

Session 12: Reach Out Your Hand Suggested Week of Use: May 21, 2023 Core Passage: John 20:19-29

## **News Story Summary**

A deputy in Hillsborough County, Florida, helped deliver a baby on the shoulder of Highway 60 after the mother went into labor. While on patrol recently, Deputy Daniel Jones was approached by a panicked driver on the side of the road. The man said his wife was about to give birth, so Deputy Jones stepped in. He provided encouragement and emotional support for the woman as they waited for help to arrive. When it was clear that the ambulance was not going to get there in time, Deputy Jones delivered the baby in the front seat of the family car. Within a few minutes, a beautiful and healthy baby girl was born. When the ambulance arrived, the mom and baby—named Lexela—were taken to the hospital to make sure all was well. Officials in the sheriff's office reported that this was actually the third time Deputy Jones had assisted in an emergency delivery.

For more about this story, search "Florida deputy delivers baby."

## **Focus Attention**

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, ask: When you consider your life, what things matter the most? Allow adults to share. Read the story of the Florida deputy who delivered a baby on the side of the road. Suggest that for the family who met Deputy Jones that day, the life of their daughter must be one of the most precious things to them. Explain that today's session reminds us that our confidence in the resurrection of Christ should be one of the most important things to us. Emphasize that knowing that Jesus is alive gives us hope and purpose in this life and the next.

## **Summarize and Challenge**

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE** Say: *Life is a sweet gift we have been given*. Remind adults of the little girl delivered by the deputy. Say: *It's fun to think about her story and about what she will be when she grows up. God has a purpose for her, and He has a purpose for each of us*. Encourage members to reflect on how the reality of Jesus's resurrection and the life He gives us should affect the way we live each day. Allow some volunteers to share ways believers can demonstrate their confidence in Christ and share His gift of life and purpose with others. Challenge each person in the group to begin praying for at least one person with whom they can share Jesus. Close by praying that each adult would be encouraged as they remember that Jesus is alive.