

STEP TWO

CALLED TO BE THE CHURCH

LEAH
age: 12



PHILIPPINES



BIG IDEA



WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE CHURCH



***Begin by having one family member
read this section aloud:***

We are learning more about what it means to be called by God. First, we are called to Christ. But our calling isn't just to follow Jesus by ourselves. We always follow Jesus *with others*. We aren't following alone, we do it together. We call that group of Jesus-followers the Church. The Bible also calls us a *family*.

Like any kind of family, the church is not perfect. And sometimes it can be hard to follow Jesus with others—we might have our feelings hurt or have to do something hard to show love to someone who we don't feel like loving. Have you ever had a hard time like this? What happened? Did God help you stay committed to the church? How?

Continue on next page



TODAY'S STEP *Continued*

And God's family isn't just OUR church. Members of God's family live all over the world! That means we're connected to other Jesus-followers here, in our town, and around the globe. We are one big Christ-following family—brothers and sisters of Jesus-followers in the Philippines and everywhere else! Today's virtual reality experience will show us more of Leah's home and church. Leah's church—Alegria [pronounced al-ay-GREE-ah] in Cebu, Philippines—is full of joy and life. We'll also get to see Leah's home by the beach.

WATCH VIRTUAL REALITY VIDEO 2:



LEAH'S HOME & CHURCH

www.stepintomyshoes.org/family

[3:53]

TALK ABOUT IT

After viewing the virtual reality video, talk together about the following:

- What did you see that surprised you? What did you see that confused you? Leah walks along the side of the highway to get to church. Jade rides a motorized tricycle. If you could get to church by any mode of transportation you wanted, which would you choose—unicycle, hot air balloon, pogo stick, ...?
- What would cause someone to travel a long time and/or in a challenging way just to get to church? What do you think makes that trip worth it?
- Let's talk about what our family can offer to God's family—near and far. What are we good at? What do we love to do together? How do we like to spend our time? [In other words, let's think about more than just money we can give.] How could those things help or serve other Jesus-followers here in our community or far away?



OUR NEXT STEP



ACTIVITY

On the map (next page), mark where you live. Mark the Philippines, and any other locations where people you know and love follow Jesus. There are Jesus-followers everywhere, near and far. Following Jesus together means loving and serving each other. Find a place to put your map where you'll see it this week, such as on the refrigerator or a bathroom mirror.



PRAY TOGETHER

Dear Jesus, as we follow you, you make us a family with everyone else who follows you too—how amazing! We want to say “Yes” to your whole family, near and far. Show us how we can live out our calling to follow you WITH others, even if it can be hard sometimes, and thank you for the chance to be part of the Church, here and around the world. In your name, Amen.

I KNOW
JESUS-
FOLLOWERS
FROM...





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IN901 (08/17)