

**Skit: Focus/Refocus**  
*(To introduce the Bible study)*

*(A very confident woman enters, talking to herself:)*

“Great! This is a great day to get a lot of things done! Let me look at my list . . .”

*(She pretends to look at a pad of paper.)* “Hmmm . . . First, make an appointment for a haircut.”

*(She pretends to make a phone call; asks for an appointment for a haircut tomorrow; listens, then says:)* “Next month?! I need it tomorrow! . . . Oh. I see. Thanks.” *(She hangs up the phone or turns off cell phone.)*

“OK. Well, forget that. On to number 2 on my list.” *(She pretends to look at list again.)*  
“ ‘Make John’s favorite cake.’ That’s easy!”

*(She pretends to look in a refrigerator.)* “Oh, no! I forgot to get eggs, and my car is in the shop for service!”

*(Add other missed opportunities, if you have time.)*

*(Close with:)* “Well, let’s see . . . Ah! A perfect time to start reading that new book and eat the last piece of chocolate! Sometimes plan B is better than plan A, anyway!”

**Leader explains the focus/refocus principle, leading into the Bible study.**

---

**What if that were me?**

*Think about how life is different for a missionary in the Middle East.*

*(A woman carrying Missions Plan Book enters, talking to herself.)*

“Let’s see . . . Leila is surrounded by hundreds of refugees who speak a different language.”

*(Reading to herself.)* “They have come to a Middle Eastern country with nothing—just the clothes they are wearing! The children have had little school experience.”

*(If you have time, add other facts from the mission study article.)*

“What would I do if that were me? How would I want someone to help me?”

*(Looks at the study again, then says:)* “Oh! I understand—Our best gift is prayer!”

*(She looks at participants in the meeting and says:)* “Will you pray with me for Leila? That isn’t her real name, because she is in a place that could be dangerous. But God knows who she is! Let’s pray.”

*(She reads the prayer requests on page 113, pausing after each request for participants to pray silently.)*

---

*Optional activity*

### **The SBC and Me**

Go to [bpnews.net](http://bpnews.net) to learn about what happened at the national meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in June 2016 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Explain your church's relationship to the Southern Baptist Convention. Tell about interesting information from this summer's meeting.

Announce that the meeting in June 2017 is planned for Phoenix, Arizona.