

- What immediate financial commitment can we make?
- What further financial commitment can we make through other fundraising efforts?
- What groups in the congregation might like to join us—youth, the UCW, Sunday school?

ACTION PLAN (10 min.)

Decide who will be responsible for following up on the top 3 actions. This may be an individual for each or a small task force of volunteers. Allow time to be set for a follow up meeting date to be set and a time for the task force to report back to the group/congregation as appropriate.

IDEAS FOR FURTHER INVOLVEMENT

- Walkathon to raise funds for the Dondi Project
- Drumming events with a screening of the DVD
- Multi-generational dinner events with a screening of the DVD and a discussion (as above)
- Participate in a National Drumathon: Oct. 1–2, 2010

CONTACT

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DVD Study Guide

Voices in the Ruins: The Dondi School Project

This guide also accompanies the YouTube clip "The Dondi Project, Angola" (5 min.; www.youtube.com/watch?v=57IDihsZEb0). The full-length DVD is 21 min.

CONTEXT

The Dondi Project is a response to a call for support from our partner the Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola (IECA). IECA is working to rebuild a desperately-needed school in Angola. The Men's Ministries Network of The United Church of Canada is committed to raising \$1 million through men's groups and congregations across Canada.

Voices in the Ruins was filmed in July 2009, and is a co-operative effort of the IECA and The United Church of Canada.

Scriptural context: Luke 10:25–37

OBJECTIVES

- To promote awareness and direct engagement in the project undertaken by the Men's Ministries Network of the United Church to support the rebuilding of the Lutamo School in Dondi, central Angola.
- To ask congregations to donate to the Dondi Project, to help our Angolan partners achieve their dream.
- To encourage United Church men to use this project as the starting point for creating a congregational group and for joining the Men's Ministries Network.
- To help participants learn about Angola and about our long-term partnership with the IECA.
- To reflect on who our neighbours are, and on our responses to calls for assistance.

PREPARATION AND SUPPLIES

(For leaders/facilitators)

- To prepare to lead the discussion, reflect on your faith tradition and its relationship to caring for poor and neglected people in the world.
- What does your faith say about justice and care for others? Jot down relevant Bible passages. Read Luke 10:25–37.
- Bring a map of Africa (download one from the Internet or use an atlas) so people can locate Angola.
- Order free materials from the Men’s Ministries Network. (See the contact details on the back page.)
- The 2010 DVD *Minutes for Mission* (sent to every pastoral charge in the April 2010 Infopac) includes a 5-min. Dondi story. The clip is also on YouTube.
- Organize equipment for showing the DVD: a DVD player or a computer that plays DVDs, a projector, a screen, and speakers.
- Prepare the meeting space for easy viewing of the video.
- Gather flip chart, paper, markers, and pencils to record ideas.
- Optional: provide snacks and drinks/name tags.

WELCOME AND OPENING (5 min.)

- Welcome participants. Open the session with a personal prayer or ask participants to gather for a moment of silence.
- Introduce the Dondi Project as the focus of this study group.
- Read Luke 10:25–37.

INTRODUCTIONS (2–10 min.)

Ask people to introduce themselves and to say why they have come.

DONDI VIDEO (10–35 min.)

Introduce the video.

- The Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola (IECA) has been our partner for over a hundred years.
- Men of the United Church are invited to help rebuild a school that we helped build originally. Show a map of Angola and the Huambo Province. The estimated cost of rebuilding is \$1 million.
- The school was destroyed in a 27-year civil war.
- Education in rural areas is lagging behind that in the cities. For Angolans to lift themselves out of the past, they recognize they need educated people.
- Watch the video. (5 min. or 21 min., depending on which version you show)

GROUP DISCUSSION (30 min.)

Rearrange the seating for small-group discussions. Provide flip charts, markers, paper, and pencils. Ask one person to be the leader/scribe in each group. The leader /scribe will ask the following questions and record the answers.

- What is this video about? What is its meaning? (2–3 answers)
- What scenes and people do you recall from the film? (An answer from each person)
- What sounds do you remember? What dialogue do you recall? (3–4 answers)
- Where did you notice emotions being expressed in the video? (3–4 answers)
- What did you find most touching? (2–3 answers)
- What surprised you? (1 answer)
- How does the Bible passage we read resonate with this story?
- Do you have questions about the project?
- Do we (as individuals/as a group) want to help the Dondi Project reach its goal?

(continued)