

A Night to Remember – Worldview – by Marcy Lytle

Over Christmas break, we had a fun World Christmas with the cousins on the deck and we used inflatable globes to find the countries for which we were praying. I realized as we were using them how helpful it is to visualize where countries are, in relation to where we live in the world. It helps the kids to have a better world view. So I'm including the link to purchase the globes, should you want to include them in the study...OR if you have a globe of your own...use it!

Preparation: Have inflatable globes or a standing globe available for the worldview study, along with sharpies. Or you could even use a giant paper map. And perhaps some popcorn for a snack.

Start with finding where you live in the globe. Mark it with a small X.

In the beginning, God made the whole earth and breathed life into mankind. Genesis 1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Later in the same chapter it says, "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

So there are people all over this planet, not just the ones that live in our neighborhood. It's a big world out there. About 8.2 billion people live on the earth, and each person matters to God!

Let's find the continents: Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia. Can anyone say a word in another language or try speaking like someone from another country? Who knows what a "mate" is in Australia? Did you know that we are called a friend of God? God has friends all over this world, those that love Him. (*Ask the kids to point and mark each continent with a check!*)

There are needs all over this world, too, not just where we live. And these needs cause unrest and turmoil. (*Toss the globes or shake them, to indicate how things get shaken up.*) God has given us this precious and powerful tool called prayer, where we can come to him with the needs of those around us. Every country has different issues from poverty, to crime, to political unrest, to social injustices and more. Who knows what poverty is? Social injustice? Our prayers can make a difference. (*Let kids answer.*)

Do we know anyone from a different country other than where we live? Point to the country and tell us the name of the person you know who's from there. We could add that person and their family on our prayer list, and be a friend to them. When people move from one country to another, they don't know the language or even the food is unfamiliar, so they need a friend! (*Ask the kids to point, as you help them remember.*)

Look at all the water on the planet! God made that too, separating all the lands. And guess what? The same moon and sun hang above us all, completely visible by every person on every spot of land on the earth. Isn't that amazing? We serve a big God who sees and cares for us all. (*Look outside and see what's shining!*)

Let's hold the globe tight to our chests and bow our heads as we think of one particular country or continent that interests us the most. Pause a moment to think. Say a prayer. Then let's lift our heads and share one thing we prayed for. (*Take a few minutes for this...*)

Roll the globes to each other and play with them a minute. God is a happy and cheerful God, and he enjoys his creation and wants all to know Him, and not anyone to miss out on His love. John 3:16 says what, who can quote it? (*Quote the answer.*) God loves all the world. And it's up to us

to share the light across the nations so that all are saved, just by loving those around us well...as we consider the world view.