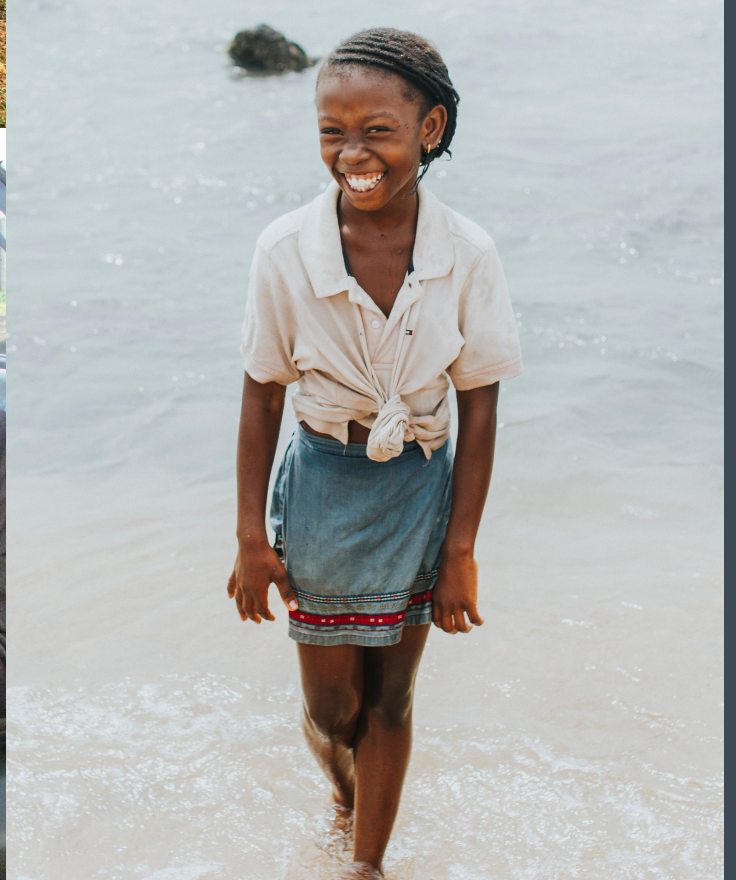




spend yourself
week

December 13-17, 2021



one body ★ one hope

Welcome to Spend Yourself Week!

We're so glad that you've joined us. Every day this week, we invite you to:

- Watch a ministry update (you can find these on any of our social media channels or on our website at onebodyonehope.org).
- Read a Bible passage.
- Reflect on the discussion questions or spark a conversation with friends/family.

DAY 1

DECEMBER 13

Church Planting

Watch the Church Planting Ministry Update Video

Read Matthew 28:16-20

Discuss/Reflect: The Great Commission is probably one of the most well known passages of scripture. And when Jesus says "Go and make disciples," our Liberian friends take him very seriously. Emmanuel Bimba's dream is to have an anchor church planted in every single Liberian county so that the gospel can continue to grow in the midst of Muslim communities and unreached people groups. We love helping him achieve this in any way we can!

1. Sometimes the Great Commission can be intimidating. Most of us don't have big stories about times we converted and baptized an unbeliever. But God still works through us! Share a time when you extended the love of Christ to someone who may not know him.
2. How can you be the hands and feet of Christ in your community? Be specific. Perhaps even make a family plan to act on something you discuss.
3. Never underestimate the power of prayer! Most of us cannot join Emmanuel and his team as they travel throughout rural Liberia to isolated communities. But we can partner with them in prayer. Add the needs of the growing Liberian church to your permanent prayer list.
4. Did you know our Liberian friends pray for YOU? In fact, they fast and pray several times a year asking God to bless the work of your hands and to continue to use you to accomplish his will in Liberia and beyond. Take a moment to thank God for your Liberian friends and their love for you!

DAY 2

DECEMBER 14

Education

Watch the Education Ministry Update Video

Read Ecclesiastes 7:11-12, Proverbs 4:13, and Psalm 34:8-14

Discuss/Reflect: The Bible is full of references to the importance of learning: of training up children in the ways of the Lord, and growing in wisdom as we walk closer in step with Christ. God puts very high value on instruction, and expects us as Christians to share our hard-earned wisdom and the truth we know about Him with others.

1. Who is someone that you would consider wise? Why do you think they are wise?
2. What is something that you have learned about the Christian life that you would like to share with new believers?
3. Talk about your favorite teacher or professor. What made them so good at what they do?
4. Why do you think education is so important to the ministry of One Body One Hope?

DAY 3

DECEMBER 15

Agriculture

Watch the Agriculture Ministry Update Video

Read Genesis 1

Discuss/Reflect: In the very first chapter of the very first book of the Bible, God creates a world that is very good. And did you catch what he did in verse 29? God gave his people every plant and tree for their food. Agriculture was a part of God's plan from the creation of the world! In Northwest Iowa, we take farming very seriously—and so do our Liberian friends.

1. Have you ever had a garden? Talk about the experience of growing and eating your own food.
2. What are some of your favorite foods? Where do they come from? What do you know about the people who grow, raise, or prepare them?
3. Do you like to cook or bake? Share an experience you had preparing a meal or a treat for someone you love. Or, better yet, do it!
4. Some of the produce grown on the AVDC Farm in Liberia includes cocoa, cassava, plantain, rice, and palm. Look up one of these crops and learn a bit more about how our Liberian brothers and sisters provide for their families and countrymen.

DAY 4

DECEMBER 16

Homes & Health

Watch the Homes & Health Ministry Update Video

Read Isaiah 58:6-14

Discuss/Reflect: The theme passage of One Body One Hope has always been this scripture in Isaiah. We chose it because from day one we longed to “loose the chains of injustice, set the oppressed free, share our food with the hungry, and provide the wanderer with shelter.” And for us, it all began with 35 war orphans after the Liberian civil war. Today, those kids are all grown up—and we are so grateful to God for how he has blessed and provided for them! But there are many more kids still in our care. Over 150 to be exact.

1. Do you have a sponsor child through OBOH (or another organization)? Take a moment to pray for the life of that precious image-bearer of God. Or simply pray for the kids in the OBOH children’s homes.
2. Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. What does it mean to you to love your neighbor as yourself?
3. We are so blessed to live in a place where we can receive medical care whenever we need it. Unfortunately, the kids in One Body One Hope’s children’s homes do not have access to the kind of healthcare we take for granted. When was the last time you went to the doctor? Talk about that experience and give thanks for the care you received.
4. If you could meet your sponsor child (or any child living in a group home around the world) face-to-face, what would you say to him or her?

DAY 5

DECEMBER 17

Microfinance

Watch the Microfinance Ministry Update Video

Read Ephesians 4:28

Discuss/Reflect: The scripture we just read is titled: *Instructions for Christian Living*. There's a lot of great wisdom in these verses, but we want to focus on verse 28: [paraphrased] everyone "must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need." We know that work is good. God created us with gifts and talents and abilities to work in his world and make it a better place!

1. What's the best job you ever had? What's the worst? Share a bit about your experiences. Or, if you don't have a job, what would your dream job be? What do you think God is calling you to?
2. What is something you've done (made, created, designed) that you take pride in?
3. Someone once said if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
4. The Microfinance team at OBOH provides people in the Librarian communities we support with the money needed to start a small business, go to school, or receive training so that they can provide for their families. How do you think these small loans have a big impact on communities?



THANK YOU!

We're so glad you joined us.

Please visit our website (onebodyonehope.org) or social media channels for a special greeting from Emmanuel.

And if you feel so led, One Body One Hope would love to partner with you. Your prayers, participation, and donations allow us to continue the work in Liberia. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. If you would like to donate to the ministry, the QR code below will take you to our donation page.

