



# CHILDREN'S MISSION



2018 • **QUARTER 4** • SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION



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**On the Cover:** Lambeth Sriwattanapapha, 11, led his whole family to Christ after seeing something unusual at the age of 2 in Thailand. Read his story on page 4.

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## Your Offerings at Work



Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped open Timor-Leste Adventist International School in East Timor's capital, Dili. You can read stories from East Timor on pages 14-19.



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12501 Old Columbia Pike,  
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6601  
1-800-648-5824 • AdventistMission.org

## Dear Sabbath School Leader,

This quarter we feature the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, which oversees the Seventh-day Adventist Church's work in 14 countries: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, East Timor, and Vietnam, as well as Pakistan.

The region is home to 1 billion people, including 1.4 million Adventists. That's a ratio of one Adventist for 707 people.

This quarter's seven Thirteenth Sabbath projects primarily represent "centers of influence," places used by Seventh-day Adventist church members to connect with the local community. A center of influence can be a bookstore, a vegetarian restaurant, or a reading room.

In this Mission quarterly, we are

Andrew McChesney  
Editor



highlighting two centers of influence in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division:

Adventist International Mission School – Korat in the Thai city of Nakhon Ratchasima and the Essential Life Center in Battambang, Cambodia.

We also have stories about supernatural lightning and angels in white robes from East Timor, which received a Thirteenth Sabbath funds three years ago; and a praying cat in the Philippines, a recipient of this quarter's offering. You won't want to miss stories about a glow-in-the-dark book and a Seventh-day Adventist dog who keeps the Sabbath and refuses to eat meat in Indonesia.

### Special Features

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive, visit our Facebook page at the link: [facebook.com/missionquarterlies](https://facebook.com/missionquarterlies). Every week, we post additional photos.

This quarterly contains just a sample of the latest mission stories from the Southern Asia-Pacific Division. For more great stories, visit [bit.ly/ssd-archive](https://bit.ly/ssd-archive), which will take you to all the division stories. At this link, you can also search for stories by country and theme.

You also can download the PDF version of the *Children's Mission* quarterly at [bit.ly/childrensmision](https://bit.ly/childrensmision), and *Mission Spotlight* videos at [bit.ly/missionspotlight](https://bit.ly/missionspotlight).

If you have found especially effective ways to share mission stories, please let me know at [mcchesneya@gc.adventist.org](mailto:mcchesneya@gc.adventist.org).

Thank you for encouraging children to be mission-minded! 🌍

### Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help open:

- Better Living health center, Lahore, Pakistan
- Adventist International Mission School, Korat, Thailand
- Essential Life Center, Battambang, Cambodia
- Namthipsavan Language School, Laos
- Youth outreach centers, Peninsular Malaysia
- Literacy training center, Lake Sebu, Philippines

### CHILDREN'S PROJECT

- Eleven children's Sabbath School classrooms, Sarawak, Malaysia



THAILAND | October 6

# Seeing God

Lambeth Sriwattanapapha, 11

Two-year-old Lambeth crawled into bed with his mother in Korat, a city in northern Thailand.

It was late at night, nearly midnight, but something happened that changed their lives forever.

Tiny Lambeth suddenly cried out, "Mommy, look! God is there, and He told me to go to church."

Mother was scared and confused, and she immediately hid under the blanket.

"It's OK, Mommy," Lambeth said.

Mother peeked out from under the blanket.

"Is He gone?" she asked.

"Yes, He's gone," the boy replied.

The next day, Lambeth announced to his mother, "Let's go to church."

Mother was surprised. Her family, like many people in Thailand, was not Christian. They had never discussed church, much less visited one. She wondered whether someone had told

Lambeth about God or he had heard something on television.

"This is just a little boy," she thought. "Maybe he will forget."

Aloud, she said, "Remind me on your birthday next year, and I'll take you to church."

Lambeth didn't mention church again, but he wanted to hear about God. He begged Mother to read stories from the Bible. Mother wanted her son to be happy, so she bought a tall stack of children's Bible books and began reading to him every day. The stories amazed Mother. She read about Jesus walking on the water and raising Jairus' 12-year-old daughter from the dead. She read about Jesus turning water into grape juice and Peter catching a fish with a coin in its mouth.

"Are these stories real?" Mother wondered. "How is this possible?"

Lambeth had no doubt that the stories

were true. He loved to listen to Mother read, and he believed the stories.

A year passed, and Lambeth celebrated his third birthday with a big cake. As his family ate the cake around the table, he turned to his mother.

“Mommy,” he said, “it’s time to go to church.”

Mother was surprised that the boy had remembered church, but she realized that they had read a lot about God over the past year. She wanted to keep her promise.

“OK, we’ll go,” she said.

A week later, Lambeth found himself in church with his mother and uncle. He loved it.

“I had never seen a church before,” he recalled. “It was amazing. “

He pleaded to return the next week—and his mother and uncle started attending with him every week. Then his father joined them. Before long, Mother, Father, and Uncle had given their hearts to Jesus.

Today, Lambeth is 11 and is a fifth-grade student at Adventist International Mission School in Korat. His mother sent him to the school because she wanted him to learn English, and he has studied at the school since he was in kindergarten.

During a morning worship at the school, Lambeth shared his story about how he became a Christian with the other 150 students.

“This is the story about how I became a Christian,” Lambeth said as he began the story.

It was at the Adventist school that he first learned how to pray. At the school, he also learned his favorite Bible verse, Matthew 7:7, where Jesus said, “Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will

## Story Tips

- Find Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand, on the map. “Korat” is the commonly used nickname for the city
- Watch Lambeth at the link: [bit.ly/Lambeth-Thailand](http://bit.ly/Lambeth-Thailand)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”

“I like it because it’s a promise from God that if I ask, He will give,” Lambeth said.

Asked about what happened that night at the age of 2, he wrinkled his forehead and said his recollection was dim. He said he remembered seeing something “shiny” in the room and hearing a soft voice say inside him, “Go to church.”

The words confused him. At the time, he had never heard the word “church” before, and he had no idea what it meant.

His mother, seated beside Lambeth during an interview at Adventist International Mission School, confirmed his account.

Mother believes that God used Lambeth to reach out to her family.

“I know about the Bible through him,” she said. “I read stories to him. He led us to God.” 🌍

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help Adventist International Mission School construct a new campus so it can enroll more students. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



THAILAND | October 13

Varothai “KK” Phodi, 13

## Ignored at School

The bell sounded at 9:50 a.m., and KK joined her eighth-grade classmates in sprinting for the classroom door for a 15-minute recess in Korat, Thailand.

On the playground of Adventist International Mission School – Korat, KK saw a ninth-grade friend, Kaopoon, and went over to chat about their studies. Before she knew it, it was 10:05 a.m. and time to return to the classroom.

Back at her front-row desk, KK looked over at her best friend, Bam, and smiled. Bam looked away. KK was puzzled.

“How are you?” she whispered.

“Fine,” Bam said, still looking away.

Bam didn’t sound fine. KK whispered a few more times to Bam during the lesson, but Bam wasn’t her usual self. She looked unhappy and was oddly quiet. KK wondered why Bam was acting so strangely and suddenly realized that she might be upset about what happened

at recess. She remembered seeing Bam standing alone near the classroom door while she had chatted with Kaopoon.

At lunchtime, KK and Bam sat together as usual in the dining area, but they didn’t talk. KK felt terribly uncomfortable as she picked at the rice, broccoli, and carrots that her father had packed for her lunch. She didn’t know what to do.

After eating, KK put away her lunchbox and went to the restroom. She wanted to pray in private.

“God, I don’t know what to do,” she said. “I’m really sad about my best friend. We aren’t talking to each other. Let me know what to do and let me have the courage to talk to Bam and say sorry if I made her upset by ignoring her during recess.”

KK came out of the restroom and sat alone at her desk in the classroom. She wasn’t sure where Bam had gone.

When the bell rang, Bam returned to the

classroom with the other eighth graders. KK looked at her. Bam looked away.

After a few minutes, KK whispered something to Bam. To her relief, Bam whispered something back. Soon the two girls were talking like old times.

During the last period, KK whispered, "I'm sorry for hanging out with my other friend and not you, and that you felt ignored by me."

"It's OK," Bam said.

When KK reached home later that afternoon, she went to her bedroom and prayed to God.

"Thank You for letting me know what to do and for helping me get back together with my best friend," she said.

Today, KK is best friends with Bam and Kaopoon, and all three girls enjoy hanging out at school. 🌍

## Story Tips

- Find Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand, on the map. "Korat" is the commonly used nickname for the city
- Pronounce Kaopoon as: ka-POON
- Watch KK at the link: [bit.ly/KK-Phodi](http://bit.ly/KK-Phodi)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)
- Read more about KK and prayer on page 30

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help KK's school construct a new campus. The new classrooms will allow the K-9 school to expand to the 12th grade and to accept more students. Thank you for your mission offering.

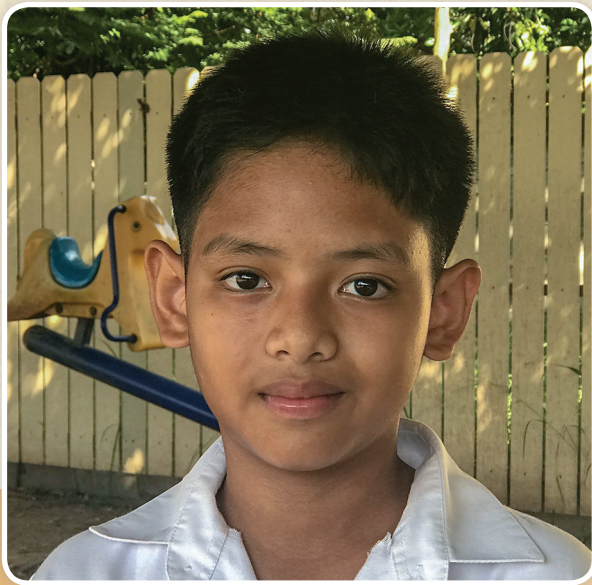
By Andrew McChesney



## AMAZING NATURE

- The national flower of Thailand is the orchid; 1,500 orchid species can be found growing wild in the Thai forests, and Thailand is one of the world's largest orchid exporters.
- Thailand used to be known as Siam, and it is the origin of Siamese cats. Though there used to be 23 types of Siamese cats, there are now only six. Giving a pair of Siamese cats to a bride on her wedding day is considered good luck.
- The residents of Lopburi province hold an annual festival for monkeys, known as the Monkey Buffet, as a thank you to the monkeys that inhabit the village and bring thousands of tourists there each year. Two tons of meat, fruit, ice cream, and other treats make up this feast.





THAILAND | October 20

Johrel Milton P. Galube, 10

## Praying for Parents

Johrel attended four schools in four years. Every time he went to a new school, he had to make new friends. He got tired of moving and wished that he could just stay in one place.

But moving wasn't Johrel's biggest problem. When he was 7, his parents got jobs in different cities in Thailand. His mother taught a kindergarten class in Pattaya, while his father worked as a high school math teacher, five hours away in Muaklek.

Johrel lived with Father, while Mother took Johrel's baby brother to stay with her.

Mother and baby brother came to visit on weekends. She arrived by bus on Friday night, and the family worshipped together in church on Sabbath. Sunday was a special family day, and they did fun things together like swimming at the beach. Then Mother returned to the bus station early Monday morning.

Johrel liked the arrangement for a while. He was busy at his Seventh-day Adventist school during the week, and he looked forward to Mother's weekend visits. She always brought him a food treat.

"I was excited when she arrived on Friday night," he said. "I didn't know what she would bring."

But then he began to miss her terribly. He wished that his parents could live together. He told his father about his desire, and the two began to pray about it.

"Dear God, please help me and our family's wish to come true," Johrel prayed. "Please Lord, I would do anything for this wish to come true. I will be a good boy. I will do whatever it takes for this to come true. I will serve You."

Johrel and Father prayed every day for two years. Then one day Father announced that he and Mother had been offered teaching jobs in the same city: Korat.



## Story Tips

- Find Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand, on the map. “Korat” is the commonly used nickname for the city
- Pronounce Johrel as: jar-EHL
- Watch Johrel at the link: [bit.ly/Johrel-Galube](http://bit.ly/Johrel-Galube)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

Johrel was happy to hear the news—but suddenly he wasn’t sure that he wanted to move.

“Why?” he told Father. “I like it here.”

He wanted his parents to live together, but he didn’t want to have to start his life over again and make new friends at another new school.

“I thanked God for bringing my family together again,” he said. “But I thought, ‘Why can’t it be here? Why do we have to move?’”

Johrel prayed that night about the situation. As he spoke with God, he decided that he was being selfish by wanting to stay rather than helping his family to be together.

The next day, he told Father, “OK, I’m ready. Let’s move.”

Johrel, who is now 10, is happy with his new home and new school. He is studying in the fourth grade at Adventist International Mission School. Both of his parents teach at the school, and his brother is in the kindergarten there.

“When we moved, I prayed that I would have friends, and an OK house, and I would still learn about God,” he said. “God answered my prayer. I have fun here. I am

thankful for God and my friends.”

Johrel looks forward to the day when he will never be separated from family and friends again. His favorite Bible verse is John 4:14, where Jesus said, “But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

“This verse tells me that when Jesus comes, I will never have to worry about dying or leaving my family,” Johrel said. “I will see them forever if I drink from this water. But in order to drink from this water, I have to follow the 10 Commandments. I really like this. Just imagine all the things you will see when you drink this eternal water and go to heaven and see your family and friends together.” 🌍

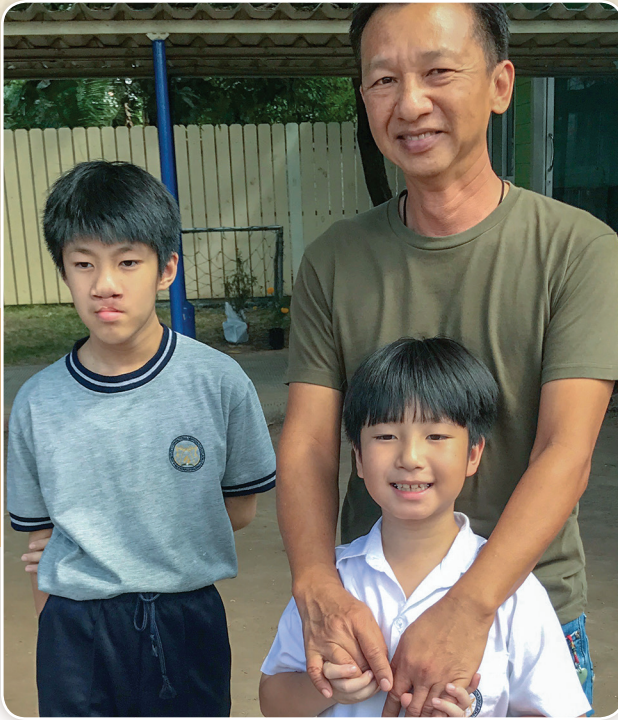
Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help Adventist International Mission School construct a new campus so more students can study about Jesus. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



## MISSION RECORD

The early work in Thailand was conducted mostly among the Chinese. The first Thai convert was a young man who was baptized in 1925 and later became the assistant business manager of the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital.



THAILAND | October 27

## Sick Daddy™

Jeremy Pangputtipong, 8

Father sent his two sons to the Adventist International Mission School in Thailand because he wanted them to learn English.

After only two months at the school, his 6-year-old son, Jeremy, started begging him to attend a special Christmas program organized by the school. Jeremy rehearsed the program for his parents, singing songs, dancing, and reciting poems.

“I want you to come and see the performance!” he said, eagerly jumping up and down. “I want you to come and see the performance!”

Father agreed to go.

The day before the performance, however, Father ate some grilled pork that caused him to become sick. He spent most of the night in the bathroom.

In the morning, his worried wife said, “You had better go to the hospital. I don’t want to lose you.”

“I will go to the hospital, but only after

tonight’s performance,” Father said.

When he entered the rented hall that evening Father realized that he had made a mistake. He felt so faint that he couldn’t hear the performance and feared he would pass out. The program finally ended, and he heard the announcement, “Please, proceed to the dinner that we have prepared for you.”

Father didn’t want to eat. Instead, he grabbed some juice and grapes from the table, hoping to calm his stomach, and told his wife that he would wait in the car.

Father rested in the backseat of the car for a few minutes, but then he felt the juice and grapes coming back up. He got out of the car and vomited on the street. He tried to call his wife on his cellphone, but she didn’t answer.

At that moment, Father fainted. He fell hard to the ground, and his face struck a concrete curb near the car.

The next thing Father knew, a teacher was standing over him. His nose and forehead were bleeding profusely. “Please, call my wife,” he said, weakly.

Moments later, his wife loaded him and their two sons into the car and sped off toward the hospital.

The boys were shocked to see their father's injuries, and Jeremy immediately began to pray to their family carved god in the Thai language. But then he abruptly changed his mind and switched to the Lord's Prayer in English.

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name," the boy said, reciting words from a song that children at the Adventist International Mission School sing at the start of every school day. "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."

After finishing the Lord's Prayer, Jeremy prayed in Thai. "Dear Jesus, please don't take my Daddy away," he said. "He is a good man. Please help and protect him."

Then Jeremy prayed the Lord's Prayer again and his own prayer to Jesus. Back and forth he prayed until the car reached the hospital. Father was in pain, but he marveled at his young son's compassion.

"I felt so happy," he recalled later. "I didn't know my son could do something for me. He was praying for me!"

He also wondered how the school had taught his son to pray from the heart in just two months.

"My son poured out everything," he said.

At the hospital, the doctor took X-rays and declared that his cheekbone was injured. But, he said, no operation was needed.

## Story Tips

- Find Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand, on the map. "Korat" is the commonly used nickname for the city
- Watch Jeremy, his father, and his brother at the link: [bit.ly/Jeremy-Thailand](http://bit.ly/Jeremy-Thailand)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

During all the medical checks, Jeremy held Father's hand and prayed. Back at home, Jeremy continued praying for Father. His 10-year-old brother, seeing his example, also began praying for Father.

Father is well now, but the boys haven't stopped praying. Every night, they pray for a good rest and not to have bad dreams.

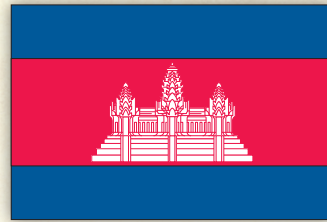
Whenever Jeremy sees someone in need on the street, he prays right on the spot for that person. "He believes that when he prays for someone, that person will get better," Father said.

Sometimes Father joins his sons in praying to the God of heaven.

"I support my sons if they want to believe in Christ," he said. "I don't mind if someday they will change their faith and become Christians. They will still be my sons." 🌍

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help Adventist International Mission School construct a new campus so more students can learn about Jesus. Please pray that more children like Jeremy and their parents will know about God through the mission school. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



CAMBODIA | November 3

Kong Sokhom, 28

# I Can't Believe It

Sharp pain shot through Marina's stomach, causing her to double over in agony.

The next day, the stomachache grew worse.

It hurt so much that the 16-year-old girl wept in her home in the Cambodian village of O Mony.

Father put Marina on his motorcycle and drove her and Mother to the hospital in Battambang, Cambodia's second-largest city, located 4 miles (7 kilometers) away.

The physician ordered an ultrasound test to find the reason for the pain. The initial results worried him, and he ordered a second test. With those results in hand, he grimly approached Father.

"Your daughter has a tumor," he said. "It has to be taken out."

The physician filled out some paperwork and instructed Marina's parents

to bring the documents and U.S.\$300 for the operation in three days.

At home, Father gathered the family—Mother, Marina, and three other teenage children—for a special season of prayer. The family prayed again on the second day. On the third day, the family met one last time before heading for the hospital.

"Father in heaven, my youngest daughter has a sickness that requires surgery," Father prayed. "You know, we are worried because we don't know what exactly the doctor will find. We don't have money for the surgery, and we've had to borrow it."

As Father prayed, rain began to pound against the house roof. Marina was in severe pain and crying. All the family members were weeping with her.

"Father, You are the God who has the power to do all things," Father said. "Please heal my daughter."

## Story Tips

- Find Battambang, Cambodia, on the map
- In Cambodia, surnames are written first
- Pronounce Marina as: ma-rii-NA
- Pronounce O Mony as: oh moan-EE
- Pronounce Sokhom as SO-HO-m
- Watch Sokhom at the link: [bit.ly/Kong-Sokhom](http://bit.ly/Kong-Sokhom)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

As Father finished praying, his cellphone rang. It was the physician.

“Why haven’t you brought in the girl?” he asked. “It’s time to begin the operation.”

Father explained that the rain made it impossible to drive his motorcycle to the hospital. The family didn’t own a car.

“As soon as the rain stops, come immediately,” the physician said.

The family knelt to pray again.

“Lord, you know that we have this problem,” Father said. “You know that the rain is falling so hard that we can’t go to the hospital. Help us so our daughter won’t need the operation.”

Twenty minutes later, the rain stopped.

As Marina climbed onto the motorcycle, she noticed that she felt better and suggested canceling the trip. Father insisted on going to the hospital.

Marina’s sister and two brothers promised to keep praying at home.

At the hospital, Father realized that he had forgotten to bring the required paperwork. The physician couldn’t operate without the documents, so he ordered a new ultrasound test.

“I can’t believe it,” he said as he examined the results. “Everything appears normal.”

He ordered a second test. The results were the same: no tumor. A third test was taken. Finally, the physician said in disbelief, “You don’t need the operation. Go home.”

Marina was overjoyed.

“I knew it!” she exclaimed. “I believed in Jesus, and I believed He would do something so I wouldn’t need the surgery!”

Mother called home with the good news. “This is the power of God!” she said.

The three siblings, who had been praying and crying, grabbed each other by the hands and jumped up and down.

“We thanked God for healing our sister,” said Marina’s older sister, Sokhom, who was 17 at the time.

The miracle prompted big changes at home, said Sokhom, who related the story. She and her three siblings, who earlier had shown little interest in giving their hearts to Jesus, began to study the Bible and were baptized.

All four children are now faithful Adventists. Marina is a healthy, 27-year-old mother. Sokhom, 28, is a Bible worker and first-year university student. She is studying nutrition and will work at a planned Seventh-day Adventist vegetarian restaurant in Battambang. 🌍

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help construct the two-story community center where the restaurant will be located. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



EAST TIMOR | November 10

Edu Wachumura, 28

## Forgiving a Would-Be Killer

A drunk man stumbled into the shop in the town of Lospalos in East Timor.

He swore and said unkind things about Edu, the 28-year-old salesman and cashier working behind the counter. He mocked the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Edu, a quiet and unassuming man, didn't like the man's words and gently scolded him. The man grew even angrier and threatened to kill Edu. But he saw the other customers in the shop and backed off.

"I'm going to kill you tonight," he snarled as he headed out the door.

That night, Edu heard a knock on the door at the back of the shop.

He went over to the door, which was locked and chained, and peered through the peephole to see who was outside.

At that moment, a spear plunged through the peephole.

At that split second, Edu raised his arm, diverting the course of the spear. The top

of the spear sliced the end of his nose.

The shop owner, a Seventh-day Adventist man named Zelindo, found Edu in the hospital a short time later. Edu's family already was standing around the hospital bed, heatedly discussing how they wanted to kill the man who had thrust the spear through the door. The attacker was the same man who had threatened Edu earlier that day.

Zelindo didn't like how the family was talking, and he thought to himself, "Will I watch these people kill each other? No! I must stop them."

Zelindo turned to Edu, who was lying in the bed. He said, "I want to ask you something. How many times does Jesus say we have to forgive our brother?"

Edu knew the answer. As part of his job, he was required to attend weekly Bible studies with Zelindo. He remembered hearing Matthew 18:21-22, where Peter

## Story Tips

- Find East Timor on the map
- Pronounce Edu as: eh-DOO
- Ask children about their experiences with forgiveness. Is it difficult to forgive someone? Would they be able to forgive someone who tried to kill them like Edu did? Why do they think Edu forgave the attacker?
- Watch Zelindo at the link: [bit.ly/Edu-Wachumura](http://bit.ly/Edu-Wachumura)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

asked, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Jesus replied, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.”

Zelindo looked at Edu in the bed.

“How many times does Jesus say we have to forgive our brother?”

“Seventy times seven,” Edu said.

“What about you?”

“I’m going to forgive him.”

Edu’s family was shocked.

“What?” Edu’s brother said. “He nearly killed you.”

Two days later, Edu showed up at the shop to return to work. Zelindo urged him to go home and rest, but Edu insisted that he felt well. After a short time, the police came to the shop to ask Edu whether he wanted the attacker to go to jail. Edu shook his head.

“I’ve forgiven the man,” he said.

The police detained the attacker anyway and put him in jail for a week. But then they let him go.

Soon everyone in town began to talk

about how Edu had forgiven the man who had tried to kill him. People were amazed. “Why?” said one.

“If that had happened to me, I would have killed him,” said another.

Zelindo hopes that people will understand that God also wants to forgive them—just as Edu forgave after the 2017 attack. Edu and his mother have already been baptized, and Zelindo hopes many more people will follow their example.

“Everyone is talking about Edu’s decision to forgive, and no one understands it,” he said. “It is the power of God.” 🌍

Part of a 2015 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build the first Seventh-day Adventist school in East Timor’s capital, Dili. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



## MISSION RECORD

The Timor-Leste Mission has only one church, with a membership of 573. In a population of 1,266,000, that’s 2,362 people per member.

An estimated 98 percent of East Timorese are Roman Catholic, a legacy of the Portuguese colonization. The remaining 2 percent are divided between Protestants and Muslims.



EAST TIMOR | November 17

Inaciu da Kosta, 42

# Supernatural Lightning

What is the farthest that you have walked?

One day, pastor Inaciu, set off on a long walk on the island of East Timor. He had to travel 30 miles (50 kilometers) from his home in the town of Lospalos and up a mountain to the village of Luro. He needed to speak with a missionary in the village.

Inaciu got up early in the morning, ate a breakfast of rice and leafy green vegetables prepared by his wife, and packed his Bible and umbrella. Rain fell often and unexpectedly on this tropical island, so it was a good idea to carry an umbrella. Inaciu didn't own a car or a motorcycle, so he went by foot.

Inaciu stopped at the homes of several church members along the road, and he prayed and read the Bible with them. Not many Adventists lived in East Timor, so he didn't have many places to stop. But visits did slow him down, so he was only

about two-thirds of the way to the village when it became dark.

Inaciu looked at the star-lit sky and wondered what to do. He still had to walk 15 miles (25 kilometers) through a thick jungle and up a mountain to reach the village. He was hungry because he hadn't eaten anything since breakfast. He also had forgotten to bring a flashlight.

Then it started to rain. Inaciu opened his umbrella and said to himself, "If I go back home, I'll have to walk 15 miles, and if I go forward, I'll also have to walk 15 miles."

Inaciu prayed for God to guide him. He decided to press ahead to the village.

The rain fell lightly at first. But as Inaciu made his way up the mountain, it began to pour. Lightning flashed, and thunder crashed. Soon Inaciu found himself deep in the jungle. Amid the pounding rain and angry thunder, he heard the roar of something else. It was



the sound of a rushing river. But he could not see anything. Fear swept over him.

He said to himself, “My family doesn’t know the route that I am taking to the village. If I fall into the river, it could sweep me to the ocean and I could drown.”

He prayed, “God, if You are willing, please help me get to the village.”

Inaciu stood still for about five minutes, wondering what to do. Then bright lightning flashed, and he caught a glimpse of the wide river ahead.

Inaciu prayed again. “God, if You are willing, please help me get to the village,” he said. “Make the lightning last longer.”

A moment later, lightning streaked across the night sky again, and Inaciu saw the river clearly before him. To his surprise, the lightning didn’t flicker out but kept on shining like the sun, making the jungle as bright as day.

He saw fallen trees scattered in the river. He ran down to the water’s edge and jumped from log to the next until he crossed the river. When he reached the other side, the lightning disappeared with an enormous boom of thunder. The lightning had illuminated the river for two whole minutes.

## Story Tips

- Pronounce Inaciu as: in-ASS-ee-oh
- This story happened in 2008. Inaciu da Kosta now serves as the executive secretary of the Timor-Leste Mission
- Watch Inaciu at the link: [bit.ly/Inaciu-lightning](http://bit.ly/Inaciu-lightning)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

Inaciu immediately thanked God for the miracle.

Several hours later, at midnight, he arrived in the village and told the missionary about the miraculous lightning. The two men prayed together and thanked God for the safe trip. 🌐

Part of a 2015 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build the first Seventh-day Adventist school in East Timor’s capital, Dili. Only 573 Adventists live on the island of 1.2 million people, and the school is playing an important role in sharing Jesus.

By Andrew McChesney



The staple East Timor food is rice. Other main crops include maize (corn), sweet potatoes, cassava, and taro. Popular fruits and vegetables are bananas, watermelons, mangoes, papaya, and coconuts, and cabbage, spinach, beans, cowpeas, and onions. Many families raise poultry, pigs, and goats as a source of meat, and fishing is an important source of food.



BigStockPhoto.com



EAST TIMOR | November 24

Inaciu da Kosta, 42

## Guards in White Robes

Thirty Pathfinders and their adult friends piled into two rented trucks for a Sabbath afternoon drive from East Timor's capital, Dili.

The Pathfinders were going on a serious trip. They wanted to find three girls whose parents had forbidden them from attending church on Sabbath.

An hour later, the Pathfinders arrived at the village of Remexiu, where the girls lived. The Pathfinders marched and did several drills. They passed out tracts about Jesus to the villagers. They found the three girls and prayed with them.

Pastor Inaciu, who organized the trip, prayed last. "Please, God, bless these girls and help them always to be faithful to You," he said.

The girls were happy to see their friends. The girls also were Pathfinders and had been baptized while studying in Dili. But when they returned home,

their parents had been furious about their decision to follow Jesus and told them that they could not worship on Sabbath.

Soon it was evening, and Pastor Inaciu called for the trucks to take the Pathfinders back to Dili. The group waited and waited, but the trucks didn't come.

"Where are the trucks?" Pastor Inaciu asked the young man responsible for the trucks.

"The owner doesn't want to take you to Dili," the man replied.

"Why not? We need to take the Pathfinders back to Dili. Their parents are waiting."

Pastor Inaciu learned that the truck owner was scared to take the Pathfinders back to Dili.

Several parents were angry that the Pathfinders had come to the village and had threatened to beat up the truck owner. So, he didn't want to help anymore.

## Story Tips

- Find Dili, East Timor, on the map
- Pronounce Inaciu as: in-ASS-ee-oh
- This story happened in 2009. Many of the Pathfinders are church leaders in East Timor today.
- Inaciu da Kosta now serves as the executive secretary of the Timor-Leste Mission.
- Watch Inaciu at the link: [bit.ly/Inaciu-angels](http://bit.ly/Inaciu-angels)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

Pastor Inaciu gathered the Pathfinders around him.

“Let’s pray and go back by foot,” he said. “It will take us about seven hours.”

As he spoke, a group of scowling villagers carrying sticks approached the Pathfinders. Hearing that they planned to walk to Dili, a villager snarled, “No, you can’t go!”

Another villager pointed his stick at Pastor Inaciu. “Let your leader come and meet with us,” he said.

Pastor Inaciu said he was ready to meet. But he gestured toward the Pathfinders. “If I go, who will be responsible for my 30 people?” he said. “If something happens to them, who will be responsible?”

The villagers insisted with greater determination that he go with them.

“Wait here,” Pastor Inaciu told the Pathfinders. “I need to go.”

As he left, the Pathfinders sat down in the middle of the street. Huddling together, they closed their eyes to pray.

As they took turns praying, they heard a crowd of people coming toward them. The voices were angry and threatening, but the Pathfinders kept their eyes closed. Suddenly, the tone of the voices changed from anger to dismay. The sound of pounding feet indicated that the crowd was running away.

A while later, Pastor Inaciu returned to the Pathfinders with food and two trucks. The villagers had prepared a big meal for the hungry Pathfinders and had rented two trucks at their own expense to send them home.

What happened? The crowd of villagers had planned to beat the Pathfinders and perhaps even kill them as they sat praying on the road. But as the villagers had approached the praying children with their sticks, they had suddenly seen a group of strong men in long white robes standing around the Pathfinders. The unexpected appearance of the powerful protectors had shocked the villagers.

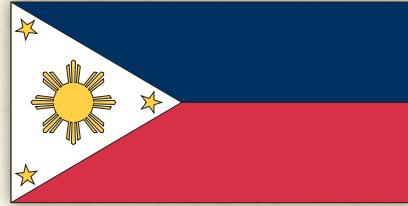
“We were afraid,” one villager later told the pastor. “We saw the white robed people protecting the Pathfinders, and we were afraid and ran away.”

The faith of the Pathfinders, including the three girls in the village, grew stronger after that day.

“The young people became more faithful because of what God did,” said Pastor Inaciu. “God protected them with angels while they prayed.” 🌍

Part of a 2015 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build the first Seventh-day Adventist school in East Timor’s capital, Dili. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



PHILIPPINES | December 1

# Praying Cat

Jacinth Adap, 55

Fifth grader Jacinth noticed something odd about the family cat.

Every time Jacinth sat down with his parents and nine older brothers and sisters to eat around the table, his mother placed a dish of food on the floor for the cat. The food was supposed to prevent the cat from leaping up onto the table while the family ate in their home in the Philippines.

But one day, he saw that the cat wasn't eating from the dish. Instead, the cat looked down at the food, looked over at the family, and waited.

Jacinth's father prayed for the meal.

"Dear God, thank you for this food that we are about to eat," he said. "Please help it to nourish and strengthen us to serve You. Amen."

As soon as Father finished praying, Jacinth glanced over at the cat and saw that it was eating.

"Look!" Jacinth said. "We have a praying cat!"

Father and Mother were surprised that the cat had only started eating after the prayer.

At the next meal, Mother put some rice and fish onto a dish and placed it on the floor. The cat walked over to the dish, looked down at the food, and looked over at the family.

Father prayed for the food. Jacinth peeked out of one eye as Father prayed. When Father said, "Amen," the cat bent down its head and began to eat.

Jacinth's brothers and sisters couldn't believe that the cat might actually want to pray. So, they decided to make an experiment. Several hours later, when the family wasn't eating at the table, they put some food onto a dish and set it down in front of the cat.

The cat looked at the food and over at the curious children. It didn't eat.

Jacinth broke the silence.

"Amen!" he exclaimed.

Immediately the cat began to eat.

The cat taught Jacinth an important lesson about Proverbs 22:6, where King Solomon says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." The cat became part of his family when it was a tiny kitten, so it grew up watching Father, Mother, and the children take turns praying before every meal. When the cat grew older, it waited for prayer before it would eat.

Jacinth's parents also followed the advice of King Solomon. They carefully trained Jacinth and his nine brothers and sisters to love God with all their hearts and to thank Him for all things, including meals.

So, Jacinth and his brothers and sisters grew up to be faithful to God. Jacinth went on to get married, have two sons, and serve as a missionary in Zimbabwe and South Africa. Today he lives in his native Philippines and works as under-treasurer

## Story Tips

- Find the Philippines on the map
- Pronounce Jacinth as: JAYS-inth
- Ask the children how they have seen God revealed in the actions of their pets. What about in nature?
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, which oversees the Adventist work in 14 countries, from Pakistan to Indonesia.

Jacinth is glad that his cat waited for prayer before meals. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it," he said. 🌐

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a school to teach children and adults to read on Lake Sebu in the Philippines. Pray that those who learn to read will also know God through the Bible. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney



## MISSION RECORD

In 1905, G.A. Irwin, president of the Australasian Union Conference, visited the Philippines on his way to the General Conference, where he recommended that Seventh-day Adventists begin work on the islands by placing colporteurs in Manila. Responding to this recommendation, R.A. Caldwell, from Australia, arrived before the end of that year and successfully sold Spanish-language health and religious books.

In 1915, for the first time, the people of the Philippines heard the Adventist message preached in their own native tongue, Tagalog, by a Filipino, Bibiano Panis. As a result, early in 1916, 104 people were baptized, and a church was organized with 116 members.



INDONESIA | December 8

Ayup Antukali, 29

## A Bright Light

The man hit Peter with a stick as soon as Peter exited the car in the Indonesian village of Momoda.

“How dare you baptize my boy!” he said angrily, swinging the stick at Peter.

Several other people joined the man in hitting Peter with sticks. The man’s 11-year-old son stood watching. Peter’s wife and three teenage children couldn’t do anything to help, and they cried. The student missionary, Ayup, who had organized the car trip, was shocked.

But the angry villagers were making a mistake. It was Peter—not the 11-year-old boy—who had been baptized that day.

“Daddy, I wasn’t baptized,” the boy said. The boy loved cars and had just gone along with Peter and the others for the ride to the ocean for the baptism.

The villagers stopped beating Peter. The man grabbed his son by the arm, and the group melted into the night.

Peter knew that it was not the end of the story, and he urged his family to hurry home. He told Ayup, the student missionary who had taught him the Bible, to go with them.

Sure enough, the villagers soon started asking one another, “Why did we release them? Why did we beat only Peter and not the missionary? We have to go look for the missionary.”

A crowd descended on Peter’s house around 9:30 p.m. It was pitch-black outside. The village had no electricity.

Ayup and the family were already on their knees near a flickering oil lamp, praying to God for protection. “Lord, help me so that I can be a blessing and I can strengthen this family,” Ayup prayed. “Protect us and keep us safe.”

The villagers, waving big sticks, prepared to storm the house. But as they tried to enter the yard, a bright light

## Story Tips

- Find Halmahera, the largest island in the Maluku Islands of Indonesia, on the map
- Pronounce Ayup as: ai-YOU-p
- Watch Ayup at the link: [bit.ly/Ayup-Antukali](http://bit.ly/Ayup-Antukali)
- Ayup Antukali, 29, served one year as a student missionary with the 1000 Missionary Movement organization. Today he is a university student majoring in economics.
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

suddenly surrounded the house. Shocked, the villagers fell back and covered their eyes. The light was as bright as the sun, and it was unclear where it had come from. Panic swept over the villagers, and they fled into the darkness.

Inside the house, Ayup and the family

knew nothing about the light. Still kneeling by the oil lamp, they only heard the cries of the crowd fade into the night.

The next day, a villager told Ayup about the mysterious light.

“There was a light, shining brightly, that covered the house,” he said. “We tried to enter the yard, but we couldn’t because the light was too bright for us to get closer.”

Ayup was amazed when he heard the story.

“Since that experience, I am no longer afraid about what people might do to me because I know that God protects those who are faithful and pray to Him,” he said. 🌍

Your mission offering helps missionaries like Ayup share the good news about Jesus’ soon coming with people around the world. Thank you for your mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney

## Color the Flag!



### INDONESIA

#### DIRECTIONS:

Color the top half red.  
Leave the bottom half white.



INDONESIA | December 15

Armi Arjuna Palandeng, 24

## Master of the Sea

Armi, a young student missionary, had a heavy heart after arriving on Indonesia's Buru island.

He had been assigned to work for one year in a village where no Seventh-day Adventists lived. But he wasn't sure how to start.

One evening, two villagers invited him to go fishing, and he eagerly accepted. They looked at the sky and saw that the weather was good. They hoped to catch many fish.

The trio got into a small wooden boat and set sail into the ocean.

When the boat was far from shore, the weather abruptly changed. A fierce wind began to blow. Rain started to fall. Large waves crashed against the boat. Armi and his two friends frantically bailed out water and, when that didn't help, threw their fishing gear into the ocean. They wanted to make the boat lighter so it wouldn't sink.

But nothing helped. Finally, Armi's friends said the boat was only strong enough to save one person and two of them needed to jump into the ocean.

Armi didn't know how to swim, but he said, "I'm a missionary, so I'll go first."

A friend said, "No! Stay in the boat because we are sinners."

The other friend said, "If you survive, you can help many people."

Armi was amazed that his two friends, who were married and had children, were willing to die so he could live. But he didn't want them to die. Despair washed over him. He felt like a failure as a missionary.

As the waves fiercely rocked the boat, Armi suddenly sensed a small voice say, "Pray."

"What a great idea!" Armi thought. But he wanted to kneel to pray. Grabbing hold of a rope, he positioned himself in the violently pitching boat. Closing his eyes



and taking a deep breath, he screamed, “Lord, help us! Save us because we know that You are able to save us!”

Yelling with all his might, he repeated the prayer, “Lord, help us! Save us because we know that You are able to save us!”

Armi repeated the prayer again and again for three minutes. Then he said “Amen” and opened his eyes.

At that moment, the storm ceased. The wind stopped, and the ocean was still. The dark clouds rolled away, and bright stars shone down.

Armi was shocked, and he cried out, “Lord, thank You so much!”

His two friends wept with joy as they steered the boat back to shore. On the way, they saw a fishing net that they had thrown out during the storm and stopped to retrieve it. The net was bursting with fish.

When the boat landed, villagers rushed to the shore to greet the fishermen. They had seen the men sail away and thought that the boat had sunk in the storm. Astonished, they asked what had happened, and Armi’s friends eagerly told them about the answered prayer.

The villagers then wanted to buy the

## Story Tips

- Find Burum, the third-largest island in the Maluku Islands of Indonesia, on the map
- Pronounce Armi as: ARM-ee
- Ask the children, “If you were in a boat with two friends, and two people needed to jump into the ocean, who would go? Why?”
- Watch Armi at the link: [bit.ly/Armi-Indonesia](http://bit.ly/Armi-Indonesia)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

miracle fish. It was the most fish that the fishermen had ever caught.

After that evening, people flocked to Armi to hear him tell the story about the storm. They asked him many questions about Jesus. Four people were baptized.

Today, three years later, the village has its own Adventist church, and 20 people worship there every Sabbath.

Armi is now 24 years old and studying to become a pastor.

“I will always remember the miracle at sea,” he said. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



## MISSION RECORD

Adventist work in Indonesia began in 1900, when R.W. Munson, formerly a missionary for another denomination in Singapore, opened a mission at Padang, on the west coast of Sumatra. One of his first converts was Tay Hong Siang, a Chinese Christian preacher, who as an orphan had been in Munson’s orphanage in Singapore years earlier. In 1903, the East Indian archipelago was made a mission field of the Australasian Union Conference.



INDONESIA | December 22

Darron Boyd, 45

# The Glowing Book

Villagers sang and danced when the mission airplane arrived with two student missionaries in the Indonesian province of Papua.

The joyful celebration stretched on for more than an hour in Yabosorem, a remote village with no school, no clinic, and nothing else from the outside world. Perched on a mountainside, the village is only accessible by air.

Darron Boyd, who had helped arrange the placement of the student missionaries, watched with amazement and turned to an interpreter who had accompanied them on the flight.

“What are they saying?” Darron asked.

The interpreter, with tears rolling down his cheeks, replied, “They are saying, ‘We are so very happy because our children will be able to read to us the very words of God!’”

After the airplane left, the missionaries—a 19-year-old woman and a

21-year-old woman from another part of Indonesia—got to work opening a small school. Nobody knew how to read in the village of 200 people.

Many villagers were thrilled to have the missionaries, but some were deeply suspicious. Most suspicious of all was the elderly wife of the village chief. She couldn’t read the books that the two missionaries had brought, and she cautioned the other villagers to be very careful.

The two missionaries were kind to the elderly woman. Soon after they arrived, they gave her a book of Bible studies. The elderly woman was pleased with the gift, even though she couldn’t read, and she placed the book beside her bed.

One night, the elderly woman woke up in the pitch-black darkness and saw a light in the room. Turning over, she saw that the book was glowing.

The elderly woman carefully picked up the book and examined it. Why was

it glowing in the dark? She couldn't understand what was happening.

As she studied the book, a brighter light suddenly shone in the room. The woman looked up and saw a tall, shining white man standing in the hut. Before she could speak, the man said, "The book is telling you the story of Noah, who was helping prepare the world for destruction. He told the truth to the people, just like the girls are telling the truth to the people in this village. So, you can believe what they are teaching you."

Then the man vanished.

As soon as the sun started coming up, the woman excitedly rushed out of her hut to tell the other villagers about what she had seen and heard.

"An angel visited me last night!" she said. "An angel visited me last night!"

The villagers had never seen an angel before, but they believed that angels had white skin and could be trusted to speak the truth.

Soon the whole village heard about the angel, and everyone was eager to hear the two missionaries teach from the Bible. In eight months, 23 people were baptized.

The village chief, who didn't see

## Story Tips

- Find Papua, Indonesia, on the map
- Pronounce Yabosorem as: yabo-SOR-em
- Watch Darron at the link: [bit.ly/Darron-Boyd](http://bit.ly/Darron-Boyd)
- Watch the arrival of the student missionaries at the link: [bit.ly/Yabosorem-arrival](http://bit.ly/Yabosorem-arrival)
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq)

the glowing book or the angel, was so amazed by his wife's story that he tore down part of their home to build a small Adventist church.

"Angels are still alive, still working. They are right by our side," said Darron, who has visited the village several times for Adventist Aviation International, which sends mission planes around the world.

"God said in the last days He's going to pour out His Spirit, and I think we are seeing that right now in a place like Yabosorem," he said. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING  
NATURE

Indonesia is the only place in the world to see a Komodo dragon in the wild. Sumatra is the only place outside of Borneo to see orangutans in the wild.



BigStockPhoto.com



13<sup>th</sup> SABBATH | December 29

Gary Roberts, 40

## Seventh-day Adventist Dog

All the villagers raced to the airstrip, singing and dancing, when mission pilot Gary Roberts landed at Suminka [pronounced: soo-MIN-ka], a remote village in the Indonesian province of Papua.

It had taken the villagers 10 years to cut down the trees by hand to clear the way for an airstrip at their mountainous village. Gary's mission plane was the first to land. This was a big event.

But as Gary stepped out of the plane, the crowd grew silent. The singing and dancing stopped.

"Is this a Seventh-day Adventist plane?" a man asked.

The villagers had seen the three angels' logo on the airplane's tail.

Gary was surprised. He hadn't expected people in Suminka, a village previously accessible only by a long trek by foot, to have heard about the Adventist Church.

The villagers soon told him that many

of them were keeping the Sabbath.

The reason, they said, was because of a Seventh-day Adventist dog.

A Seventh-day Adventist dog?

The story started several years earlier in another village when an Adventist pastor, Moses, and a lay pastor named Darius had the same dream on the same night. In the morning, one said, "I had a dream last night." The other said, "I did, too, but I didn't want to tell you." They both had seen an angel in the dream, and the angel said, "Go to Suminka."

The two men set off on the three-day hike to Suminka.

Arriving at the village, they announced evangelistic meetings would be preached every evening for a week from a porch on the far side of the village. But the day of the first meeting, Pastor Moses fell ill with malaria. He was terribly sick, and the villagers said he would die.

# Thirteenth Sabbath Program

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 Dec. 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 seven projects in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover. Watch Gary at the link: [bit.ly/Gary-Roberts](http://bit.ly/Gary-Roberts)

“But if he gets better, then we will listen to him at the meeting,” they said.

All day Pastor Moses was sick. But at 5 p.m., he suddenly felt better. He took a bath and preached. Afterward, he fell very ill again. This happened all week. He was sick until 5 p.m.; recovered, took a bath and preached; and then sank back into bed. At the meetings, he told the people about the Sabbath and cautioned against eating unclean meat such as pork. Wild pigs are a popular dish in the Papua mountains.

When the week ended, Pastor Moses made an appeal. No one came forward.

Pastor Moses and Darius returned home deeply disappointed. They wondered why they had had the dream without any results.

Back at Suminka, life resumed as normal—until Saturday morning. The village's best hunting dog, Dolby, got up and headed down the trail. Its owner and other villagers thought it was onto something, perhaps a wild pig, so they followed. The dog went to the porch where the missionary had spoken and sat down in front of it. The villagers thought that was strange.

The next Saturday, the same thing happened again. The dog got up, walked over to the porch, and sat down.

That wasn't the only odd thing that the dog did. The villagers also noticed that it had stopped eating pork. It refused to hunt for wild pigs and other unclean animals.

The villagers said to one another, “Dolby has become a Seventh-day Adventist. If he worships on Sabbath, we should, too.”

Many villagers began to keep the Sabbath and stopped eating unclean foods.

Gary, the mission pilot, was excited when he heard the story, and he called Pastor Moses. The pastor sent Darius to the village to prepare people for baptism.

Today, about half of the village of 200 adults and children worship on Sabbath, and 21 people have been baptized.

Dolby continues to shun unclean food. Villagers say he is a very healthy dog. 🌐

*[Collect offering]*

By Andrew McChesney

## Trusting God

Read more about KK on page 6.

God hasn't always answered KK's prayers in the way that she hoped.

KK comes from a non-Christian family and only learned about God and prayer at the Adventist school. When she was 8, she prayed for God to heal her mother from cancer.

"She was in pain and suffering," KK said. "I prayed that He would heal the pain and that she would get better."

At the school, Teacher Lynn taught KK to pray and read the Bible.

"Pray and trust in God," she said.

Teacher Lynn prayed with KK every day for four months. Whenever KK felt that she needed to pray, the two knelt and prayed. Sometimes the whole class prayed together.

Mother didn't say anything about the prayers, but she was happy and grateful that her daughter was receiving encouragement from her

classmates and Teacher Lynn.

The children made greeting cards and gifts for KK and Mother. KK's favorite card read, "Cheer up!"

Mother grew weaker and weaker.

KK told her classmates, "If it is God's plan for Mother to go and for me to live without her, I have to believe and trust in Him."

Then Mother died.

KK was very sad, and she wondered why God had allowed her mother to die. But as time passed, she learned more about God.

"I decided that God really knows what's best for me and He knows what will happen in my future," she said. "I trust in Him."

Today, KK prays when she wakes up and before she goes to bed. She prays during the day at school.

"I thank God for bringing students to the school and ask Him to send His holy angels to protect each one of us," she said. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

## Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will assist two countries next quarter. It will help to:

### Mozambique

- Expand the food and nutrition department at Mozambique Adventist University, Beira
- Establish an orphanage for children who lost parents to HIV/AIDS, Nampula
- Construct an elementary school, Milange

### São Tomé and Príncipe

- Set up an alcohol and drug rehabilitation center, São Tomé
- Build a new church, São Tomé
- Construct an auditorium for K-12 school, São Tomé

Children's Project: Portuguese Bibles for children from needy families in Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe

# Let's Play a Game!

## SHADOW PUPPET THEATER (INDONESIA)

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- 1 cardboard box
- 1 sheet of tissue paper (large enough to cover one side of your box)
- tape
- scissors or a craft knife
- black marker pen
- bedside lamp or large flashlight
- a table

### DIRECTIONS:

Cut the back panel out of your box.

Leave two of the side flaps to keep your puppet theater stable, but cut off the front flaps (the pieces that close up the box).

For the front of your theater, sketch out a smaller square within the front panel (like a television set).

On the inside of the box, tape a piece of tissue paper that covers the opening you have just cut out.

Place the theater on the edge of a table.

Position a lamp or flashlight behind, shining directly into the inside, lighting up the tissue paper from within.

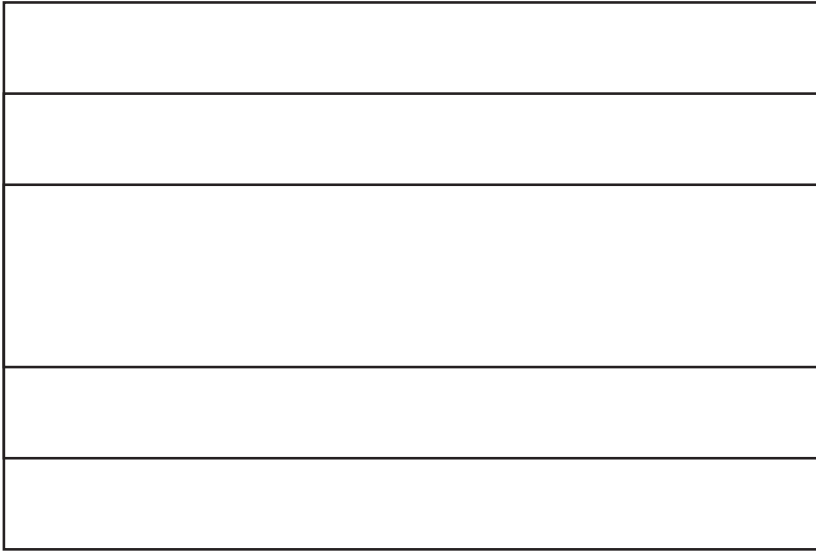
Make some shadow puppets from stiff paper or card and bamboo skewers and place them between the light and the screen, as close to the screen as possible works best.

Use your favorite Bible story as inspiration.



*A traditional Indonesian shadow puppet.*

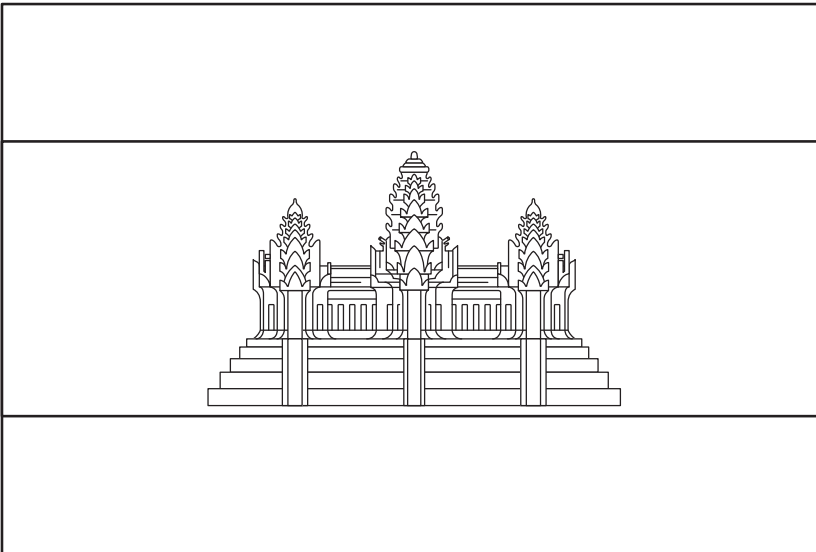
# Color The Flag



## THAILAND

### DIRECTIONS:

Color the stripes,  
from top to bottom  
- red, white, blue,  
white, red.



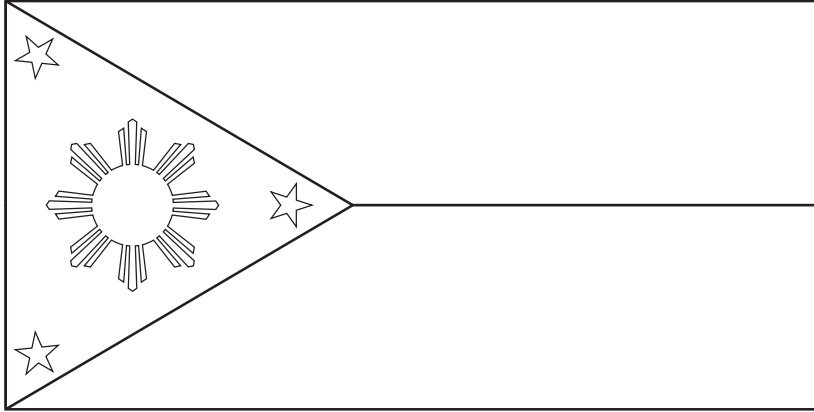
## CAMBODIA

### DIRECTIONS:

Color the top and bottom  
bands blue. Color the  
center section red. Leave  
the building white.



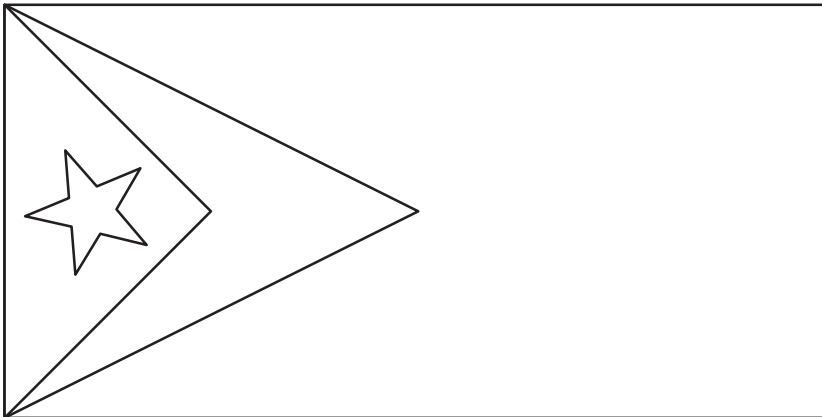
# Color The Flag



## PHILIPPINES

### DIRECTIONS:

Color the top half blue and the bottom half red. Leave the triangle white. Color the sun and stars yellow.



## EAST TIMOR

### DIRECTIONS:

Color the main part of the flag red. Color the large triangle yellow and the small triangle black. Leave the star white.

# Let's Cook!

## BATAR DA'AN (EAST TIMOR)

Vegan and gluten-free  
Serves 4-6

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1-2 tablespoons (15-30 ml) olive oil
- 6 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 1 large onion, peeled and diced
- 1 butternut squash, about 2 pounds (900 g), peeled, seeded and chopped in small cubes
- 1 15-ounce (425 g) can white beans
- 3 cups (400 g) frozen corn
- 3 cups (700 ml) vegetable stock
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 cup (16 g) chopped fresh cilantro leaves (optional)
- Quinoa, rice, or farro for serving

### DIRECTIONS:

Add olive oil to a large saucepan over medium high heat. Add the garlic and cook for 30 seconds, stirring so it doesn't brown. Stir in the onions then lower the heat to medium and cook for 5-7 minutes or until the onions becomes tender.

Add the squash, beans, corn, and the stock and bring to a boil, then lower to a simmer and cook for 15 minutes or until the squash is tender. Season with salt and black pepper to taste. Top with cilantro leaves if desired, and serve with quinoa, rice, or farro.



BigStockPhoto.com

# Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free **Mission Spotlight** video, featuring video reports from around the Southern Asia-Pacific Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at [bit.ly/missionspotlight](http://bit.ly/missionspotlight).

## Online Information

Following are sources of information that may be helpful in preparing for the mission segment of Sabbath School. For more information on the cultures and history of the countries featured in this quarterly, visit your local library or a travel agency, or visit the websites listed below.

Thailand: government website Chiangmai Adventist Academy Facebook Page Tourism Thailand	<a href="http://bit.ly/ThaiGovt">bit.ly/ThaiGovt</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/CMAcademyFB">bit.ly/CMAcademyFB</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/ThaiTour">bit.ly/ThaiTour</a>
Cambodia: government website Lonely Planet	<a href="http://bit.ly/CambGov">bit.ly/CambGov</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/LPCambodia">bit.ly/LPCambodia</a>
East Timor: government website Wikitravel	<a href="http://bit.ly/TLGov">bit.ly/TLGov</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/WikiTET">bit.ly/WikiTET</a>
Philippines: government website Lonely Planet	<a href="http://bit.ly/GovPhil">bit.ly/GovPhil</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/LonPlanPhil">bit.ly/LonPlanPhil</a>
Indonesia: government website Rough Guide	<a href="http://bit.ly/IndoGov">bit.ly/IndoGov</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/RGIndo">bit.ly/RGIndo</a>
Seventh-day Adventist Southern Asia-Pacific Division Southeast Asia Union Mission Thailand Mission Central Philippine Union Conference West Indonesia Union Mission	<a href="http://adventist.asia">adventist.asia</a> <a href="http://saum.org.sg">saum.org.sg</a> <a href="http://adventist.or.th">adventist.or.th</a> <a href="http://cpucsda.org">cpucsda.org</a> <a href="http://adventist.or.id">adventist.or.id</a>

An offering goal device will help 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.

Remind your Sabbath School members that their regular weekly mission offerings will help the missionary work of the world church and that one quarter of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to the projects in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division. On the twelfth Sabbath, report on mission giving during the quarter. Encourage members to double or triple their normal mission giving on Thirteenth Sabbath. Count the offering and record the amount given at the end of Sabbath School.

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**Web site:** [AdventistMission.org](http://AdventistMission.org)

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