

READY, SET, GOspel

by

MRS. JOHN P. SIMPSON

J. C. CHOATE PUBLICATIONS

Burton Drive

Winona, Mississippi 38967

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peggy Simpson, a native Alabamian, taught pre-schoolers for twenty years, then was "promoted" to fourth grade, which she now teaches. She attends the Tuscumbia church of Christ along with her husband, John, and two teenage sons, Jeff and Chuck. She writes a bi-monthly children's paper called *Shining Hours* which is mailed to over one thousand children. She has taught in several Teacher Training Workshops. Any time which is not spent in church or home activities is spent at Mars Hill Bible School where her sons attend school. Here, she compiled and edited two cookbooks, *Country Kitchen*, and *Second Helpings*, which profited the school approximately six thousand dollars. She has served as an officer in the F. T. A. (Friends-Teachers Association) and the Endowment Association and founded the Associated Women's Organization for the school about five years ago, which has since raised more than twenty thousand dollars for the school. It was under her direction as President of this organization two years ago that restoration was begun (and is now nearing the first phase of completion) on the T. B. Larrimore Home. Her last endeavor, in addition to writing this series of lessons, was to spearhead a book for women called *What Are We Doing Here!?* "This is a book soon to be published, written by 14 women of the Muscle Shoals area, dealing with phases of women's lives about which too little has been written," says Mrs. Simpson. Her own chapter is all about hospitality called, *Abide With Us*.

INTRODUCTION

During the latter part of 1971 I happened to pick up the latest issue of *The Christian Bible Teacher* and I came across a lesson by Mrs. John P. Simpson entitled, "Let Us Learn About Zambia." It told the story of some of the work being done in that country, along with helpful information about the people, while stressing the importance of mission work there and elsewhere. The material was being directed to those of junior age and the author went on to say that similar lessons had been prepared on other countries for this same age group.

Being interested in putting into print missionary materials of all types that would help to inform, encourage, and inspire the church to do more toward carrying out the great commission, then I wrote Sis. Simpson about the possibility of publishing these lessons. She responded by saying that she would be more than happy if I would do this and that it would take only a short time for her to have the subject matter ready to send me. She kept her word and I am now happy to send it forth for use by churches everywhere.

These lessons were prepared on the basis of what one congregation was doing, and therefore they may appear to be personal from that standpoint. On the other hand, they should vividly remind those who use them of what it is possible for a local congregation to do. Therefore, this should be emphasized to the students and ought to become a challenge to every congregation of the Lord's people. Surely when brethren love the Lord and the souls of men, they can do much to spread the gospel.

Hardly any work has been done to prepare class books for students of various ages in the field of mission work. Now that this one has been written for those of the Junior Age Group, we pray this may be a means of encouraging

others to prepare lessons for those of other ages. Certainly, if we are to ever evangelize the world then we are going to have to take the message to the class room and there is no better place to begin than with our children.

I am thrilled beyond words to have part in making this class book available and may it be used to further the Lord's cause at home and abroad and to the glory of God. In the meantime we are already searching for other such materials to make available for the same purposes. If you can help us in this respect, or in the distribution of what we already have available, then let us hear from you.

For World Evangelism,
J. C. CHOATE.
January 24, 1972.

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FOREWORD

It is a wonderful feeling to know that Jesus told His church, "You must go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." (Matthew 28:19, Phillips). And here we are, 2000 years later, trying very hard to do this very thing—amid strife, rebellion, hate and indifference. God's people are remembering that the Word is still the Good News, needed by everybody everywhere.

The elders of the church at Tuscumbia believe very strongly that the main function of the church is to TEACH. They also believe that God's plan in giving us the "Great Commission" was *not* to send a few dollars to dozens of different places as "Mission Work" and expect to hear, "Well done." They believe that the church should send families who are prepared to go, to support them fully, and then oversee their work.

It is a fact that while a tree is still very young it can be "bent" to grow in any direction we wish it to grow. That same fact applies to children. Romans 10:14 says, "How can they learn without a preacher? And who will go tell them unless he is sent?" And our elders say, "How can we produce preachers unless they are taught while they are "twigs" which can be "bent"?"

Thus, these lessons were prepared for the Fourth Grade Class at Tuscumbia, Alabama. They were prepared with one goal in mind. That goal was that we might tell them exciting things from God's Word and facts about real people who are in real places in such a way as to imprint "GO TEACH" on their minds so strongly that later, when they are grown, they will be enthusiastic and unashamed of the work of a Christian.

There are other goals that we hope to attain in teaching mission work to Fourth Graders. But before these other goals are given, we should mention two facts. We feel it

very important that children learn the usual Bible facts which are taught at about this age (stories usually from the Old Testament on Moses, Joseph, Abraham, etc.), but the work of the local church is important too. Often, even the adult members cannot name all their elders, deacons, where mission work is being done and by whom, or talk intelligently about other phases of the local work. In order to teach these mission lessons, we did *not* neglect our regular "graded" Bible material which had been selected by the Bible Study Committee to be used throughout the teaching program. Rather, we doubled up on *our* program in our own class room, taught two lessons per Sunday and finished the material in half the time. Then we used the remaining six months for our mission study program —

Other goals we hope to attain:

1. Help to develop in children an interest in what the local church is doing.
2. Develop an awareness of what the Great Commission means.
3. To help the children awaken to the world around them, not just their own private surroundings.
4. Teach them the importance of prayer.

Song to be used as our theme song throughout study: number 438 in *Great Songs of the Church*, — "*Lord, Speak to Me*," verse No. 3.

"O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things
Thou dost impart: and wing my words that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart."

Elders serving Tuscumbia Church of Christ are: R. N. McMackin; S. E. Kimbrough; W. B. McGuire; O. C. Powell; C. C. Morris and J. U. Walker.

Education Director: Jim Stanley. Junior Departmental Supervisor: Mrs. R. N. McMackin.

Fourth Grade Teachers: Pat Malone and Peggy Simpson.

TEACH ME TO PRAY

We are not born knowing how to pray or for whom to pray. We must be taught. We have a perfect example and teacher — Christ. When He was on earth and had chosen His disciples He spent as much time as was possible with them teaching them all the things He wanted them to do. Once, when they had spent a busy day telling others that the church was about to be established, Jesus went a little way from the disciples to be alone so that He could pray. His disciples saw and heard Him, and when He paused one of them said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray . . ." So you see, they were grown men and the Lord's chosen helpers and they had not learned how to pray.

We want to learn how to pray. Some of you may say that you already know how and that is fine. But let's see if we do.

There are really only two or three things that we must do in order for God to hear us. We do not have to say big words or make a frilly speech to God. In fact, He would prefer that we not do that! (Matthew 6:5). God likes for us to use good manners! We must always remember to say "Thank You" to God, and whatever we ask of Him to say, "If it be Thy will," and then always pray through Jesus by saying "In Jesus' name." (Explain and discuss). (Learn and use the Lord's model prayer.)

One time there was a little boy who had to work day after day keeping his father's sheep. This is very common in lands other than America. He had heard a little about God and worship and prayer. He wished very much that he could go to worship and learn how to pray. One Sunday morning as he kept the sheep he heard church bells ringing. Oh how he wished he could be there! He decided he wanted to pray so much that he would just try to learn how

on his own. But what was he to say? He had never learned any prayers. He just knelt down and started the alphabet — A, B, C, D, and on to Z. A man passing by heard him and stopped. There kneeling down behind a bush was the little boy saying, “A, B, C, D, etc.”

“What are you doing?” the man asked. The little boy looked up and said, “Please sir, I was praying.”

“But why were you saying the alphabet?”

“Why, I don’t know how to pray and I only felt that I wanted to talk to God about taking care of me and my sheep and about how I wish I could be at worship right now. So I thought if I said all I know, He could put it all together and spell what I want.”

In this class, we are accustomed to praying before we start our lesson. Sometimes one of you boys leads us in prayer and at other times we have sentence prayers so that everyone may say what is on his heart. With the beginning of this Mission Study we are going to spend the next two Sundays learning more of what God expects us to do about spreading His Word. We are also going to learn who *we* have sent, where they are and something about them and the country in which they work. We will learn the names of all the families supported by this congregation, and in our prayers name them to God and ask Him to grant their special needs and to be with them always.

In writing these lessons we teachers had so much to learn. We started by studying about each family. We did this by reading their letters which are published in our church bulletin each week. We asked questions of the elders and learned important things about those countries where our missionaries are working. Since our elders have visited the places where these families are there was much they could tell us.

In reading the letters from our missionary families (in the church office is a file where all the letters are kept, so

we were able to read them all) each one was different because they came from different people and from different parts of the world. However, there was *one* thing they all had in common. At the close of every letter, the writer always had the same closing remark, "Please pray for us."

Here are our families and where they are located. We will say them all together. Take the list home with you and then at prayer time ask God to be with them and to bless them and give them strength. The wife of one of our families told me, "Please do not pray for an easy life for us but for strength to do all the things that need to be done."

Frank and Sue Buck	ITALY
James and Corrie Holland	COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA
Don and Bertie Simmons.....	ZAMBIA, AFRICA
Arlie and Alma Smith	BRAZIL
Ron and Joan Beckett.....	BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
Bob and Sharon Parker	INDIA
Dan Steinhauer	SWITZERLAND
Isaias Meza	MEXICO
Jesus Garcia	MEXICO
Glynn and Ann Langston	FRANCE
Jacques Marchal	WORLD RADIO FRANCE
Doug Foster	SPAIN
Nelly Andrejeyski and family	LILLE, FRANCE
Fred Dillon	CHRISTIAN CENTER, FSU, FLORENCE, ALA.
Mack Thompson	NEGRO CONGREGATION, TUSCUMBIA, ALA.
Bob Plunket	TUSCUMBIA CHURCH, TUSCUMBIA, ALA.

With these names in mind, let's get our Bibles and turn to Romans 10:14 and read, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things?" (Isaiah 52:7).

It is our hope and prayer, as we study these lessons, that you will find them interesting and the places so exciting you just can't wait to grow up so you can GO! It is also hoped that the families listed here will become a part of

your lives so that you will remember to pray for them, not only here in class, but at home. I knew of one little boy about your age who learned the names of all our evangelists and at every opportunity, would name them to God. I believe this would please our families very much to know that you boys and girls in this class know them and remember them in your prayers but most of all, I believe it will please God! Don't you?

THE GREAT COMMISSION

LUKE 24:46-47:

“Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations beginning at Jerusalem.”

MARK 16:15-16:

“And he said unto them, Go ye into *all the world*, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”

MATTHEW 28:18-20:

“All power is given to me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach *all nations*, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

All of you have heard and read these words of Christ many times. Maybe some of you can even say them by heart. But often things that are very familiar to us are things we don't actually think about. They may be just words tucked away in our heads that we never really think about. We have lots of words and thoughts and pictures in our minds like that. For many weeks to come we are really going to concentrate on the above words, and they

will come to have a great deal of meaning to us all, and we hope to our families, too. Let's read them once more and begin to find out what they mean.

What is a mission? One definition is "a definite task or errand." Do you ever have a mission to perform? What is a missionary? About what kind of missionaries will we be studying? What is their mission or task? Are we supposed to be missionaries? How can we be missionaries if we can't go across the ocean? Can you think of another name for a missionary? How about "Gospel preacher in a foreign country?" or "evangelist in the mission field?" Some people don't like the term missionary because they say missionaries are really just plain preachers and teachers working in areas where there aren't many Christians. Which term do you like best? In our written lessons we will refer to those about whom we study as missionaries. But remember, that word alone doesn't make them different from any other Gospel preacher or teacher you know.

The last words of Christ which we have been reading must be very important for Jesus to have spoken them to the apostles just before He left this earth. They were important almost 2,000 years ago and they are just as important this very day. They are important not only to the apostles but to you and to me and to the elders and everyone who reads or hears them. Why do you think this command from Christ is called "The Great Commission?"

So far, we all understand what the command means. It means that followers of Christ have a responsibility to teach the *whole world* about Jesus and His plan of salvation. Now we want to look at how one congregation, the Tuscumbia Church of Christ, is following that command.

Before we get into a study of the many countries where this church supports preachers and teachers, let's learn who and where they all are. You had a list in last week's lesson but let's go over them again and look at the map

to see where they are working. We want to become so familiar with their names, their work and their mission field, that we will feel like we know them personally.

You will be given a list at the end of the class to study for next week. Learn what is on this sheet before Sunday. Learn to spell both the missionary's name and the country where he works. We will have a surprise for you!

Prepared by Mrs. Pat Malone for Grade 4, Sunday morning Bible Class, Tuscumbia Church of Christ, March, 1971.

LET'S SEE HOW MUCH WE'VE LEARNED FROM THE INTRODUCTORY LESSONS

TRUE — FALSE

1. By attending worship services regularly, we automatically learn to pray.
2. The apostle John taught the other disciples how to pray.
3. Jesus loved to go off to himself to pray.
4. God likes for us to use good manners when we pray.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do we need to pray that God's will be done in all the things we ask?
2. Can you think of *anything* that does not come from God — either directly or indirectly?
3. Before we begin our story lessons about the different families and different countries, which country do you think about in your own mind as being the one where you would like to go some day? Why?

STUDY AND LOOK-UP QUESTIONS

1. Where, according to Luke 24:46-47, are we to preach the gospel?
2. Say, from memory, Mark 16:15-16.
3. *Who* is to Go?
4. Did you know that our neighbor, play mates, relatives and parents are part of "The World" that we are to go to?
5. Knowing this, are not we all missionaries?
6. What is a Mission?
7. What were Christ's last words to His apostles and to us before he went back to live with God?
8. What does the word "commission" mean?
9. How can a person do "mission work" without being a preacher?
10. Think of three (3) positions (jobs) a person might hold and still be very needed in the mission field. (One might be a doctor).

LET'S GO TO ITALY

If a prize were offered for the best word in the English language, which word would you choose? Let's think of a few and try to decide if they would win. There are the words love, life, hope, courage, mother, father, home, joy, sunshine, and truth. There are the words children and prayer, and the name above all names, the name of Jesus.

But I was thinking of a small simple word. If I were sending in a word for a prize right now, I would probably choose the word "GO." What a good word that is! Preceding just about everything we are asked to do, is the word, GO. In the Bible, we read many times the word GO. "Let my people go;" "I shall go with thee;" "Go, search the land;" "Let us go into the house of God;" "Go not in the way of evil;" "Go, teach;" "Go search;" "Go and prepare" and then in Mark 16:15 is the scripture which I hope is very familiar to you now, "Go ye into all the world and teach the Gospel to every creature."

Isn't that a great word! And it is such a little word! Every time we do anything at all, we first have to GO. This little word is the one word which we hear every time we hear people talking about the work in the mission field. When we read the letters from our families in other countries we see this word GO. When some of the men have to come back to this country to try to get more support for the work in mission fields, the word we hear most often is, GO!

When we started to write this story about Italy, we first read all the letters we could find that Frank Buck had written to the church in Tuscumbia from Rome. Do you know that, in every letter, one thing that was repeated over and over was, "We wish more families or individuals would be willing to Go into mission work. We need help."

But always, before we go to a place or do anything, we

should first learn something about that place and about its people. If we become familiar with the traditions, customs, and surroundings of a place, and at the same time learn all we can about teaching God's Word, then we are ready to *Go!*

All of you, now that you've passed the third grade in school, can recognize the country of Italy on a map. It has the shape of a boot, and the city of Rome is located right about where your shin would be. Italy is separated from the rest of Europe by the Alps, which form its northern frontier. The Italian peninsula juts out into the Mediterranean like a leg wearing a high heeled boot about to kick the island of Sicily as a football.

For many years, Rome was the capital of the world. History tells us that *all* roads led to Rome. It is now only the capital city of Italy. There are 2,700,000 people in Rome. The Roman Catholic Church claims the allegiance of 580,000,000 people or one-sixth of the world's population. This truly is the world's largest congregation of people. (The second largest are the Muslims who claim 500,000,000 or fourteen percent of the world's population.)

Vatican City, which is the center of government for the Roman Catholic Church, covers 109 acres. The Vatican is to Roman Catholicism what Mecca is to Islam.

We learned from Frank Buck's and Don Shackelford's visit recently that in Italy (and this is true of most of Europe) the people do not drink iced drinks. Why? Because they don't think it is good for them. This, of course, is a mis-conception but it has come to be a custom there so our people just have to get used to it. Also they told us that gasoline for automobiles costs 75c a gallon. This explains why so many of them who drive cars drive the small cars which are low on gas mileage.

Don Shackelford said, in thinking about the Vatican and the many cathedrals in Europe and here in America, "We can *never* out-build the Catholics so we must spend all our money out-teaching them. We *must* spread the Gospel."

Italy is famous for its craftsmen. Florence is the world's art center. The craftsmen in Florence specialize in jewelry and leather work. Venice is known for its fine glass and lace. In Rome, skilled workers make many religious art objects (you will remember this is the heart of Catholicism) and carve beautiful cameos. All over Italy one can see beautiful carvings in ivory and alabaster, and sculptures in marble. Italians have a reputation of good workmanship.

The Italians have always loved a great spectacle or to be entertained in a grand way. This has been true as far back as the history of Italy goes. The grandest spectacle of all took place during the First Century when they would have the chariot races and the entertainment at the amphitheater (outdoor theater). Gladiators fought each other or with wild beasts. Condemned criminals and Christians were sometimes thrown to wild beasts. The Romans often attended the theater, where they would watch Greek plays, but most of all they loved the spectacle. The Apostle Paul visited Rome and was put in prison there. He was not afraid but would always stand up and speak out for the truth of Jesus. This led to his imprisonment.

You might say that we have modern day "Pauls" there now — men and women who are not afraid. This does not mean that they deliberately disobey the Italian law but when they are forced to choose between the law of Italy and God's law, they are not afraid to speak up and say, "It is written in the Scripture . . ." This has led a few of our present day evangelists to prison and even once to being made to leave the country.

Cline Paden, who was once an American evangelist in Rome, had already undergone much persecution. However, he stood firm for the truth and knew what the Italian constitution said about freedom of worship and being able to post a sign on the property of the place where the church met. Here is what happened in his case. He was told repeatedly to remove the name *Church of Christ* from over

the doorway of the building. He did not remove it because, according to their own law, the sign was legal. Finally a band of officers came one day and demanded that he remove the sign. He, very kindly, told them if they wanted it removed they would have to remove it themselves. As the saying goes, "That was the straw that broke the camel's back." His work visa was revoked and he was asked to leave Italy. He can never return. But, as was said earlier, this *one* incident did not cause him to have to leave. It was just the final thing that happened after long months and years of persecution. His work for the church could certainly be termed "pioneering". As a result of his efforts the church grew, the law weakened and the evangelists there now are treated well and the church is not persecuted.

How very courageous our people are to go to Italy to proclaim the Gospel, for it is here that teaching the Gospel might be the hardest. Can you think why?

We cannot think about how hard it is to preach and teach in certain countries and get discouraged, for we know that God has promised to be with His people wherever they are. We also know that we are commanded to *GO* and teach the Word to everyone, everywhere.

We must remember when we pray at home, here in our classroom, in worship or wherever we may be, to pray for our families in other lands. When two of our elders visited Rome this made the American families living there so very happy. It also impressed the Italians very much; to think that we love the missionaries so much that we not only send them money to live on but send older elders to assure them of our love and care.

QUESTIONS ON LET'S GO TO ITALY

FIND THE ANSWERS

1. What two-letter word is the most important in our lesson today?
2. Who is our missionary to Italy?
3. In what city did we first support him?
4. To what city has he moved now?
5. What shape does the country of Italy have?
6. What is the leading mountain range across the top of Italy?
7. Name two rivers of Italy.
8. What is the main religion of Italy?
9. Where did most Roman entertainment take place in olden times?
10. Which apostle was imprisoned in Rome?

MATCH WITH THE CORRECT ENDING

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Frank and Sue Buck are our | 1. Catholicism |
| 2. Italy is shaped | 2. The Vatican |
| 3. The Vatican City | 3. Missionaries to Rome |
| 4. World's largest religious body | 4. Muslims |
| 5. The second largest religious body | 5. Are in Rome |
| 6. 109 acres | 6. Like a boot |
| 7. We can never outbuild the Catholics | 7. Quote by Don Shackleford |
| 8. Florence is the world's | 8. Fine glass and lace |
| 9. Venice is known for its | 9. Art Center |
| 10. Many religious art objects | 10. The heart of Catholicism |

QUESTIONS TO MAKE YOU THINK

1. What man recently visited Tuscumbia (visited within this year) and had to go to prison three times because he preached the truth in Poland?
2. Which foreign evangelist was converted here at Tuscumbia?
3. In which country did Tuscumbia church begin the Lord's church?
4. Which country loved a spectacle so much, they would throw Christians to wild beasts?
5. In which country would we find the very heart of Catholicism?

LET'S GO TO MEXICO

Of all the places in the world to visit, you will not find *one* more interesting than Mexico. Mexico has something of almost everything that is to be found anywhere else in the world. The land is two-thirds mountains while the other one-third is lowland of narrow valleys, broad basins, swampy coasts and wide limestone plains with underground rivers.

In the mountainous regions the people do not think of north, south, east and west. They think only of up and down. Parts of Mexico are so high that even the summers are cold. But in the lowlands, people swelter in the summer heat.

Let's think about the people. There is an empty Mexico as well as very crowded cities. You might travel for miles across dry lands of desert country and never see a person or a house. But there is the crowded Mexico, for most of the people live in the central highlands around Mexico City. Mexico City is the sixth largest city in the world. And if you think about its past, Mexico has about the most exciting history of any nation. The first Europeans to land in Mexico were Hernando Cortes and his band of men in 1519. They moved into Mexico City and joined the ruling Indians, the Aztecs, who had been in power 200 years even before Cortes arrived. The Aztec capital was no mere Indian village. It was a real city, even then. There were fine palaces for the rulers and beautiful temples and stone pyramids.

It is not this central city that we are most interested in, however. We are most interested in a city called Torreon in the northern part of Mexico.

Let's go on an imaginary trip to Torreon right now. Imagine, if you will, that when our Elders visit our mis-

sionaries there, they invite us to go along with them. Oh, how exciting! What will we wear? What will we see first? What will we eat? And most important of all, who will we see and meet there?

Oh, we Americans are always hungry. I suppose we would want something to eat the very first thing when we arrive in Torreon. Why, just look at that food! And listen to the talk! Everyone speaks Spanish. Perhaps, during our study of Mexico, we will learn a few words of Spanish and maybe even learn a tune in Spanish. What fun that will be. Oh, well, let's go ahead and eat. We will have tortillas and frijoles. That is corn pancakes with beans. These two food combinations tell the story of Mexican food. Corn is Mexico's most important crop. Indian farmers grew corn long before the Spaniards arrived and it is still grown on more than two-thirds of Mexico's crop land. Beans are important too. They are Mexico's second most important crop. They are valuable because they are rich in protein. We Americans get most of our protein from meat while Mexicans get theirs from beans because they are much too poor to afford meat. So beans just naturally take the place of meat in Mexican meals.

We've eaten now, so let's go shopping for something to wear so we will be dressed like the Mexicans. First we will buy a sombrero and next a serape. Who knows what we will be wearing? You're right! A large brimmed hat and a blanket or shawl. The large brimmed hat or sombrero protects us from the sun and rain and also serves as an extra pocket. Mexicans use the curled-up brims of their sombreros to carry things.

And who will we meet in Torreon? First, we will meet Jesus Garcia (pronounced Hay Soos). He is about 30 years old. He goes out in nearby towns and villages on weekends to teach the people the Bible, telling them about Jesus and what they must do to be saved. Before he started teaching in the school, he merely existed because he had no support. He still preached just the same but had a

very hard time because he had no income. He later went to the Bible School from which he graduated, and asked for a job. He said he would be willing to do anything and everything there was for him to do for enough pay just to get by. He was hired and given a salary of \$40.00 a month. This does not sound like much at all to us, does it? They can make a living in Mexico on far less than we can because their standards of living are much lower than ours. We now send Jesus Garcia \$175.00 a month, which gives him a very adequate living.

Next we will meet Isaias Meza (pronounced E sigh as), who is about 25 years old. He, too, graduated from the Bible College as valedictorian of his class. He spends his full time doing the Lord's work and receives his support from the church in Tuscumbia. Since we have taken the support of these two boys, they have both married fine Christian girls and are able to do even more work for the Lord because they have the assistance of their wives.

There are two or three other very interesting facts about Torreon, Mexico. This city has the oldest school for preachers of any place in the world. Mexico has more native preachers and more church buildings than any other place in the world (United States not included) and this is all due to the Bible school being located there. We have learned that wherever there is a Bible school the Lord's church grows more and more.

Here are few rules to help you in your thinking about becoming a missionary when you grow up. Start right now, being quicker at home to obey Mother and Daddy. Whatever you learn, learn it well. Learn to do the very best job of anything you try to do and try always to be thoughtful of others. You might be the very person who will be qualified to "Go Tcach" when you grow up. You might even go to Mexico. Wouldn't that be great!

QUESTIONS ON LET'S GO TO MEXICO

FILL IN BLANKS

1. The first European to land in Mexico was
2. left Tuscumbia to spend a summer in Mexico.
3. is the language of Mexico.
4. and are the most important foods.
5. The large Mexican hat is called a.....
6. The Bible School is located in.....
7. from Mexico preached for us in our World Missions meeting.
8. We send support to and in Mexico.
9. A serape is a.....

CHOOSE RIGHT WORD OR WORDS:

1. The people in Mexico are very (rich — poor).
2. We send support to (one boy — two boys) in Mexico.
3. The most important crop in Mexico is (corn — beans).
4. The sombrero is a (hat — purse).
5. The Mexicans have a (higher — lower) standard of living than ours.
6. One of our elders visited Mexico to encourage the workers there. He was (Brother Morris — Brother Kimbrough).
7. Mexicans speak (Spanish — French).
8. The two that we support are (young men — elderly men).
9. Before Jesus Garcia started preaching he had a (very high income — no income).
10. To teach God's Word we must be (enthusiastic — lazy).

- 1. What is Mexico's largest city?
- 2. What Spanish leader was the first white man to come to Mexico?
- 3. What city are we at Tuscumbia interested in?
- 4. In what part of Mexico is it?
- 5. What language do the people speak there?
- 6. What is Mexico's most important crop?
- 7. What is the second most important crop?
- 8. What is the large hat called worn by Mexicans?
- 9. What is a serape?
- 10. Who are our 2 missionaries to Mexico?
- 11. Where did they learn to teach about Christ?
- 12. What is the main resort city of Mexico?
- 13. What direction is Mexico from the U. S.?

LET'S GO TO COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA

Can you imagine what it would be like to be in a place where a river comes off the hills and plateaus, dropping to a depth of 741 feet and surrounded by mountains with such high peaks that they stay covered with a snow the year round? The slopes of the mountains are covered with dense forest. Beautiful emeralds are dug from the ground. The climate is pleasant all the time even though it is considered tropical because of the snow-capped mountains bringing cool air into the valleys.

This is Medellin, Colombia, South America. This is where James and Corrie Holland (and their children) live and work, spreading the "Good News" of the Gospel of Christ.

Just this past September, Brother Holland received a letter from a man in Yali, a community about six hours from Medellin. This man, Guillermo Tomayo, said in his letter that he wanted to meet a member of the New Testament church. Brother Holland made the trip over rough, high roads with hair-pin curves. When he arrived he found that Guillermo Tomayo had been studying from a correspondence course from Guatamala. Brother Holland began to study with him and at one point noticed him standing apart reading one scripture over and over, thoughtfully. Brother Holland said, "Do you have a verse there that you would like to have explained?" He said, "No, I was just reading John 14:15!" (Let's turn and see what he was reading.) He then quoted the verse. Brother Holland asked, "Do you want to be baptized?" He said, "Yes, right now!" He was taken to a beautiful Colombian stream two miles down a steep mountain trail from his home. Brother Holland said he saw in that man "more clearly that the obedience in baptism of Christ is not only an act of faith but it is also a true act of love." (Gal. 5:6).

This story is typical of the eagerness with which the people in South America receive the Gospel.

About two-thirds of the people in Colombia are Mestizes — (a person of mixed parentage, especially American, Indian and Spanish) and one-fifth of them are white. The rest are Negroes and a few are pure Indians. In the Guianas, less than three people in 100 are white. Medellin, the city where the Hollands live, is in a high mountain valley and is the chief market and manufacturing city of Colombia.

Colombia was named for Christopher Columbus. It is half as big as Venezuela but has more than twice as many people. The capital of Colombia is Bogota and is also located in the high mountain area of the Andes. Even though the city is very difficult to reach, it is the center for writers, artists and students. Two-thirds of the people are farmers. The main crop is coffee. Colombia also has large steel mills and emerald mines. Some gold and platinum are mined there also.

One custom which is common in Colombia but one which we would find interesting is the use of the antioquian bags. These bags look very similar to the purses which women in America carry. But the antioquian bags are actually shoulder bags for men and all the men carry them.

We are so accustomed to seeing farm land on a level ground — acres and acres of flat land with perhaps a small hill every now and then. This is not so in South America. All of the farm land is on hills and mountains. Crops are planted according to heights. Coffee is grown on the lower slopes. (The hillside plow was invented by the grandfather of Valera McGuire of this congregation.) Until 1955 there were *no* roads into these farms, so we can just imagine how rugged they were to get to and then get the harvested crops to market. On lowlands, large amounts of cattle are raised.

Bananas are grown on the northern coastal plains of

Colombia. Transportation has always been a problem because of the many high mountains. The communication was almost non-existent because the people were isolated in the valley areas, surrounded by mountains. Road building was so expensive that most goods (crops) had to be carried on mule back until just a few years ago. An all-weather road was built from the coast of Caracas to a mountain just six miles away. In order to cover the six miles the road had to wind upward for 23 miles over a mountain pass 3400 feet high. Now good roads go through mountains, and not over them, by means of bridges and tunnels. Because of the very long delay in getting good roads, Colombia is very advanced in air travel. It was the first country in the western hemisphere to have a commercial airline. The work of the church is advancing with as much enthusiasm as the progress of its people and the country.

Brother Holland tells us that the work is progressing well and many baptisms take place as the result of correspondence courses and the intensive study of the Word of God. Just recently an elderly lady who was very ill summoned Brother Holland to come to her home. She and several others had studied hard and knew what they needed to do to be saved. Brother Holland gladly made the trip over seven miles of rugged mountain country to baptize these people. The others were taken to a beautiful stream and were baptized, but this very old and very sick lady was not able to make the trip. Her family prepared a 55 gallon barrel of warm water and Brother Holland baptized her in this barrel of water. He said this was his first experience of this sort but it made him very humble to think how badly this woman wanted to obey the Gospel. She died two weeks later.

During a visit to Tuscumbia in the spring of 1971 Brother Holland told us about the many starving children in Medellin. *Every morning* there are from four to five dozen children at his back door holding their hands out for food. Some of these children are no older than three or four

years old. The Hollands were told by Government officials to "let them starve because there was no hope for them to survive!"

The Hollands say they *just cannot do this*. They usually have a big pot of beans or rice cooked to give to the starving children. Several Bible School classes at Tuscumbia now have a bean pot in the classroom that they fill with money. When they accumulate several dollars they send it to Brother Holland to buy beans or rice to feed the children.

Let's read Matt. 10:42 and Mark 9:41 and see if God would want Brother Holland to do what the government told him not to do. Read also Matt. 18:5 and Matt. 25:35.

Brother Holland did not purposefully defy the government. He just told the officials what the Bible teaches and they told him he could do as he chose but to remember he was the only one feeding them and that it was hopeless.

If we could stand from afar and look at the beautiful countryside of South America, seeing the long winding rivers, the very high mountains, the many coffee crops and banana trees, and gold, platinum and emerald mines — if we could see all this at a glimpse, somehow, what do you suppose you would think in your mind? I believe I would look and then say, "My God, How Great Thou Art!"

QUESTIONS FOR LET'S GO TO COLOMBIA, S. A.

1. Draw a map of South America and show where Colombia is located.
2. Show on the map where Medellin is located.
3. What is the name of the family we support there?
4. Describe the countryside in your own words.
5. For whom was Colombia named?
6. Name 3 of Colombia's resources.
7. Words to look up and give meaning:

1. Antioquian bag
2. Baptize
3. Correspondence
4. Transportation
5. Communication
6. Mission

SCRIPTURE TO LOOK UP AND WRITE DOWN

1. Mark 16:15-16
2. John 14:15
3. Galatians 5:6
4. John 3:16

Scripture to know from memory

Mark 16:15-16

LET'S GO TO INDIA

It is fun to wonder about things. This is one way we learn. If we had no imagination and never wondered in our minds — how, why, what and who — we would be a very dull people and a very ignorant people. Many times we may wonder why God chose to let us be Americans instead of Africans or Italians or Indians, etc. Maybe He had a special work for us to do. God made each one of us different from anyone else in the world and gave each of us our own special talent. This is why we cannot expect someone else to do our work for us. We have to do it ourselves or it won't get done, and we can do *all things* through Christ (Phil. 4:14). God is counting on *you* to do all that you are capable of doing to the very best of your ability.

I am reminded of a true story that took place many, many years ago. This happened so long ago that no one living today can remember. We only read about it in story books.

It seems that a rich nobleman felt sorry for the many poor people around him. He wondered if there wasn't something that he could do for them. Something that they would appreciate and that would help them yet something that would make them remember him. Everyone likes to be remembered. He was lonely and wished that people would love him and remember him after he died. He was rich and the little village with so many people had no church. So he decided to build a beautiful temple far upon the hill. It was to be so beautiful that as soon as people entered they would begin to worship. That is the feeling we should have when we assemble as the Lord's church. We should love it so much we should wish to be there for every service and to enter to worship.

The building was started and he watched the laying of every stone. There were beautiful wood carvings, lovely stained glass windows and marble and gold everywhere. The building was soon finished and the first villager to enter and look was so shocked! He said to the rich builder, "Why, Sir, where are the lamps? There are no lamps! The church in the evening will be dark like the night without. How strange we never thought about the lamps."

"There will be no lamps in this temple," said the old man. "Each one who comes to worship will bring his own lamp. I will bring mine and you will bring yours and everyone in the village will bring a lamp. I have provided little bronze lamps for everyone, even for children, and everyone will bring his own oil." The villager said, "But what if someone doesn't come? What if someone doesn't bring his oil?" The old man said, "Then some corner of God's house will be dark and lonely if everyone does not come to worship Him."

The thing we want you to remember about this story is this: You must always do what you can when you can. No one else will do your job for you. God expects us all to do all that we can. *He does not like lazy people!*

This brings us to our story about India. The word *lazy* should never enter our minds when we think of our evangelists, their families and the work they are doing. This is especially true of the work in India. India is one of the largest countries of the world. Only China has more people. Men and boys wear clothing called *dhoti*. This is a simple white garment draped around the body and legs to form a sort of loose trouser. Women and girls usually wear the *sari*. It is a straight piece of cloth wrapped around the body to form a long dress, with the loose end thrown over the head.

Preaching the Gospel is just one of many things our evangelists do in India. While the husband is preaching and teaching, the wife is giving medical aid, giving hair cuts, sewing, serving food and even bathing some of the

young children. Spreading the Gospel is not always begun by preaching. This is especially true of India. It would have done little good to rush in and start telling those people what to do in order to be saved. They know very little if anything about the true God. They worship idols. What good would it have done to start telling them steps to take toward salvation? They had to be taught first a better way to live physically.

Here is a good place to tell you what a great work there is in the mission field for girls. We hear so much encouragement for boys to become teachers, preachers, deacons, elders and directors in the church. But we hear so little about what girls can do to help. Of course we do hear many good things said about growing up to be good wives and mothers, and this is *very* important. We do not wish to discredit the boys and men for theirs is the *most important work*. We know that. We just want to remind you that there are ever so many jobs that can be done by girls. Girls make the best nurses, seamstresses, and cooks. They also make wonderful teachers, beauticians and bathers of small children. Wives and mothers in the mission field are as important to the Lord's work as the men are. So said one of the evangelists from Africa.

While Brother Bob Parker is busy doing the teaching and preaching in the village and Mt. Zion Bible School, Sharon is busy with all the things we mentioned earlier. So you see, when our elders start looking for the right family to send into a foreign country or new place to work, the evangelist's wife has to be just as dedicated as her husband.

India has a variety of people who differ in appearance, religion and language. Religion divides the people even more than the many different languages. The main religion is Hinduism. Hindus believe in many gods. They believe that at death a person's soul passes into the body of another person or an animal. Hindus therefore avoid killing any living thing. Cows are particularly sacred. As a

result, Hindus eat no meat. Not all cows are sacred. They choose which cows are to be held sacred and worship them. They feed them well and let them roam about in the streets wherever they want to go. Even though just a certain amount of cows are held sacred, they will never kill the ones that are left. However, they don't feed them either. Those un-sacred cows in India are so sparsely fed that they look like skeletons and usually die of starvation.

This idol worship has kept the country of India from thriving and the people from rising to higher standards of living. Wherever Christ is, the people live better. The few rich people in India are the only ones who live well. There are over 550,000,000 people in India and most of them are very poor. The farmers there have never learned the best methods of farming. The main reason being they don't own any land. The poor people work for the rich people. They do not know that they should change the crops on the land from time to time. They do not know the land needs to be fertilized and even if they did, they would not have the money to buy it. However, the cow manure which could be used for fertilizer and which could be free is dried and used for fuel for cooking. Firewood is scarce. (Explain about the caste system).

After many centuries, times are beginning to change. For a long time America sent these people our surplus food and money (which the poor never got). Now we are sending them doctors, nurses, sanitary engineers, teachers and other experts to help them. But best of all, we are sending them *CHRIST!* In just a few short years (from 1963 when the very first evangelist went there until now) there are 100,000 Christians or more. They, like the Africans, are truly thankful and humble and accept the Word of God.

The people in India do not take readily to strangers and the word "missionary" is a despised word. Therefore the best way to teach them is to train some of their own people to become teachers and preachers, which is exactly what

we are doing. On the small amount of land the Bible school owns, the students are being taught (along with their regular studies and the Bible) how to raise better tea, lush fruits such as bananas, coconuts, and citrus fruits. They still do not have much meat and it cannot be found in many places. Most of the meat they eat is goat, which is very good, especially if that is all they can get.

As we have said in nearly all our lessons, it takes strong Christians to decide to become evangelists in a foreign field or even at home. But it takes an even deeper faith and courage for people to want to go to countries like India and Africa. Do you agree? Can you see why we say this? Even though living standards are being raised, the majority of the people in these countries still live like they did hundreds of years ago. Doesn't this make you love the *Parkers* and the *Johnsons* even more!

QUESTIONS FOR LET'S GO TO INDIA

LOOK IT UP WRITE IT DOWN

1. Philippians 4:13
2. Mark 16:15-16
3. John 3:16
4. Exodus 20:3

WRITE THE ANSWERS

1. Name the family Tuscumbia supports in India.
2. Name the school in India where this family teaches.
3. Name the family who visited Tuscumbia from India — Carl and Emma.....
4. Draw a map of India and show where our missionaries are located.

STUDY WRITE THE ANSWERS

1. Why is it good to wonder about anything?
2. Is it true that if we do not do our share of work that someone else will do it for us? Explain.
3. Picture in your own mind, God's house of worship — each of us is a lamp — What happens if we decide not to come to worship?
4. Describe what type clothing men and women wear in India.
5. Name three types of jobs that girls can do in the mission field.
6. Whose work is the most important in the Lord's church?
7. What is the name of the school where the Parkers work?
8. What keeps the country of India from thriving and becoming like America?
9. What is their main religion?
10. Describe Hinduism.
11. About how many Christians are there in India now?
12. When was the very first evangelist sent there from the Lord's church?
13. How is our country (America) helping them?
14. What is the very best thing we are sending them?
15. Why would it be more difficult in places like India — for the missionaries?

LET'S GO TO CANADA

We live in what is known as the "Bible Belt." It is hard for us to imagine whole families who have never been inside a church building. The Ron Becketts have found this to be true in Canada and perhaps it is true of almost every other place in the world. Whole families who never in their lives have been inside a church building, or know what it is to worship God, what it means to pray, or what it means to sing hymns. Isn't that about the saddest situation you can think of? People live for years and years, yet never know that there is a better life for them, one that includes Jesus.

During a Vacation Bible School in Surrey, British Columbia, Canada, where the Becketts (Ron and Joan) work, some of the workers were distributing Bible material when they saw two little boys breaking old windows which had been taken out of the church building and laid against the side of the wall. After doing a little detective work they found that they lived next door to the building and that they were the ones who had broken inside the building during the week and vandalized it. The police talked to the parents and they agreed to keep the boys out of trouble. This, too, is sad. However, there is a bright side to the story. The little girl of the family started coming to the Vacation Bible School and later began coming to the worship services and is still coming. During the contacts and visits before the Vacation Bible School many students said they had *never* been to a Bible class and many parents said they had *never* been inside a church building.

This, perhaps, is a depressing way to begin a lesson that is about the Gospel or Good News. But it is for people like the little boy and his parents who have never been inside a church building that we have the Gospel. Jesus did not

come to earth to bring the Gospel only to people who already believed in Him. He came for those people who, like these families in Canada, have never heard a sermon or taken Jesus into their lives.

Many of our mission lessons are from countries where the Gospel has never been. This does not mean that they have not heard about religion at all. In just about every place on earth *someone* has been teaching the people religion. It is not the Gospel, though.

This was one of the many reasons why Ron and Joan Beckett wanted to carry the Gospel to the people in Surrey, British Columbia, Canada. They were born and grew up in Canada and had been taught error themselves. Once they were converted to the Gospel they could hardly wait to tell others.

Can you think of places where the people have never been taught religion at all? The people in Canada are far ahead of us in many respects. They are also steeped in religion but it is not the Gospel. Most of the people of Canada are Catholic and Episcopalian while the rest belong to other denominations. A few of them belong to the Lord's church. It is much harder to un-teach the people once they have been taught incorrectly than it is to teach them from the beginning.

Canada is larger than the United States. It is even larger than all Europe without the Soviet Union. Only two countries in all the world, the Soviet Union and China, have more territory than Canada.

The main industry of British Columbia is its fisheries. Just recently, fishermen along the coast of British Columbia caught and sold more than 70 million dollars worth of fish. The salmon is "king" among the fish in British Columbia. When the British Columbian salmon fleet comes into port, the fish are unloaded mechanically. Streams of fresh water wash them. Then the salmon are sent to the "dressing room." There a large machine cuts off their heads, tails, fins and scales. Next the salmon are thorough-

ly cleaned, sliced to proper size, put into cans, and cooked. And finally, off the end of the "assembly line" comes a freshly labeled can of salmon ready for the grocer's shelf, where it is bought and taken home.

In May, 1964, a new work was begun in Salmon Arm, British Columbia, by Joan and Ron Beckett. As we said earlier, they are native Canadians. After living in Salmon Arm for four years they contacted the elders at the Tuscumbia church about supporting them in this new congregation. They were asked by the elders to come to Tuscumbia to live for a while so they could get to know us better and we could get to know them. Ron led singing for us while they were here. Before he began preaching he sang and played professionally, even had his own radio program. He sang beautifully and did extremely well in directing singing in the worship. After a stay of about one and one-half years they returned to Canada, supported by the church at Tuscumbia. They went to Surrey, British Columbia, where 90,000 of the 1,000,000 people of the Vancouver mainland live. This work was started by Ron and Joan, with worship services being held both in a rented hall and in their home. When the work was started the Christians who met numbered 11 adults and 12 children. They have since grown to more than twice that number and have been able to purchase a building to meet in. Although they are a mission point themselves, they are doing mission work by sending \$35.00 a month to Carl and Emma Johnson in India. It is their conviction that every congregation, no matter how small, should do some mission work.

Brother Beckett manages to do a wonderful job of preaching the Gospel and also teaches several classes each week. He does a great amount of visiting, and helps and encourages other congregations in adjoining towns. Joan not only fills her role as wife and mother but also teaches several classes a week and has recently taken a very interesting job as a volunteer Immigration Interviewer. Welcoming immigrants and telling them some of the differ-

ences in the area of Consumer Affairs — that is, offering such services as meeting immigrants at ports, airlines, etc., helping them find emergency housing, having them in for a “Canadian” meal, visiting in hospitals and arranging special occasions of fellowship for them. She hopes to encourage the churches to become involved in this helpful way and eventually let the immigrants be the door to spreading the Gospel throughout the world. It sounds like the Beckett family might be just a little busy, doesn’t it? In one of their letters, they said that one time they felt the need to “get away” for a day or so. Guess what they did to “get away?” They went to a camp area near by to have fellowship with Christians of another congregation. Ron and Joan Beckett work long and hard hours. We must not ever think that doing the Lord’s work is always easy. God has not promised us it will be easy but He has promised to be with us. And there is a real genuine guarantee that goes with being a true Christian. That is, “GOD IS WITH US and WE SHALL NOT WANT!” And we will be happy! Isn’t it wonderful to be happy and know that we are God’s friend and children at the same time? *But we do have to work for it!*

There was something else in a letter from the Becketts to the church that we thought was so good. During another recent campaign 25 people were baptized into Christ and eight were restored. Every new convert was interviewed and asked if they fully understood why they were being baptized. Each was asked to write a letter to himself telling why he was baptized. Here is a typical letter:

Dear Gregg: The reason for my wanting to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit would follow the same logic as the answer to the question “Why does gravity work?” or “Why do birds fly?” In the first case, coming to Christ is the only true life, the only way. Anything defying gravity is ultimately still in gravity’s power. Toward Christ is the direction in which God wants us to gravitate. In the second case, becoming a Christian is as natural as a bird learning to fly; it is God’s plan. It is just the way things are. It is reality. Birds do not choose to crawl on their stomachs; they know the best way for them to travel is in the way designed for them.

A child coming to his warm house after playing outside in

the snow for hours, and removing a heavy, cumbersome snow suit, boots, mittens and hat; that is how I feel. To say that I am happier than I have ever been is to state the obvious. Everything is much clearer now, with the harmonic tone and clarity of finely cut crystal. My battle with Satan is won in that through Christ I have been assured victory over death and freedom from sin. The doors are closed behind me; the bridges are burnt; I cannot retrace my steps without drowning in a river of slime.

As for what I am going to do for Jesus from now on; I must do *everything* for Him. I will let Him lead me and try to live as He has commanded us to live. I will attempt to show my thanks and my debt to Him (an unpayable debt).

Signed GREGG.

It is a wonderful thing for us to know how this boy feels, and to share the feeling with him. This is the way it is when we live for Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR LET'S GO TO CANADA

LOOK UP WORDS AND GIVE MEANING

1. Bible Belt (you may have to ask someone what this means)
2. vandalized
3. adjoining
4. immigrants
5. conversion

WRITE THE ANSWERS

Something to think about — Do you think that maybe there are families near you who have *never* been to church?

1. Where are the Beckett's from, originally?
2. Where do they live now?
3. Someone who teaches error is called a
4. Read Matthew 7:15 and tell us if we are to listen to false teachers.
5. Read 2 Peter 2:1 and tell us if God told us that we can expect False Teachers to be among us?
6. Write down Matthew 28:19
7. Which is larger, the United States or Canada?
8. What is the main industry?
9. What was Ron Beckett's former work?
10. Why do you think he gave up this work?
11. The people at the congregation in Surrey believe that *all* congregations, no matter how large or small, should do some
12. The congregation at Surrey send money to the.....
in.....
13. In your own words, tell something about the job that Joan Beckett does.
14. Write one paragraph telling why you will soon want to be baptized.

LET'S GO TO PORTUGAL

The story of how the Lord's church got its start in Portugal is very interesting and thrilling. Would you like to know that story? Good! Here it is!

Brother Charlie Morris is one of the elders at the Tus-cumbia church. He and his wife, Frances, went to Portugal in 1968 on a business trip. The very first thing they did when they got there was to begin looking for the church. They looked and hunted and asked questions, but no one knew anything about the church of Christ. There was no church there.

Although there was no church there were many things to be happy about. The country of Portugal is so beautiful that even after the Morrises returned home they could not stop thinking about it. They talked about the great culture of the Portuguese, their love of the sea, the gentility of the people and the need to bring the message of Christ to this land. They were there in February, which is the most beautiful time of the year in Portugal. We will talk more about this later. They had unforgettable memories that would make them want to return to this beautiful lush emerald green country.

Several months after their trip, Brother Charlie was reading a copy of the World Radio News. He read an ad that made him call quickly, "Frances, come and read this with me!" The ad was placed by a Brother Roy Nichols requesting any Christian in the city of Lisbon to contact him and his wife, Wilma. They were stationed there in Lisbon, Portugal, with the U. S. Marine Embassy. In answer to the ad, a Sister Sue Maderias contacted the Nichols. She was originally from Bridgeport, Tennessee, and had graduated from David Lipscomb College. After graduation she married a Portuguese boy and had moved

to Lisbon. To the Nichols' knowledge, they and Sue were the only Christians in a city of over a million people.

After reading the ad Brother and Sister Morris wrote to the Nichols telling them that they would like very much to come back to Portugal with the possibility of establishing the church in Lisbon. They immediately invited the Morrises back and they went in December of that same year. After spending several days with the Nichols and Sue, worshipping together in the Nichols' home, they left for the States, promising to help find someone to work with them in getting the Lord's church started.

In the meantime, after reading the ad in the World Radio News, Brother Morris had talked with the other elders at Tuscumbia about the situation in Portugal. They prayed over it and asked God to help them locate the right family to GO.

The story does not end here. Great things were happening to prove that God was guiding all these actions. At about the same time the Morrises returned home after their second visit to Portugal, there appeared a letter in the *Gospel Advocate* written by Brother Arlie Smith. He said that he was trained in the Lord's work and in the Portuguese language and was ready to GO if someone would send him.

As soon as they saw the letter from Arlie Smith they contacted him. He and his wife came to Tuscumbia for a visit so they could get to know us and we could get to know them. It was not long until the elders were convinced that this was truly a dedicated team and the right people to go teach the Gospel in Portugal. The Smiths left the states at the end of 1969, moving to Portugal. Brother and Sister Nichols met them and helped them find a suitable place to live. For a while they worshipped at home, but it was not long until the word began to spread and others were coming to obey the Gospel. After the number began to increase, a suitable place was found to worship.

Isn't that an exciting story! Now we will learn what

happened after the Smiths got to Portugal and something about that country. We will start with their first letter to the church here.

“Dear Brethren, As we begin a new year (this was the beginning of 1970) we pray that God will continue to be with his people here in Lisbon, that we will grow in love for one another and that He will increase our ability and effectiveness in reaching the unsaved. The old year ends with 12 Christians in Lisbon, Portugal — six of these are Americans.” (The 12 Christians were the Smiths, the Nichols and Sue Maderias and one other American with the military. The other six were Portuguese — one family of Christians who had returned there from living in Spain and another family which had recently been converted).

We want to think about that letter for just a minute. He prayed that God would be with His people in Lisbon, Portugal. Why that is a little tiny country over in the southwest corner of Europe. Among a population of 1,100,000 there are 12 Christians, six of whom are Americans. Do you sometimes think maybe that God only has people in America or maybe just here in your state? Why, here in Tuscumbia we have almost 600 people attending worship each Lord’s day! Why should we think about 12 people in Lisbon, Portugal? There is only one reason why! Do you know what it is? Get your Bibles and read John 3:16. Now say it together. Now, read Mark 16:15-16. Now say that one together. Now do you know why we *must* be concerned with people in Lisbon, Portugal? For the next few minutes, let’s find out a little about Portugal and its people.

It is a beautiful land of hills and valleys about the size of our state of Indiana and it faces the Atlantic ocean. Its seaport capital, Lisbon, has one of the best harbors in Europe. It is a great fishing harbor, too. Lisbon is a busy airline center. Airways fan out from it to four continents.

Like many European cities, Lisbon has an old town and a new town. The old town lies on hillsides near the Tagus River with narrow, winding streets that climb steep slopes

by means of stairs. Imagine that! Can you think what it would be like to ride your bicycle down a street of stairs? That would be a rather bumpy ride, don't you think? The houses in this part of town are ancient. Some of them are over 1000 years old. Many of them are painted bright colors with gay window boxes making them "perk up" in appearance. The women go to fountains for water and to markets for shopping.

The new town has very modern buildings and up-to-date wide streets and conveniences such as we might see right here in America.

Portugal is mainly a fishing and farming country. They have beautiful orchards there but not the kind that we might see here, such as apples and peaches. They have beautiful trees of figs, olives and lemons. If you could choose the best time to visit Portugal, perhaps you would want to go in February when the great masses of the sweet-smelling almond orchards are in their full glory, filling the country side with a picture of pink loveliness. Beautiful, well-kept parks are scattered over the city in abundance.

Most of our cork comes from cork trees in the mountains of Portugal. The Portuguese farmers trade their goods with other countries, including Spain and Africa. Aside from farming and fishing, the Portuguese are most noted for their explorations. Portuguese seamen were the first to reach India and the first to reach Brazil. In fact they had the best explorers and made some of the first maps used by seamen.

The Portuguese people have a deep love for their country and will not tolerate Communism in any form. They are serious-minded and are deeply rooted in the Catholic religion. This made teaching the truth more difficult for our evangelists. One religious group (the Jehovah's Witnesses denomination) has been banned completely from teaching there because they were accused of being a front for Communism.

In the beginning of this story we mentioned that the number of Christians in Lisbon, Portugal, was twelve (12). Let's see what has happened. The Lord has promised that if we do all we can in spreading the Gospel He will provide the increase. If the Lord's church doesn't grow in numbers by leaps and bounds, something is wrong. In the two and one-half years that the Smiths were in Portugal correspondence courses were started and Bibles were distributed. Over 800 Bibles have been distributed and more than 3000 have been enrolled in the Bible correspondence course. *Seventy-one* were baptized. Eight of this number are studying to be Gospel preachers. In all of Portugal there are now *twelve* native preachers.

Now, you see, the only thing needed in reaching people with the Gospel is LOVE. God loved us and gave us the Gospel. We cannot be selfish and keep it to ourselves. We must love others enough to want to tell them about Jesus. It would be wonderful if now, while you are hearing these stories about our evangelists in other places, you would start thinking, "When I grow up, I would like to go tell others about Jesus." Who knows, you might even learn how to speak Spanish and Portuguese (these two languages are very similar) when you get in higher grades in school and then some day go to the beautiful land of Portugal to talk to the people there about Jesus. Brother Smith said on his recent visit to Tusculumbia, "We (back home) talk too much about how the missionaries sacrifice. *It is no sacrifice* to go teach the Gospel. It is a pleasure." We are so proud to be supporting someone as enthusiastic as the Smiths. We are even more thankful that Portugal is a land where the Gospel can be preached without fear. There are places in the world where Christians have to hide in order to worship God. Can you think of one?

There are places today behind the Iron Curtain where it is a major crime to own or read the Bible. Children are bribed or told that they will be heroes if they will come to government officials and tell on their parents if they catch

them reading the Bible. If the children report their parents for reading the Bible their parents are arrested and the children are placed in child care centers operated by the state.

We must thank God, daily, for all the lands that are free to worship Him. We can be truly thankful that America is such a land and pray that it will remain so.

QUESTIONS FOR LET'S GO TO PORTUGAL

FIND THE MEANINGS TO THESE WORDS

1. Missionary
2. Commission
3. Gospel
3. Evangelist
5. Sacrifice

WRITE THE ANSWERS

1. Who, from Tuscumbia, helped get the church started in Portugal?
2. Name *two* Christians, found originally, to be living in Portugal.
3. What is another word that the Bible uses for *promise*?
4. What family first went to Portugal as missionaries?
5. At the beginning of 1970, how many Christians were in Portugal?
6. Where is Portugal located?
7. Describe Portugal.

FILL IN BLANKS

1. was sent as a missionary to Portugal.
2. At the beginning of 1970 there were Christians in Portugal.
3. "..... ye into all the and the"
4. Portugal is a beautiful land of and
5. Its seaport capital is.....
6. Lisbon has a town and an town.
7. Some of the houses in Lisbon are over.....years old.
8. Portugal is mainly a and country.
9. Most of our come from trees in Portugal.
10. The Smiths were in Portugal for years.
11. souls were baptized while he was there.
12. Portugal has native preachers.
13. The Smiths had to leave Portugal because of his.....

LET'S GO TO FRANCE

He was an altar boy in one of the Catholic churches in Lille. Some would say, "He was an up and coming boy," for his position was one of importance for a twelve-year-old. He performed his duties well, for it was an honor to be in this high rank. He was present every morning at 6 a. m. to help the priest celebrate Mass. It was his duty to hold the book for the priest containing the Catholic way of life, to recite with the priest the Latin Mass, to assist in the Holy Communion, and to offer the Host (communion bread) to those people who were present at this hour for Mass. The position of an altar boy was an honored one and he was very honored to have been chosen. He loved the beautiful atmosphere, the very elaborate garb (beautiful red robe), and was always loyal and faithful to his church and its services.

When he was fourteen years old he was being groomed to be a priest and he associated very closely with the priest and the hierarchy of that church. One day the providence of God touched his life. He had never, in all of his fourteen years, held or even seen a Bible. Oh, he had been taught by the priest, learning the catechism (the way to be a good Catholic) and all they wanted him to know by having him memorize great amounts of the Catholic doctrine. Imagine! A young boy being brought up in a church learning from childhood how to be a great leader for that church, yet had never seen a Bible! On this particular day, he had already been to Mass and had performed extremely well. He then went out into the city to engage in the activities of the average fourteen year old boy. A Gospel preacher from America happened to be in that city talking to people about God and offering to give them a Bible of their very own to read and study. He met the little Catholic altar boy, probably shook hands with him,

then offered to tell him of Jesus and give him a Bible. The little boy took the Bible, went and began to read. He was very intrigued with the words which were in the little Bible. "Oh," he thought, "I must go immediately to the priest and tell him of this wonderful book." He ran all the way, knocked at the very large solid hardwood door and looked very excitedly into the priest's face for he thought the priest would love a copy because he probably had never seen one either. He said, "Oh, Father, look what I have! A very nice man gave me this Bible and I read in it, now I must talk to you about it!" The priest took the Bible from him, tore it into little pieces and said, "Who gave this to you?" The lad said, "Why, his name is Mr. Melvin Anderson. He is a minister from America. He gave me the Bible." The priest then told him never to take another Bible from anyone. It would only confuse him and it did not contain the truth, and the person who had given it to him was very much in error.

These statements from the priest only proved to stir his emotions even more. He immediately went out and found this American evangelist again and told him what had happened, and asked, "May I have another Bible?" With this, he was given another Bible and told not to show or tell the priest about this one because the same thing would probably happen again. Well, this young man was so disturbed about this thing about the Bible being God's Word and then knowing that he had *never* been taught to do the things he read about, he went straight to the priest again. Later in life and as a grown man, he said very firmly that he knew that God was directing his thoughts and speech on that day, for he was a very timid boy and would not have had the courage to speak up in defiance to the priest. This time he knocked at the door and said, "Father, I have another Bible, please talk to me about the things written in it." In desperation, the priest told him again that a false teacher had given this to him and he was a bad man and his teachings would only lead to confusion. The boy pleaded and said, "But, Father, this was such a kind man and so

sincere, if he is in error then it is up to you to show him the true way. Will you see him?" After much persuasion the priest finally agreed. The boy hunted the American again and told him that the priest would see him and talk to him about the Bible. Would he come? Brother Melvin Anderson from Hope, Arkansas, went the next day to see the priest. His first and only question to the Priest was, "In our discussion today, which authority will we use, yours or God's?" The priest was honest enough to say that he would be forced by word of the Bishop, the Cardinal, the Monsignor, and the Pope, to use the Catholic authority. This ended the conversation and so began the conversion of Richard Andrejewski in Lille, France.

There are four churches (the Lord's church) in all of France. They are located in Lille, Paris — Northside and Southside — and Reims. The work is very promising, however, due to World Radio. This is the work which the Tuscumbia church supports in France. The broadcast originates in Luxembourg and goes out over all of France and most of Germany, all over Switzerland, Belgium and even reaches parts of North Africa and England.

On the afternoon of May 4, 1971, I sat in the quiet atmosphere of the church library listening in awe to this beautiful story from Richard Andrejewski. While caught up in the story of his conversion. I kept thinking of the words of Isaiah, ". . . and a little child shall lead them" and the words of Jesus at age twelve, "I must be about my Father's business." The Lord must surely have had a much greater work for him to do for that very night, after having spent several days with us at Tuscumbia, and closing a three-day meeting for us, he, along with three of his friends, were killed in a car-truck collision near Decatur, Alabama. He was on his way to Fayetteville, Tennessee, to spend the night with these friends before departing for Huntsville, Alabama, the next day to begin his journey back to Lille, France. His parting words to the church in Tuscumbia were, "I hope to have another 40 years of service for the Lord. This is usually what we think we might have

at the age of 33. But if the Lord should choose to take me tonight or tomorrow, that's all right. I'm ready."

The church here on earth lost one of its giants. We must not and cannot reason in our frail minds, why? We can only say and believe that God had a greater and more important need for him. When such a zealous, hard-working, dedicated person is taken, we are reminded of Moses' life. We think of his position as being the greatest leader mankind has ever known and are justified in this conclusion for God called him His servant. He walked and talked with Moses more than with any other Bible character. God buried him Himself and then let him appear on the mountain of Jesus' Transfiguration. When Moses had served his mission God took him and set forth another leader. We cannot see how another person of Richard's ability can be found. Yet we know that God said in the book of Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die."

In the Belgian Congo lived a very, very wealthy family. They were plantation owners. In the way of material possessions they had everything the heart could desire — money, silver, the very best china and crystal, servants, everything. There came an uprising in the country which soon turned into a full fledged civil war. Americans and Europeans had to flee for their lives. Planes were leaving each day carrying only the women and children. The wealthy plantation owner saw his wife and children get on a plane that was so crowded that it barely cleared the tree tops. As it went out of sight it was still only about tree-top high. This man did not believe the plane could possibly make it to safety. He thought it would surely crash and that he would never see his family again. In the meantime, soldiers, insurrectionists and rioters completely took over this man's property and destroyed everything they did not want for themselves. He barely escaped with his life, taking only a small bag with a change of clothes. For weeks he did not know whether his family

was alive. But one day about five weeks after he had seen them leave in the plane he received word that they were safe in Toulouse, France. He finally made it to where they were. The first thing he had to do once he got his family together in Toulouse was to find a job. Finally he found one with a moving company. His first experience with his new job was to move a family just arrived from America. This family was a missionary family by the name of Leo Hindsley. The Hindsleys did not waste a moment to start talking to people about Jesus. They invited this man who was moving them into their new home to come to the services of the church of Christ the following Sunday. The man had always been a Catholic but for some reason he accepted their invitation. The very next Sunday he went to the service. He had never in his whole life heard such simple truths taught. In fact he had never heard just the Bible taught. He liked what he heard so the next Sunday he went back again. The third Sunday he carried his family with him. It did not take him long to see that he was hearing the true Gospel. He and his wife were baptized. He said after he became a member of the church, "Knowing now what we have gained in finding the true church, I would gladly give up ten thousand times again the wealth we had, if it were necessary in order to have a home in heaven some day."

This man is Jacques Marchal. At Richard's death, Jacques took over the work of World Radio France. The church in Tuscumbia now supports him in that work.

The Tuscumbia church will send another family to France in 1972, to do follow-up work. This young couple is Glen and Ann Langston. The Tuscumbia elders have announced plans to begin supporting them in April, 1972.

Theirs is such an interesting story. Glen is totally blind and is about the most enthusiastic person alive. He says of his blindness, "It's an inconvenience, but certainly not a handicap." He is now completing work on his Master's Degree and will graduate in the spring.

France is one of the most colorful and interesting countries in the world. It covers an area a little larger than the combined areas of Oregon and Nevada but it has over twenty-four times as many people. Each region of France has its own specialty which contributes to the pleasantness of life. Ways of speaking, farming, cooking and dressing differ from region to region. While one region has its pre-historic monuments and fishermen, another has its sunny cliff towns and beaches. There are the chateaus or country houses (these were palaces of kings and noblemen) in the valley of Lorie, and the Flander factories. Champagne is noted for its wines which for hundreds of years was France's main product. The country still leads in wine production with about one out of every twenty-five acres of land being devoted to growing grapes.

The country of France has something very much in common with the Tennessee Valley area in America. It has many dams and power plants which harness the water power to provide electricity for the French homes and factories. Electricity is an inexpensive product and a very important one for the French people, just as it is here for us.

Paris, the capital and largest city of France, is one of the world's centers of learning, culture, and trade. This beautiful city has wide, tree-lined avenues, famous buildings, lovely parks and many fashion salons, restaurants and theaters.

Fashion is one of the most famous businesses in France. The world looks to Paris fashion shows each year for the newest styles in women's clothing.

Holidays and festivals in France generally are tied in closely with the Roman Catholic church. Most of the people in France are Catholic. The Catholic church operates many private schools. These private schools are called parochial schools.

All children from six to sixteen must attend school. And

it is just an accepted fact that all children start nursery school at two and one-half years old. They begin a great learning process at this age and the children love going to school. Their school hours (and these hours apply from nursery school throughout high school) are from 8:30 a. m. -11:30 a. m., and from 1:30 p. m.-4:30 p. m. They are off all day Thursday, and are off Saturday at noon.

Lille is a city of 1,000,000 people. There are approximately fifty Christians there. The Gospel is not accepted as easily in countries where almost everyone is Catholic as in countries where they are either Protestant or pagan. The reason for this is that at different times the Catholic hierarchy persecuted anyone who owned a Bible or was caught reading one. They were sometimes put to death for they were guilty of a major crime.

Isn't it marvelous to see the mysteries of God unravel and take shape? Do you see how he takes lives of ordinary boys and girls and makes great leaders of them? Isn't it a wonderful feeling to know that we are helping in such a tremendous work and helping to carry out that commandment, "Go into all the world and teach the Gospel to every person. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved?" One day *YOU* may be one of God's great leaders like the ones we've talked about in this lesson.

QUESTIONS ON LET'S GO TO FRANCE

FILL IN BLANKS

1. The duties of an are considered very important by Catholic children.
2. Most people in France belong to the church.
3. Richard was years old when he saw his first Bible.
4. As soon as he read in his Bible he hurried to the
5. The American who gave Richard his first Bible was
6. The priest Richard's first Bible.
7. Melvin Anderson was from
8. There are churches of Christ in all of France.
9. is the work that we support.
10. Richard's family lives in France.

WRITE THE ANSWERS

1. What was the statement or question asked by Melvin Anderson to the Priest?
2. Name at least two countries reached by WORLD RADIO FRANCE.
3. In the Old Testament, who do we think of as the greatest leader of mankind?
4. The wealthy family spoken of in the Belgian Congo left for what reason?
5. In what country did the family finally locate?
6. What is this man's name (from the Belgian Congo)?
7. How was he converted?
8. What work did he take over?
9. What other family do we plan to support?
10. Name *two* things you consider interesting about France.
11. Name the Capital city of France.
12. What does the country of France have in common with our own area?
13. Name *one* difference between our school system and that of France.
14. What is the reason for our supporting the work in France?

LET'S GO TO ZAMBIA

Our eyes can speak, our hands can speak, and the heart even has a language of its very own. It is this language of the heart that causes many boys and girls just like you to decide to go teach God's Word to the people in other lands.

Suppose you had no Bible. Suppose you had no books, no paper, no magazines. How would you get to know the story of the Gospel? Certainly, you would hear it from your parents and teachers. But suppose your parents and teachers did not know God. Suppose they had no books, no Bible, and could not read even if they did have books.

"Kum ba ya, kum ba ya," is often heard in Africa. Zambia is no exception. This is where Don, Bertie and little Shawn Simmons live and work. "Kum ba ya" means "Come by here." These people are so eager to learn God's Word that they beg for someone to come and teach them. This makes preaching the Gospel an even greater pleasure.

It takes brave, courageous and loyal boys and girls to decide to grow up to be active in mission efforts. *We* might even call them *heroes*. But God calls them *servants*, those who are doing what He asked us all to do. Sometimes we think, "Go ye into all the world and teach the Gospel to every creature," is talking only to men who are preachers. The Lord did not say "You boys who become preachers, it is *your* responsibility to see that the Gospel is preached to every nation." However this seems to be what many of us believe. There is an equal amount of responsibility given to every Christian. We can teach the Gospel, no matter what we do or where we live.

In Zambia as in many other places, there is a school where boys and girls go and learn. They are taught all their regular subjects plus they study the Bible every day.

Bertie and Don teach in this school. Bertie teaches History and Home Making while Don teaches Bible, in addition to his preaching to many groups several times a week.

Just about every kind of animal known to man roams about in Zambia, Africa. To visit there would be like going to a world zoo. The only difference is, the animals there are free. If you went hunting there, not with a gun but with your eyes, you might catch a glimpse of a herd of zebras, the ant-eating aardvark, buffalo, lion, giraffes, cheetah, hippopotamus, ostriches, rhinoceros, crocodiles and elephants.

A member of one of our missionary families there looked out her dining room window one morning to see a herd of about 40 hippopotamuses.

In the early 1900's when the very first Christians went to Africa, all its people worshipped idols. Africa was a very uncivilized and savage land of backward people. About the best way one can think about what Christianity has done for them is to think about walking from a completely dark room into the bright sunlight. This is the way it is in Africa now, sunny and bright. Now, there are more than 30,000,000 Protestants in Africa as a result of the work of missionaries. A great percentage of this number are members of the Lord's church.

The housing of Zambia is much different to our own but their needs are also different. The village houses range from mud huts with thatched roofs and dirt floors to houses made of large sun-dried bricks with corrugated metal roofs. The white people in Zambia have houses somewhat similar in design to the houses we see here in America. They are built with bricks and have cement floors. Very little wood is used because of the continual destruction by the termites. Most of these houses have electricity and indoor plumbing.

The most common dish in Zambia is nsima. This is a cornmeal mush cooked in a big pot. Everyone present

reaches into the pot, gets a ball of the mush and then dips it into a dish of relish. This relish is made from anything and everything. It can be made from deer, chicken or beef, or vegetables which happen to be in season. It can be made from anything they can get their hands on, such as grasshoppers, locusts, mulberry leaves, potato leaves, field rats. However there are markets there much like our own where one can get European (anybody other than Africans are called Europeans) foods which is what the Americans buy. It's just that the Africans like their own native foods best.

The Africans, as we have stated earlier, love to be taught. When they learn about the Gospel they can hardly wait until all their relatives and fellow villagers learn the truth.

Once, when one of the headmen had been taught the Gospel and had been baptized, he was so happy with his new life he wanted everyone, everywhere to be taught the "Good News." He came one day to plead with one of our missionaries to come and establish a school, or just send a teacher to his tribe of people in the bush country. "My milk," he said. At another time he fell to his knees, his face upturned and his arms extended upward, palms to-people long for the Gospel like a baby longs for its mother's gether as in prayer. With trembling voice and tears in his eyes he implored again, "Give us a teacher that we may have a school in our village. My people are hungry for learning." Again, the missionary told him with much sadness, "We do not have enough people as teachers. We do not have even one person who can go to your village to teach. I'm sorry." As the headman got up off his knees to go, he said, "I'm going to tell God on you."

This last story from Zambia is one told by Sister Myrtle Rowe. She spent more than twenty years in Zambia as a teacher in the mission school. Not all her activity was spent at school, however. She says that she was "on call 24 hours a day" for whatever need came up among the students or their relatives or boy friends or girl friends.

In another story she tells us how the boys in Zambia choose the girl they want to marry. Even though they are being taught the Christian way of life, they still like to cling to many of their own customs. The way a boy courts a girl is one of their own customs. In recent years they have begun to accept the European influence more and more, but Sister Rowe had this happen many times while she was in Africa.

A Christian African boy wants a Christian wife whom he chooses from among the girls intrusted to the care of the women at the mission school. He observes her general conduct for several months, maybe for 2 or 3 years. There can be no dating or private talks with her, mind you. At last he comes to the mission teacher with an open letter for her, requesting that she read it as he wants that girl if the teacher agrees. Details are arranged, letters are exchanged (always through the teacher) and his gifts for the girl are brought. These, too, are brought and given through the teacher. First, the boy brings a bar of laundry soap. Will the girl accept it? If she rejects the soap, she rejects him; if she keeps it she is agreeing to take him. The girl accepts the soap. Now he is permitted to talk with her occasionally on the teacher's front porch or in the front yard in the shade of the trees. This is the extent of the dating. More gifts are given. Two spoons one day, two knives another, a blanket, small dishpan, and cups. Gifts are stored at the teacher's house because the dormitory girls must not know. Finally there arrives bright colored cotton prints for the wedding dress. The girl makes it as class work. Next comes a head scarf, and finally white tennis shoes and white socks. Finally there is a Christian wedding at the church building with the ceremony by one of the preachers from the school and a reception in the yard. The wedding reception consists of serving buns with syrup to the wedding party while sweet biscuits and tea are served to friends and relatives.

Our American people who have gone to Zambia have not gone there to impress the Zambians with the greatness of

the American society. They have gone to devote themselves only to an understanding of their way of life, and to a real appreciation and respect for their culture. When they begin to understand their way of life, only then can they actually make the Gospel of Jesus real to their lives and the answer to their needs and the hope of their salvation. The Americans who go there must forget completely where they came from and remember only where they are. This adjustment, if made wisely and patiently, will make an entrance, for the Zambians, into a new world filled with God's rich blessings.

QUESTIONS ON "LET'S GO TO ZAMBIA"

1. What makes boys and girls decide to become active in mission programs?
2. What are we likely to call our men and women in the mission field and what is the name that God would call them?
3. How do girls and boys in Zambia learn about the Gospel?
4. Name five of the animals you might see if you visited Zambia.
5. Describe a native house in Zambia.
6. What is the common dish in Zambia and name three things they might make the relish from?
7. What did one of the headmen say when he learned that no one was available to teach his people?
8. What is the main reason for Americans going to Zambia?
9. What must Americans in Zambia *not* try to do?
10. Do you believe the Africans are better off after having missionaries there? Why?
11. Do you believe you would like to become active in mission work when you grow up? Why?
12. Do you think you would like to go to Zambia? List *three* reasons why.
13. Who are our missionaries (their names) in Zambia? (First and last names).
14. Who were our elders who visited there?
15. What woman do we know who spent more than 20 years there?

LET'S GO TO BRAZIL

We will begin this lesson with a few questions. From what you've learned already, which story told about Arlie Smith? Where did he go to preach the Gospel? What language did he speak?

In your own mind, imagine that you have learned to speak Portuguese very well, and that you have decided to go to Portugal to do mission work. After you stay there for a while you find out that the climate does not agree with you. You become ill with a severe sinus infection and it will not get better. You will just have to leave Portugal. What must you do?

We know that God provides a way for us if we want it. That is why being a Christian is so great. The questions we've just asked actually happened to Arlie Smith. He had to leave Portugal because of his health. What to do? Where could he go so that he could use the Portuguese language?

Would you believe that there is another country besides Portugal where the people speak Portuguese! Brazil is the only country of South America where the official language is Portuguese and not Spanish! How about that! Isn't God good! When Brother Arlie Smith realized that his health would not stand another year in Portugal, he wrote to the elders at Tuscumbia telling of his plans to go to Brazil. The Lord's church is already established there but of course the number of Christians is very, very small.

Because of the fine work Brother Smith had done in Portugal the Tuscumbia elders informed Brother Smith that we would like to continue to support him financially for his new work in Brazil.

When one flies into Rio de Janeiro, where the Smiths are, the first thing one sees is a huge statue of Christ

(rather a statue to represent Christ) standing with outstretched arms. This must be a beautiful scene, flying into the city, seeing the beautiful green of the countryside and this lovely statue there to say Welcome. Also, it is supposed to represent a religious atmosphere. This is not true, though. Rio de Janeiro and its people are not religious at all. It is known to be a very wicked city. Most of the people there are Catholic but this does not mean that they are religious.

Half the people in South America are Brazilians. The United States of Brazil is bigger than the United States of America without Alaska. The population is only about one-third as large as that of our United States. Brazil is divided into states like we have here and is very rich in natural resources.

There are more than a million people in the city of Rio de Janeiro. That just means that there is a tremendous amount of work for Christians in that city. There is probably no way possible for every person to be contacted individually but God always provides a way for people to know about the Gospel.

Several years ago the Coca Cola Company decided they wanted every nation in the world to know about "Coke." They did not even try to send people to tell other people about their product. Instead, they advertised in every newspaper, mailed out leaflets, got spots on radio stations, got spots on TV stations in countries where they have TV, and put up billboards and signs. In only five short years, everybody in the world knew about "Coke." Since we cannot possibly send enough people to contact other people we send very capable families who have a great deal of Bible knowledge and LOVE for all people. When Brother Smith talked to our congregation about the work in Portugal and Brazil he said, "There is too much said about missionaries sacrificing. We do not sacrifice, we love to preach Jesus. It is never a sacrifice but a genuine pleasure."

Rio de Janeiro is a magnificent city built on the shores of

a perfect natural harbor. It is Brazil's center of business and trade. Rio is backed by steep cliffs and hills so almost all of its contacts with other parts of the world are by sea. Brazil's main industry has changed about four times over the years. When Sao Paulo (the second largest state in Brazil) was first settled, gold was found there. People poured in from all over Brazil. About the time the gold was all mined out, coffee became popular in England and North America. They began to plant coffee trees. Soon Brazil was supplying three quarters of the world's coffee. By 1920, Brazil's coffee production had risen tremendously. It was nearly twice what all the countries in the world could use. And new trees were being planted.

Coffee growers began to lose money, but then a new boom developed — cotton. Young coffee trees were pulled up to make room for cotton. This new boom lasted until World War II when cotton could not be sold to Japan or Europe. Then another switch came about — oranges.

Today, Brazilians supply a great amount of the world's coffee and citrus fruits, and still have gold and diamond mines, and raise cotton. It is a lush country and a beautiful place to live.

It will be wonderful when they get to know about the Gospel so that Christianity can spread over the country. All of God's creation is so beautiful and people are the same everywhere. Doors will open and the people will hear Jesus preached in their own language. The Gospel is so simple. No one will have any trouble understanding it.

Do you believe it would be a great experience to learn all we can about people of another country, learn to speak their language and then go there to teach?

*We do know that being a Christian and living faithfully for God is always *The Only Way*. However, we also know that some Christians do have to suffer and sacrifice. Those behind the Iron Curtain under Communism suffer and sacrifice almost continually simply because they are Christians.

QUESTIONS FOR LET'S GO TO BRAZIL

TRUE — FALSE

1. Don Simmons is our missionary to Brazil.
2. The language of Brazil is Portuguese.
3. Brother Arlie went to Brazil to establish the Lord's church.
.....
4. The first thing one would see as he enters Brazil is the Amazon River.
5. The United States of Brazil is bigger than the United States of America.
6. Rio de Janeiro is a small town.
7. Rio de Janeiro is a city built on desert land.
8. Coffee has been one of Brazil's main resources.
9. Brazil has had four main industries.
10. Today, Brazilians supply a great amount of the world's citrus fruits.

WRITE THE CORRECT ANSWER

1. In which other story did we read about Arlie Smith?
2. What is the language of Brazil?
3. Look on a world map and then name *one* other country in South America where we support a missionary.
4. Which is larger, the country you named or Brazil?
5. How did the world learn about "Coke"?
6. In addition to the gospel going out in printed form, name another excellent way in which we teach the gospel in foreign countries. (Think about what we help support in India, Africa and Italy.)
7. Do you believe Christians ever have to sacrifice? Name a Christian you know who has sacrificed in some way.
8. Do you believe you would like to go to Brazil? Why?
9. Why is Arlie Smith in Brazil now instead of Portugal?
10. Name two of Brazil's main industries?
11. Draw a map of Brazil — Locate Rio de Janeiro.
12. Be able to say from memory, Matthew 28:19.

LET'S GO TO SWITZERLAND

As a rule, boys and girls do not like to study arithmetic and geography on Sunday. But we believe these lessons concerning mission work at Tuscumbia are an exception.

Today, let's start with a few questions: What is an island? You are probably smiling because that is such an easy question. "An island," you say, "is a body of land surrounded by water." Do you know what a peninsula is? Of course you do! A peninsula is a body of land nearly surrounded by water. One more question. What does it mean to say that a piece of land is "land-locked?" That one is harder. You probably do not know. It is a piece of land that is nowhere touched by a seacoast. There are several such places but the one we are interested in is Switzerland. Switzerland has no seacoast. There are thirteen such countries that have no seacoast, no port, no harbor, no ships, no tide, no ocean currents. I think it would be very inconvenient to live in a country that is land-locked. We like to have an outlet into the great world around us.

Come to think of it, there are people who are landlocked. They have no outlet. They are selfish. They have no love for others. They have no "shar-ity." Isn't it sad to think there are people who never even imagine how others live in their own communities, much less in other countries?

We of this class are not landlocked! Let's go sailing off to the little country of Switzerland. We will visit Dan Steinhauer who lives in Bern. We will ask him to tell us all about his country, its customs and some other important things.

It is a beautiful country located high in the Alps Mountains, two miles above sea level. In the valleys there are many beautiful lakes. There are running streams that

make a roaring noise and foam as they rush down the mountains, hurrying to the sea far away. The highest part of a mountain is called a peak. These peaks are bleak and bare. Some of the peaks are so high and so cold that plants cannot grow there. Farther down the mountain there are trees and beautiful little hardy white wild flowers called edelweiss (a'del-*vis*e). On the steep slopes are grassy meadows where cows and goats are pastured in the summers.

Switzerland is one of the most delightful countries on earth. It is so beautiful that people go there from all over the world to enjoy the cool mountain air and the ski slopes. It is sometimes called the "play ground" of Europe.

On our tour over the country-side, we see beautiful brick and stone houses with yards and gardens about them. They have fine stores and large factories in which men, women and children work. You recall we said they have no seacoast. They have to think of some way to make a living because they cannot depend on shipping by water. With no seacoast, and the mountains making it almost impossible to transport heavy goods, they have to develop light industries. The Swiss people are famous for watch-making, this being their main industry. They also lead in the production of precision instruments, machine tools, jewelry cutting and setting, and in fine graphic arts. Swiss music boxes have long been found on toy store shelves throughout the world.

In addition to the light industry, Switzerland relies heavily on tourists for its economy. With the Alps as a winter paradise, Switzerland has a monopoly on European ski resorts.

Switzerland has no single predominant language. There are three official languages — Swiss-German, French and Italian.

The Swiss are popularly thought of as easy-going yodelers in a land that invented the cuckoo clock, and in which

cowbells tinkle from dawn to dusk. The more accurate characteristic of the Swiss is seen in the efficiency with which everything in their country is done. Their trains and planes run on time. Their watches are masterpieces of precision. Their embroideries and laces are made by hand in the same efficient manner. They are leaders in making chocolate and cheeses. They are a nation of perfectionists.

We've seen and learned about the country. Now, let's visit the church with Dan and learn something about the spread of the Gospel in this beautiful land.

We have a special interest in the work in Switzerland because of a young man named Dan Steinhauer. Dan was a very bright, all-around-good student in Brugg. He wished very much that he could come to America. He had studied many years in his Swiss school books about the great land of America. Being such a good student he was encouraged by his parents, teachers and other counselors to apply for admission as an exchange student to come to America to go to school during his senior year in high school. He did apply and was accepted to come to America. At about the same time he was applying to come to America, a family at Tuscomb, Alabama, was applying by the same methods, to have a foreign student come and live with them for a year. They, too, were accepted! Dan Steinhauer was assigned to the John McWilliams family for one year. He attended school at Deshler High School, was very active in all sports and took part in many of the clubs while, at the same time, he was making good grades. Many times his friends invited him to church. They were not all members of the Lord's church. Many times he went to church with them. The McWilliams family — Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams, John and Ann — invited him to every worship with them. He started coming. At first he attended irregularly, then regularly. Being the smart boy that he is, he realized he was hearing the truth. He began to study for himself and toward the end of his year's stay,

he studied with Brother Bob Plunket and was soon baptized. This was not long before he had to leave to go back to Switzerland. Naturally, his friends and "family" in America were concerned about him for he was still a babe in Christ. They did not know whether he could find a congregation near his home when he returned to Switzerland.

The McWilliams family and all of Dan's friends here in America were so happy to learn that he had located the church in nearby Zurich. Dan attended worship regularly there but soon began his college work in Bern, Switzerland. He located the church there also and began attending regularly and working in whatever way he could. His faith grew steadily and he began preaching whenever there was a need. The evangelist in Bern said of Dan, "To us it is amazing how much of the Bible he already knows and in a relatively short time. He takes an active part in the work. It is not difficult at all for us to see the hand of God in this event and we want to thank all of the people in Tuscumbia who had a part in teaching him the truth. Dan said he probably would never have become acquainted with the church of Christ had he not come to Tuscumbia." The church here does not send full support to Dan because he is not preaching for a living. He has finished his education and is teaching school, so does not need to be supported. We do send him small amounts of money to help him in his efforts in spreading the Gospel. Some of the Bible School classes send him gifts and money from time to time to help him.

God does move in mysterious ways, doesn't He? Can you see, now that this has happened, how God directed Dan's life to be used in His service? Isn't it just great to think that, right now, God is looking for boys and girls who are strong, faithful, willing to work, thankful for all things, and happy and obedient? God is saying to His Son, Jesus, "There! in (your city) is
(put your own name in the blank). I want him or her to

be my strong helper. There is much to be done, telling others how wonderful it is to be a Christian. I want him or her to go to to spread my Word.”

(Fill in blank with where you would like to go).

QUESTIONS TO LET'S GO TO SWITZERLAND

WORDS TO LOOK UP AND GIVE MEANING

1. Land-locked
2. economy
3. predominant
4. perfectionist
5. edelweiss

TRUE — FALSE

1. Switzerland borders on the Arctic Ocean.
2. People who are selfish are land-locked.
3. The church here fully supports Dan Steinhauer in Switzerland.
4. The mountains in Switzerland are called the Ozarks.
5. The people of Switzerland are perfectionists.
6. Two popular Swiss products are chocolate and cheese.
7. Dan Steinhauer came to America to attend college here.
8. Dan learned about the church through the family with whom he lived.
9. He was invited to attend denominational churches by some of his friends.
10. God moves in mysterious ways.

WRITE THE ANSWER

1. Find a map — How does the country of Switzerland compare with the United States?
2. Looking at that same map — Find another country that is land-locked.
3. What does it mean when we say that a person is land-locked?
4. Describe the country of Switzerland.
5. Name three products from Switzerland.
6. How did Dan Steinhauer happen to come to America?
7. Why does the church here *not* send full support to Dan.
8. If you think you would like to go to Switzerland some day, tell why.

LET'S GO TO SPAIN

The Gospel in Spain, as our own involvement goes, began eleven years ago. It did not begin in Spain, however, but had its beginning in Brazil. In fact, this story concerning the Gospel in Spain involves, or ties in with, two other of our stories: Brazil and Portugal. Rather, we could say three: Brazil, Portugal and America. As we weave these stories together we can realize what people mean when they say, "It's a small world."

We will begin our story with a lady whose name is Prudencia Novo. She is the pillar of strength in the church in La Coruna, Spain. Do you know what we mean when we say that someone is a pillar of strength in the church? Think of someone here in our congregation whom you consider to be strong in the church. Does it sound strange to say that a woman is the strength of a church? We have examples in the Bible of great women in the church (Acts 16:40) (Acts 18:2).

We must review just briefly and say that in our story, "Let's Go To Portugal" we learned that the Arlie Smiths were there. Years before they had been working in Brazil. They had since come back to the States and we remember how they wanted to go to Portugal to start a congregation there. After their stay of two and one-half years in Portugal, they returned to Brazil because of ill health. The story concerns the time when the Smiths were in Brazil because of ill health. This story concerns the time when the Smiths were in Brazil the first time.

"Nuestro Padre que estas en los cielos, bendito sea Tu Nombre," are words often heard from Prudencia. This has not always been so, however. Eleven years ago she had never heard of the church of Christ. At that time Alma and Arlie Smith were working in Brazil. When they

moved there from the United States of America they found an apartment. The former tenants of this apartment had had a maid. After the Smiths took the apartment the maid asked to stay on and work for them. The maid was named Prudencia Novo. Alma Smith began to teach her the Gospel. They would study for hours and hours without stopping. Prudencia was converted. Her husband, Jose, was not interested at first. He was a carpenter and wanted to spend weekends in leisure activities, not going to worship.

Prudencia and her husband had come to Brazil from Spain. Working conditions and salaries were much better in Brazil so this is the reason we find the Novos in Brazil. While in Brazil Jose had a tragic accident. He lost the four fingers of his right hand in an electric saw. This caused financial difficulties.

Not long after Prudencia's conversion, her sister died back in Spain and it was Prudencia's responsibility to become guardian for one of the sister's daughters. So Prudencia and Jose returned to Spain to get the girl. When applying for papers to return to Brazil where they could both find work and conditions are unbelievably better than in Spain, Jose was refused because of the Brazilian law forbidding immigrants who are in any way deformed, from settling in the country. So Prudencia and the little girl, Carmen, went on ahead hoping papers could be arranged in Brazil for his reunion with them. For two years she fought for the papers but to no avail. Meanwhile all of the American missionaries had left Sao Paulo, Brazil, where she lived. She was all alone. But instead of deserting God she relied on Him to strengthen her. Since she was without enough money for the return passage to Spain, she applied for repatriation and she was shipped back to Spain to Jose. Soon afterwards they moved to the city of La Coruna, the capital of the province in which they had lived prior to going to Brazil. Through patient teaching, Jose was converted by Prudencia. An American family

on the military base in Madrid came up and the man baptized Jose.

Because of his handicap, it was not easy for Jose to find a job. Prudencia took in washings, (one of the ladies' classes of the Tuscumbia church bought her a washing machine because she was scrubbing clothes on a rub board by hand), scrubbed supermarket floors, took in boarders, and did other jobs to help support the family. She always managed to do a little teaching of neighbors, friends, relatives, etc.

As we have already learned, the people of Spain do not have much in the way of worldly goods. A small apartment is what most city dwellers live in, and the Novo family was no different. Three small bedrooms were all the sleeping quarters they had.

Prudencia has many relatives and friends from her village that visit her frequently. She also keeps three boarders who are children of friends who live in another city. In addition to these Prudencia keeps her nephew while her sister and her husband are away working in Switzerland. While Doug Foster was in Spain one summer she kept him in her apartment too. There was a total of *nine* people for Prudencia to care for in addition to her other work.

An elderly lady who belonged to a denominational church there knew Prudencia and knew what type of person she was and came to her with a problem. The lady lived in a boarding house which was being paid for by her daughter who was living in Switzerland. The treatment she received there was shameful. Often she would not be given anything at all to eat and other times would only be given the leftovers. She begged Prudencia to let her stay with the Novo family. Prudencia calmed the lady and said not to worry, things would be worked out. To show that anything is possible with God, she took the lady in and she is living happily with them now, and hopefully, will soon be converted. The lady's name is Senora Antonia.

We've talked so much about Prudencia we almost forgot to learn something about her country. Spain is a sunny land in Southern Europe famous for bullfights and for more than 1,400 beautiful castles and palaces. Snow-capped mountains separate Spain from the rest of Europe. The Spanish people usually build their homes of brick or stone and most of them live on farms. The people in the cities usually live in very crowded conditions with little or no place for their children to play. They do take pride in what they have by whitewashing their walls and always managing to have a little flowerbox of some kind in the window, planted with beautiful flowers.

They enjoy seafood and serve it in a variety of ways. They, like the Mexicans, find beef (and most meats) too expensive to buy so they substitute rice, seafood (that they catch themselves), vegetables and sometimes rabbit, chicken or goat. The people enjoy goat's milk cheese with bread. They also enjoy oranges, figs, grapes, apples, peaches, strawberries, melons, and other fruits. Spanish cooks use olive oil rather than butter or other fats in their cooking. They sometimes flavor foods with garlic, onions and pimentoes. Their favorite beverages include strong black coffee and thick hot chocolate, usually served with fried strips of dough called churros. Spanish children enjoy helado, a frozen dessert made from milk and flavorings.

The predominant religion is the Roman Catholic church. Spanish women wear square veils of black lace called mantillas on their heads when they go to church. Women often carry lace or paper fans in warm weather. They also like to wear flowers in their hair.

About 95 percent of the people belong to the Catholic church. It is the state religion and receives financial aid from the government. Non-Catholics may worship as they please in private dwellings, but the law permits only Roman Catholics to hold public ceremonies.

The Roman Catholic church also exerts a powerful in-

fluence over Spanish education. The government requires all schools to offer courses of instruction in Roman Catholic Doctrines. Non-Catholics may be excused from religious classes in public schools, but the law forbids any other church group to operate schools.

We must be thankful that we live in America. We must continue to pray that God will help us to keep our nation free so that we may worship Him as He tells us in the Bible.

Doug Foster, a member of the church in Tuscumbia, has worked with the church in Spain for the past two summers. He has lived during that time in the home of Jose and Prudencia and has learned to love and appreciate them very much.

He prepared himself for this work by learning to speak Spanish while attending Mars Hill Bible School. He is now attending David Lipscomb College, preparing himself for a life of service in the mission field. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Foster.

QUESTIONS FOR LET'S GO TO SPAIN

WORDS TO LOOK UP AND WRITE MEANING

1. pillar
2. immigrants
3. repatriation
4. leisure

WRITE THE ANSWER

1. Where did our work in Spain actually begin? With whom? Who now?
2. Who converted Prudencia? Jose?
3. How do we support the work in Spain?
4. How did Prudencia and her husband happen to be in Brazil?
5. How did she get back to Spain?
6. Why was Jose not with her on her return trip to Spain?
7. Describe conditions in Prudencia's home.
8. What woman is mentioned in Acts 16:40?
9. What woman is mentioned in Acts 18:2?
10. What is the main sport in Spain?
11. Name three foods, popular in Spain.
12. What is the main religion?
13. Try to find out what form of government they have in Spain.

MATCH THE WORDS OR PHRASES WITH THE CORRECT ANSWERS

1. Alma Smith
2. Brazil
3. Nuestro Padre que estas en los
cielos Bendito sea Tu Nombre
4. Jose Novo
5. 95 percent
6. Senora Antonia

1. Number of Catholics in Spain
2. Prudencia's husband
3. Converted Prudencia
4. Where Prudencia lived when converted
5. Old lady who came to live with Prudencia
6. Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.

THE WORK OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

Who in this class knows what we mean when we ask, "What is the work of the local church? Some of you will no doubt say, "Local work is what the local congregation is doing." But what is the church or local congregation doing? Many people are mistaken in their ideas of what the local work of the Lord's church is. So many people think local work means being good housekeepers for God. They build fine buildings and then have to keep all of the contribution at home to take care of their own needs and the maintenance of the building. Then others feel that they should do some mission work so they send a few dollars to several different places to people they've never met for work they never see and with no elders overseeing the work.

Well, let me ask another question. "What is mission work?" Oh, just about everybody will raise a hand on that one. "Mission Work," you say, "is preaching the Gospel in foreign countries or at least in places where the Lord's church is not known." If this is what you say, then you are partly right. Mission work is preaching the Gospel in places where the Lord's church is not known but it doesn't stop there. A missionary is *anyone* who has the Truth, and the *field* is anyone without the Truth. This is what local work is and this is what mission work is. It is simply *teaching the Gospel*. Locally, this teaching involves visiting, caring for orphans and widows, being hospitable to all people, teaching Bible lessons to all those who will come, and anything else the Elders set forth for us to do. All this in addition to the Lord's final commandment to His church, "You must take the Gospel to all people everywhere" (Phillips). I heard of a church the other day whose elders drew up the program for the members' consideration and it went something like this:

Tear down present adequate building and build new building.
Get rid of present pews and get new padded pews.
Install new speaker system.
Put wall to wall carpeting in all classrooms and auditorium.
Put locks on all class room doors.

And on it went, naming more new and different things to be done to the building. I heard about other churches where elders suggested always keeping \$10,000.00 in savings just in case something happened and they would need it. I do not believe it pleases God for His people to spend their time thinking always of what "WE" need and forgetting about the millions of people who have never heard a Gospel sermon in their lives. The African people are willing to sit for hours on stumps or the bare ground, never thinking if they're comfortable or not. Even *before* we get an adequate building we must get busy *spreading the Gospel!* The elders at Tuscumbia believe that the best way to fulfill the Lord's commandment to "Go Teach" is to send families who are prepared and want to go, to places where the Gospel is urgently needed and *then to oversee the work.* Our elders keep in close contact with the families we support. They visit them about every two years so that they can see their own particular needs and the situation in that particular country. A visit from the elders means so much to the families who are there. Also this has a great influence on the natives. It makes us feel good as other elders at other places come to Tuscumbia to learn about how to go about starting their own mission program such as the one we have. They are always told to simply start with the *full support* of *one* family. They will see how beautifully God will bless them and soon they should be able to add another family, and so on. We are proud that plans have been announced to send another family to France from this congregation. We will soon be getting to know them (Glynn and Ann Langston) through letters and visits.

Of course, as we teach this lesson we would like to think that many of you will be saying in your hearts that you want to go teach some day. Perhaps you may even want to

go to a foreign country but we know we can't all go. Some of us have to stay here and encourage those who do go. However, those of us who stay home must never get lazy and think that our missionaries are doing our work for us. God intends for all of us to do our very best at all times in helping people to get to know Jesus. We can't all be "Paul" but we can be "Andrews." Andrew was the beloved disciple who spent just about all his time bringing people to Jesus. He was so interested and enthusiastic. He must have loved everybody and everybody must surely have loved him. His role was one that every single one of us can do. He led people to the Lord. Once *he* met Jesus he could hardly wait until his relatives and friends had met Him also. His secret was *he was enthusiastic!* This makes such a big difference in how we influence others and whether or not they follow us to the Lord. *We have to show enthusiasm!* Why, the word enthusiasm means God In Us!

We hope all of you have just soaked up hearts full of love from these stories. We hope that you are filled with enthusiasm as you tell others what you've learned about mission work. But most of all, we hope you decide right now, in your own hearts, that you will do all that you can to lead others to Jesus. You may not become preachers, though that would be wonderful, but you can lead others to Christ no matter what you do. You may become farmers, teachers, business owners, nurses, doctors, wives and mothers. It doesn't matter. You need to do all that you can to help someone learn about Jesus.

For the next several Sundays, we are really going to see just how much we have learned and what it means to us. We are going to let any of you who want, to volunteer to make *two minute* talks before the class. We will review and have a test about our mission work. We hope that by now, you have learned that the main function of the church is to *GO TEACH!* And remember! No matter what kind of work you do later on, *you can* help spread the Gospel.

Sometimes people obey the Gospel simply because they have seen a good example in the life of a Christian.

Think about this. What if our elders announced to everyone here, "For the next three Sundays, we will pay \$500.00 for every person that *you* bring to hear the Gospel." What would you do? I know what I would probably do. I would spend as much time as I possibly could trying to bring people to meet Jesus. I would try to collect as many \$500.00 bills as I could. Wouldn't you? Of course we know this will never happen but listen to this: The Lord paid a much higher price than we can ever imagine so that we can hear the Gospel. He gave his life. He does not expect us to have to do this. He only wants us to *do our best* to see that others learn of Him. His plan of salvation is so very simple, anyone can hear the Gospel and know what to do. We first have to hear. This brings us right back to the main function of the church. Let's read aloud, Romans 10:14-15. Do you see how this connects with Jesus' last words to His church? (Mark 16:15-16).

God bless each of you as you take these lessons into your hearts. May you each become strong Christians, always dependent on God and not afraid or ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus.

QUESTIONS FOR LESSON ON LOCAL WORK

1. What is Local Work?
2. Name five (5) things one can do for it to be the Lord's work.
3. Tell something in your own words about the disciple, Andrew. Pick out a scripture from these given and write a short paragraph about him.
Matt. 4:18 — Mark 1:16 — Mark 10:2 — Luke 6:14 — John 1:40 — John 6:8 — John 12:22
4. How can we be like Andrew?
5. What does enthusiastic mean?
6. What do you think one's reaction would be if I wore a very sad face and mumbled under my breath in a mournful tone, "Why don't you come to worship with us some time?"
7. The Bible says, "Go teach all nations." Name three ways this can be done.
8. In Matthew 13:38, what is the field? Who does this include? Who does it exclude?
9. According to Mark 13:10 where is the Gospel to go? Write down the scripture.
10. The following scriptures give us the plan of salvation. Look them up and write down the *five* things a person must do to be saved.
Acts 4:4 — Acts 16:31 — Acts 2:38 — Revelation 2:10b

Here are some words to look up and give meaning. Use your dictionary.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Elder | 6. deacon |
| 2. worship | 7. hospitable |
| 3. baptism | 8. influence |
| 4. pagan | 9. preacher |
| 5. idolatry | 10. teacher |

Be able to say, from memory, the following scriptures:

Mark 16:15-16

Mark 13:10

REVIEW TEST OVER ENTIRE MISSION STUDY

1. What is the main religion of the countries we have studied?
2. What city is the center of the Catholic church?
3. The man we supported in *what country* was killed in an auto accident?
4. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature" is called what?
5. In what country would you find huts made of mud?
6. Which country was named for Christopher Columbus?
7. What country's main product is coffee?
8. What country is famous for its watchmaking?
9. In what country is the cow sacred or holy?
10. What word means "a definite task or errand"?
11. *In what country do we* support 2 unrelated missionaries?
12. Tuscumbia church of Christ helped start the church in what country?
13. One of our missionaries was converted here at Tuscumbia — *in what country* does he work?
14. One of our missionaries had been a Catholic altar boy — *in what country* did he work?
15. In what country are most of the people Hindus?
16. In numbers, which religion is the world's largest?
17. The missionary to *which country* has now moved to Brazil because of his health?
18. The missionary in *which country* is an unmarried school teacher and was converted here?
19. In what country do the people sit around in a circle and all eat from the same large bowl?
20. What is the first thing you would see if you visited Brazil, flying into Rio de Janeiro?

WE WILL COVER, WITH SMALL PIECES OF PAPER, THE COUNTRIES ON THE WORLD MAP WHERE WE SUPPORT MISSIONARIES. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE A NUMBER WRITTEN WITH A MAGIC MARKER ON EACH PIECE OF PAPER. NUMBER YOUR PAPER TO 12 AND NAME THE COUNTRIES.

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MATCH THE CORRECT FAMILY IN THE LEFT COLUMN
WITH THE COUNTRY IN THE RIGHT COLUMN

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Don and Bertie Simmons | 1. Tuscumbia, Alabama |
| 2. Frank and Sue Buck | 2. Mexico |
| 3. Bob and Sharon Parker | 3. Switzerland |
| 4. James and Corrie Holland | 4. Italy |
| 5. Ron and Joan Beckett | 5. Zambia, Africa |
| 6. Dan Steinhauer | 6. France |
| 7. Isaias Meza | 7. British Columbia, Canada |
| 8. Bob Plunket | 8. Tuscumbia, Alabama |
| 9. Mack Thompson | 9. Mexico |
| 10. Fred Dillon | 10. France |
| 11. Nelly Andrejewski and family | 11. Spain |
| 12. Doug Foster | 12. F.S.U. Student Center,
Florence, Ala. |
| 13. Jacques Marchal | 13. Colombia, S. America |
| 14. Glen and Ann Langston | 14. Brazil |
| 15. Jesus Garcia | 15. India |
| 16. Arlie and Alma Smith | 16. France |

UNSCRAMBLE THIS SENTENCE AND PUT IT IN ORDER:

"oG ey otni lla hte ldrow dna hcaerp eth lepsog ot yreve erutaerc."

WRITE A HALF-PAGE DESCRIBING YOUR FAVORITE COUNTRY AND TELL WHY YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO THERE.

DRAW A PICTURE TO GO ON OUR BULLETIN BOARD SHOWING SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE COUNTRY.

NUMBER A PAGE FROM 1 TO 10 AND NAME AS MANY OF OUR GUEST SPEAKERS AS YOU CAN REMEMBER.

AFTERWORD

A note about the preceding stories. This series was used at Tuscumbia for the first time in 1970. It was and is a six-month course. We feel sure that if it became necessary it could be taught in three months. However, this is our method.

In starting the study, we first had lessons in "Respect for rightful Authority" in which we told the students the correct procedure so far as "Who we have to obey" is concerned. We then had them learn who *our* elders are, memorize their names and be able to write them. We also introduced them to our Mission Program by telling them about how our elders thought this method of World Evangelism that Tuscumbia uses is the best method (fully supporting families, then overseeing their work). Next, we told them about which elders visited which family in whatever country and that they went in "two's" because this is the way God suggested it be done (Exodus). In one or two cases where perhaps the elders had not had opportunity to visit a particular work, someone else in our congregation had been there. Therefore, as we would teach the lessons pertaining to each of the countries and the church there, the next Sunday we would have a guest speaker come to our class, always telling first hand information and usually showing slides. The students absolutely love this, and from it, they learned to know personally, the elders, and became so much more familiar with the work in that country. Wherever this series is taught, the teacher can substitute the names of their own families and other names involved because the basic facts remain the same.

All lessons were written by Mrs. John P. (Peggy) Simpson with the exception of the lesson THE GREAT COMMISSION which was written by Mrs. Charles (Pat) Malone.

Typist — Mrs. Virgil Miles.

Source of information for all lessons:

World Book Encyclopedia; Golden Book Atlas; Personal letters to the church from our families; Pamphlets from the countries involved; Personal talks with our families by the writer as they visited Tusculumbia; Children Around the World Book; Silhouets of Life by Myrtle Rowe; Missionary Pictorial; talks with our Elders and THE BIBLE.

Much help came from John P. Simpson, Jim Stanley and Doug Foster. These people were willing, always, to read and re-read what I had written and make helpful suggestions such as correct grammar usage, punctuation and etc. I am grateful to them and all others who patiently assisted in whatever way they could. Also thanks to our elders who helped me keep the *facts* in all stories.