

WEEK 2: NIGERIA

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

Humans are social by nature. We need each other. Like the early disciples, we are called to come together and grow as a community—in our classrooms, church and families.

STORIES OF HOPE

Amina Bukar is a well-respected leader in Muna Moforo, Nigeria. She supports mothers in her village to lead healthy lives, teaching skills like how to prepare nutrient-rich porridge for their children.

Amina and her family used to live in their hometown of Marte. But in 2014, violence forced them to flee their village. After arriving in Muna Moforo, Amina and her family had to start life all over again. Amina joined a Catholic Relief Services program that provided food and cooking supplies, enabling her family to eat healthy meals as they worked to rebuild their lives and find employment.

Amina eventually started a food grinding business and sold specialty foods in the market, earning enough money to support her family's needs. Now, she helps other women start their own businesses.

Because of her caring nature, Amina was nominated to be a lead mother in her village. She is helping her community overcome the challenges of hunger so they can thrive!



FACTS TO CONSIDER

- Nigeria is home to interesting animals like leopards, elephants, gorillas, buffalo and antelope. The endangered white-throated monkeys are indigenous to Nigeria.
- There are many different types of landscapes in Nigeria, including mountains, plateaus, jungle, swamps and large areas of flat grasslands called savanna.
- Millions of people in Nigeria do not have enough nutritious food to lead healthy lives. CRS programs in Nigeria are helping families gain skills and resources to earn an income, put nutritious meals on the table and build better futures for themselves.



For downloadable photos, visit crsricebowl.org/photos and watch the video at crsricebowl.org/week-2.

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

45 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE

Through the story of Amina in Nigeria, students will explore the Catholic social teaching principle of Call to Family, Community and Participation. Students will reflect on what community means and why it is important to share our gifts and blessings with others.

MATERIALS

- Week 2 story and video, available at csrricebowl.org/week-2.
- A map of the world.
- Newsprint and markers.

DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Locate Nigeria on the map.
2. Read the story from week 2. Use the video to supplement the story.
3. Reflect:
 - What challenges did Amina and her family face when they moved to Muna Moforo?
 - How did Amina contribute to her new community?
 - What does the principle of Call to Family, Community and Participation mean to you?
 - How can we follow Amina’s example by sharing our gifts and talents in our own communities?

ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain the principle of Call to Family, Community and Participation: We are social by nature and God invites us to come together as a community, whether in our classroom, church or family. As members of the body of Christ, we are called to work together, share our gifts and look out for one another.
2. Divide students into small groups. Give each group a piece of newsprint paper and markers. Ask each group to draw a circle in the center of the paper and write “Community” inside the circle.

3. Around the outside of the circle, have students write or draw pictures of different ways they can help their community, inspired by Amina’s story (e.g., helping neighbors, sharing food, teaching skills).
4. Invite groups to share what they wrote or drew.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

Our Father,

You created us as sisters and brothers in the same family. Help us to build a better world so that all our family members can have happy and healthy lives.

We pray for Amina and her family—whom we met in the story today—and for all people worldwide who are forced to leave their homes for safety or better opportunities. We pray that they can gain resources and support to rebuild their lives.

We pray for people in our community and around the world who are experiencing hunger. May we help them by sharing our gifts and our blessings with others.

[Invite students to offer their own prayer intentions.]

Thank you for the example of Amina and her dedication to her community. Help us to recognize the needs around us and to use our gifts to serve others.

Amen

AT HOME

1. Share what you learned today with your family.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection found in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE



1. Read the week 2 story. Use the video to supplement the story
2. Lead Discussion step 3.