

# The Go-Rope

**Description:** tight-rope walking on the floor, plus two crafts

**Aim:** teach that missionaries go to others

**Audience:** 3-5 year olds, any size class with enough helpers

**Time:** 10-15 minutes each

**Equipment:** rope, Bibles, picture of Jesus, various items for stepping over; paper and crayons or paint; overhead or data projector and transparency or PowerPoint slide.

**Scripture to Study:**  
Romans 10:15

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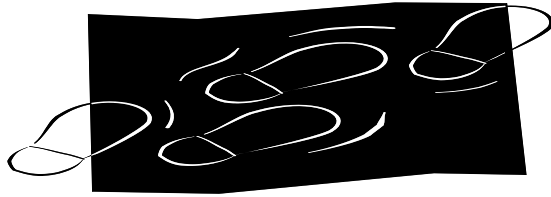
## Leader's Instructions:

1. Lay a rope directly on the floor. Stretch it out in a straight line, or place it in any number of twists and turns.
2. Have children remove their shoes to increase tactile stimulation. Children can then 'walk the rope' as if it were a tightrope. (Rope walking is a good 'large muscle activity' for three year olds. It helps improve balance while exploring the concepts of over, under, across and through.)
3. As abilities increase, encourage the children to walk sideways on the rope or even backward. You can finally place small objects along the rope over which children can step.



## Uses:

1. Use this activity to 'travel' to the mission field, arriving at the spot where you tell the weekly mission story. Constantly review the basic concept that missionaries 'go to other peoples,' near or far.
2. When children have enough balance that there is not much chance of falling with hands full, give each child a Bible, a picture of Jesus, or some other item soft of your choosing. They can walk the rope and pretend to take that item to another part of the world, or to another child.
3. Place obstacles on the rope that a missionary has to overcome (or step over) to take the gospel to another person. You might have to step very quietly over a stuffed lion or elephant, climb over a pillow mountain, row across a blue pillowcase lake, or squeeze between two chairs that act as canyon walls. How about a box, open at both ends that's an imaginary tunnel through which to crawl? Possibilities are endless! Use your creativity. Kids love to take this path to Mission Story Time, or enjoy it alone to learn that 'missionaries go to other peoples.'



## Craft #1 Footprint Frieze

Notes:

1. Stretch a long roll of paper across the classroom floor. Along the top write “Missionaries Go to Other Peoples.”
2. Have helpers assist children to line up on the paper and draw outlines around their bare feet, or shoes. Talk about these basic concepts as you work together:
  - Missionaries go to other peoples to tell them about Jesus.
  - Missionaries go near and far.
  - Each of us should go tell someone else about Jesus.
3. Add each child’s name while they color in their own footprints. (If you have *lots* of helpers, or do this at home, saturate sponges with tempura paint. Place them in shallow pans and let children step onto the sponge and out onto the paper, walking until the color runs out. Then lift the children up and to the sink, or pan of clear water, for washing up.)
4. If you have pictures of missionary teams that your church, class or family supports, add them to the frieze along with name and place of service. The written part is more for teachers than pre-readers of course, but they recognize faces quickly and some learn to read before anyone expects!
5. Hang the completed project on the classroom wall as a reusable teaching tool, emphasizing that missionaries go to others to tell them about Jesus.
6. On a smaller scale, do this project on single sheets of paper and let children take the project home. After all, wouldn’t it look great on a refrigerator door?

## Discussion and Application

1. What do missionaries do? (Missionaries go to other peoples.)
2. Why go to other peoples? (They tell them about Jesus.)
3. Can you go to other people and tell them about Jesus? (Yes, and kids will most likely name a few people. That’s great!)
4. Where do missionaries go? (They go next door and they go to far away places around the world.)

**Notes:**

**Craft #2**

**Put children into the mission picture, literally!**

1. Set the overhead or data projector directly on the floor. Project the following transparency or slide onto large 3 by 4 foot chunks of paper, which you've taped to the wall. (Each child has his/her own piece of paper.)
2. \*First, trace the title and the world. The continents don't have to be perfectly detailed. Rough approximations will do just fine. Use blue and green colors, if you like, or just black outlines.
3. Then, one by one, have children pose in a walking position between the projector and their paper, casting a silhouette shadow on the world. Trace around the child.
4. Let children color in their body silhouettes with black, or another color.
5. Add names and you have a personalized daily reminder that each of us can go tell others!



*\*(It saves time and wiggles to trace the world and lettering on paper before class. Have older student helpers do this artwork.)*

**Alternative Uses:**

1. Since everyone loves to play shadow puppets, use this to make missionary songs extra-fun. Project the overhead onto the wall. Link children hand-in-hand for a paper doll chain effect, while singing 'Jesus Loves the Little Children.' Other mission songs work well, too, like the second verse to the CEF song, 'Stop and Let Me Tell You.' As you sing, 'Go and tell the nations . . .' let children march, single file, between the projector and wall to cast a personal shadow on the world.
2. Construct a super-sized world by taping many sheets of paper together on the wall. Line the children up for individual silhouettes that span the globe. After it's been up in your room long enough, cut the world into strips and send each child home with his/her own silhouette and territory.
3. Do only face silhouettes on the world, instead of full bodies. Use construction or typing paper for this smaller project.

I can go tell someone in  
the world about Jesus!

