



CHILDREN'S MISSION

2018 • **QUARTER 3** • NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION



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On the Cover: Kuriyama Sota, 10, memorizes the memory verse for the adult's Sabbath School every week to help his grandfather in Japan. Read his story on page 8.

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Your Offerings at Work

Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped Tusgal School, the only Seventh-day Adventist school in Mongolia, expand its classrooms and open a library in Ulaanbaatar. This photo shows fifth-grade students, including Ivel Namjildorj, left, whose story is on page 20.



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Dear Sabbath School Leader,

Andrew McChesney
Editor



This quarter we feature the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, which includes China, Japan, Mongolia, North and South Korea, and Taiwan. The region is home to 1.6 billion people, making it the church's largest in terms of population, but also among the least reached with the gospel, with only 3 percent identifying themselves as Christian. The other 97 percent are Buddhists, Shintoists, Muslims, Shamans, Taoists, and atheists.

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division has an Adventist membership of about 704,000. That's a ratio of one Adventist for every 2,292 people.

The division has set a five-year goal of increasing membership to at least 1 million by 2020. That's an ambitious goal for a territory that grew by 77,841 members over the previous five-year period, from 2010 to 2015. "We still have many mission opportunities in our territory. However, the opportunities will not always remain," then-division

president Jairyong Lee said in announcing the 1-million-member plan in late 2015. "We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming when no man can work' (John 9:4)."

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath projects were chosen to help reach that goal of 1 million members.

Special Features

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive in a new way this quarter, contact me directly at mcchesneya@gc.adventist.org for high-resolution photos to accompany the featured stories. You could show the photos to the children on your computer or mobile device while you read the mission story, or you could print the photos to decorate your Sabbath School room or church bulletin board.

This *Children's Mission* quarterly contains just a sampling of the thrilling mission stories that we have collected from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. For more great stories, visit bit.ly/nsd-archive, which will take you to all the division stories. At this link, you can also search for stories based on country.

You can download the PDF version of the *Children's Mission* quarterly at bit.ly/childrensmisson and like us at Facebook. [com/missionquarterlies](https://www.facebook.com/missionquarterlies). Download *Mission Spotlight* videos at bit.ly/missionspotlight. Check out Leader's Resources on page 34.

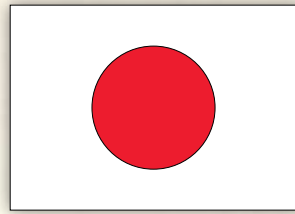
If you have found especially effective ways to share these mission stories, please let me know at the e-mail address above.

Thank you for encouraging children to be mission-minded!

Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help provide:

- A holistic inner-city church plant in China
- The first Adventist church in Sejong, South Korea
- A boarding academy in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- A youth evangelism training center at Tokyo's Setagaya Church in Japan
- Six city health centers in Taiwan



JAPAN | July 7

Praying for Students

Kurihara Kimiyoshi, 39

Kimi [pronounced: kee-mee] and his wife traveled twice a year by ferry between South Korea and Japan. *[Find South Korea and Japan on a map, so you can see the route that Kimi traveled. Make sure your finger passes the Japanese island of Tsushima, which is located halfway between the two countries.]*

Kimi is from Japan, and he worked as a teacher in South Korea. For vacation, he and his wife took the ferry to his home in Japan.

Every time they took the ferry, they sailed past a big island located right between South Korea and Japan. The island had lots of green trees and beautiful mountains. Kimi wondered whether people on the island knew Jesus.

Kimi learned that the island is called Tsushima [pronounced: tsu-shim-a] and is part of Japan. He also learned that no Seventh-day Adventists lived there. He

thought about becoming a missionary and telling the people about Jesus, but he was worried. He thought to himself, “How would my wife and I survive there?”

As he read the Bible for his personal devotions every morning, he saw promises that God would help him if he moved to the island. He especially liked Philippians 4:19, which says, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (NKJV).

Kimi and his wife decided to become Global Mission pioneers. Global Mission pioneers are a special kind of missionary who live in places where there aren’t any other Adventists. Kimi and his wife moved to the island, and Kimi opened a school to teach English to children for free.

Many parents wanted their children to learn English, and they liked the free lessons. But they were scared to send their children to the school. Why do you think

Fast Facts

- Japan is an archipelago, or string of islands, on the eastern edge of Asia. There are four main islands: Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu. There are also nearly 4,000 smaller islands.
- Three of the tectonic plates that form Earth's crust meet near Japan and often move against each other, causing earthquakes. More than 1,000 earthquakes hit Japan every year. Japan also has about 200 volcanoes, 60 of which are active.
- Japanese cuisine includes lots of rice, fish, and vegetables, but little meat. With little fat or dairy, this diet is very healthy, which may explain why Japanese people live, on average, longer than any other people in the world.
- Sumo wrestling is Japan's national sport. To win at sumo, the wrestler must either force his opponent to step out of the ring or force him to touch the ground with any part of his body other than the bottoms of his feet.

they were scared? *[Wait for a child to guess.]*

The parents were scared because they had never met a Christian. Kimi told the parents that he was a Christian and would pray to Jesus at every English lesson. Only two children came to Kimi's first lesson.

But more children started coming after a while. They liked Kimi. He was very kind, and he had a friendly smile. The children also liked the Bible stories that he told during the lessons.

Then one day a student told her mother that Kimi had prayed to Jesus. The mother became very angry, for she hadn't known that Kimi was a Christian. The mother forbade her daughter from going to English lessons. She also told other parents bad things about Kimi that

weren't true. So, all the parents told their children that they couldn't go to English lessons anymore.

When Kimi arrived to teach English the next day, he found the classroom empty. Kimi felt sad. He wondered why God would want him to be a missionary if he didn't have any students. He felt even more sad when he saw the children on the street. The children used to smile and wave when they saw him, but now they looked sad and ran away.

Kimi prayed to God for help. He prayed, "Dear God, if it is Your will, please send the students back to school."

Three months passed, and nothing happened. Kimi kept praying.

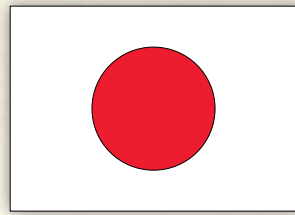
Then one day, one child came back to school. Kimi was so happy! Then two more students returned. Eventually, all the students came back to the school. It was a miracle!

Kimi didn't do anything to persuade the children to return. He just prayed and waited patiently for God to answer his prayer. God can do all kinds of miracles when we pray and wait patiently.

When we give to the mission offering, we help missionaries like Kimi share Jesus with others. Let's pray to ask God to bless Kimi so that many children will know about Jesus on his island. *[Ask a child to pray.]* 🌐

By Andrew McChesney

Kimi never planned to be a missionary teacher. He has a pilot's license and wanted to be a flying missionary, but God had other plans. Still, Kimi plays with airplanes. Watch Kimi play with a paper airplane in his classroom at the link: bit.ly/praying-for-students1



JAPAN | July 14

Tormented by Spirits

Kurihara Kimiyoshi, 39

Nakamura [pronounced: naka-mura] was a very unhappy grandmother on the Japanese island of Tsushima [pronounced: tsu-shim-a]. *[Find Tsushima on the map. It is located exactly between Japan and South Korea.]*

Nakamura's head hurt, and strange things happened to her. She heard someone whispering in her ear all the time, "Psst, psst, psst!" But when she looked around, she couldn't see anyone. Sometimes she saw strangers walking in her home, but when she told her husband about them, he couldn't see anyone.

Nakamura went to a fortune-teller for help. What is a fortune-teller? *[Wait for several children to answer.]* A fortune-teller claims to tell people the future and heal sicknesses. But only God knows the future and can really heal sicknesses.

Nakamura gave the fortune-teller a lot of money, hoping that the fortune-teller

would cure her headaches and stop the invisible person from whispering in her ear. But the fortune-teller couldn't help.

Then one day Nakamura heard from her neighbors that a man who worshipped the God of heaven had moved to her island. She wondered whether he could help her. Nakamura knocked on the door of the home of Kimi [pronounced: kee-mee], a Seventh-day Adventist missionary. Kimi and his wife had just moved to the island. They were the only Adventists on the whole island.

Kimi invited Nakamura into his home and listened as she spoke about her troubles. She told him that she had been bothered by evil spirits for a long time. She said she had gone to the fortune-teller, but the fortune-teller couldn't get rid of the evil spirits. She didn't know what to do, so she asked Kimi to help.

It was Sabbath morning when

Mission Post

- Shinto is the largest religion in Japan, practiced by nearly 80 percent of the population, yet only a small percentage of these identify themselves as Shintoists in surveys.
- Christianity was first introduced into Japan by Jesuit missions in 1549. Today, 1 percent to 2.3 percent are Christians.
- The Japan Union Conference comprises the East Japan and West Japan conferences and the Okinawa Mission.
- There are 97 churches in Japan, with a membership of 15,151. With a population of 125,310,000, there are 8,270 Japanese for each Adventist.

Nakamura knocked on Kimi's door. Since there were no other Adventists on the island, there also was no Adventist church. Kimi was holding a church service in his home with his wife and two friends visiting from the United States.

Kimi, his wife, and the two friends knelt in a circle around Nakamura.

"Dear God, please deliver this dear grandmother from the evil spirits that are causing her so many problems," one of them prayed. "Please help her in Jesus' name. Amen."

When the prayer ended, Nakamura screamed in surprise, "It's gone! I felt something leave my head! I am free!"

Nakamura returned to the missionaries' home the next Sabbath. She studied the Bible with them and learned that evil spirits like to torment people who don't know Jesus. She learned that if evil spirits bothered her, she only needed to pray in the name of Jesus Christ. The missionary told her, "Just say, 'In the

name of Jesus Christ, I command you to leave me alone!'"

The evil spirits never bothered Nakamura again.

After a few months, she gave her heart to Jesus and was baptized. Nakamura became the first Adventist to be baptized on the whole island!

Kimi, the missionary, was so happy when Nakamura was baptized. He said, "This was the reason that my wife and I came here. We came to prepare people to live with Jesus in heaven."

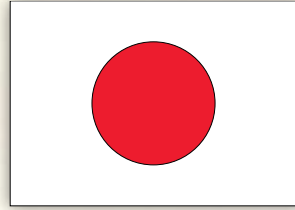
We also are helping to prepare people to live with Jesus when we give to the mission offering. The money helps missionaries share Jesus with people around the world. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

Read about Kimi's second baptism at the link: bit.ly/caught-by-God, or on page 14 of the adult and youth Mission quarterly, which can be downloaded at the link: bit.ly/adultmission

Nakamura being baptized on Tsushima Island.





JAPAN | July 21

Kuriyama Sota, 10

Memorizing for Grandfather

Sota [pronounced: SO-ta] is a 10-year-old boy who lives in Japan. *[Find Japan on a map.]*

Sota likes to play tug-of-war with his friends at school. After school, he likes to play badminton. But most of all he likes to memorize verses from the Bible. Can you guess why? *[Wait for a child to guess.]*

It all started when Sota's grandfather fell ill and nearly died. Sota and his family prayed to God to heal Grandfather after the stroke, and Grandfather lived. But he had a lot of trouble learning how to talk again. When he tried to talk, the words were slurred and came out very slowly. It was hard to understand what he was saying.

Grandmother came up with a bright idea. She told Grandfather that he should memorize the memory verse for adults every Sabbath. But Grandfather was

stubborn. He didn't want to memorize because it was difficult.

So, when Sota came to visit, she called him over and said: "Sota, why don't memorize the memory verse for adults this week?"

Sota didn't know if he could. The memory verse was much longer than the memory verse for children. But he said, "This seems interesting. Why don't I try?"

Grandmother wrote down the memory verse on a piece of paper, and Sota took it home. Early Sabbath morning, Grandmother asked Sota whether he knew the memory verse. Sota recited the memory verse to her perfectly. Grandmother was so pleased! Then she recited the memory verse to Sota. She had memorized it, too!

Grandmother invited Sota to go to the adults' Sabbath School with her and

Grandfather. When Sabbath School began, the teacher asked who knew the memory verse. Sota raised his hand, and the teacher gave him the microphone.

All the adults were surprised to hear him say the memory verse. Sota's grandfather also was surprised, but he didn't say anything.

The next week, Sota memorized another memory verse. In Sabbath School, the teacher again asked who knew the memory verse, and Sota again raised his hand. But he wasn't the only person to raise his hand. Grandfather raised his hand, too! Grandfather had been so amazed that Sota knew the adult memory verse that he had memorized it, too.

The same thing happened the next Sabbath and the Sabbath after that. Both Sota and Grandfather recited the memory verse in Sabbath School.

As Grandfather memorized the memory verses, it became easier for him to speak, and his speech improved.

Grandfather still doesn't talk very much. He has never said what he thinks about Sota's decision to memorize the verses. But Grandmother is very happy—and so is everybody at church! All the adults love to hear Sota recite the memory verse every Sabbath.

Everyone also is happy that Grandfather is speaking better now.

And that's why Sota likes memorizing the Bible more than playing his favorite games of tug-of-war and badminton. He likes to memorize the Bible because it helps his grandfather.

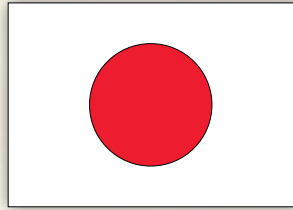
When we help someone, we are loving that person—and showing our love for God. How can we help others? One way is to give to the mission offering so others can learn about God. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

Watch Sota recite from 1 Peter at the link: bit.ly/memorizing-for-grandfather

Sota memorizing a passage from the Bible.





JAPAN | July 28

Taniguchi Iku, 12

Iku's Bible Challenge

Iku [pronounced: i-ku] is a 12-year-old girl in Japan. *[Ask a child to find Japan on the map.]*

When Iku started first grade, her grandmother gave her a special gift—a Bible. *[Ask the children whether they own Bibles.]*

Iku loved her new Bible. She opened it and read it. Some words were difficult to understand, but she was so happy to have her own Bible!

She kept reading the Bible as she got older. Then one day when she was in the fifth grade, she thought to herself, “Why can’t I read the whole Bible?” She couldn’t think of a reason why not, so she decided to read the Bible from the beginning to the end in one year.

But Iku had to figure out how to get through the entire Bible in a year. First, she counted how many chapters are in the

Bible. *[Ask the children how many chapters are in the Bible.]* Iku learned that the Bible has 1,189 chapters. She could finish the Bible in one year if she read three chapters every day and five chapters on Sabbaths.

Iku wondered when she would find the time to read the Bible. She had lots of homework in the fifth grade, and she didn’t have much time after school. Her mother said it would be better to read the Bible in the morning, before school, so she could start the day with Jesus. So, Iku set her alarm clock for 5 o’clock.

Iku found it difficult to wake up so early. Everyone was still sleeping, and it was dark outside. But she remembered that she wanted to read the Bible in one year, and she jumped out of bed.

She prayed, “Dear God, help me to understand what I am going to read.”

Then she started with the first book of

Fast Facts

- Japan's literacy rate is almost 100 percent.
- It was customary in ancient Japan for women to blacken their teeth with dye as white teeth were considered ugly. This practice persisted until the late 1800s.
- There are three Adventist nursery schools in Japan, all bearing in their name the word Saniku. The name "Saniku" (三育), is a combination of 三 (san, "three") and 育 (iku, "to nourish, to bring up"), means "to make people whole" in physical, intellectual, and spiritual attributes.

the Bible. *[Ask children if they know the first book of the Bible.]* That's right, the first book is Genesis.

Iku found that it takes only 30 minutes to read five chapters every morning. Before she knew it, she had read the whole Bible in a year!

Then Iku thought, "That was so interesting! I want to read the Bible again!" So, when she started sixth grade, she read the whole Bible again in a year!

Something interesting happened as Iku read the Bible. She began to change. She started to want to memorize the Bible—not just the Sabbath School memory verse but other parts of the Bible as well.

She also became happier and smiled more. People liked being around her.

Iku's big sister, Nana, who is 14 years old, said Iku now understands the Sabbath sermons better than anybody in the family.

Iku's little sister, Miko, who is nine, wanted to be like Iku and began to read the Bible, too.

Iku's favorite book of the Bible is Romans. "There's a lot of good verses there," she said.

Her favorite verse is Romans 8:38, 39, which says, "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (NKJV).

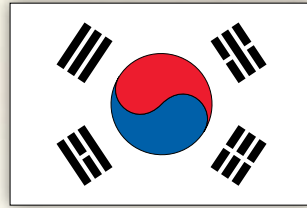
[Ask children about their favorite Bible book and verse. Then ask whether they would like to read the Bible from cover to cover.]

Iku said it's not difficult to read the whole Bible. The secret is to read a little every day. "Even just little by little, read the Bible every day," she said. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



Iku, second left, with her mother, left, and sisters Miko and Nana.



SOUTH KOREA | August 4

Eunsook Cheong, 56

Singing for Jesus

Joongjae [pronounced: joong-jae] is a 57-year-old homeless man in South Korea. *[Find South Korea on the map.]*

He doesn't have a job, and he doesn't own a car. Usually he sleeps with other homeless people in a city square at a train station in South Korea's capital city, Seoul.

Joongjae may not own many things, but he does have a prized possession: a loudspeaker and microphone. He saved his money and bought the loudspeaker because he wanted to listen to Christian music in the city square where he lives. He loves songs about Jesus.

One day, the loudspeaker didn't work properly. As Joongjae adjusted some wires, he heard a woman's voice.

"What are you doing?" the woman asked.

"I'm fixing the loudspeaker," Joongjae replied. "I like to listen to Christian music."

"I like Christian music, too!" the woman exclaimed. "And I can sing! I like to sing about Jesus."

Joongjae finished fixing the loudspeaker, and he handed the woman the microphone. The woman sang a lovely song about Jesus and Talitha. *[Ask the children: Do you know the story of Talitha? She is a 12-year-old girl who was resurrected by Jesus in Mark 5.]*

Joongjae listened in awe. A crowd gathered. When the woman finished, Joongjae said, "I want to hear you sing every day!"

The woman, Eunsook [pronounced: oon-sook], returned the next week and sang more songs with Joongjae's microphone and loudspeaker. She came back every Wednesday for five months.

But some people at the train station didn't like her songs and told Joongjae not to allow her to sing with his loudspeaker anymore. Joongjae felt sad because he liked the music. But he didn't want trouble, so he told Eunsook that she couldn't use his loudspeaker.

Eunsook was sad. She realized that she was helping many people with her songs. She didn't have enough money to buy a new loudspeaker and microphone, so she told her friends on Facebook what had happened. Adventists around the world saw her post, and they sent money. Soon Eunsook returned to the train station with her own loudspeaker.

Eunsook has become a star on the square. People wait all week to hear her sing. People ask her for more information about Jesus, and she tells them how to find an Adventist church nearby. Many people now love Jesus because of Eunsook. One of those people is a man who began to cry as she sang. The man was once a Christian, but he stopped believing in God and later lost his job. When he heard Eunsook sing, he felt as if God was speaking to him. After that, he began to attend church. Another man who goes to church now is a deaf man. He watched as Eunsook sang and later said to her, "I want to go to church. Can you recommend a church?"

Eunsook was surprised! The deaf man

could not hear her sing, but he still wanted to know about Jesus! The deaf man now goes to church every Sabbath.

So, what happened to the homeless man, Joongjae? He felt terrible that he hadn't allowed Eunsook to use his loudspeaker. But he has become her friend. Whenever she sings, he stands nearby and protects her like a bodyguard. And he is very happy. Do you know why? Because he gets to hear beautiful music about Jesus.

Eunsook shows her love for Jesus by singing.

How can you show your love for Jesus? *[Wait for children to answer.]* You can sing about Jesus just like Eunsook. You can help your parents and friends. And you can give money to the mission offering so people in faraway countries can hear about Jesus. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney

Watch Eunsook sing "Talitha Koum," the song about Jesus and Talitha, at the link: bit.ly/singing-for-Jesus

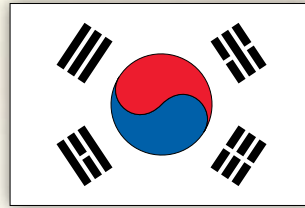
Speak Korean!

A Korean lesson with Young Suk Chae, associate Sabbath School and Personal Ministries director for the Korean Union Conference:

| COMMON PHRASES | KOREAN | ENGLISH | PRONUNCIATION |
|-----------------------|--------|------------|---------------|
| "Hello" and "goodbye" | 안녕 | an-yeung | [an-yung] |
| "I love you" | 사랑해 | sarang hae | [sa-rang hae] |
| "Jesus" | 예수님 | Yesunim | [Ye-su-nim] |

Korean Adventists take Jesus' name to create names for their children. For example:

- 예림 (Yerim [ye-rim]) is a girl's name meaning "Jesus' coming"
- 예은 (Yeeun [ye-un]) is a girl's name meaning "the grace of Jesus"
- 예찬 (Yechan [ye-chan]) is a boy's name meaning "praise Jesus"



SOUTH KOREA | August 11

By Jeong Hee Im, 21

Church Became My Family

[A woman should read this first-person story.]

My name is Jeong Hee [pronounced: Mjong hee]. I was in the fifth grade when a friend invited me to visit her Seventh-day Adventist church in South Korea. *[Find South Korea on the map.]*

The people at the church were so kind and gentle. The pastor's wife was especially nice, and we read the Bible together after church. She showed me in the book of Genesis that God made the Sabbath holy when He created the world. I decided that I wanted to go to the Adventist church every Sabbath.

But the Bible teacher at my old church didn't want me to go to the Adventist church. She told me, "The Adventist Church will tie you up and beat you!"

But I still wanted to go to the Adventist church. I joined the church's Pathfinder club, and I wanted to go with the other children to pray with lonely grandmothers

and grandfathers near the church. One day, my Bible teacher gave up. She told me, "Fine, go wherever you want." I was so happy that I felt like I could fly!

But then my parents, who are farmers, told me not to go to the Adventist church. One Sabbath as I sat in church in my Pathfinder uniform, my mother stormed into the room, yelling, "Why are you wearing those clothes? Take them off!" She grabbed my arm and forced me to go home with her. I cried and cried.

A few Sabbaths later, my mother returned to the church. She shouted, "It's either me or the church. Choose me or the church. But if you choose the church, I am going to throw you out of the house."

I began to cry and hurried home with her. What else could I do? What would you do? *[Wait for the children to answer. Ask what they should do if an adult tells them to disobey God. Jesus' disciples faced a similar problem in Acts 5:29 but decided, "We ought*

Mission Post

- South Korea has 715 churches and a membership of 247,143. With a population of 75,916,000, that means there is one Adventist for every 307 people.
- More than 50 percent of people in Korea do not claim membership in any organized religion, while 28 percent are Christian and 16 percent are Buddhist.

to obey God rather than men.”]

Even though my mother was upset, I wanted to obey God. I tried to obey my mother, so I went home when she told me. God tells us to honor our parents in the Fifth Commandment. But my mother couldn't make me give up my faith. I went to church every Sabbath.

After a while, my mother realized that I loved God, and she stopped getting angry. But then my father began to yell. After church, the pastor's wife packed leftover food from the fellowship meal for my family. When my father saw the food, he screamed, "I don't want this food!" He

threw the food into the garbage.

When these things happened and made me cry, the church members cried with me and prayed for me. The church members became my closest family. My only happiness was being in church.

After a while, my father began to have difficulties on the farm, and the church members helped him. It was hard for my father to stay angry when the church members were so kind and friendly.

Neither of my parents are Adventists, but they respect my faith now. I'm praying that God will save them.

Did you know that children just like you helped children at Jeong Hee's church? Part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago helped her church, Morning Dew Youth Church, move into a bigger building. Thank you for supporting children like Jeong Hee with your mission offering. 🌍

By Jeong Hee Im, as told to Andrew McChesney

Watch a 2015 video about this church at the link: bit.ly/church-became-my-family

What's Your Korean Age?

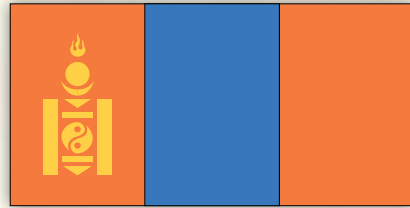
When Andy, who writes the mission stories that we read, asked a South Korean student for his age, the student replied, "Do you want my Korean age or my international age?"

Andy was shocked at the question. "Korean age" or "international age?"

People count their ages differently in South Korea and other countries in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division than in other parts of the world. Let's say that a Korean boy named Cheulsoo [pronounced:

CHEL-su] is born on Jan. 30, 2010. How old is he now? [Wait for a child to reply.]

If you live in North America or Europe, you would probably count the years from Jan. 30, 2010, and say Cheulsoo is seven years old. But in South Korea, Cheulsoo is actually eight years old. That's because a baby is automatically one year old at birth in South Korea. When Cheulsoo was born on Jan. 30, 2010, he was already one year old. [Ask the children to figure out their Korean ages.]



MONGOLIA | August 18

Soyloo Serjkhuu, 14

Banned from Church!

Soyloo [pronounced: soy-law] lives in Mongolia, and she first visited an Adventist church when she was 11 years old. *[Find Mongolia on the map.]*

Soyloo's friends told her about the crafts that they made in Sabbath School, and she wanted to make some crafts, too. Sabbath School was fun! But the sermon was another story.

"I felt very strange the first time that I came to a church service," Soyloo said. "The sermon was very boring, and I felt very sleepy."

Do you ever feel that way during the sermon? *[Wait for children to respond.]*

But Soyloo kept coming back to church because she loved Sabbath School. Then she learned that the church had a Pathfinder club that met for fun afternoon activities after the sermon. She learned to play the guitar in the Pathfinders club.

One Sabbath, Soyloo returned home after a Pathfinders meeting and found that

her older brother was very angry. "From this moment, you are not allowed to go to church anymore," he said.

Her brother was 23 years old, and he had heard a false report that the church members were giving drugs to children.

Soyloo insisted that nobody at church had drugs, but her brother didn't believe her.

Soyloo had to obey her brother's command not to go to church. Her father had died when she was small, so her brother was in charge of the family.

Soyloo cried the rest of the day. She also prayed to God for help.

The next day, she asked her mother to speak with her brother. But her brother didn't change his mind. He only said, "Let me think about it. I need some time to think."

Soyloo prayed every day for a week. "Please, God, soften my brother's heart," she prayed. "Please, give me another

Fast Facts

- The traditional Mongolian home is known as a “ger,” better known in the West by the Russian term “yurt.” The ger is a tent-like structure made of a wooden frame covered with felt; the materials are very lightweight so that they are easily transported.
- Mongolia is known as the “Land of the Horsemen” and horses outnumber people in Mongolia. Horses are used for transportation and also for milk and meat.
- Among Mongolians aged 15 and above, 53 percent are Buddhists, while 39 percent are non-religious. Christians make up only 2.1 percent of the population.

chance to go to church.”

When Sabbath arrived, Soyloo still couldn't go to church, so she spent the day at home, praying and reading the Bible. As she read about how God created the Earth, she thought, “How great my God is!”

The next day, her brother called her over. “Do you really want to go to church?” he said.

“Yes,” Soyloo said. “I really want to go more than anything.”

“OK,” he said with a big smile. “I'll give you another chance to go to church.”

Soyloo was so grateful that God had answered her prayer! She thanked God that she could go to church on Sabbath. Do you ever thank God that you can go to church on Sabbath? *[Wait for children to respond.]* Let's thank God right now that we could come to church today! *[Ask a child to offer a short prayer.]*

Soyloo no longer thinks that the sermon is boring or wants to sleep in

church. She likes to learn about God, so the sermons are interesting.

“I have a heart that wants to know more about God,” she said. “I feel very good when I hear something about God.”

Today, Soyloo is 14 years old, and her favorite Bible verse is John 3:16. Can anyone tell me what this verse says? *[Wait for a child to recite the verse.]*

Soyloo said, “I like this verse because it says God gave His only Son just for me! Everyone who believes in Jesus will have eternal life.”

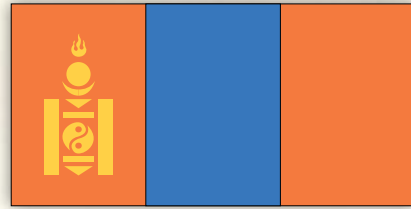
Soyloo doesn't have to pray for God's help to go to church anymore. But she still prays every day. She prays for God to increase her faith. She prays to know God better. And she prays for her mother, brother, and the rest of her family to become Christians.

Your mission offering helps churches in Mongolia share Jesus with people like Soyloo and her family. Let's pray for Soyloo's family and for Soyloo, too, after we collect the mission offering. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

Watch Soyloo singing about her love for Jesus at the link: bit.ly/banned-from-church

Soyloo and 30 to 35 other people attend the Adventist church in Nalliah, a sleepy suburb of Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar. No Adventists lived in the area when the church was planted six years ago, and the church is now led by Global Mission pioneers Batzul Ganbold and his wife. Read about a 15-year-old boy who attends the church on page 18 of the Children's Mission quarterly, and about Batzul Ganbold at the link: bit.ly/batzul-ganbold



MONGOLIA | August 27

Dulguun Galsan, 15

Taking Friends to Heaven

Thirteen-year-old Dulguun Galsan [pronounced: dul-gon] and a friend were walking home from school when they were stopped by two Australian men and a Mongolian woman.

Dulguun had seen many Mongolian women in his life because he lives in a small town in Mongolia. *[Find Mongolia on a map.]*

But this was the first time that he had seen anyone from Australia.

He stopped to listen. He couldn't understand what the men said because he didn't know English, but the Mongolian woman interpreted their words into the Mongolian language.

"We are offering guitar lessons and English-language lessons," the woman said. "If you want to learn, you are welcome to come to the lessons."

One of the Australians handed Dulguun a card with the address of the local

Seventh-day Adventist church. Dulguun wanted to play the guitar, so he went to the church the next afternoon. The people were nice and friendly. He returned the next day. On Sabbath, the children made crafts during Sabbath School and, after church, invited him to join their Pathfinder club for a hike.

The hike lasted a long five miles (8 kilometers), and it wasn't as easy as Dulguun expected. He had never hiked before. Partway through the hike, his legs gave out. He felt a terrible pain in his legs, and he couldn't take another step. Worse than the pain, he had to be carried home. By another Pathfinder. And not just any Pathfinder. By a 13-year-old girl!

"I felt so embarrassed," Dulguun said. "I had to be carried home by a girl!"

After that day, he thought, "My health will only get worse if I don't get more exercise."

He joined the Pathfinder club and began going on many hikes. His legs grew strong, and they no longer hurt during hikes.

In just a year, Dulguun has learned to play the guitar, earned many Pathfinder badges, and helped the Pathfinder club win Bible contests. He also was baptized.

But guitar-playing and badges are not his main goals.

“My main goal is to go to heaven,” said Dulguun, who is now 15. “And I don’t want to go to heaven alone. I want to bring my family with me.”

Dulguun is praying for his mother, his father, and his older sister. Dulguun’s mother is happy that he goes to church because he has become healthier and happier. But his father and sister complained for a long time that he was spending more time at church than with his family. But as Dulguun has prayed, his father has started going to church whenever it offers free medical checkups.

His sister also is changing her mind. She has two sons who were very naughty. Her nine-year-old boy liked to break car windows and treat animals unkindly. The other boy is seven and always disobeyed.

Dulguun wanted the boys, his nephews, to come to church, but he knew that they wouldn’t listen to him. He remembered the fun activities in Sabbath School and told his nephews, “Come with me, and you will have fun.”

To his surprise, both boys came! The boys enjoyed Sabbath School, and now they go with Dulguun to church every Sabbath. Dulguun’s sister is pleased that her sons have become more obedient. She especially is happy because the boys used to come home in dirty clothes after

Fast Fact

- The vast Gobi Desert takes up much of southern Mongolia, but rather than sand dunes, it is mostly a barren, rocky wilderness and temperatures range from minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 40 degrees Celsius) in winter to 104 F (40 C) in summer.

playing outside all Sabbath but now they come home in clean clothes after church.

Dulguun is thrilled that his nephews are learning about Jesus.

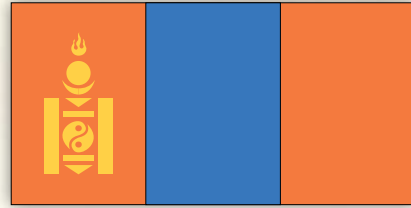
“I believe my two nephews will go to heaven with me because God gave me a chance to bring them to church,” he said. “I want many people to hear the good news of Jesus.”

Let’s pray that Dulguun can bring many more children to Sabbath School. Who can you bring to Sabbath School next Sabbath? *[Wait for children to respond. Examples could be classmates, friends, and neighbors.]*

Your mission offering supports Adventist churches in Mongolia, including the church where Dulguun learned about Jesus. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney

Dulguun and 30 to 35 other people attend the Adventist church in Nalliah, a suburb of Mongolia’s capital, Ulaanbaatar. No Adventists lived in the area when the church was planted six years ago, and the church is now led by Global Mission pioneers Batzul Ganbold and his wife. Read about a 14-year-old church member on page 16 and about Batzul Ganbold at the link: bit.ly/batzul-ganbold.



MONGOLIA | September 1

Iveel Namjildorj, 10

Unhappy First Grader

Iveel [pronounced: i-VEL] is a 10-year-old boy in Mongolia. *[Find Mongolia on the map.]*

When he was five years old, he moved from Mongolia to the Philippines. *[Find the Philippines on the map.]*

His father needed to study at an Adventist university in the Philippines. Iveel also needed to study, so his parents sent him to the first grade.

School was very difficult for Iveel. The teacher and all the other children spoke in English. He didn't know English, only Mongolian. After school, the boys teased Iveel as he waited for his ride home.

"You can't do anything," one boy said.

"You can't even write," said another boy. Go to kindergarten."

When he heard these hurtful words, Iveel ran back into the school and hid behind the door of his classroom. He didn't want to cry in front of the other children.

When he finally returned home, his mother asked him, "How was school today?"

Iveel didn't want his mother to worry, so he didn't tell the truth. "School was good," he said.

[Ask the children whether Iveel did the right thing. Tell them, "We shouldn't lie to our parents, even if we think that lying will help them."]

At night, when Iveel went to bed, he wanted to kneel and pray to God for help. But he was afraid that if his mother saw him praying, she would ask him what he was praying about. He didn't want her to worry. So, he woke up in the middle of the night, when his parents were sound asleep, and quietly prayed to God.

"Please let the children be nice to me so we can be friends," he said. "And please let me go to another school."

Iveel prayed nearly every night for

several months. Then his parents suddenly decided to send him to a different school. The children at the new school were kind. They helped Iveel learn to speak English. When he hurt his leg playing soccer, the other boys helped him walk home.

Iveel was so happy that God had answered his prayer about going to a new school!

Then one day, the principal of Iveel's old school invited him to return to the school for a party. Iveel felt a little nervous about seeing his old classmates who had treated him unkindly.

But when he went to the party, the other children played with him and he had a great time. God answered his other prayer about becoming friends with those children!

Iveel is now in the fifth grade, and he lives back in his home country of Mongolia. But he has never forgotten how God answered his prayers. He had never asked God for anything before he had prayed about his school trouble, and he had even wondered whether God really exists.

Mission Post

- The Mongolia Mission is located in Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar. It comprises six churches, with a membership of 2,177.
- Mongolia has a population of 3,095,000, so there are 1,422 people for every Adventist in the country.

“Yes, I went to church every Sabbath, but I thought, ‘How can God create the world with just His words?’” Iveel said. “After God answered my prayers, I believed that He is real.”

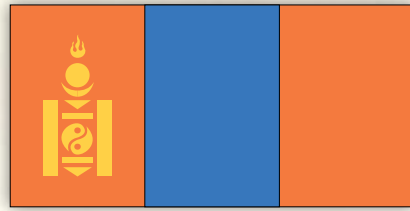
Iveel has many friends in Mongolia, but many of them come from families that do not know about God. Part of this quarter's Thirteen Sabbath Offering will help build a new Adventist school in Mongolia, so more children can learn about God. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney

Watch a short video of Iveel at this link: bit.ly/unhappy-first-grader

Say Animal Names (and Sounds!)

| ANIMAL | MONGOLIAN | PRONUNCIATION | SOUND |
|---------|-----------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Sheep | ХОНЬ | khoni [khon] | maaaaa maaaaa (baaing sound) |
| Cow | ҮХЭР | ukher [oo-kher] | umboo umboo (mooring sound) |
| Horse | МОРЬ | mori [mer] | i-haaa (neighing sound) |
| Rooster | ТАХИА | takhia [takh-a] | go-go-go (clucking sound) |
| Dog | НОХОЙ | nokhoi [nokh-o] | heov-heov (barking sound) |
| Cat | МУУР | mor [mor] | meow |
| Bird | ШУВУУ | shuvu [shav-O] | jiv-jiv-jiv (chirping sound) |
| Frog | МЭЛХИЙ | melkhi [mel-khi] | wak-wak (croaking sound) |



MONGOLIA | September 8

Urna Uuganbayar, 15

Praying for a Best Friend

Urna [pronounced: OR-na] grew up in a Seventh-day Adventist home in Mongolia. *[Find Mongolia on the map.]*

Urna's father died when she was four years old, and she lived at home with her mother.

The first few grades of school were tough. The other children made fun of her for not having a father. They chanted, "You don't have a father! You don't have a father!" This made Urna feel sad.

On Sabbath, Urna went to church with her mother. She didn't know why they went to church. She didn't think Sabbath School was interesting because she already knew all the Bible stories taught by the teacher.

Everything changed when Urna was nine. She and her mother moved to the Philippines so her mother could study at an Adventist university there. *[Find the Philippines on the map, and show how far it is from Mongolia.]*

Urna loved her new school! All the children were nice, and no one made fun of her for not having a father. She became best friends with a girl named Dani from Brazil. Urna and Dani did everything together.

But then Urna's mother finished her classes and had to move back to Mongolia. Dani's parents also finished their work in the Philippines and had to move back to Brazil. *[Find Brazil on the map. Show the distance between the Philippines, Brazil, and Mongolia.]*

Imagine how sad Urna and Dani felt about being so far from each other. Urna didn't want to say goodbye to Dani. Dani didn't want to say goodbye to Urna. *[Ask children whether they have had to say goodbye to a best friend. Ask what it felt like.]*

So, Urna and Dani began to pray that they could remain together. They planned a future together in Brazil. Urna prayed, "Dear God, let me go to Brazil to live with Dani."

Fast Facts

- Mongolia is a landlocked country between Russia and China. Nearly half the population of Mongolia live in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and much of the remaining population are nomadic.
- Mongolia is mountainous, with an average altitude of 5,183 feet (1,580 meters) above sea level, making it one of the highest countries in the world.
- The Mongol Empire led by Genghis Khan and his sons, conquered much of Asia and Europe during the 13th century.

But the day came when the girls had to say goodbye. It was horrible. Urna cried about saying goodbye, but she also cried because she wanted to move to Brazil.

Dani spoke bravely. She told Urna, “Goodbyes are not meant to be sad. Goodbyes only mean I’ll miss you until we meet again.”

Urna and her mother got on an airplane and flew back to Mongolia. But Urna didn’t stop praying. She prayed every day, “Dear God, let me go to Brazil to live with Dani.”

One year passed. Two years passed. Then three and four years. Urna kept praying. One day Urna came home from her Adventist school in Mongolia and

found her mother waiting for her at the front door. “You are going to Brazil!” her mother exclaimed.

Urna screamed with joy.

She learned that friends from Brazil had called her mother and invited her to go to high school in Brazil. The friends said she could live with them.

Urna can’t wait to be reunited with Dani! She can’t believe how God answered her prayer!

“When I really prayed for it, it didn’t come right away,” she said. “It came in God’s time. I think God answers prayer when it’s the right time.”

Today, Urna likes to go to church on Sabbath, and she doesn’t think it’s boring. She goes to praise the God who loves her so much that He answered her biggest prayer.

Urna’s school in Mongolia is growing so quickly that it doesn’t have room for all the students who wish to study there. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help build a new high school so more students can attend an Adventist school. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌐

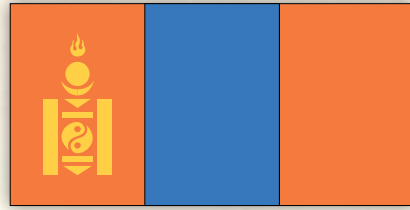
By Andrew McChesney

Watch a 10-second video clip of Urna’s testimony at the link: bit.ly/praying-for-a-best-friend

How to Say “Go!” in Mongolian

OBJECT OF COMMAND MONGOLIAN COMMAND

| | |
|-------|-------|
| Horse | Choo! |
| Sheep | Cha! |
| Goat | Cha! |
| Cow | Hooj! |
| Child | Yeow! |



MONGOLIA | September 15

I Love Books!

Enkhsuvd Ganbaatar, 34

As a little girl, Enkhsuvd [pronounced: ANKH-sovd] loved two things: good books and her country, Mongolia. [*Find Mongolia on the map.*]

Enkhsuvd read all the time. She especially loved to read about the history of Mongolia. She read about two beautiful, brave women named Zolzaya [pronounced: ZOL-zaya] and Anu [pronounced: a-NU], who tried to unite Mongolia about 300 years ago. She read about Yesontumor [pronounced: YESON-tumor], who fought for Mongolia's independence about 200 years ago. She liked these Mongolia heroes so much that she decided to name her children after them.

Shortly before Enkhsuvd got married, her mother gave her a big wooden box filled with 200 books. In the box were her favorite books about the Mongolian heroes

as well as many other books that she had never read. It was the best gift ever!

But then Enkhsuvd and her new husband moved away for several months, and they couldn't take the books with them. So, they left the books at Mother's house. Enkhsuvd hoped to read the books later.

But when she returned, she learned that her mother had burned all her books! Winter is very cold in Mongolia, and many people heat their homes by burning coal in a furnace. Can you guess what is the best way to start a fire in a furnace? [*Allow children to guess.*] Paper is the best way to start a fire. Mother had been cold, and she had seen Enkhsuvd's books.

Enkhsuvd was very sad that all her book had been burned.

"But why?" she asked Mother.

“You weren’t reading these books anymore,” Mother said. “Why do you need them?”

Enkhsuvd bitterly complained about the lost books for several weeks. But that didn’t bring the books back, so she forgave her mother.

Enkhsuvd was no longer a little girl who could read all the time. She needed to be a responsible adult and work. She held several jobs, but she didn’t like them very much. She began to pray that God would help her to find a job that she loved. She prayed every day.

One day, she heard that the Seventh-day Adventist school was looking for a librarian. She liked the sound of that job! What do librarians do? *[Wait for children to respond.]* Yes, they work with books! Does Enkhsuvd love books? Yes!

Enkhsuvd went to the school and asked if she could have the job. Many other people also went to the school because they also wanted the job. Enkhsuvd found out that the school wanted a librarian who had studied to learn how to be a librarian. Enkhsuvd had studied something else in college, and she didn’t know how to be a librarian. She prayed to God even more. It seemed impossible that she could become a librarian.

But then the Adventist school offered her the job! The school principal even told her that she would be sent to college to learn how to be a librarian. Enkhsuvd couldn’t believe her ears!

Today, Enkhsuvd is the school librarian and is very happy that many children visit the library every day. She often reads to the children. Her favorite books are not about Mongolian heroes anymore but about Jesus Christ. Many of the children

Mission Post

- The Adventist Church has a school and a language institute in Mongolia.
- The Adventist work in Mongolia was begun around 1926 by Russian missionaries.
- The first Adventist publications in Mongolian consisted of a hymn, mimeographed at the Russian Mission press at Harbin, Manchuria; and sometime later, four small tracts.

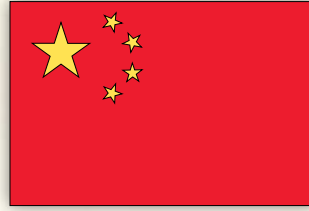
are from non-Christian families, and they hear about Jesus for the first time when Enkhsuvd reads.

Enkhsuvd said she loves her job because it is missionary work. She said, “God is using me to share His stories with the children.”

She is no longer sad about losing her box of 200 books. God has given her a school library with 3,000 books! This is the best gift ever!

Did you know that Enkhsuvd’s school has a library because children like you gave money to the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago? That money helped the school open the library. But now the school needs our help again. The school doesn’t have enough room for all the children who want to study there, so part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help build a high school where the older students can go to study. Thank you for giving to the mission offering. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



CHINA | September 22

Sarah, 23

God's Talent Show

When Sarah started third grade, the teacher told her that she had to attend classes every weekday and on Saturdays.

Sarah had never gone to school on Saturday in her home country of China. *[Find China on the map.]* So, she asked the teacher to be excused from Saturday classes.

"Why do you need Saturday off?" the teacher asked.

"I need to go to church," Sarah replied.

The teacher didn't believe in God, and she refused to excuse Sarah from Saturday classes. But Sarah decided it was more important to obey God than her teacher, so she went to church on Saturdays.

The teacher began to make fun of Sarah in front of the other children. "How dare you go to a horrible place like church," the teacher said.

Sarah told her mother about the teacher's unkind words, and her mother spoke with the teacher. But the teacher

still criticized Sarah's faith in God. She didn't say Sarah's name, but all the children knew that she was talking about Sarah because Sarah was the only Christian in the school.

"Smart people don't go to church," the teacher said. "Church is a terrible place."

Sarah had to listen to the teacher's unkind words for three years. Then Sarah got a new teacher in the seventh grade, and the new teacher gave Sarah permission to miss classes on Saturdays. The new teacher respected Christians because he believed they were honest and trustworthy, and he praised Sarah in front of her classmates.

"Sarah is a Christian, and because she is a Christian, she is a wonderful person," he said. "She has integrity."

That kind words sounded so sweet after three years of criticism from the other teacher.

When Sarah was 15, the students

began to prepare for the annual talent show. The talent show, which was held outdoors, was one of the school's biggest events of the year. Sarah's teacher asked her to lead her class in the talent show.

Students often sang or danced in the talent show, but Sarah didn't know any typical songs or dances.

"Everything I know, I know from church," she told the teacher.

"That's fine," the teacher said. "Go for it."

Sarah chose one of her favorite Christian songs, and she choreographed a performance so her classmates could perform to the music. The students liked Sarah's plan, and they raised money to buy special costumes for the performance.

Two days before the talent show, the school announced that it would be held on Saturday.

Sarah was very disappointed, and she told her classmates that she would not attend. Her classmates were disappointed, too. Without Sarah, they would not be able to perform.

"You're very good at taking off Saturdays from school," a classmate told Sarah. "Why can't you just take off a Saturday morning from church?"

Another classmate said, "Are you really going to disappoint us by not leading us at the talent show?"

Sarah didn't know what to say.

"Why don't you pray for me so I can join you?" she said.

Sarah didn't expect her classmates to pray for her. But the next day—just one day before the talent show—her classmates came up to her and said, "We have prayed for you, so we hope you can come tomorrow."

As Sarah left her last class that

Mission Post

- Despite its size, all of China is in one time zone.
- The current population of China is 1.387 billion people. This makes up 18.47 percent of the world's population.
- There are 433,449 members and 1,195 churches in China. China has a population of 1,386,040,000, so there is one Adventist for every 3,198 people in the country.

afternoon, a voice rumbled over the school's PA system. "We have to postpone the talent show because of bad weather," the voice said. "The talent show will now be held on Sunday."

Sarah's classmates had given up hope about participating in the talent show, so they were shocked and excited when they heard the announcement. "Wow!" they said. "Your God is really amazing! Now you can come to the talent show!"

The performance was a big hit on Sunday, and it won first prize. Many students asked Sarah's classmates, "Where did you find this music? It is so beautiful. We have never heard it before." The classmates replied, "The music is from Sarah's church."

The students asked Sarah to share the music with them. "We want to learn it," they said.

This was the first time that Sarah realized that she could witness to others accidentally. All she had to do was obey God.

Today, Sarah is helping grow God's kingdom with another young woman. Twenty people attend her church every Sabbath, and Sarah preaches to them about Jesus and His love. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

Thirteenth Sabbath Program

If your class will present the Thirteenth Sabbath program for the adults:

- Practice singing “Jesus Loves Me” in Chinese to perform during the program (see page 34)

If your class will not join the adults for a special program:

- Present the following story during the mission time. You can invite Juniors or Earliteens to help present the program if you wish. This will help older children to become more comfortable in front of an audience, and give the younger children different people to watch and listen to during the presentation.

Before Thirteenth Sabbath:

- Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on September 29.
- Remind everyone that their mission offerings are gifts to spread God’s Word around the world, and that one-fourth of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to help the people of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.

[Ask four children to present this program. They don’t have to memorize their parts, but encourage them to read through their part several times so that their presentation is smooth and comfortable. They could act this out, too.]

Narrator: This quarter we have met people from South Korea, Japan, Mongolia, and China, which are all countries within the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. Today we will meet a special woman from Taiwan.

No Block of Wood

Narrator: As a small girl, Zhui Wen-Zhi [pronounced: tsoi wen je] worshipped a god called Mazhu in her hometown of Puli in Taiwan. Wen-Zhi’s family were poor farmers who followed a Chinese religious tradition, and they bowed down to the idol of Mazhu.

When Wen-Zhi grew older, she moved

to Taiwan’s capital city, Taipei, to work. While there, she heard about Jesus for the first time at Seventh-day Adventist evangelistic meetings. She started going to church every Sabbath, and she became best friends with another young woman named Shan Xi Qi Zi [pronounced: shan shi chi ze].

When she returned home to visit her parents, she told her mother about her new religion.

Wen-Zhi: Christianity is a nice religion. I want to become a Christian.

Narrator: Her mother didn't like the idea.

Mother: We have a lot of gods in Taiwan. We don't need to worship the God of the Americans.

Narrator: Even though her mother opposed Christianity, Wen-Zhi studied the Bible regularly with her best friend from church. Then one day she read in Isaiah 44 about how people make idols. She read:

Wen-Zhi: "The carpenter cut down trees and makes a god, his idol. He bows down to it and worships. He prays to it and says, 'Save me; you are my god.' No one stops to think, 'Shall I bow down to a block of wood?' But this is what the Lord says, 'Is there any God besides Me? No, there is no other Rock'" (verses 8, 13-14, 17; NIV).

Narrator: Wen-Zhi remembered her family's idol and wondered whether it also was just a block of wood. She was determined to find out, so she went to the place where idols are made. What did she see?

Wen-Zhi: I saw that they made Mazhu with wood just like it was described in the Bible. So, I concluded that the Bible is right. Idols can't do anything.

Narrator: Wen-Zhi resolved to worship Jesus. Now, at that time, Wen-Zhi was engaged to be married, and she told her

future husband about her belief in Jesus.

Wen-Zhi: I'm going to be a Christian.

Husband: OK, you can be a Christian. It doesn't matter to me.

Narrator: So, they got married. But one rainy day, her husband climbed up onto the roof of their house to repair a hole. He asked his wife to pass up some tiles, but she refused.

Wen-Zhi: No, today is Sabbath. Let's work on the leaky roof another day.

Narrator: Her husband grew angry. He came down from the roof and said:

Husband: This religion that you have is not good.

Wen-Zhi: Why are you so angry with me? I told you before we got married that I was going to be a Christian.

Narrator: The husband didn't know what to say. He took Wen-Zhi's Sabbath School lesson book and burned it. Fortunately, he didn't burn her Bible. But after that day, he began to treat Wen-Zhi unkindly because he didn't like her belief in Jesus.

Wen-Zhi was sad, but she continued to study the Bible with her best friend. During one Bible study, her friend said the church would baptize several people the next Sabbath. She asked whether Wen-Zhi was ready to be baptized. Wen-Zhi wanted to be baptized, but she wondered what her husband and mother would say. She decided she could be baptized without telling her mother, but she really needed to tell her husband. She didn't know what he would say, so she began to pray.

On Friday, the day before the baptism, Wen-Zhi announced to her husband:

Wen-Zhi: Tomorrow I will be baptized at church.

Husband: OK.

Narrator: Wen-Zhi was surprised. She wondered whether his “OK” was a real “OK” or a fake “OK.” Then her husband said to her:

Husband: Last night, I was looking at the stars in the sky and thinking, “Why am I being so rude to my wife?” [*Husband turns to look at Wen-Zhi.*] I decided that I should treat you better. So, I promised myself that I would grant your very next request, no matter what it was.

Narrator: What was her next request? The next request that she made was to be baptized, so he granted it! God answered Wen-Zhi’s prayer quickly! But Wen-Zhi had to wait 40 years for God to answer her next big prayer. Wen-Zhi prayed every day for 40 years for her husband to

be baptized, too. Finally, when he was 65 years old, he told her:

Husband: You are a Christian. Our two children are Christians. I am the only one who doesn’t belong to God’s family. I want to be baptized.

Narrator: Wen-Zhi was so happy! She thanked God for answering her prayers. Today, Wen-Zhi is 87 years old, and she still prays every day.

Wen-Zhi: God always answers prayer. He is not a block of wood. There is no other God.

Narrator: People in Taiwan and the rest of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division also are praying to God. They are praying for help to share the good news that there is only one God and He is coming soon to take us home! Let’s give a big Thirteenth Sabbath Offering so more people can learn the good news.

By Andrew McChesney

[Offering]

Zhui Wen-Zhi holding a photo of her best friend, Shan Xi Qi Zi.



Zhui Wen-Zhi with her husband.



Panda Bear

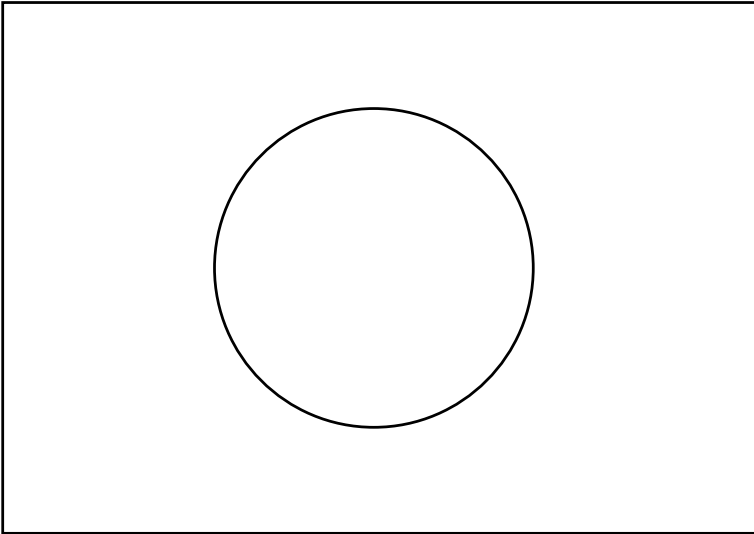
China is home to the panda bear. The panda symbolizes peace, harmony, and friendship. Photocopy this picture and give one to each child to color, then tape them together to create a banner or border for a bulletin board in your classroom. Or enlarge this picture to create an offering goal device (see page 35 for instructions).



Color The Flags

Color the flags where our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will be going to in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

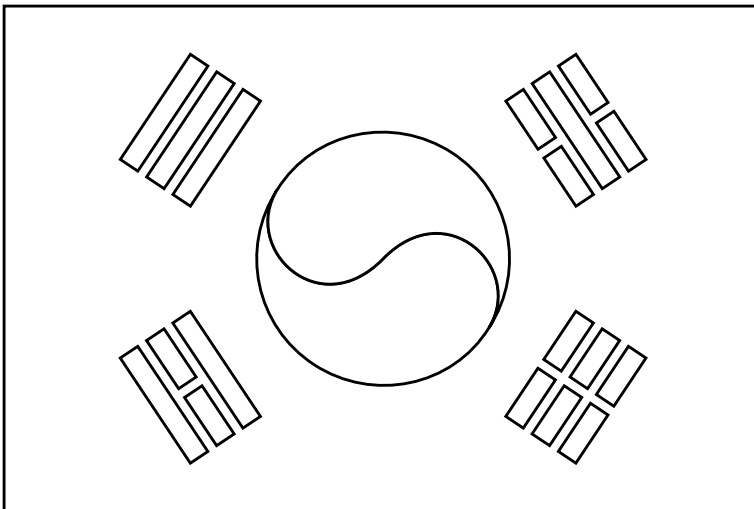
JAPAN



DIRECTIONS

The circle is red and the rest of the flag is white.

SOUTH KOREA



DIRECTIONS

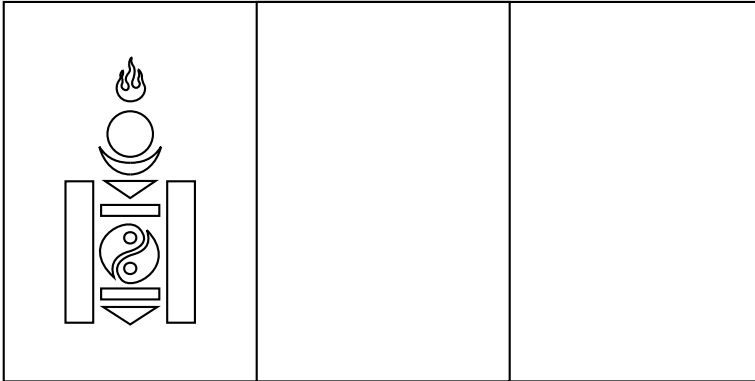
The top part of the circle is red, and the bottom part blue.

The sets of rectangles are black.

The background is white.

Color The Flags

MONGOLIA

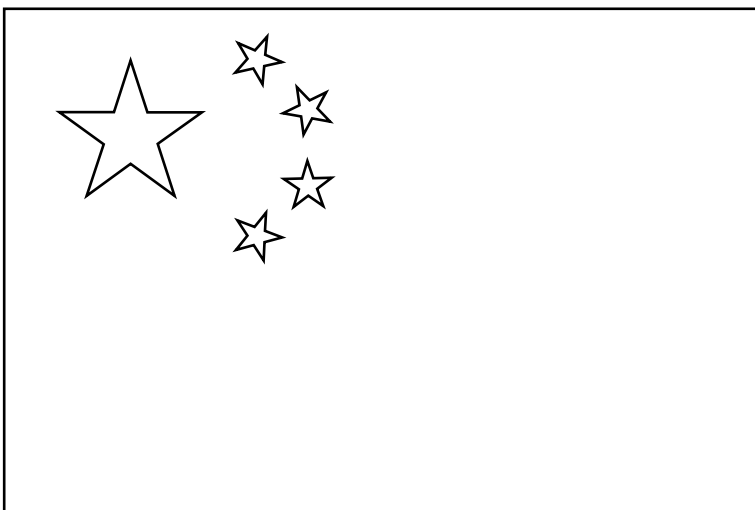


DIRECTIONS

The left and right thirds are red, and the middle third is blue.

The symbols on the left side are yellow.

CHINA

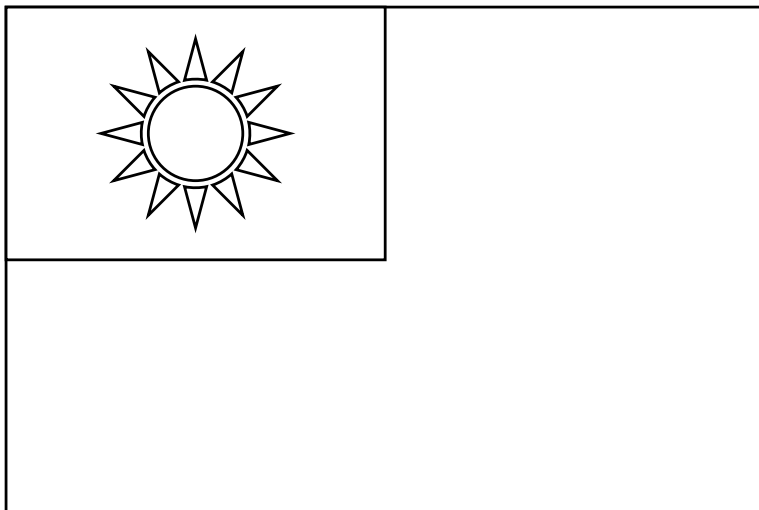


DIRECTIONS

The flag is red and the stars are yellow.

Color The Flags

TAIWAN



DIRECTIONS

The main part of the flag is red.

The square at the top left is blue, and the sun is white.

Sing in Chinese

“JESUS LOVES ME”

(IN CHINESE, WHICH IS SPOKEN IN CHINA AND TAIWAN)

Yeh-soo I wor*, wahn boo tsoo-oh
Yin yoo shung shoo gow** -soo wor
Fan she-ow, hi*** -zuh, joo moo yang
wor sway-ran roo-oh joo chih-ang joo

Joo yeh-soo I wor (3x)
Yo† shung shoo gow-soo wor.

* The “r” sound in “wor” is very soft, like “wohr”

** rhymes with “Ow!”

*** as in, “Hi there!”

† as in “yo-yo”

Watch in Chinese at the link: bit.ly/Jesus-loves-me-chinese

Leader's Resources

For more information in preparing the mission story:

Japan

Japan's government website japan.go.jp
Lonely Planet bit.ly/LonelyPlanetJapan

South Korea

Korea's government website korea.net/index.jsp
Visit Korea bit.ly/VisitingKorea

Mongolia

Mongolia's government website zasag.mn/en
World Travel Guide bit.ly/TravelMongolia

China

China's government website english.gov.cn
Travel China Guide bit.ly/TravelChinaGuide

Taiwan

Taiwan's government website taiwan.gov.tw
Rough Guide bit.ly/RoughGuideTaiwan

Seventh-day Adventist:

Northern Asia-Pacific Division: nsdadventist.org
Chinese Union Mission bit.ly/ChineseUnionMission
Japan Union Conference adventist.jp
Korean Union Conference adventist.or.kr
Mongolia Mission bit.ly/SDAMongoliaMission
Taiwan Conference twcadventist.org.tw

An offering goal device helps focus attention on world missions and increase weekly mission giving. Determine a goal for your class's weekly mission offering. Multiply it by 14, allowing a double goal for the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Since this quarter features the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, you might want to use a drawing of a panda bear, China's symbol, on page 31. Enlarge the picture to fit the largest paper available. In pencil, make 14 marks along the side, one for each week, and two for Thirteenth Sabbath's offering. Then each week after Sabbath School, color in that portion of the panda to indicate the progress your class is making toward your goal.

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Future 13th Sabbath

- A health center in Lahore, Pakistan
- A health center in Cambodia
- A language school in Laos
- An Adventist international mission school in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand

ADVENTIST MISSION

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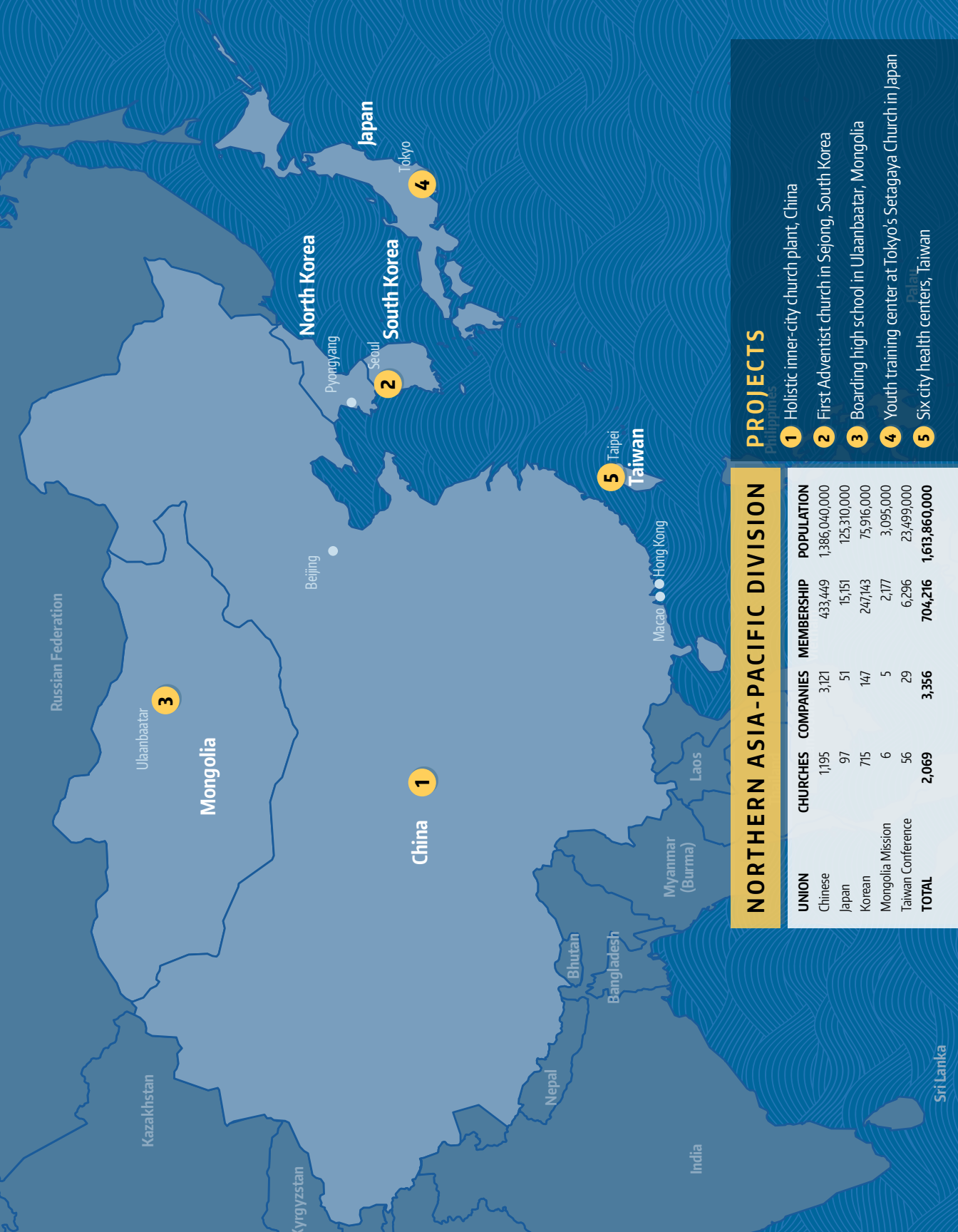
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NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

| UNION | CHURCHES | COMPANIES | MEMBERSHIP | POPULATION |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Chinese | 1,195 | 3,121 | 433,449 | 1,386,040,000 |
| Japan | 97 | 51 | 15,151 | 125,310,000 |
| Korean | 715 | 147 | 247,143 | 75,916,000 |
| Mongolia Mission | 6 | 5 | 2,177 | 3,095,000 |
| Taiwan Conference | 56 | 29 | 6,296 | 23,499,000 |
| TOTAL | 2,069 | 3,356 | 704,216 | 1,613,860,000 |

PROJECTS

- 1 Holistic inner-city church plant, China
- 2 First Adventist church in Sejong, South Korea
- 3 Boarding high school in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- 4 Youth training center at Tokyo's Setagaya Church in Japan
- 5 Six city health centers, Taiwan