

## BUILDING 429

Artist:	Album Title & Record Company:	Song Title:	Study by:
BUILDING 429 URL	ALBUM TITLE RECORD COMPANY	FEARLESS	RICK BUNDSCHUH KAUAI CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP KAUAI, HAWAII RICKBUNDSCHUH@MAC.COM



## Theme

Evangelism; Witnessing

## Objective

Students will get a better grasp on their role in sharing Christ with those who don't know Him.

## Note

This session is unlike most YLO studies. The bulk of your time will be spent teaching by playing a game, instead of teaching by talking. Experience-based learning is awesome, but requires a different set of skills from you as the leader. So, prepare well! Use this game as a way to connect your kids to the role that Christians have in sharing their faith, especially the various roles that they might play in foreign missions.

## Hidden Treasure

You will need:

- A Treasure: \$50-\$100 in brand new, crisp ten-dollar bills. (Or, if you can't afford that, you can use those new gold dollar coins. Just be sure to change your Secret Message to say "SACAGAWEA" instead of "HAMILTON.")
- Four or five helpers. (The number could be more or less depending on the number of students in your group.)
- A Secret Message in a code. Write a simple instruction message such as WHISPER TO THE LEADER DO YOU HAVE A HAMILTON AND YOU WILL GET A TREASURE on your computer. Then change the font to Wingdings or some other kind of symbol. If you want to make the game even more fun (i.e. "difficult"), make several varieties of the same message using different kinds of Wingdings or symbols. These messages represent the Good News of the treasure of God in various languages and cultures around the world.
- Code Keys to the Secret Messages. Create a key for each of the messages you have created by typing in the letters A-Z and changing them to the Wingding font(s) you have used in the Secret Message. Each Code Key should be broken up into 3-4 parts.

## The Object:

The object of this game is for kids to locate the Secret Treasure (the money on your person.) Your students can look around the room as if they are on an Easter egg hunt, or they can seek guidance to the treasure. If they seek guidance from a helper, they will get a Secret Message. Other helpers have the Code Keys. Students will then try to decode the Secret Message and use it to locate the hidden treasure. Note: Since you have a limited amount of "treasure" not all students will be able to get in on it within the time allowed. (Unlike God's economy where the treasure is unlimited!)

You, as the team leader, have the Treasure. This is a secret, but even if kids figure it out they have to say the right thing to you – the Secret Message – in order to have you hand cash to them.

Your other helpers are in the room to serve as resources to the students. The helpers represent missionaries, and the resources missionaries have to help others find the message of Christ. Your helpers should have fewer Secret Messages and Code Keys than there are students, since in the real world there are far more needs than there are

people or resources to serve them. So, for example, if you have 25 students you should only print up 5 or 6 Secret Messages and Code Keys. If you make each of the Secret Messages in a different Wingding (just as there are many dialects and cultures), then finding the correct Code Key will be more difficult and will require the students to work with each other to achieve their objective.

Your helpers should only help those who ask them for help. Let those who think they can find the treasure faster by scouring the room go right ahead and try.

Give each helper one Secret Message and one set of Key Codes. Instruct the helpers to wander around the room and stay on opposite ends of the room from each other. Tell them that they must control their situations by insisting that kids who want their help get in line, and that if they run out of resources their "station" will close and kids will have to fend for themselves.

(Leaders Guide continues on next page.)

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## The Set Up:

When your students are settled tell them something like this: *Today we are going to have a treasure hunt that has a purpose behind it. I promise you that the treasure is worth looking for and that it is somewhere in this area. (Give the boundaries.) When I give the word, you can work individually or with friends; you can ask for help from anyone but me, or you can try to locate the treasure on your own. Please note that if you do ask for help you must get in line and not mob anyone. This game will have a time limit and may require some teamwork. Beyond this, I can't give you any more clues or help, so don't bother asking me. Ready? Set. GO!*

## The Hunt

Some students will immediately start looking for the treasure, thinking that it is hidden in the room. Some, thinking that the treasure isn't worth looking for, will have little interest. Others will soon get into the game—or will get frustrated quickly by the lack of clues or the unwillingness of others to share.

You can choose to give the treasure in single ten-dollar bills to those who whisper the Secret Message to you, or you can give the entire treasure to the first who comes to you with the right words.

## Debrief

Explain to your students the allegory of game:

*The Treasure is God's Salvation. The Secret Message is the Good News of the Gospel brought to those who don't know how to access God. Those who run around the room looking for the treasure without help are like those who think they can, on their own speed, find salvation. Not likely. The message needs to be put in terms of the language and culture of those hearing it, thus the Code Keys. In addition, there are many steps to making the message relevant (sowing, watering, and reaping), which is why the Code Key was in various parts. Those helping had few resources and represent missionaries and the resources they often have or don't have.*

## Bible Study

- Review Scripture passages such as **Romans 10:13-15** and **Matthew 28:19** to show that God mandates that we carry the Gospel to others.
- Discuss what is required in order to be able to share Christ in another culture. Point out that there are many people involved in that process, some in the field and some in various positions and places along the way that are needed to get the message out in a clear way.
- Discuss how the message of Christ can be taken to the mission field in our backyard and what role we might have in bringing that message.

## The Video

Wrap up by playing the *Fearless Video* by Building 429. Transition to the video by saying something like this: *We are going to end with a video by a band that takes missions very seriously. As you listen to the song, please prayerfully consider your role in bringing God's Good News to others. Show the video. Close in prayer.*

