



Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

■ CHILDREN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Matt and Michelle Norman

Spain



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS

BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Equipping...
with Every
Good Thing

Equipping with Every Good Thing . . .

THROUGH FRIENDSHIP

Matt and Michelle Norman, Spain

OGM SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 13:20-21

OGM Abbreviated Verse:

“May the God of peace...equip you with every good thing to do his will...”

■ ■ ■ INTRODUCTION

In this session, children will meet Matt and Michelle Norman, CBF field personnel who have been in the Barcelona, Spain area for almost 10 years. It has taken the Normans all that time to learn the language and build deep friendships with the people. Children will learn the importance of friendship and how it helps us share the love of Christ. They will learn that one way we can help others be equipped to follow God is through our friendships. Children will meet some of the people with whom the Normans partner, people who are building relationships and community and finding unconventional ways to share God’s love.

■ ■ ■ BEFORE THE SESSION

1. Gather items needed for the relay race. You may choose to print pictures of each item or gather the actual items.
2. Decide which friendship bracelets your class will make (with or without beads). Gather supplies needed for the bracelets you choose.
3. Purchase bread and tomato sauce for your snack.
4. Cut and toast the bread ahead of time and heat the sauce. Locate plates, napkins, cups and water for the children to drink. Be sure and let parents know what snack you will be serving in case of food allergies.
5. Watch Nelson’s Story and David and Pati’s Story from the OGM Resources. Locate a computer or TV on which to play the videos for your class and be prepared to show them.

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

6. Print one copy per child of “Every Good Thing” located at the end of this lesson. Gather crayons or markers and tape.
7. Gather pictures and be prepared to show them (either on a tablet or in printed form).

WELCOME

Greet children as they arrive. **Ask:** What do you like to do with your friends? What do you talk about with your friends? **Say:** Today we are going to be learning about Matt and Michelle Norman, CBF field personnel who focus on equipping others with good things through their friendships.

OPENING ACTIVITY: Relay Race (5–10 min)

Items needed: Pictures of or these actual items: plate, coffee (if using actual items, can be coffee mug or bag of coffee grounds), baby doll, welcome sign, phone, shoes, book, backpack. Have a printout of these Spanish terms- *hola* (hello) and *cómo estás* (how are you?).

- Have cones or chairs to use as boundaries as well as four baskets.
1. Before the session, print pictures (two copies) or gather two of each item above. Set two cones or chairs at one end of the room to create a boundary and put a basket in front of/on each. Place the other two baskets on the other side of the room from the cones/chairs. Put the pictures/items into the baskets. Each group should have one of each.
 2. **Say:** Matt and Michelle Norman are CBF field personnel in Barcelona, Spain. They focus on becoming friends with others and helping them have community. They use their friendships to share God’s love with others.
 - We are going to do a relay race using some things they might use. As we do our race, think about these items and how Matt and Michelle might use them.
 3. Divide children into two teams. Line up each team across from their cone/ chair. **Say:** When I say “go,” the first person in your line is going to grab an item from the basket. You’ll run with that item down to the cone/chair at the other end and drop your item into the basket. Then you’ll turn around and run back. You’ll tag the next person in line, who will grab an item from the basket, run with it, and drop it in the basket on the other side. Then turn around and run back and tag the next person. The first team to get all their items into the basket on the other side wins. Ready? Set. Go!
 4. Make sure each child gets a turn. When children have finished, encourage them to sit down in their groups.



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS
BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

- Say:** These are all items that the Normans use in their ministry. **Ask:** How do you think they use each of them? Hold up each item and encourage children to brainstorm how Matt and Michelle Norman might use each item.

 - **Plate:** They have community groups where they enjoy meals together. They sit with people and talk over meals.
 - **Coffee:** Matt Norman began a friendship with Nelson Araújo over coffee. They meet to talk about issues of faith and how to bring the Gospel into people's lives. Matt and Michelle help others who are already working with local churches find new ways to bring God's love to people.
 - **Baby Doll:** Eli Roca and Michelle Norman are involved in a ministry to immigrant moms and their children called *Mama Aventura*. It helps moms have community with other mothers, and helps them have more confidence and be prepared for this phase in their lives.
 - **Welcome Sign:** The Normans help immigrants and refugees feel welcome.
 - **Phone:** The Normans focus a lot on talking with others, on having conversations. One way they can do this is over the phone.
 - **Shoes:** They wear shoes to get out into the community to help other people. They walk alongside others and help them learn more about God.
 - **Book:** They help pastors and local churches with leadership development and engaging in learning groups. Books help local pastors learn what they need to do. They also study specific books in community groups to help others understand more about God's love.
 - **Spanish Words:** The Normans have been learning Spanish for almost 10 years so that they can talk to others in Spain who speak Spanish. They want to be able to build friendships using their Spanish and share God's love in Spanish as well.
 - **Backpack:** The Normans work with a lot of refugees and immigrants. They may show up in Barcelona with only items that will fit into a backpack. The Normans help them have what they need.

■ ■ ■ STORY (15 min)

Items needed: Nelson's Story and David and Pati's Story videos from the OGM Resources; a computer or TV on which to play them; pictures

Read Hebrews 13:20-21. From the *Common English Bible*, "May the God of peace...equip you with every good thing to do his will, by developing in us what pleases him through Jesus Christ. To God be the glory forever and always. Amen."

Ask: What do you think of when you hear the word "equip"?

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

Say: You may think of equipment, like the things you use for football or soccer. It's hard to play the games without a football or soccer ball. And in football, it is easy to get hurt without a helmet or shoulder pads. Equipment can be very important.

Say: When the Bible says that God will equip you with every good thing to do God's will, it means that God is going to make sure you have what you need. CBF field personnel Matt and Michelle Norman are in Barcelona, Spain. They help make sure people there have what they need. And they focus on equipping others in churches to help their community, to build relationships, and to share God's love in new ways.

Watch Nelson's Story video from the OGM Resources.

Ask: Did anything surprise you about Nelson's story? How does Nelson share God's love with others? **Say:** Nelson looks for ways for his congregation to share God's love with the community. They do this through being involved in their community, by having conversations with others and by forming friendships, and by helping others have what they need. They focus on ways they can minister to their neighbors.

Watch David and Pati's Story video from the OGM Resources.

Ask: Did anything surprise you about David and Pati's story? What are they doing to help people have community?

Say: David and Pati have community groups where they can all have dinner together, take a walk and just share their lives. Sometimes they have a small study group so that they can learn more about God. They focus on helping people build relationships with God and with each other. They build friendships with people and then help them learn about God. They want to show them that God cares for them and that God loves them.

Show the pictures from the OGM Resources. (Specific picture numbers and captions are located at the end of the lesson.) As you show the pictures, read the captions to the children. Talk about the friendships the Normans have developed that help them share God's love with others.

RESPONSE ACTIVITY

Friendship Bracelets (5–10 min)

Items needed: for bracelets without beads: embroidery thread or yarn, scissors, tape or clipboards (one for each child); for bracelets with beads: stretchy bead cord (5mm stretchy string), beads, letter beads, scissors

1. Before the session, choose which type of friendship bracelets (with beads or without) your children will be making. Purchase or gather supplies for the bracelets of your choice. Practice non-beaded bracelets by following the video located at <https://rediscoveredfamilies.com/easy-friendship-bracelets/>.

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

2. **Ask:** What are some ways we can show others that they are our friends?
3. **Say:** Those are wonderful ways we can show others that they are our friends! We are going to make another way we can show others that they are our friends. We're going to make friendship bracelets! Friendship bracelets are easy to make and fun to give. They show our friends that we care, and they may even make them smile when they look at their bracelets and think about us. Today, you can make a bracelet for a friend and even one for yourself if there's time.
4. Using the directions located at <https://rediscoveredfamilies.com/easy-friendship-bracelets/> (for non-beaded bracelets) or <https://www.projectswithkids.com/beaded-friendship-bracelets-kids/> (for beaded bracelets), teach children how to make their friendship bracelets. Encourage children to be creative with their bracelets and experiment with patterns. If doing non-beaded bracelets, help children tape one end of their bracelet to the table or clip it to a clipboard to ensure that it stays tight while they are working.
5. As children are working on their bracelets, **ask:** How can we help our friends have what they need? **Say:** We can encourage our friends, explain something if they don't understand it, and share our toys. We can even help make sure our friends have enough food.
6. Matt and Michelle Norman help their friends in Spain have what they need. They equip them with support, teaching and community. Through their friendships with others, the Normans show others how to minister to their communities and how they too can help share God's love.
7. Encourage children to give their friendship bracelet to a friend.
8. **Pray** over the bracelets, asking God to help us be good friends. Pray for Matt and Michelle Norman, that they would have what they need to share God's love with the people of Spain.

■ ■ ■ ACTIVITY: Every Good Thing (10–15 min)

Items needed: Copies of the Every Good Thing worksheet at the end of the lesson; crayons or markers; cardstock; tape

1. Before the session, print copies of the Every Good Thing worksheet located at the end of the lesson on cardstock.
2. **Say:** In our Bible story today, we learned more about how God equips us with good things. God gives us what we need to be able to do what God wants us to do. Think about the good things God has given you. Maybe you are a talented piano player or a great swimmer. Maybe you love to talk to others or you love writing notes of encouragement. Maybe you love to cook or to bake. God has given you things that you are good at and things that you love to do. God also gives us other people to help us know that we aren't alone.



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS
BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

3. **Say:** As you color your Every Good Thing worksheet, think about the ways that God has equipped you. Think about the things you are good at and the things you love. Think about the people who encourage you and help you. Write down at least three ways God has equipped you—three things that God has given you.
4. As time allows, encourage children to share how God has equipped them.
5. **Say:** God has equipped us all with good things. And God has given us many different things! We can work together and share the things that God has given us to help even more people to know about God's love. As we learned in our Bible story, Nelson was already working with his congregation to share God's love. But Matt Norman helped him find new and different ways to do that. They both shared the things that God has given them and they found new ways to share God's love.
6. Encourage children to take a piece of tape and put their worksheet on the wall. Put them on the wall in a quilt-like pattern. Once they have finished, **say:** God has given us so many good things! We can work together and use the things that God has given us to help others, just like Matt and Michelle Norman.

■ ■ ■ SNACK: Pa amb Tomàquet (10 min)

Items needed: crusty bread; tomato sauce; plastic spoons; plates; napkins; cups for water; water

1. Before the session, cut the bread into pieces and toast them. Warm the tomato sauce.
2. **Say:** The Normans live in Barcelona, Spain, in a region that's called Catalonia. One way that they spend time with their friends is over meals. The Spanish usually have bread with their meals, and one popular way to eat bread in Catalonia is called Pa amb Tomàquet (Pie am a bey Tome ah ket). It means bread rubbed with tomato. They cut a tomato in half, and then rub garlic and tomato on toasted bread and put a little bit of olive oil over it. We are going to try Pa amb Tomàquet. But instead of rubbing the bread with a tomato, we are going to put some tomato sauce on our bread.
3. Give each child a plate and piece of toasted bread. Ask if they want tomato sauce. If so, put some on their plate along with a plastic spoon. Encourage children to try putting the tomato sauce on their bread.
4. Say a prayer of thanks for your snack.
5. As children are eating, **ask:** what are some foods you like to eat with your family? What do you like to eat with your friends?
6. **Say:** One way we can spend time with our friends is by sharing a meal. We can get to know people when we eat with them. We can also help others see how God takes care of us when we share a meal.



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS
BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

■ ■ ■ CLOSING ACTIVITY (5 min)

1. **Ask:** How does our church help us share God's love? What are some things we do at church that help us share God's love with our city, our state and our world?
2. Share some specific ways your church helps your congregation share God's love. Talk about things you do at church to share God's love with others.
3. **Say:** Matt and Michelle Norman focus on friendships. Through being someone's friend, they also help others see how very much God loves them.
4. **Ask:** How can we help our friends see that God loves them?
5. **Pray** for Matt and Michelle Norman as they share God's love. Ask God to help Eli Roca and Michelle Norman as they help immigrant moms and their children find community and friends. Ask God to help Nelson Araújo equip his congregation to help their neighbors. Ask God to help David and Pati as they participate in community groups and focus on building friendships that help people see that they can be friends with God.
6. As parents arrive, thank children for participating in the session. Encourage children to pray for Matt and Michelle Norman and the people of Spain.



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS
BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

RESOURCES

Pictures for Bible Story:

■ DSC00158.jpg and DSC00256.jpg

Matt and Michelle spend time with Eli Roca and her family. Eli studied speech therapy and theology and is now using what she learned to help immigrant moms and their children in a program called *Mama Aventura*. She and Michelle Norman help these moms to be equipped for raising their children and being confident in themselves. They also help these moms have the community they need.

■ DSC00814.jpg

Matt Norman helps Nelson Araújo gather food to hand out to the community. Nelson works with his congregation to minister to their community.

■ P9300057-2.jpg

Matt and Michelle Norman, along with Eli Roca and her family, Nelson Araújo and others, participate in a community group. Community groups build friendships and give the people a place to share God's love with others through friendship.

■ SF_03418.jpg

Matt and Michelle Norman, CBF field personnel in Barcelona, Spain

Friendship Bracelets:

■ 14 Easy Friendship Bracelet patterns (using embroidery thread or yarn):

<https://rediscoveredfamilies.com/easy-friendship-bracelets/>

■ Beaded Friendship Bracelets for Kids:

www.projectswithkids.com/beaded-friendship-bracelets-kids/

Pa amb Tomàquet: means bread rubbed with tomato

<https://www.wanderlust.co.uk/discover/catalonia/content/10-delicious-unique-foods-catalonia/>

Information about it:

Bread is as essential as breathing to most Catalans and pa amb tomàquet (bread rubbed with tomato) is a source of great national pride. Once merely a way of jazzing up stale bread, pa amb tomàquet done well is a thing of beauty. Barely a mealtime goes by without it and it will always be served with some kind of grilled meat. While you can find pa amb tomàquet in other parts of Spain, Catalans will tell you that theirs is unique.



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS

BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

Purists will fuss over the finer details, but thickly-cut slices of pa de pagès (a rustic, crusty bread) and squidgy, ripe tomatoes are essential to the mix. Pa amb tomàquet can come out of the kitchen ready-prepared; but in more traditional places, especially in the mountains, expect a do-it-yourself ensemble of toasted bread, tomato and garlic. To pass as a local, cut the tomato in half horizontally through the middle. Start by rubbing a cut garlic clove over the toast before doing the same with the tomato, then drizzle with olive oil and a good sprinkle of salt, and tuck in.



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS
BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

EVERY

GOOD

THING