



## Lesson 4

### RESTORATION CHURCH

**Blessings on each of you** who teach children about the missions work of God in Texas through the ministry of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. We hope you will learn about our state missions efforts as you teach the children in your church and/or community.

### STARTUP PREP:

Please begin your preparation in prayer.

#### Pray for:

- Guidance from the Holy Spirit as you prepare to share about missions work in the state of Texas
- The children to have open ears to listen and develop a love for missions work in their home state
- The missionaries, their families and their mission work

As you prepare for the following lesson, please notice that you will want to print the available downloadable material. Also, you need to acquire a Texas road map. Adhesive putty, yarn or string and a DVD player are also needed.

An email is provided at the end of the lesson. This is an email to send parents to explain the day's lesson and gives parents missional ideas for their families.

\*\*Use the following lesson as needed in your ministry - as a complete lesson or to supplement another lesson\*\*

### What's Included & Needed

#### INCLUDED:

- Intro activity
- Missions DVD (downloadable at [sbtexas.com/missions4kids](http://sbtexas.com/missions4kids))
- Missions Story
- Missions Activity & Activity Pages
- Family Missions Challenge (optional). Print a copy to send home with each child

#### NEEDED:

- Texas state map
- Push pins/tape/adhesive putty
- Yarn or string
- DVD player or device to play missions video
- Large piece of butcher paper or poster board
- Leaf-shaped cutouts or die cuts (optional cut-out or drawing of a watering can or garden hose)
- Writing utensils
- Print out the words to Matthew 28:19 on different leaves, with one to four words per leaf depending on the age of your students.

#### Printed Signs

- Sign with the verse for the week, Matthew 28:19



### Focal Bible Verse for the Week:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

## INTRO ACTIVITY:

(This activity should last between five to six minutes)

### BEFORE CLASS—FIND OUT:

1. How many miles it is from your town to Dallas
2. How much time it takes to travel to Dallas  
If you live in the DFW area, locate 2075 W Commerce St.  
Dallas, Texas 75208 (rccdallas.org)
3. Locate the town on the map so you can assist the children in finding the towns

### LOCATE TODAY'S TEXAS CITY

**OBJECTIVE:** Pinpoint your present city and the cities being discussed.

As children arrive at the Missions Track, ask them to sit in a circle. Ask teachers to help ensure that each child can see the Texas map.

### ASK THE CHILDREN:

1. Raise your hand if you can show us where our town is located.
2. Can someone show us where Dallas is? If you live in the DFW area, help the students locate the exact address of Restoration Church and discuss how close it is to downtown Dallas.
3. Let's see how many miles it is from our town to Dallas. Be prepared with how far and how long it takes to drive to these different cities. Teachers, you can attach the yarn or string from your town to the different cities. For older children, allow a child to attach the yarn length to the map.

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Texas state map
- Push pins/tape/adhesive putty  
yarn or string
- Depending on the size of your group, this activity may be completed as a class activity or a small group activity.

If you choose to do this activity in small groups, please provide one set of supplies for each group.

Tell the boys and girls that today's story is about some people who followed God's call to go and plant a new church. Planting a church just means to start a new church where there was not one before. Like planting something in the ground (like a flower or tree) and hoping it will grow, people who plant churches follow God's direction and start a new church and look after it to help it grow by adding new believers to the church.



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## MISSIONS STORY

*(Play the DVD: The DVD introduces the Texas Missions story for the day. It is not intended to tell the full story.)*

Mr. Von Minor was a student pastor in a large church about 10 miles south of downtown Dallas. About a year ago, he began to feel like God wanted him to start a church closer to downtown Dallas in an area called the inner city. The name of the church is Restoration Church. The church held its first service last August and already, over 30 people have accepted Jesus as their Savior. They were all baptized and at least a dozen other people who had already accepted Jesus as Savior followed in baptism too. In less than six months, the church

has grown to over 226 members, both adults and children.

Just like many neighborhoods, some of the people who live in Dallas' inner city need help to take care of their medical and housing needs. Restoration Church works with different groups and churches in Dallas to help people in their neighborhoods. Last year Restoration Church helped 7,000 people by giving them eye exams so they could see better. Not only did they help them with their eyesight, but they also helped them with their spiritual needs! They share the good news of Jesus with everyone they meet.

## MISSIONS ACTIVITY

### OBJECTIVE:

1. To learn what is involved in planting a church
2. Pray for the Restoration Church staff and their work
3. To review/learn the verse of the week, Matt. 28:19

Let's try to think of what someone would need to do in order to plant a church. I'll help us get started. For older students, divide them into two or three groups and let them brainstorm as many things as possible. For younger students, you might need to just mention the broad topics and let them think of items that fall under that topic.

### YOU WOULD WANT TO:

1. Hear clearly from God
2. Pray
3. Enlist others to pray with and for you

4. Learn as much as possible about the community where you are planning to plant (start) a church
  - a. Who are the people who live here?
  - b. Where do they live (houses? apartments?)
  - c. What sorts of jobs do they have?
  - d. What is their religious background?
5. Get a small group of people to help you make a plan (church planting team)
6. Figure out how much it will cost to start the church
7. Decide how you will pay for a place to meet. Will you build a building or meet somewhere like a school or business?
8. Decide how to start sharing Jesus with people in the community
9. Decide on a plan to let people know about the new church

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### Focal Bible Verse for the Week:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

## MISSIONS ACTIVITY

### ACTIVITY (CONTINUED)

These are certainly not all the things to do, but it will help you and your students start a list. Write or have older students write each item on an individual leaf. Invite students to add their leaves (with the action item printed on it) to the tree. It is okay to have multiple leaves with the same answers. That just means more people are doing more work and it helps fill in your tree, too!

After the tree is full of leaves, stop and pray for Von Minor and the staff at Restoration Church. If you have time, you can divide the students into two or three groups and assign each group one item to pray for.

Now, take the leaves with the verse printed on them and let various students or student groups pick a leaf from you. Have the children find Matthew 28:19 in their Bibles and locate where their parts of the verse are from. After children start looking in their Bibles, draw their attention to the poster with the verse on it since there are likely various translations of the verse among the Bibles available. Guide the children to put the parts of the verse in order and say the verse aloud together. You can do this in various ways depending on the age of your students, but end up with everyone reading or saying the verse together. If the students would like to take their leaves from the tree with them as a reminder to pray for all the people who help plant churches - or specifically Restoration Church - let them do so.

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- DVD player and DVD to play downloaded video [sbtexas.com/missions4kids](http://sbtexas.com/missions4kids)
- Poster board or large sheet of paper with the outline of a tree and branches drawn on it.
- Leaf cutouts (enough for one per student)

#### Printed Sign:

- Memory Verse: Matthew 28:19

### A FAMILY CHALLENGE

The following page is an optional activity to engage families. The VBS director or children's minister can send this activity to families through email, Facebook, or the church's website.



### Focal Bible Verse for the Week:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

## TEXAS MISSIONS FAMILY CHALLENGE

Dear Parents,

During our missions time today, we learned about church planting. Mr. Von Minor led a small group to start a church in Dallas's inner city, Restoration Church. Most of the people who attend the church live near to downtown Dallas. Right now they have over 226 adults and children who attend every week. Everyone at the church is expected to help tell people in their neighborhoods about God's love for them. One of the ways Restoration Church reaches out to their neighborhood is by helping with medical exams and assistance in finding housing. While they minister to people in their neighborhood, they make it a point to tell them about Jesus and how people can begin and grow in a relationship with him.

Before starting Restoration Church, Pastor Minor was a member at a large church south of Dallas. But one day he started to realize that God was calling him to start a new church closer to downtown. Today we learned what it means to be a church planter like Pastor Minor.

Ask your child if he or she can remember the different things people do to plant a new church.

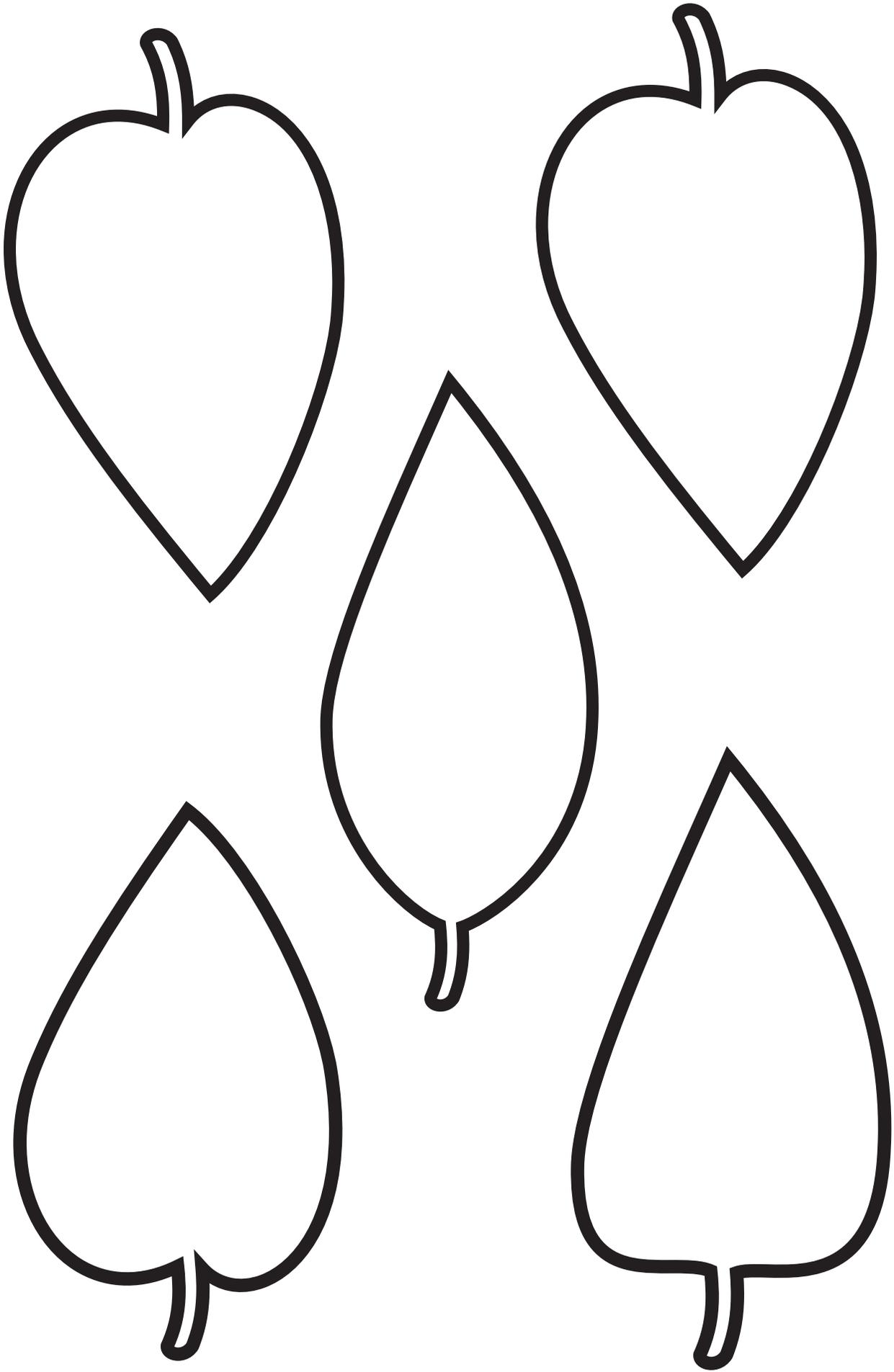
Here is the list of things we discussed today:

1. Hear clearly from God
2. Pray
3. Enlist others to pray with and for you
  - a. Learn as much as possible about the community where you are planning to plant (start) a church
  - b. Who are they?
  - c. Where do they live (houses? apartments?)
  - d. What sorts of jobs do they have?
  - e. What are their religious backgrounds?
4. Get a small group of people to help you make a plan (church planting team)
5. Figure out how much it will cost to start the church
6. Decide how you will pay for a place to meet (will you build a building or meet somewhere like a school or business?)
7. Decide how to start sharing Jesus with people in the community
8. Decide on a plan to let people know about the new church

This list is not exhaustive, but it will give you an idea of what we talked about today. We can "water" the church plants we know of, so-to-speak, with prayers.

Guide your child to pray for Pastor Minor and the new church. Maybe you know of a new church in your city you can pray for. If you don't, just pray together to be sensitive to whatever it is that God is asking of your family members to do for him in an effort to tell others about Jesus in your community.





# **Focal Bible Verse for the Week:**

**Go therefore and make disciples  
of all the nations, baptizing them in the  
name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.**

**Matthew 28:19**

