Partner Discussion Questions

1. What do most people in your culture expect children to do?
2. What do most people in your culture think children are incapable of doing?

Potential of Children

How does God view children? (Matthew 21:16)

Short candle:

Tall candle:

Partners in Ministry

1. God created children in a special way.

* Their hearts are soft towards the things of God.
* Children have great faith that acts.
* They lack fear and barriers—fear of rejection, lack of Bible knowledge, barriers of race or social status.
* They love to be committed to causes greater than themselves.

2. God has empowered children to serve.

* Children who follow Jesus have the same Holy Spirit as adults who follow Jesus.
* The Holy Spirit gives children gifts and abilities and places them into the Body of Christ.
* These gifts are not eggs waiting to hatch when children become adults.
* These gifts are more like ripe fruit, ready for use now.

3. God has given children spheres of influence.

* Children can minister in places where adults cannot.
* I cannot go into a child’s classroom or onto the football field with his team, but he can.
* Often, a child is the best one to share Jesus with his teacher, classmates, and friends.
* A child is the best one to recruit other children to join him in ministry.

4. God uses children in His big story. Here are three examples:

* Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1, 8-10)
  + God chose to speak through a young boy who was following and serving God.
* Naaman’s servant girl (2 Kings 5:1-3)
  + God used her to bring hope to an unbelieving family.
* Josiah (2 Kings 22:1-2)
  + God used Josiah to bring the people of Israel back to the straight path, the path of obedience to God’s laws.

Four Goals of Mobilization

*Mobilization:* to make ready for active service, to release for use

1. Raise up disciples who follow Jesus for a lifetime, disciples who have a strong faith and  
 set an example for others (1 Timothy 4:12).

2. Multiply lifelong followers of Jesus (Luke 10:2).

3. Foster multi-generational impact (Psalm 145:4).

4. Reach the unreached (Revelation 7:9-10).

*“If tomorrow’s world of unreached people were waiting for our kids,*   
*would our kids have a heart to reach them based on what we are giving them?"*