



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

2021 Curriculum

Information Sheet

What is the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)?

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/>

It's a way to love God and love our neighbors! There are three programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People. Each program works in a different way to serve individuals and communities in need. By engaging with the multi-age curriculum, you'll discover where and how individuals and communities near you were impacted by the OGHS offering! As well, you will get to know better some of the recipients highlighted in the Minutes for Mission.

What is the Scripture for OGHS?

The focus Scripture is Isaiah 58. The theme is *"You shall be called repairers of the breach."* Children and families will discover how God is calling them to be Advocates of Change. The OGHS multi-age lesson will encourage children and families to allow the Scripture to guide them as "Advocates in Training" and they will dive deeper into one of the programs funded by the OGHS special offering.

A little history about the book:

The book of Isaiah covers three periods of history in Israel. The later chapters in Isaiah, where you will find our highlighted Scripture, are attributed to a prophet or prophets who lived in Judah after the return from Babylonian exile in 539 B.C.E. Poetry is the literary medium used to deliver the message of the prophets. As poetry tends to engage our hearts, minds and imagination, this literary style is most appropriate for expressing how the Israelites felt and how they started to dream again after returning from exile in Babylon. Their return was not all sunshine and roses. Life was harsh, and hopelessness was trying to creep in. The Israelites were experiencing economic oppression. The hard, seemingly impossible work of rebuilding, both physical spaces as well as relationships, must be done. When faced with tough situations, it is easy to fall back into bad habits that we think bring us comfort, and the Israelites fell into unfaithful habits of pagan lifestyle and worship. The prophetic voice in Isaiah is calling God's people back, promising judgment on the oppressors and righteousness to the oppressed. As J.J.M. Roberts so perfectly says in the intro to Isaiah in the *HarperCollins Study Bible*, "Soon the wealth of the nations will pour into Jerusalem along with the rest of Israel's exiles, and the shame and sorrow of the recent past will be replaced with eternal joy and prosperity." (*HarperCollins Study Bible*, copyright 1989, p. 1013)

Contact your church leaders to request to see their favorite resources about Isaiah!

Other great resources to learn more:

Repairers of the Breach: Five Bible Studies on Social Justice Issues in New Orleans in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina by Margaret P. Aymer Oget (prepared for the PHEWA Social Justice Biennial Conference, Jan. 11–14, 2007)