected and they get to decide on which animals to buy. The last week is a celebration of filling the ark. The time slotted for this is 15 minutes at the end of the Gathering Time.

Week 1	Hand out ark banks and calendars.
Week 2	Ask group about stories from collecting money in their ark banks.
Week 3	
Week 4	
Week 5	Collect ark banks.
Week 6	Announce money collected. Could more be collected? Do they want to work for a Gift Ark of \$5,000?
Week 7	Review all Heifer commodities and open discussion about what the group can afford to buy.
Week 8	Should the group buy one expensive commodity (like a heifer) or lots of affordable commodities (like rabbits)? Or a mix?
Week 9	Decide what the group will buy with its money
Week 10	Celebrate!

The Living Gift Market

In this fundraising program the congregation sets up a marketplace with a variety of booths to encourage shoppers to purchase Heifer commodity is being promoted. The booths are decorated in creative ways and are often interactive. The time slotted for creating the booths during the mid-week program is 15 minutes, immediately following the workshop time. Anticipate the space needed for the preparation and storage of the booths, as well as the space for the market.

The actual market will take place either during an extended session on week 10 **OR** following Sunday worship.

Living Gift Market Booth Ideas for Each Animal

Depending on the size of the whole group, assign as many as ten groups to create booths for Heifer commodities. The Resource Kit has a list of booth ideas that are interactive and fun.

Use this guide to create the booths over the ten-week mid-week program

Week 1	Assign an animal/commodity to promote at the Living Gift Market. Why is it a valuable thing for Heifer to give to someone?
Week 2	What posters should be made? What information should they contain?
Week 3	Think of ways to make the booth come alive – could live or stuffed animals be on display?
Week 4	What are the by-products of the animal? Could they be showcased in the booth?
Week 5	Would anyone want to dress up as the animal? Does anyone know someone who could bring in a life animal for this particular booth?
Week 6	How can the booth become interactive?
Week 7	What is the lure that will encourage people to buy one of your animals?
Week 8	What supplies will be needed? Where will the group get them?
Week 9	What are the last minute details that need to get done?
Week 10	Welcome to the Living Gift Market! This Market will take place during an extended session to which the congregation and community have been invited OR following Sunday worship.

Choose a Rotation Model

After the Gathering Time, the children are in workshops where they experience a biblical story in relation to Heifer. This curriculum features ten workshops experienced over ten weeks. Descriptions of the ten workshop lessons are found in the Resource Kit.

Option A: A Single Group in One Workshop per Week

Programs with 20 or fewer children in their mid-week program and might choose to have a single cross-graded class that goes to one workshop per week. Use this worksheet to organize the teachers and rooms.

Workshop	Teacher	Room	Week
Storytelling			1
Geography			2
Cooking			3
Movement/Games			4
Science			5
Make Your Own Video			6
Photography			7
Drama			8
Art			9
Puppetry			10

Option B: Multiple Groups in Multiple Workshops each Week

Assign each group a Heifer animal: fish, goats, rabbits, camels, chickens, etc.

Groups can be by age group or cross-graded.

Create class lists for each group.

Create a way to identify the groups:

- A personal badge with an icon for the group
- A banner held by the teacher who will escort the group to the classroom
- Animal hats

Teachers are invited to facilitate one workshop for five weeks, working with a different group each week. Fill in the chart with the names of the teachers and the rooms they are assigned.

First Five Week Rotation

Workshop	Teacher	Room	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Storytelling			Fish	Goats	Rabbits	Camels	Chickens
Geography			Goats	Rabbits	Camels	Chickens	Fish
Cooking			Rabbits	Camels	Chickens	Fish	Goats
Movement/Games			Camels	Chickens	Fish	Goats	Rabbits
Science			Chickens	Fish	Goats	Rabbits	Camels

Second Five Week Rotation

Workshop	Teacher	Room	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Make Your Own Video			Fish	Goats	Rabbits	Camels	Chickens
Photography			Goats	Rabbits	Camels	Chickens	Fish
Drama			Rabbits	Camels	Chickens	Fish	Goats
Art			Camels	Chickens	Fish	Goats	Rabbits
Puppetry			Chickens	Fish	Goats	Rabbits	Camels

The Structure of Each Session

Whole Group Gathering Time	15 minutes	Opening Prayer Build an Ark and learn about Heifer's Cornerstones Make biblical connection to Heifer's work Share a Project Profile
Fundraiser A	15 minutes	<i>Fill the Ark</i> option: arks, calendars and decisions
Workshop	60 minutes	Ten workshops over 10 weeks
Fundraiser B	15 minutes	<i>Living Gift Market</i> option: Create booths for a <i>Living Gift Market</i>
Closing Song	15 minutes	Gather at the end of the workshop or booth building time for singing and a benediction.
Enhancements	These are options for the opening or closing times	Related books Amazing Math Snack Project Profiles

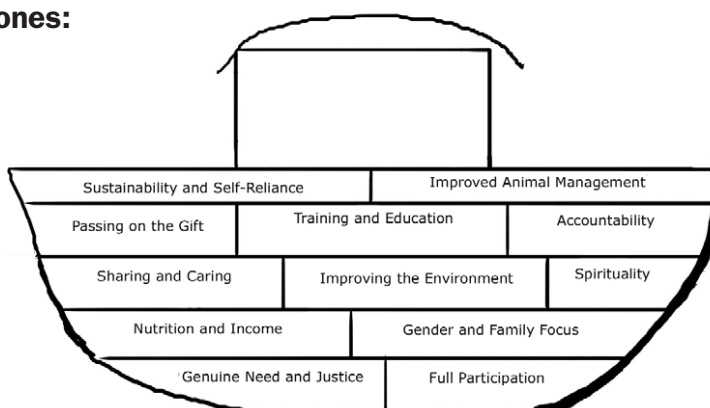
Gathering Time

There is 15 minutes allotted for the Gathering Time, the purpose of which is to set the stage for the workshops. While the workshops explore many facets of Heifer's efforts to eliminate world hunger, the Gathering Time is focused on the values that are the foundations of their decisions. Heifer calls those values Cornerstones. The group will build an ark showing the cornerstones along the planks of the ark and the animals on deck. See the Resource Kit for details.

Each week:

- Introduce a Heifer Cornerstone and its associated scripture.
- Highlight a Heifer animal. As the discussion unfolds, place a cornerstone card on a plank of the ark and an animal card on the deck. By the tenth week, the ark will show all of the cornerstones and animals of Heifer International.
- Go to the Resource Kit for the song and enhancements. These include related books, Amazing Math, snacks suggestions and Heifer Project Profiles.

Build the Ark with Heifer's Cornerstones:



Week	Build the Ark Overview		
	Cornerstone	Scripture	Animal
1	Passing on the Gift	Genesis 9:16 God's covenant with Noah	Heifer
2	Sustainability and Self Reliance	Genesis 41: 47-49, 56-57 Joseph, abundance and famine	Chickens
3	Improved Animal Management	Genesis 6:18-22 Noah and the animals	Bees
4	Sharing and Caring	Genesis 45:9-11 Joseph shares his abundance	Pigs
5	Improving the Environment	Psalms 8:3-9 Dominion over creation	Rabbits
6	Gender and Family Focus	Leviticus 19:9-10; Ruth 2:2 Gleaning	Water Buffalo
7	Training and Education	Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child	Goat
8	Spirituality	Psalms 63 My soul thirsts for you, O Lord	Trees
9	Full Participation	Matthew 14:13-21 Feeding of the 5000	Fish
10	Nutrition	I Samuel 28:22 Eat, that you may have strength to go on your way.	Sheep
	Accountability	Ezra 6:2 A record	
	Genuine Need and Justice	Micah 6:8 What does the Lord require of you...	

Opportunities for Volunteers

This is a great time to enlist volunteers. This should not be a one-person show, but rather a display of the vast array of talents within the congregation. Organize them to take on just one part of the picture and a grand event will take place. It's one of Heifer's Cornerstones: Full Participation.

- Gathering Time Leader (1)
- Workshop Facilitators (1/workshop)
- Shepherds (1/group)
- Fundraising Coordinator

Whole Group Gathering: Week 1

Opening Prayer:

Creator God, to you and only you we give our thanks and praise. We know that you have given us enough so that no one needs to be hungry or thirsty or without a home, yet we see people all over the world who are in need. Open our hearts and minds so that we can learn and grow in our faith so that our lives may be connected to others in positive ways. Bless us all in our teaching and learning. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Passing on the Gift

Every family who receives an animal signs a contract to pass on one or more of their animal's offspring to another family need, and also agrees to pass on to others the training and skills that they have acquired.

Scripture: Genesis 9:16

When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the Earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the Earth."

Make a connection between God's covenant with humankind and the covenant we establish among each other.

Animal: Heifer

The first animal that Dan West sent to Puerto Rico in 1944 was a heifer.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Hand out the ark banks and calendars.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

Assign an animal/commodity to promote at the Living Market. Discover why it is such a valuable thing for Heifer to give to someone in need.

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra* (See Resource Kit)

Enhancements: See the Resource Kit for details

- Related Books: Old Turtle
- Amazing Math: Heifer
- Snack: Black Cows (root beer floats), dairy product (bread and butter, ice cream, yogurt) or beef product (beef jerky)

Whole Group Gathering: Week 2

Opening Prayer:

God you are our helper in all things. There are times that we want to do everything our own way and we don't listen to you or to creation. People work and farm in ways that hurt the Earth and each other. We are thankful that through the support of Heifer International people all around the world learn new things so that they support their families and work in harmony with the Earth and one another. The book of Proverbs teaches us to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and to rely on God and God's ways. Open our hearts and minds in our time together so we too can be in harmony with your will for the world. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Sustainability and Self Reliance

Each community must plan how to support itself.

Scripture: Genesis 41:47-49, 56-57

During the seven plenteous years the Earth produced abundantly. He (Joseph) gathered up all the food of the seven years when there was plenty in the land of Egypt, and stored up food in the cities; he stored up in every city the food from the fields around it. So Joseph stored up grain in such abundance – like the sand of the sea – that he stopped measuring it; it was beyond measure.

And since the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. Moreover, all the world came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine became severe throughout the world.

Make a connection between Joseph's management of agriculture and how systems need to be put into place for a community to be self-sustaining.

Animal: Chickens

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Ask the group about stories from collecting money in their ark banks.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

What posters should be made? What information should they contain?

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements: See Resource Kit

- Related Books: [Fly, Eagle Fly](#)
- Amazing Math: Chickens
- Snack: Chicken nuggets, plastic eggs filled with a treat

Gathering Time: Week 3

Opening Prayer:

God you made such a wonderful world with so many different kinds of places, high mountain places, deep cool valleys, rivers and plains, deserts and rainforests. We give thanks that you made animals that grow well in each of these places. You are so amazing. We rejoice that through Heifer we can help struggling families, no matter where they live, have animals and crops that are right for their home. Be with us as we continue to learn about this valuable work and ways that we can support it. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Improved Animal Management

Proper methods regarding feed, water, shelter and health care for the animals assure that the livestock will continue to be a source of well being. The species and breed chosen must be appropriate for the area.

Scripture: Genesis 41:47-49, 56-57

But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them." Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

Make a connection between the animal management that Noah had to practice and the methods that Heifer uses in placing a particular animal with a particular family.

Animal: Bees

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Ask the group about stories from collecting money in their ark banks.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

Think of ways to make the booth come alive – could be live or stuffed animals on display.

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Related Books: *Noah's Ark* by Spier
- Amazing Math: Bees
- Snack: Honey products (be aware of allergies)

Gathering Time: Week 4

Opening Prayer:

Dear God sometimes we ask how much is enough? Do I have enough? If I share, will I have enough for myself? Our stories of faith tell us over and over again that love is the most important thing we have and that there will always have enough if we share. There is no kindness or expression of love that is wasted. We give you thanks for this miracle of love and know that as we grow and learn about the work of Heifer and the people whose lives are changed by it, we will feel and share love with countless people around the world, united to make the world a better place. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Sharing and Caring

If all people are committed to sharing what they have and caring about other, everyone benefits.

Scripture: Genesis 45:9-11

Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there – since there are five more years of famine to come – so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'

Make a connection between the Joseph's empathy for his struggling family and sharing from his abundance.

Animal: Pigs

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Ask the group about stories from collecting money in their ark banks. Remind them to bring their banks to church next week.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

What are the by-products of the animal? Could they be showcased in the booth?

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Related Books: *The Quiltmaker's Gift*
- Amazing Math: Pigs
- Snack: Pigs in a Blanket (cocktail hotdogs wrapped in biscuit dough)

Whole Group Gathering: Week 5

Opening Prayer:

How great is your handiwork, oh God. You created the worlds and all the animals that dwell upon it. When people work within the cycles of nature we can see how dead leaves and plants along with manure are turned into a perfect place for crops to grow. Dark, rich soil protects the seeds when they are planted and then gives it nutrition when it starts to grow. We know that when we treat the Earth with respect plants can grow better. Amazing things happen when animals and humans live in harmony with the Earth. Bless us as we learn and work to make the world a better place to live and grow. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Improving the Environment

Heifer livestock should improve the environment by having a positive impact on ecology.

Scripture: Psalm 8:3-9

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

Make a connection between God's granting humankind dominion over creation and humankind's responsibility for the environment.

Animal: Trees

Read the attributes and cost of the trees from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Collect the ark banks and estimate how much money might have come in.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

Would anyone like to dress up as the animal?

Does anyone know someone who could bring in a live animal?

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Related Books: *The Giving Tree*
- Amazing Math: Trees
- Snack: Cut up fruits or nuts (be aware of allergies)

Gathering Time: Week 6

Opening Prayer:

Gracious and loving God, men and women work side by side to gather the fruits of their labors in fields near and far. They harvest the crops after they have planted and cared for them for the whole growing season. Side by side, step-by-step, in rain and sun they have cared tenderly for their crops. As they gather in the bounty they know that each handful of grain is a handful of hope. They will divide the grain, some to feed their animals, some to feed their family and some to plant. By working together and respecting the gifts that each person brings to a project we all benefit by a greater harvest of love and strength and courage. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Gender and Family Focus

Women and men share in decision-making, ownership, labor and benefits. Heifer has a gender program, Heifer's WiLD (Women in Livestock Development) program that supports women's projects.

Scripture: Leviticus 19:9-10 and Ruth 2:2

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien; I am the Lord your God.

And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor."

Make a connection between gleaning and abundance.

Animal: Water Buffalo

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Announce the money collected. Could more be collected? Do they want to work for a Gift Ark of \$5,000?

(Workshop)

LivingMarket Booth:

How can the booth become interactive?

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Related Book: *Demi. The Empty Pot.*
- Amazing Math: Water Buffalo
- Snack: A rice treat, beef jerky

Gathering Time: Week 7

Opening Prayer:

God no matter how old we are or how much we know there is always more to learn. Give us open minds and open hearts so that we can learn the things we need to know about people and the world. We are glad the one of the important things about Heifer is that they believe education is important to a world that is just and good for all people. Bless their work and our learning in this time together. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Training and Education

Once a project is introduced to an area, the local people become involved as trainers in livestock husbandry and care for the environment.

Scripture: Proverbs 22:6

Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.

Make a connection between training and creating a future of hope.

Animal: Goat

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program: Review all Heifer commodities and open discussion about what the group can afford to buy.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

What is the lure that will encourage people to buy one of your animals?

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Related Book: *Beatrice's Goat*
- Amazing Math: Goats
- Snack: Feta or goat cheese on crackers or sliced fruit

Gathering Time: Week 8

Opening Prayer:

God you are our very source of being. Our first breath is a gift from you. We acknowledge you in all that we do. Be our constant guide and companion as we learn about the many ways that Heifer honors all people and creation. We give thanks that Heifer pays attention to what makes each community unique and enlists their gifts and talents to change lives. Make our work and learning here a blessing to our lives and the lives of those touched by Heifer's work. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Spirituality

Heifer recognizes that spirituality is common to all people and that it often creates a strong bond among group members.

Scripture: Psalm 63:1

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirst for you.

Make a connection between spirituality and yearning to connect with the Creator.

Animal: Rabbit

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Should the group buy one expensive commodity (like a heifer) or lots of affordable commodities (like rabbits)? Or a mix?

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

What supplies are needed? Where will the group get them?

Closing Song: *Mi Charca*

Enhancements:

- Related book: *Home for a Bunny*
- Amazing Math: Rabbits
- Snack: Feta or goat cheese on crackers or sliced fruit

Gathering Time: Week 9

Opening Prayer:

God we know that your great desire is for all people to work together so that no one is in need and that no one is uncared for. Bless the learning that we will do today so that we might grow in our understanding and knowledge of how we can work together to achieve things none of us could do alone. We give thanks for the ways that Heifer encourages communities to work together and honors the gifts of each member of the community, old and young alike. Your son welcomed everyone to participate in your Kingdom by inviting everyone in the community both here and around the world to participate in life-changing programs. Bless us all as we work to make your Kingdom a reality on Earth. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: Full Participation

A truly effective group has strong leadership and organization and is committed to involving all members in decision-making.

Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Make a connection between the miracle of the Feeding of the 5000 and full participation in a local Heifer project.

Animal: Fish

Read the attributes and cost of the fish from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

Decide what the group will buy with its money.

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

What are the last minute details that need to get done?

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Related Book: *Swimmy*
- Amazing Math: Fish
- Snack: Fish Crackers

Gathering Time: Week 10

Opening Prayer:

Loving and generous God we know that the life can be a great challenge for many people. This can be because of bad weather like tornadoes and tsunamis or because of war or lack of water. Help us to know that you work with us to help others overcome the many challenges they face. We are encouraged to act with kindness toward all people and work for justice is not for “Just us” but for all. Our prayer is that everyone will have the opportunity to live a good, healthy and safe life in this generation and for generations to come. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstones: There are three this last week:

Nutrition and Income

Livestock provides for the immediate need of nutrition while also ensuring long-term economic security.

Accountability

Groups set their own goals and plan strategies and must submit semi-annual monitoring reports to Heifer International.

Genuine Need and Justice

The poorest in the community should be included in the group membership and receive priority for assistance.

Scripture:

Nutrition: I Samuel 28:22

Eat, that you may have strength to go on your way.

Accountability: Ezra 6:2

But it was in Ecbatana, the capital in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written: “A record ...”

Genuine Need and Justice: Micah 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

Animal: Sheep

Read the attributes and cost of the trees from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture card on a plank on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program: Celebrate!

(Workshop)

Living Market Booth:

Welcome to the Living Market!

Closing Song: *Mi Chacra*

Enhancements:

- Amazing Math: Sheep
- Snack: Sheep cheese