MATERIALS NEEDED

- Hammer
- Paint Brush
- Garden Seeds or another Garden Tool
- Map

SERMON

Hold up each tool one at a time. Ask the children what it is and what it does.

Ask children if they have any of these tools in their home.

Ask where we get different tools. (store, friend...)

Did you know that in some places in the world, people don’t have stores nearby and can’t get tools they need to repair a house or plant a garden? Should we help people that don’t have tools they need?

Does anyone know what a hurricane is? Expand on children’s answers to cover some basics – bad storm, strong winds, can cause flooding and damage to houses and gardens and livestock.

I’d like to tell you a true story about a hurricane that came through a country located in the Caribbean, called Haiti. (Show on the map where Haiti is located. You can mention that the Caribbean often experiences hurricanes.) There was a dad in this country named, Mr. Doris. He and his wife had 4 children and when a hurricane hit his community, the house he and his family lived in experienced damage – the walls were cracked and the house wasn’t sturdy anymore. This made his family feel scared. What happens when you feel scared? How were you comforted?

Mr. Doris knew that to help his family not feel scared he needed to build a new home, but he didn’t have the tools and materials he needed to build a new house. Thankfully, after the hurricane a group of people came to his community wanting to support Mr. Doris and make sure that his new house would be sturdy so that if another hurricane came through, his house would not be damaged.

What do you think Mr. Doris needed to build a new house? (hammer, nails, concrete, roof)

That’s right, Mr. Doris needed tools and supplies and some “technical help” to make sure his house will be sturdy. He also received some garden seeds so that his family could plant a garden at their new house to make sure they had food to eat.
[If it’s Father’s Day]

Today is Father’s Day and it’s a nice time to remember not only our loving and brave dads here in this congregation, but also brave and loving dads around the world like Mr. Doris. Today, we can remember and honor them by supporting groups like the ones that wanted to help Mr. Doris build a sturdy house and plant a garden filled with delicious food. Do you know what Mr. Doris said when received the help he needed? He said that now he and his family wouldn’t be scared anymore. Let’s make sure that more families around the world won’t feel scared.

[If it’s not Father’s Day]

Today, we can remember and honor brave parents around the world by supporting groups like the ones that wanted to help Mr. Doris build a sturdy house and plant a garden filled with delicious food. Do you know what Mr. Doris said when received the help he needed? He said that now he and his family wouldn’t be scared anymore. Let’s make sure that more families around the world won’t feel scared.

Bible verse that you can tie into sermon if you’d like:

“That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built.” – LUKE 6:48  NRSV