



# ATTENTION PARENTS!

During VBS this year we will be placing a significant focus on missions. We want the children to be sensitized and challenged by the needs of others in the world, and to experience the impact they can have even at a young age in sharing the love of Jesus with others.

Our missions project is to help children in Sierra Leone go to school. Only one in ten children in Sierra Leone has this opportunity. Many schools were destroyed and children's lives disrupted by the 10-year war. Peace has come and gradually people are rebuilding their lives, but there are many needs.

On Monday – Thursday, the children will be holding a “quarter-drive” to raise funds to pay for children's education. Through World Hope International, a Christian relief and development organization, a mere \$1 – only 4 quarters – will pay for a child to go to school for a month, plus provide them one good hot meal every day. Please help your child to be involved in this. Discuss things that cost a quarter or two and what could be given up that week so the quarters can be brought to VBS. For instance, when you walk past a gumball machine outside a store and your child asks for one, tell him/her you will be happy to give him/her the quarter, but help your child think about the impact that quarter could have if it paid for a child to go to school for a week. Does your child get an allowance? Encourage him/her to share a portion in the VBS Missions offering. Help your child to get involved personally.

On Friday we will collect school supplies, which will be sent to Sierra Leone. The supplies will be distributed to the schools that World Hope supports there. There are some children who will hold a pencil for the very first time with your child's gift.

Here is a list of things we will collect. Please gather these items when you go shopping and send them with your child on Friday. New items only, please.

- Ball-point pens (blue or black)**
- Manual pencil sharpeners**
- White chalk**
- Chalk board erasers**
- Scissors (for the teachers)**
- Glue sticks**
- Pencils and Erasers**
- Rulers with Metric**
- Markers**
- Non-spiral notebooks**
- Crayons**
- Flash cards (math only)**