

Youth Study Guide

Introduction

The Mary Hill Davis Offering® for Texas Missions provides funding for over 70 ministries across Texas. This lesson will focus on BOUNCE, a mission experience that mobilizes church youth groups into areas affected by disasters to assist with long-term recovery and rehabilitation. The groups support communities to “BOUNCE” back from disasters.

Bible Verse

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” – Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT)

Background Information

Texas Baptists created and launched BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery in 2014. BOUNCE falls under the Mary Hill Davis Offering Serve ministries. These ministries open the door for more effective sharing of the Gospel.

BOUNCE is a mission experience that mobilizes church youth groups into places affected by disasters to help with long-term recovery/rehabilitation missions. BOUNCE also has Hispanic/Bilingual Student Scholarships that provide partial scholarship assistance for Hispanic and/or bilingual students to participate in a BOUNCE Mission Trip.

Serving with BOUNCE enables students who have the desire to make a difference in the world.

- Students participating in BOUNCE develop a love and appreciation for mission service.
- BOUNCE enables participants to support communities through construction, debris removal and clean-up, and other ministry projects that assist communities to BOUNCE back.

- BOUNCE has developed partnerships with local organizations to effectively serve people and communities in need by offering free labor to assist in recovery efforts.

The participants become the hands and feet of Jesus through their labor. In 2019 BOUNCE expanded by piloting a BOUNCE Church.

Introduction

In 2022, BOUNCE expanded its program to include Church Planting, providing students with insight into the process. The following year, BOUNCE built on this initiative in Seattle, Washington, by establishing a partnership with the Texas Baptists Church Starting Ministry and the Northwest Baptist Convention Church Starting.

Throughout the years:

- BOUNCE has mobilized nearly 7,000 participants (students and adults) for long-term disaster recovery and community rehabilitation projects.
- BOUNCE participants have completed over 800 construction projects in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico. Jobs included roof repair, drywall repair, wheelchair ramp installation, siding repair, rebuilding porches, and painting. Disaster victims and those in need of home repairs have been assisted in improving their quality of life.

BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery missions have been mobilized to restore hope, rebuild communities, and reflect Christ.

Preparation

The students will interact with “Shine and Serve, Living Out Your Faith with BOUNCE.”

Key Verse:

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” – Matthew 5: 13-16 (NLT)

This study is designed to enable middle and high school students to understand the mission of BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery/Rehabilitation and Student Church Planting Ministry

while equipping them to serve, share their faith, and live as salt and light for Christ in their communities.

Students will learn that Hispanic and/or bilingual students may receive partial scholarship assistance for a BOUNCE Mission trip if they wish to participate. These scholarships are made possible by your gifts to the Mary Hill Davis Offering® for Texas Missions. One of the goals of the BOUNCE ministry is to equip and encourage students to develop a missional lifestyle as they return home and minister in their own communities.

The activities and tasks in this study will provide students an opportunity to learn more about the BOUNCE ministry. The students will garner information through reading short excerpts, then complete tasks and activities to reinforce what they have learned. Students will also learn about the ways they can serve in their community by identifying needs and determining ways they can help.

Session Plans

Station 1

Task 1: Salt and Light - Why serve?

Matthew 5:13-16

Teaching point: Students sometimes have difficulty understanding the meaning of being the salt of the earth. Salt enhances and influences flavor. This activity will demonstrate how believers can influence the world like salt. Invite students to read the key passage, Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT).

Salt Experiment:

Give students salt and unsalted food samples to taste to help them experience the difference. Examples: salted and unsalted crackers, salted and unsalted pretzels, salted and unsalted nuts. Salt preserves

and enhances flavor. Believers are called to preserve truth and bring Christ's hope to broken situations. Discuss how believers can influence the world like salt.

Story 1:

Aubrey Valenzuela, Faith Family Church Brownfield, TX.

"My experience has been overwhelmingly good. There are many stories I could share about how it has helped me grow my faith, but BOUNCE is what started my walk of faith. I would go to church and wouldn't really give it a second thought. Then, on my first BOUNCE mission I went to, I was saved. At the time hurricane Harvey had just hit, so there were many people ready to help. It was the biggest mission trip I have ever gone on. There were people from Georgia,

Tennessee, and from all over Texas. It was the first time I met so many people who were Christians in one place. Serving together was wonderful. I prefer BOUNCE missions over a regular church camp any day. I would rather spend my time helping people and getting to know new people who feel the same. There is just something different about working every day in the heat trying so hard to work as fast and diligently as possible so what you leave can last. It's the best feeling seeing a person's face light up when they see how much has changed in just a week. It's like seeing someone take their first breath of relief after fighting for so long to stay strong. That's why I love BOUNCE. It brings people together, makes those we help happy, and makes me happy too."

Task 2: Pray

Pray that more of our Hispanic/Bilingual congregations will discover opportunities through BOUNCE. Pray that these congregations might hear and be more curious about the opportunities to mobilize students for mission service. Discuss how you feel about going on a BOUNCE mission trip. If given the opportunity, would you go? Why or why not? Write your response on the sticky note provided.

Station 2

Task 1: Basketball Pong

On a display board or bulletin board, make a basketball pong game. Get three ping

pong balls. Shoot to try to make the basket. If a student makes the basket, they answer the question from the question stack. The student with the most points becomes the leader of the group.

Story 2:

In most cases, students from all of the participating churches are divided into ministry teams. However, during COVID, mission leadership elected to leave students with their own youth group as a part of COVID protocols. Emalee Martinez shares how that decision impacted and helped some of the students from her youth group:

"I've been on four different BOUNCE mission trips and have gained so much from all of them. However, the year my youth group remained together on the same ministry site was very meaningful. While there, we were able to minister to members of our group who had recently lost a loved one. And I was amazed at how well we did as teens being supportive of them and their emotions. We were able to serve our residents as well as hurting members of our group. The trip really showed me how much of a family we are and how supportive we are of each other."

Task 2: Pray

- Pray that God may use BOUNCE to encourage and develop a love of missions and ministry in the lives of Hispanic/Bilingual students through the ministry of BOUNCE.
- Pray that more students will be encouraged to go on Bounce mission trips through the availability of scholarships for bilingual students.

Station 3

Task 1: How Can I Serve

How can I serve? You don't have to wait for a disaster to serve. Everyday kindness and sharing your faith matters. Ask students to identify needs in their school or neighborhood where they can help, such as assisting classmates, volunteering, or inviting friends to come to your youth group. Write your ideas on the cards provided. Place your card in the coffee filter pocket. Label the outside of the pocket with the word BOUNCE and decorate.

Story 3:

Story by Jessica King, July 17, 2024

BOUNCE students were up to the task when they chose to share God's love in a storm's aftermath. The BOUNCE week five mission team was ready to serve Mora County, New Mexico, assisting recovery efforts for the 2022 Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire and post-fire floods. However, recent water contamination and flooding steered them to become a different community's "answered prayer."

On July 8-13, 2024, one hundred middle school through college-age students were redirected to Claremore, Oklahoma, to assist in relief efforts after tornadoes ravaged through the community in early June. BOUNCE provided a Coordinating Team that implemented the BOUNCE experience through timelines, materials, projects, and taking care of necessary details. Praise God, these students adapted, answered the call

to share God's love, restored hope, and reflected Christ to a hurting community.

Task 2: Pray

- Pray for BOUNCE and for churches to encourage and mobilize their students through one of the pre-planned mission opportunities.
- Preparation and necessary details are taken care of before the students arrive.
- Pray for those that participated in BOUNCE to share with their church family about their mission experiences.

Station 4

Task 1: Can I be a BOUNCE ambassador? Living it daily.

Represent Christ in everyday actions. Students will make folders and answer questions on the inside. Students will list ways they can represent Christ in their daily life. Students can choose one other question to answer from the foldable. Personalize the outside of the foldable.

Story 4:

BOUNCE offers two types of mission opportunities: disaster recovery/community rehab and church planting.

In church planting, students serve with church plants for significant ministry that not only assists church plants and planters but also cultivates a love and appreciation for church planting in the lives of the participants. Students engaged in church planting

and church plants are strengthened and encouraged by partnering with students for ministry. Students receive training in sharing the Gospel, equipping them to share with confidence.

David Scott, Director of BOUNCE, says, “As we like to say, we want them to ‘BOUNCE’ back home and find opportunities to be missional their entire life. That’s why we worship. Through our worship experience, we’re trying to help them understand the

value of mission service to cultivate a love for missions and ministry in their life.”

Task 2: Pray

Students use words from the different stations about what they have learned about the BOUNCE ministry to complete the word search. Each group can work cooperatively to complete the word search. The students will retain more if they each complete their own word search by looking for and marking the words.

WRITER

Juanita Morales

Primera Iglesia Bautista Hidalgo, San Juan, Texas

About Mary Hill Davis



Mary Hill Davis

Mary Hill Davis, president of Texas WMU from 1906 to 1931, saw Texas as a rich harvest field with its mixture of Anglo, Black, European, and Mexican populations. In 1910 she led the Baptist women of Texas to set aside a week to pray for the needs in the state and to take up an offering as was done for foreign and home missions. Following her death in 1934, the Texas missions offering was named in her memory.

Resources for Task Activities

Station 1, Task 1

“Salt and Light”

Give students salt and unsalted food samples to taste to help them experience the difference. Examples: salted and unsalted crackers, salted and unsalted pretzels, salted and unsalted nuts. Salt preserves and enhances flavor- believers are called to preserve truth and bring Christ's hope to broken situations. Discuss how believers can influence the world like salt.

Station 1, Task 2

Provide sticky notes or paper, and a pencil.

Station 2, Task 1

Basketball Pong

Make a game board with 5 plastic drink cups. Decorate the cups to look like basketball net crisscross pattern. Stick cups on board, label with point value below cup. Use ping pong balls to shoot to make basket. Optional balls: wadded up paper, wadded up foil, or small balls can be used to shoot.

Add these questions for the QUESTION STACK:

- What does BOUNCE mean?
 - Who can go on a BOUNCE mission trip?
 - BOUNCE supports _____ where a disaster has occurred.
 - Read Matthew 5:13-16. How can you be SALT?
 - BOUNCE partners with _____ planters during the missions experience.
 - BOUNCE students become the _____ and _____ of Jesus while helping a community.
 - Why should students go on a BOUNCE mission trip?
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- What do students do on a BOUNCE mission trip?

ANSWERS:

- BOUNCE students work on long-term disaster recovery and community rehabilitation projects. Students (middle and high school and adults)
 - Communities
 - Believers are called to preserve truth and bring Christ's hope to broken situations.
 - church
 - hands and feet
 - To live out our faith
 - Roof repair, drywall repair, wheelchair ramp installation, siding, rebuilding porches, and painting.
-

Station 2, Task 2

Pray and read Matthew 5:13-16.

Station 3, Task 1

Materials:

- Coffee filters, one for each student
- A copy of filter shaped card for each student
- Colored markers or crayons

See the resource section. Write your ideas on the cards provided. Place your card in the coffee filter pocket. Label outside of the pocket with the word BOUNCE and decorate.

Station 3, Task 2

Pray for BOUNCE and for churches to encourage and mobilize their students through one of

the pre-planned mission opportunities. Pray for those that participated in BOUNCE to share with their church family about their mission experience.

Station 4, Task 1

Make copies of Missional Lifestyle foldable. Provide one for each student. Provide colors or markers, and scissors. Students cut and fold the corners to the inside, then answer the first question and choose one other question to answer under the flap. Students will personalize the outside of the foldable.

Station 4, Task 2

Provide a copy of the word search for each student. Complete the word search cooperatively. An answer key is included in the materials. Provide pencils or highlighters to complete the word search.

Resources for Task Activities

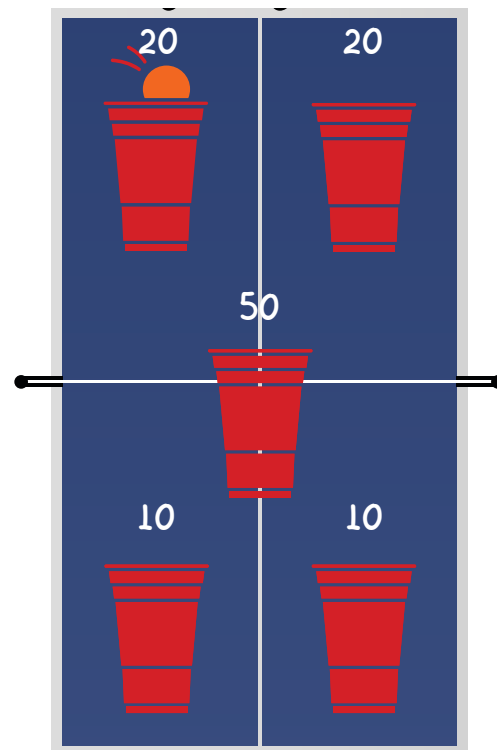


*BOUNCE Filter
Station 3, Task 1*

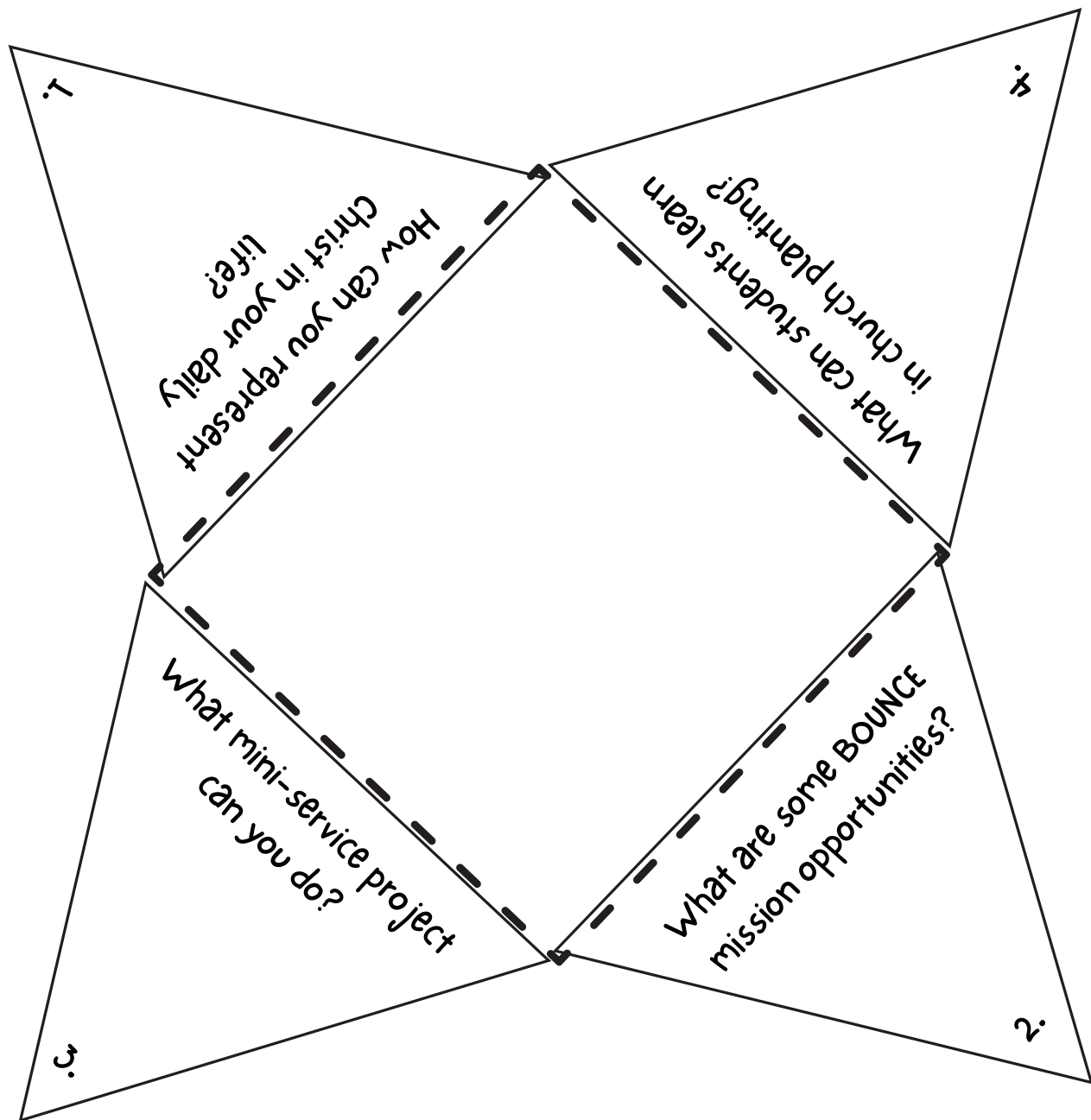


*BOUNCE Missional Lifestyle
Station 4, Task 1*

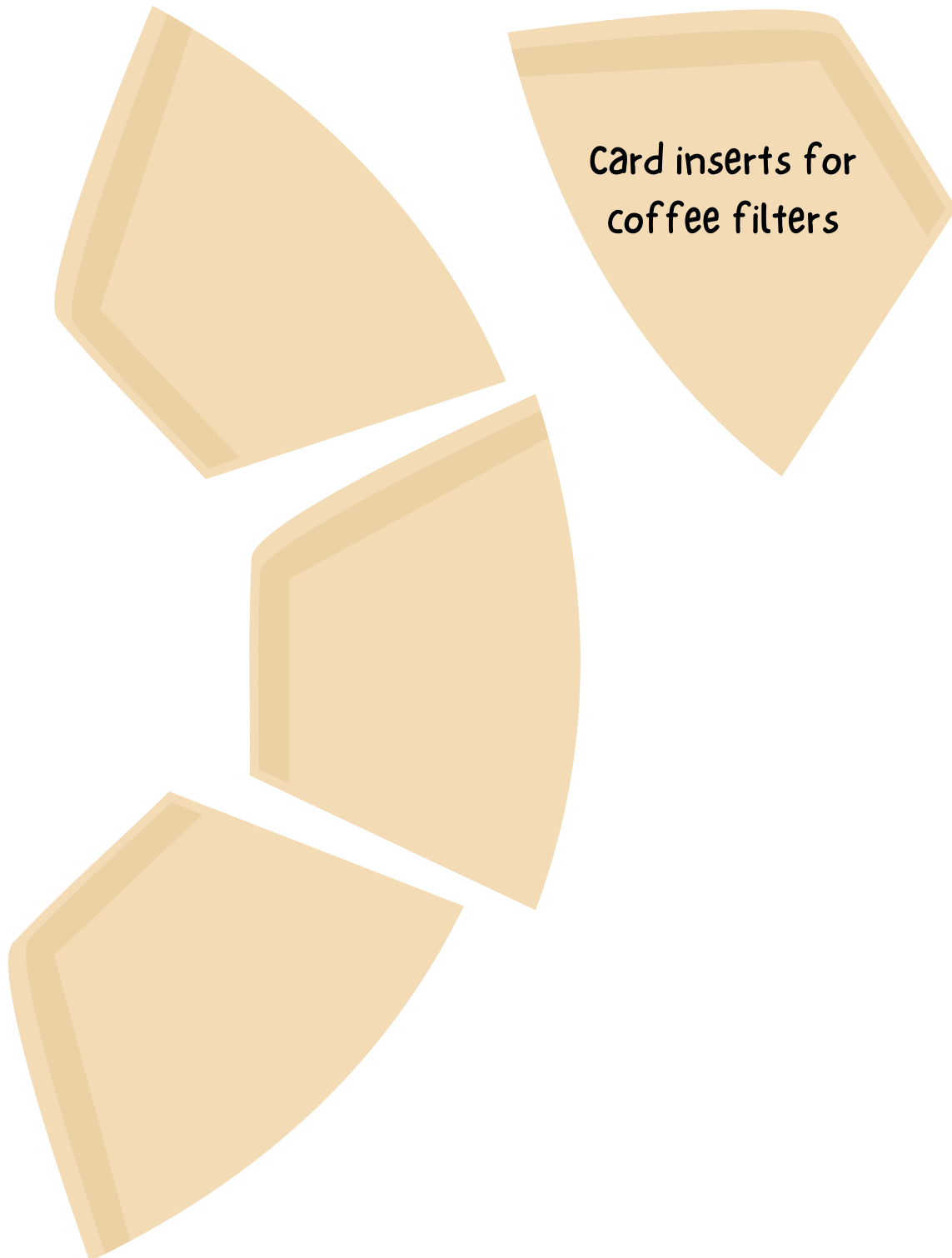
*Ping Pong Game
Station 2, Task 1*



Resources for Task Activities - Station 4, Task 1



Resources for Task Activities - Station 3, Task 1



I am Texas Missions Word Search - Station 4, Task 2

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Recovery
 Tornadoes
 Disaster
 Student
 Ministry
 Mobilize

Rehabilitation
 Service Projects
 Christ's Love
 Church Planting
 Share Gospel
 Opportunities

BOUNCE
 Missional
 Team
 Partnering
 Flooding
 Communities

I am Texas Missions Word Search - Station 4, Task 2



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