

## MIO 2019 Mission Study for Teens

**What you'll need:** Bible, 3x5 index cards, pencils or pens, shoe box. (Also scroll down for optional videos and Monopoly game.)

**Watch the video:** MIO 2019 "Sharing Christ" – Jared Sexton's story from First Baptist Church of Metropolis

**Or Read:** "A Box of Names"—another version of Jared's story from the Mission Illinois Pullout (at [MissionIllinois.org](http://MissionIllinois.org), click on "Studies & Extras," then "MIO Pullout," page 3)

**Discuss:** When Jared Sexton found the Messiah, he was excited to share the Good News. "I was so pumped up to invite all my old friends that don't know the Lord, and had no idea what they were missing," Sexton said. "I was just on fire wanting to share what I had learned to everybody."

He started inviting his friends to come to church with him and began for them as well. His church, First Baptist Church of Metropolis, keeps cards at the front of the auditorium for members to write the names of people who need Christ. It's part of the "Who's Your One" evangelism concept in which members pray for the people they know who need to find salvation in Christ.

The first name Sexton put in the box was his childhood friend, Dakota Stevens. "We all began praying for Dakota," Cliff Easter, the church's youth and missions pastor, said. "You could tell that God was at work in him, and sure enough Dakota came to repentance and faith in Christ."

Now let's turn to the Bible.

### Read: John 1:35-42

As Jesus began his earthly ministry, his first action after his baptism by John the Baptist was to call his disciples. The one of first people he called to follow his was Andrew. Immediately Andrew went to find his brother, Simon Peter, and tell him about Jesus. Andrew explained that Jesus is the Messiah, the "anointed one" sent by God. The Jews had been looking for the Messiah for more than 1,000 years. Even so, it must have been a shock for Simon Peter to hear that the Messiah had shown up. But he went with Andrew to find out more.

Blessed  
to bless  
others

# MIO 2019 Mission Study for Teens

## **Discuss:**

How do you identify with John 1:35-42? Is there someone in this account who you feel you understand or identify with?

What do you think is Andrew's motivation when he tells Simon Peter about the Messiah?

Is Andrew talking a risk when he tells Simon Peter about meeting the Messiah?

How would you respond if you had been Simon Peter and Andrew told you that news?

How is Andrew's story similar to Jared Sexton's story?

Have you ever been so excited about something that you wanted to tell everyone you knew about it? If so, what was it, and who did you tell?

Do you have that kind of relationship with Jesus Christ? If so, who came to you—like Andrew and Jared—to tell you about faith in Jesus? (If not, would you like to talk with your study leader about how you can?)

Discuss how evangelism—sharing about Jesus—is the mission of the church. Does your church focus on sharing the good news about salvation in Jesus Christ?

## ► **Action 1:**

### **Share your story.**

If you have been baptized—

- Share with the group why you were baptized.
- How did you feel afterward?
- What did others say to you afterward?
- How do you feel about your baptism now?

What would you tell someone who wanted to know more about following Jesus? Or, what would you tell someone who shared a problem for which faith is an important part of the answer?

## ► **Action 2:**

### **Who's your one? Make a box!**

- **Write down the name(s)** of people you know (one per card) who haven't yet accepted Christ as their savior. If you know someone like Jared, who has had a troubled life or a drug addiction, make a card for that person too.
- **Share the cards with each other and tell their stories.** Why are you especially concerned for the person on the card? Have a time of prayer for those you identified.
- **Place the cards in the box.** Keep the somewhere in your church. Add to the names as you think of more people who need a relationship with Jesus Christ,
- **Commit to pray** for the people named on the cards daily and look for opportunities to share the gospel with them.

# MIO 2019 Mission Study for Teens

## ► Action 3:

### **Pray for lost people in Illinois**

13-million people live in Illinois. At least 8-million of them do not know Jesus as their personal savior.

- Give each person a blank map of Illinois. On each map, mark three places that you will pray for.
  - Mark a city with a large population.
  - Mark some place you have visited.
  - Mark your own community.
- In each of those places, there are churches that need prayer as they seek to share about their faith with people who do not know Jesus Christ. All over Illinois there are church planters who are starting new churches in places that do not have a strong church. And across Illinois, missionaries with the Illinois Baptist State Association are equipping churches to share Christ.
- Pray for the places you marked on the map. Pray for churches, pastors, and missionaries to share Christ. Pray for lost people to accept Jesus Christ as their savior.

## ► Optional activity: Illinois Monopoly!

### **Take a Monopoly board.**

- **Rename the streets for places in Illinois.** Make the four sides North, Central, South, and Our Community.
- **Rename the Community Chest**, etc., for ministries such as Illinois Baptist State Association, Lake Sallateeska Baptist Camp, Streator Baptist Camp, Super Summer, AWSOM for Teen Girls, Baptist Children's Home, Children's Activity Center, college campus ministries, church planters, or the local Food Bank in your area.
- If you have a longer study session, **take time to look up info** on the internet about the cities, your own county, and Illinois ministries.
- When players land on the squares, **discuss the spiritual need of that place.** For ministries, discuss the prayer requests you think they might have.

## ► Optional videos:

**New Churches:** Visit the IBSA Vimeo page and check out the MIO 2018 videos, especially the story on Church Planting in Pingree Grove.

<https://vimeo.com/280795258>

**Camps:** Check out the new Streator Baptist Camp video. Pray for camp workers such as Mike Young and the many volunteers and children who visit there each year.

<https://vimeo.com/343291756>