

# JMA CHALLENGES

Take on these 12 JMA challenges between September and August. If you have favourite ways that you like to learn, pray and serve, then feel free to swap any of the challenges with your own.

## Challenge 1. Learn, serve and pray

Hold an all-age service in the autumn to commission your JMA team. Use the JMA Commissioning Service.

## Challenge 2. Learn

The Methodist Church has 60 Partner Churches, covering 85 countries across the world.

Choose one of the countries featured in your current edition of *Rainbow* and find out as much as you can about it: What is it like to live there? What is the country's favourite food? What is the pattern on its flag?

#### Challenge 3. Learn and serve

For the country you have chosen, look up which mission partners live there. Go to www.methodist.org.uk/mission to find out what work are they doing.

Together as a JMA group, write to the mission partner in your chosen country. Send letters, poems and pictures to encourage them.

# Challenge 4. Learn and pray

In December, go to a Methodist church holding an Advent Offering service.
This event asks people to donate to the Mission in Britain Fund. Find out all you can about the project being supported this Advent and how your church's donations will help.

#### Challenge 5. Serve and pray

Create a weekly prayer diary ready for Lent. Include prayer points from *Rainbow* magazine and ask church members to use your prayer diary during Lent.

## Challenge 6. Serve

Help people you know as they try to give something up for Lent, such as chocolate or fizzy drinks. Ask them to donate to JMA any money they save from not buying what they've given up.

#### Challenge 7. Serve

Choose your favourite story from any of your recent copies of *Rainbow*. Ask for a slot each term in your church service to share this story. You could also use this slot to update church members on your JMA activities.

# Challenge 8. Learn, serve and pray

Join with other JMA collectors in your church to lead the prayers once a term. You could cut out pictures from *Rainbow* to create a prayer collage. Notice what stands out to you from the images. Then write out your prayer points for the people and places in your collage.

# Challenge 9. Serve and pray

Hold a prayer event for our mission partners focusing on different parts of the world and different types of mission work. Set up a variety of prayer stations around your church where people can pray quietly; light a candle; write their prayers; draw their prayers; or add to a prayer collage.

#### Challenge 10. Serve

Create a quiz for your JMA group at church or your family at home, to share what you have learned about the countries and projects in *Rainbow*.

## Challenge 11. Learn and serve

Hold an international party at your church and invite your friends and family – you could use your quiz from Challenge 10. Play games and music from around the world. Invite people to bring food from different countries to share.

# Challenge 12. Serve

Serve your community as a JMA group together. In your group think about who you could serve, and how. Perhaps you could do some gardening for people who are housebound; visit a local care home; collect clothes for newborn babies to take to your hospital for new mothers who do not have all they need; host a welcome tea for refugees in your area. Choose your favourite idea together; plan how you will put it into action; then book a date to serve!



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