

SPECIAL
SUNDAY



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®



This activity connects with God's message to Habakkuk found in 1:1-4 and 2:1-4 and highlights the leadership aspect of the World Communion Special Sunday.

If you supply snacks, consider having an assortment of foods that are traditional in different parts of the world.

You will need:

- Cardboard tubes (paper towel tubes or cardstock rolled up and taped) with clear plastic wrap or cellophane attached to one end)
- Washi or another kind of decorative tape
- Markers or paint
- Stickers or other embellishments to decorate with

INTRODUCTION

Start out with a song about leadership; for example,

"Yes I'm A Leader," https://youtu.be/Lh38IEm_Z1M.

Say, "Repeat after me":

"Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it."
(*Habakkuk 2:2, NRSV*)

Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it.

These are words that God spoke through a prophet named Habakkuk a long time ago—even before Jesus was born. We remember that a prophet is someone who tells God's truth to the people. Habakkuk was frustrated because he saw that people were messing up a lot. There were things happening that seemed very unfair. And Habakkuk wanted God to fix it.

God asked Habakkuk to wait for a vision. A vision is an understanding of what needs to happen. The time was coming when things would change. And while people were waiting for the vision, they should continue to be faithful and live the right way. God told Habakkuk to write the vision in a way that everyone could see it.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

Today our church is supporting young people who have visions. We are thinking about young United Methodist leaders who are living faithfully and who have a dream to help others. I wonder what kind of visions God has for you.

(Allow time for the children to share some things they would like to see that would make the world more like what God hopes for us.)

(Give each student a cardboard tube.)
Today we are going to make a visioning telescope. A telescope helps us see things that are far away and makes them clearer to us.

Write or draw on the tube some of the things you hope for the world so that it is more like what God wants for us.

Then we are each going to decorate our the paper with stickers and other colors so that it is special to each of you. You can decorate it however you like.

And at the end of the tube, where there is plastic, make the shape of a cross using the tape.

(Allow the children time to decorate their tubes and put the cross-shaped tape at the end.)

Oh, these are each so beautiful! Look at the ways that each one of us has different visions for the world. And when we look through our visioning telescope, what do we see? We all look for our vision through Jesus, who walks with us as we work to achieve these dreams that God has placed on our hearts and in our minds.

I want you to know that this church is a place where we will work with you to help you be leaders who make changes in the world. We want you to have everything you need to know what God's vision for you is and to work toward it.

LET'S PRAY:

God, help us to live faithfully and in the right way. Thank you for Jesus who walks with us and gives us a clear vision for the hopes you have for your world. Thank you for the young leaders around the world who are making a difference. Help these children in this church to see Jesus as they learn how to be leaders themselves. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.