
Lesson Plan
WAPAC District Children's Project – 2025-2027
Shechem Children's Home
Manila, Philippines

Building Empathy

- Have you ever gone without food for days and days?
- Have you ever been told to go out and search for food to eat?
- Some children are told to steal food, or do something that is illegal to get some money. These kids feel scared and maybe confused. They may feel “lost” about what is right.
- Many children in Manila are experiencing some kind of trauma and need help.

Jesus said: **John 13:34** “**I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.**”

1. **We can show our global “love”** (show globe) by bringing offerings/ money to help some children in the Philippines.

Many innocent children in the city of Manila are experiencing some kind of trauma and need help. They may have been abused in some way and need a safe place to live. The Nazarene Church in Manila has a ministry called the **Shechem Children's Home**, where scared and “lost” kids can be cared for and loved.

2. **Watch the video**

https://www.wapacnmi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/shechem-kids_fin.mp4

- Are you always loved by your parents?
- How do you **know** that you are loved?
- Would you feel empty, sad, afraid if you were never shown love?
- How do you **show love** to someone who is not in your family?

Some children in the Philippines (and in our town) feel “lost” because their parents have not protected them from different traumas. Sometimes these children are taken away from their homes and they feel scared. There are children in (your town), Seattle, etc. who have no home and are living in a car or in a tent. They may feel lost because they don't know where they will spend the night.

3. **In the Bible, Mark 10: 13-16**, it says that Jesus took children in His arms and blessed them. Children need to be held and hugged, and they need to hear that they are loved. The word Shechem means shoulder...like a shoulder to lean on. Jesus loves all of the children in the whole world. He wants us to show love to others, too. There are teachers, nurses, counselors, and other professionals who can give the children love at the Shechem Children's Home. They have trusted adults who will take care of them and help them to heal.

What are we doing to make a difference for these kids? How are we LIVING IT OUT in the Philippines or even in our own town? (*Perhaps your church has some sort of local ministry that you can include in this lesson.*)

We can contribute money toward the district's Children's Project goal of \$14,000 over the next two years. Will you help provide new bedroom furniture, buy new kitchen appliances, give these children playground equipment and toys, and help pay for the staff. Your mission offering can make a difference!

4. **GAME: LOST & FOUND** (We need each other's help.)

Game #1

- One BRAVE volunteer - blindfolded
- Scatter the class sitting "crisscrossed" around on the floor
- NO TALKING! No giggling! No laughing!
- The volunteer must walk across the room (to the teacher's voice) all the way to the other side. No one can touch, trip, grab, etc. the blindfolded volunteer.
- No one can help! If they trip up they must figure out how to keep going.

Game #2

- A second BRAVE volunteer – blindfolded
- Same rules as the first game, but the class can yell out hints, instructions, directions, and give a hand of help.

Ask: Which game showed kindness/love to this "lost" person? We may not be able to rescue the children in the Philippines, or the homeless and lost kids in our neighborhoods, but we can give a hand of help.