

Discussion Ideas



Choose strategies from the list below to facilitate group discussion.

Connecting Activity

Ask each group member to share one hope or dream they have for their future.

Discussion Questions

1. What did this community learn from the victory over the fire?
 - ◆ *That they can accomplish much when they work together.*
2. Discuss what individual characters experienced as they worked together to save their community. How has this experience changed them?
 - ◆ *Everyone was a hero; they realize they can work together to change the future of their village.*
3. ► Do you think it's important for people to make their commitments publicly at the ceremony? Why or why not?
 - ◆ *Yes; they are acting together as a community, brings hope and courage for change.*
4. Do you think Chokoza is brave in this story? Why or why not?
 - ◆ *Yes; it takes courage and humility to admit he's been wrong and to ask for help publicly.*
5. ► How does Pendo view life? What will it take for her to change?
 - ◆ *She is a taker, doesn't trust, has no hope; make a commitment to become a giver, to change with the help and love of others.*
6. ► What accomplishments can you celebrate in your life and in your community?
 - ◆ *Emphasize that even small acts of kindness or service at home, school, or work are important; for example, helping a friend or family member, or doing well on an assignment.*

Personal Growth Activity

Decorate a small box and write "Winner" on it. Write down your commitment from the fire ceremony and put it in the box. Add things that will bring you hope and encouragement.



☞ Spiritual Application

Read Psalm 121:1-4. Then ask: What is God's promise to you in these verses? What help do you need today? Where does your help come from?

☞ Prayer Point

Offer a prayer of thankfulness, and ask God to guide and protect each person in the group.

☞ Encouragement

End with the fire ceremony outlined in the Facilitator's Tips. You might end by saying something like, "There is hope as we go out—not just one person making a difference, but all of us together showing our gratitude for what we have learnt and what we have been given, and wanting to bring positive change in our communities".

Grandma's Wisdom

It takes more than just people to make a village. It takes people who are willing to seek the good of the others as well as the good of themselves. It also takes people who know they need help from the others from time to time. Respect for others. Hope for the future. This is Grandma's Village. I am Grandma. The ceremony is ending; the fire is nearly out. But is there anyone listening, anyone at all, who wants to throw YOUR stick into the fire, for the good of YOUR village and for the good of Africa? Now's your chance! It takes courage to commit to change. May you have the power and the courage to carry it out!

