7

Gathering the Nations

Key References: Isaiah 66:18-23; *The Acts of the Apostles,* chap. 3, pp. 25-34; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 182-186; Our Beliefs nos. 13, 17, 21















power**text**

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19, 20).

power**point**

We serve by getting involved in God's work around the world however we can.

Sabbath

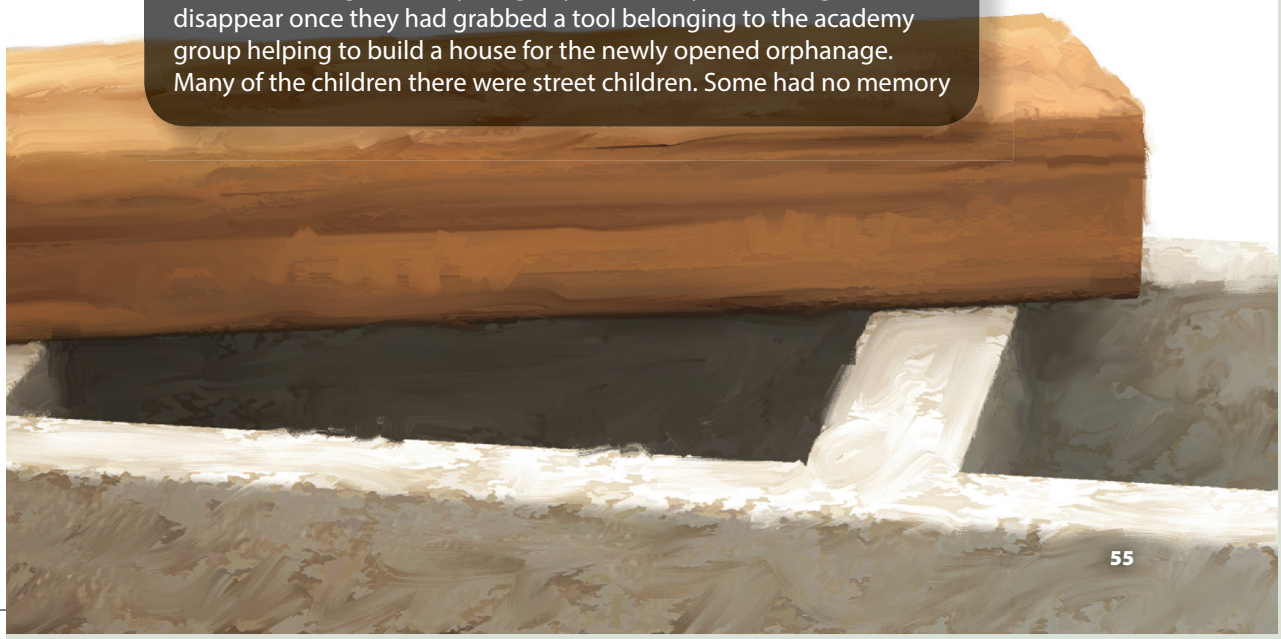
DO Do the activity on page 60.

Have you ever dreamed about being a missionary pilot, or a missionary doctor, or a teacher? There are many ways you could serve as a missionary today. Let's discover more.

Brad sat quietly, watching the video from the orphanage that Mr. Murray had brought to chapel. "Jesus had a way of reaching out to everyone He came in contact with," Mr. Murray said. "It didn't matter to Him where people were born, what was the color of their skin, or whether they were rich or poor. Jesus loved them all. He gave us a beautiful example of what Isaiah referred to when he said that the Messiah would be a gatherer of nations. Today I'd like to challenge you to give even more than your offering to help spread His love. Think about giving yourselves! I'll be going back down to the orphanage this spring after school's out. I'd love to take you with me!"

* * *

The little boy grabbed the metal tape measure sitting on the board, and ran. "Hey! Come back here!" Brad called after him. It was no use. He was gone. The young boys had a way of seeming to almost disappear once they had grabbed a tool belonging to the academy group helping to build a house for the newly opened orphanage. Many of the children there were street children. Some had no memory



7

Sunday

READ Read Matthew 28:19, 20 and this week's lesson, "Gathering the Nations."

WRITE Write out your power text creatively and place it where you can review it all week.

LEARN Begin to memorize the power text. Repeat it every day.

PRAY Pray that you will find mission opportunities where you are.

Monday

READ Read Isaiah 66:18-23.

LEARN If possible, visit www.adventist.org on the Internet to learn more about the worldwide church.

WRITE Send a letter to a missionary in another country.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for someone working in the mission field.

Tuesday

READ Read Matthew 10:1-16.

IMAGINE Imagine that you are a reporter. Write an interview with one of the disciples when they returned from their first missionary trip.

RESEARCH Find out about a country that you would like to visit as a missionary.

REVIEW Review the power text.

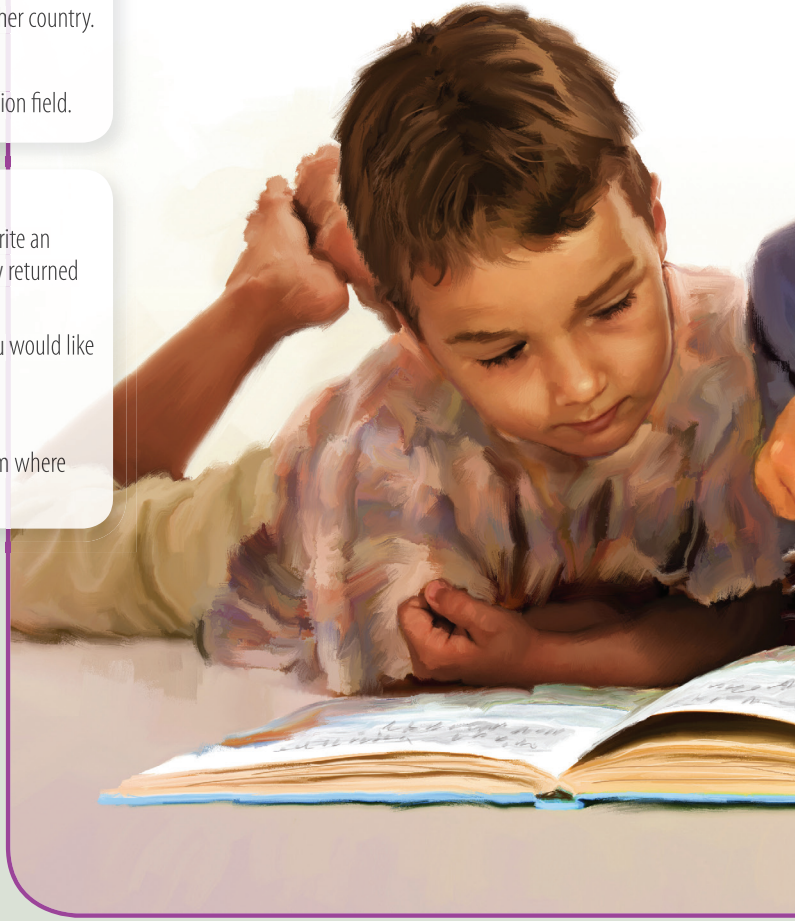
PRAY Ask God for opportunities to serve Him where you are.

of a parent at all. *I wonder what his name is?* Brad thought.

"How can you do this?" Brad asked Carlene, a housemother for six little boys.

"It's a challenge!" she answered. "Most of these kids have never had any kind of a family life. Stealing is a way of life for them. They sell their stolen goods for food. We have to live one moment at a time, asking Jesus for wisdom and love for His precious children."

Brad learned that the little boy's name was Dominique. "Lord Jesus," Brad prayed, "please show me a way to reach Dominique with Your love."



The next morning Brad saw the little fellow again. "Hi!" Brad smiled, reaching for a cookie his mom had sent with him. "Dominique, would you like a cookie?" Startled that the young man knew his name, the boy just stood there. "Here," Brad coaxed. Dominique took the little treat and smiled back.

Each day Brad tried to find little ways to give Dominique extra attention. He read the boy Bible stories. Sometimes they wrestled and played together.



The two weeks of work time went by quickly, and all too soon it was time for Brad to leave. *I wish I had something to give Dominique,* Brad thought. Then he remembered a bookmark in his Bible. Smiling, Brad took it out, and wrote on the back. "To Dominque. Jesus loves you, and I do too. Love, Brad."

As they loaded up the vans, Brad saw Dominque holding his only toy, a little stuffed dog. Taking Dominique on his lap, he said, "I have a little present for you." He handed the bookmark to Dominique. "I have to go now, but I'll always remember you!" Brad hugged the boy and stood up to go.

Suddenly Dominique put his little dog into Brad's hands. "This is to remember me."

Today Brad sends money each month to help cover expenses for Dominique. He hopes to go back as a student missionary to work at the orphanage. And a little toy dog sits on his desk.

All around our world today missionaries are sharing the gospel. In places where there are no Adventist churches, such as parts of Cambodia, a missionary family lives like the people of the area. Helping with medical needs, they are able to share the love of Jesus in simple ways, and they hope to reach many villages that have never heard the gospel of joy before.

In the Solomon Islands of the Pacific another family enters a village, presents a simple skit, sings to the people, and

7

Wednesday

READ Read Acts 13:1-3.

DISCOVER In the book of Acts or on a map at the back of your Bible, discover where Paul and Barnabas went. How many missionary journeys did Paul make?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for people who travel with the gospel.

Thursday

READ Read Acts 8:26-40.

FIND Find Ethiopia on a map. What can you discover about the country and missionary work there?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Choose a country and pray for the mission work in that country.

Friday

READ Read the story "Gathering the Nations" with your family at worship.

ASK Ask your parents to tell you how your family first came into contact with Seventh-day Adventists.

DISCUSS As a family, discuss how you can be missionaries to people who live near you. Plan a project that you can be involved with that affects people far away from you.

REVIEW Review the power text.

SING Sing a song of praise that you would like to sing when you get to heaven.

PRAY Thank God for calling you to be a missionary for Him. Tell Jesus that you are willing to share Him with those around you.

then preaches the good news of Jesus.

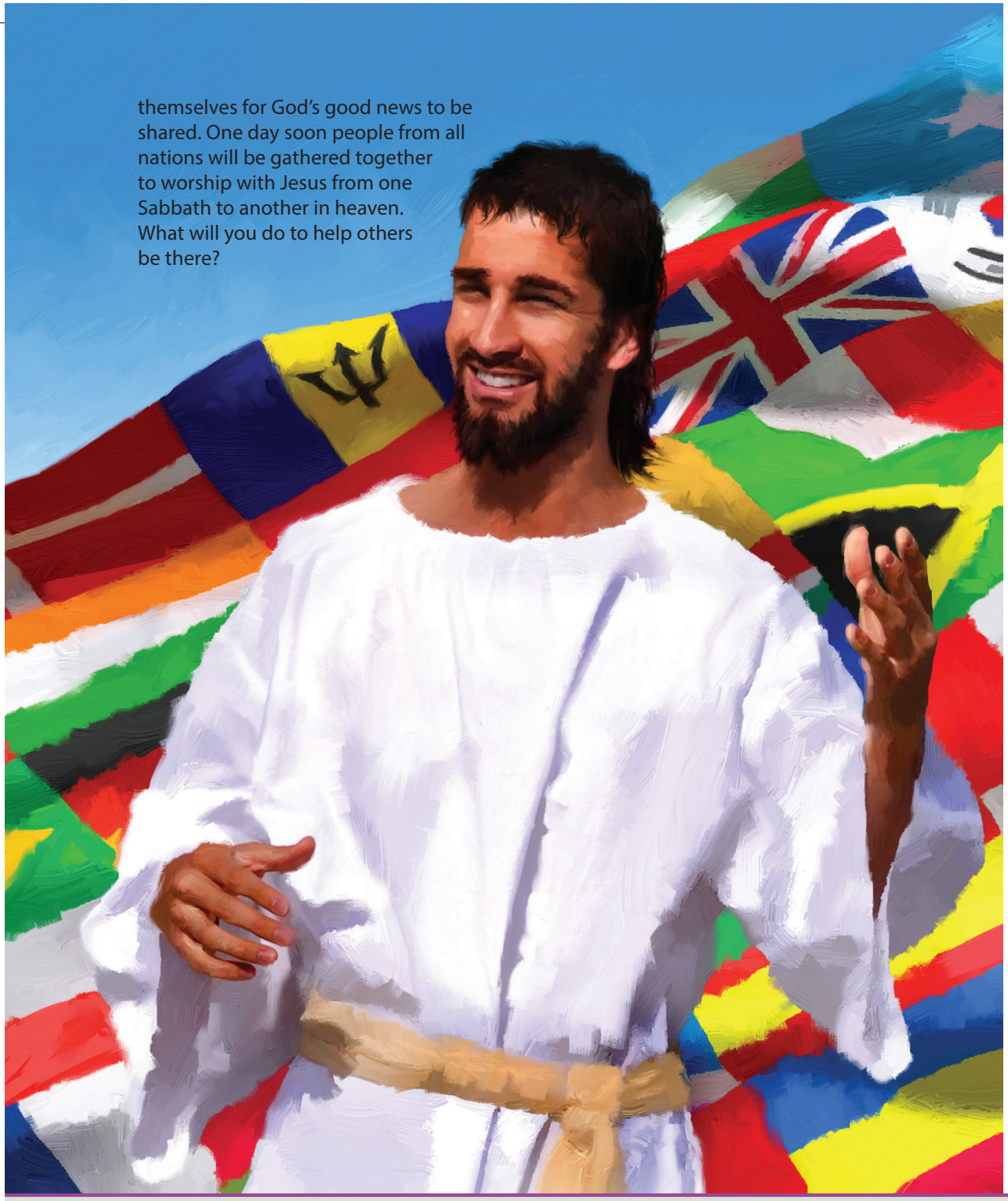
A man in Myanmar who was once a Buddhist has now found the joy of knowing Jesus, because of Adventist World Radio.

Jesus' call to His disciples more than 2,000 years ago is His call to each of us today: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19, 20).

There are many ways to share the good news of Jesus in the world today. People are needed who are willing to give of



themselves for God's good news to be shared. One day soon people from all nations will be gathered together to worship with Jesus from one Sabbath to another in heaven. What will you do to help others be there?



PUZZLE 7

GO FORTH

Instructions: Find all the words in the Bible verse hidden in the puzzle below. The words twist and turn (either forward, backward, upward, downward, or diagonally) and most do not follow a straight line. If the word appears more than once in the verse, then you need to find it more than once in the puzzle. The first letter of each word is adjacent to (next to) the last letter of the previous word, so you should be able to draw a line through the whole puzzle without lifting your pencil.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19,20).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
1	S	M	X	G	P	A	G	T	H	E	A	T	H	E	R	A	D	O	I	T	I
2	Y	B	Q	M	M	R	N	L	N	A	M	I	A	R	G	N	F	R	I	A	I
3	T	O	Y	V	G	I	Q	D	A	O	E	F	S	O	G	T	Y	P	D	N	N
4	H	S	T	T	M	N	O	P	B	F	T	E	N	E	H	L	S	T	T	F	E
5	E	Y	H	E	A	O	I	T	F	S	H	D	A	H	O	H	G	N	E	A	L
6	V	R	A	L	U	Y	Z	I	X	N	V	N	T	E	H	E	T	I	S	C	H
7	E	Y	W	N	T	H	C	L	R	L	O	D	O	F	O	M	V	W	H	M	E
8	N	E	F	T	T	I	R	R	G	I	T	N	B	O	T	N	D	B	R	M	M
9	D	O	E	H	I	A	W	G	E	E	A	E	C	I	T	M	A	O	F	P	C
10	W	L	A	Y	L	M	Y	R	V	N	Y	I	S	E	D	A	K	B	G	Y	G
11	C	G	L	Q	H	T	X	N	I	L	P	L	J	E	A	E	H	X	E	I	K
12	V	E	E	U	A	H	I	G	H	L	O	E	Q	K	Y	W	U	R	G	X	H
13	V	R	U	N	O	E	V	A	A	O	S	J	O	L	H	R	F	O	B	J	G
14	R	D	S	D	Y	E	O	M	M	F	O	M	Y	T	T	E	I	F	B	L	K
15	X	H	X	M	D	C	D	A	K	V	G	O	W	H	O	B	R	N	H	C	K
16	C	L	X	S	U	E	N	P	W	B	N	O	U	C	H	D	W	E	M	T	L