



# CHILDREN'S MISSION

2019 • **QUARTER 3** • SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION



[AdventistMission.org](http://AdventistMission.org)



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**On the Cover:** Mitlyn Todonga, 15, prayed for help to pass state exams in the Solomon Islands. Read how God answered her prayers in a marvelous way on page 22.

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# Your Offerings at Work



Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering funded children's Sabbath School classrooms at two churches on the island of Maré in New Caledonia. Read a story from Maré on page 6.



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## Dear Sabbath School Leader,

Andrew McChesney  
Editor



This quarter we feature the South Pacific Division, whose territory includes American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna Islands.

God is doing amazing things in this region of 40.5 million people and 518,016 Adventists, or a ratio of one Adventist for 78 people. I always pray for God's blessings during trips to collect mission stories. But this time I started praying extra early — four months before the trip began. Every morning, I asked God to provide the best stories in the South Pacific Division.

God answered in a mighty way. While traveling to six countries over three weeks, I noticed an incredible increase in powerful mission stories. I am convinced more than ever that Jesus is coming soon!

### Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help:

- “Save 10,000 Toes,” a campaign to prevent toe amputations through health services in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Kiribati, and Tonga.
- Construct Hope TV and radio studios in Tongatapu, Tonga.
- Produce “Daniel Children’s Series,” a 13-part animated series for children aged 8-12 following the adventures of Daniel and his three friends, in Australia.

Among this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath projects is “Save 10,000 Toes,” which will provide health training to prevent the amputation of the toes of people with diabetes. Across the South Pacific Division, doctors amputate 80 toes every day, the division’s associate health director Paul Rankin told me. He said 19 percent of the region’s population of 40.5 million suffer from Type 2 diabetes, a disease caused by poor lifestyle choices. The figure jumps to 47 percent in American Samoa, one of the seven countries that will benefit from the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

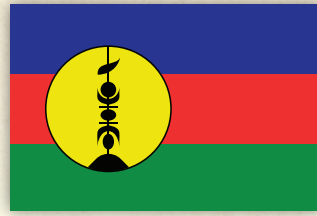
Another project focuses on bringing Hope Channel to Tonga. A 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering made Hope Channel available to all homes in New Zealand, and many people have entered Adventist churches as a result. Let’s pray for a similar blessing in Tonga.

### Special Features

Make your Sabbath School class come alive with extra photos and other materials posted weekly on our website, [AdventistMission.org](http://AdventistMission.org), and Facebook, [facebook.com/missionquarterlies](https://facebook.com/missionquarterlies). You could show the photos to the children while you read the mission story.

You also can download the PDF version of the youth and adult Mission magazine at [bit.ly/adultmission](http://bit.ly/adultmission), and Mission Spotlight videos at [bit.ly/missionspotlight](http://bit.ly/missionspotlight). A printable mission-bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at [bit.ly/bank-coloring-page](http://bit.ly/bank-coloring-page).

Thank you for encouraging children to be mission minded! 🌍



NEW CALEDONIA | July 6

## Banana Boy<sup>AS</sup>

Albert Andrea, 11

Eleven-year-old Albert Andrea was hungry when Mother picked him up at school in Noumea, capital of New Caledonia in the South Pacific.

He had only eaten half his lunch because he didn't like the other half — spinach.

"Mommy, I really would love to eat a banana," Albert said. "Can we go to that little market and buy a banana?"

Mother also wanted to go to the market to buy parsley and spring onions to cook tuluk, a traditional Vanuatuan dish made of cassava and coconut milk. But she only had 500 francs, just enough money to buy parsley and spring onions.

Albert couldn't forget the banana. As they drove to the market, he spoke about how nice it would be to have a banana.

"Albert," Mother said, "you need to pray about that banana because you really want to eat one."

Albert prayed out loud, "Please, Jesus,

can I have a banana? Amen."

Mother was happy to hear the prayer.

"That's good," she said. "You'll see that Jesus will answer your prayer."

Arriving at the outdoor market, Mother told Albert to wait in the car while she shopped. Albert waited as long as he could, but the car grew terribly hot. He got out to wait. The first thing that he saw was a man selling bananas.

Then someone walked up to Albert. He was a white man wearing white clothing and a white shawl over his head. In his hands, he held a bunch of yellow bananas.

"Albert," the man said, softly. "Here are some bananas for you."

Albert was surprised. "How does he know my name?" he wondered. But he accepted the bananas and said out loud, "Thank you!"

"Bye-bye, Albert," the man said.

"Bye-bye," Albert replied. "Thank you!"



Albert returned to the car and peeled a banana. It was nice and ripe and soft.

When Mother came back, she was surprised — and worried — to see Albert eating bananas. “Where did you get those bananas?” she asked.

“From the man in the white hoodie,” Albert said.

“But, Albert, where is the man?” Mother said. “Let’s thank him.”

Mother and Albert looked, but they couldn’t find the man. Tears filled Mother’s eyes as she realized that Jesus had answered Albert’s prayer. She asked whether Albert had thanked God.

Albert, holding a half-eaten banana in his hand, prayed, “Thank you, Jesus, for my bananas. Amen.”

Albert believes that the man in white was an angel.

“I prayed to Jesus, and Jesus must have told an angel to give me bananas,” he said. “The bananas were really nice!” 🌍

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

## Story Tips

- Find Noumea, New Caledonia, on the map.
- Share that Mother believes that Jesus has a special place in His heart for Albert. She learned recently that Albert was born with a hole in his heart. Doctors say he will suffer seizures his whole life.
- Share that God has answered many prayers in Albert’s family. Mother, whose name is Annie Andrea, didn’t believe in God. But Father prayed for many years, and she was baptized in 2015.
- Watch a video of Albert at the link: [bit.ly/Albert-Andrea](https://bit.ly/Albert-Andrea).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](https://bit.ly/fb-mq).

three years ago helped build two children’s Sabbath School classrooms on Maré, an island in New Caledonia. Thank you for your Sabbath School mission offering.

By Andrew McChesney

## Two More Prayers

Albert says God has answered many prayers.

Albert catches and sells fish to help his parents. One day, as Albert was fishing, Mother walked by and saw a big fish in the ocean.

“Wow, that’s a big fish!” she said.

Albert prayed, “Can I have that fish?”

He threw out his fishing line and immediately caught the fish.

On another day, Albert told Mother before school that he wanted scoubidou (pronounced: “Scooby-Doo”), colorful plastic strings that children weave into

keychains and other handicrafts. Mother, who works as a housekeeper, cleaning someone’s house, said she only had money for bus fare to go to work.

Albert prayed.

Later that day as Mother was cleaning, the house owner said, “Here is a big basket of scoubidou. Do you want to take it for your son?”

Mother looked at him in shock. “Wow!” she said. “This is an answer to my son’s prayer this morning.”

After school, Albert was thrilled to find the basket of scoubidou at home.



NEW CALEDONIA | July 13

Catherine Buama, 17

# Saved by a Finger

The airline representative at the airport check-in desk shook her head.

"I'm sorry, but your ticket isn't for this flight," she said.

Sixteen-year-old Catherine Buama looked at her e-ticket. Sure enough, Father and Mother had purchased a ticket with the wrong date. Catherine had just finished a vacation at home on the island of Maré in New Caledonia. She needed to fly back to the main island to resume her high school studies.

But every seat on the plane was occupied, and the plane left without Catherine.

Catherine's parents decided to spend the night near the airport and to try to get a seat on the airplane the next day.

That evening, Father noticed that a three-week evangelistic series was starting at a Seventh-day Adventist church near the airport. Catherine and Mother had never visited an Adventist church.

Unknown to them, Father had read the Bible and decided 10 years earlier that he wanted to become an Adventist. But he didn't want to be the only Adventist in his family, so he had prayed for 10 years for his wife to become an Adventist.

At the meeting that evening, Catherine began to pay attention when the pastor spoke about alcohol.

"Alcohol destroys the body," the pastor said. "You shouldn't drink because the Bible says our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit."

Catherine poked Father in the arm. Father drank every Sunday.

Father felt guilty when he received the poke. He knew that he shouldn't drink. But he didn't know what to say, so he smiled at Catherine.

Then the pastor spoke about smoking. "Cigarettes destroy the body," he said. "You shouldn't smoke because the Bible says



## Story Tips

- Find New Caledonia on the map.
- Father's name is Georges, and Mother's name is Sophie. Read a story about her in the youth and adult Mission magazine.
- After Mother quit smoking, she calculated that she had spent 30,000 francs (\$270) every month on cigarettes. She is glad to save so much money!
- Watch a video of Georges at the link: [bit.ly/Georges-Buama](http://bit.ly/Georges-Buama).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.”

Catherine poked Mother in the arm. Mother smoked a pack of cigarettes every day.

Mother felt guilty. She knew that she shouldn't smoke. But she didn't know what to say, so she smiled at Catherine.

Then the pastor spoke about McDonald's. “The food at McDonald's isn't healthy, and it can make you ill,” he said.

Father and Mother poked Catherine. She ate at McDonald's every weekend.

Catherine felt guilty. She knew that

she shouldn't eat at McDonald's. But she didn't know what to say, so she smiled at her parents.

When the meeting ended, the family left deep in thought.

The next morning, Catherine got a seat on the plane and flew off to high school.

Father and Mother decided to return to the evangelistic meeting that night. They also went the next night.

During the second week of the meetings, the pastor asked who wanted to give their hearts to Jesus. Mother stood up! Father and Mother were baptized on the last Sabbath of the meetings.

When Catherine returned home for vacation, she saw big changes in her parents. Father no longer drank, and Mother had quit smoking. Catherine liked her new home, and she decided to stop eating at McDonald's. She is glad that God answered Father's prayers. 🌍

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that helped build two children's Sabbath School classrooms on Maré, where this family lives.

By Andrew McChesney



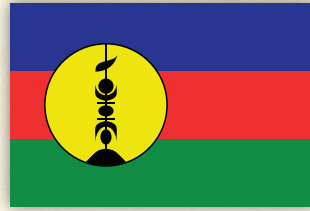
AMAZING  
NATURE

Although there are almost 25,000 species of orchid in the world, only about 100 of them are “vanillas.” And of these, only three are cultivated for their aromatic pods: *Vanilla pompona*, *Vanilla tahitensis*, and *Vanilla planifolia*, which is found in New Caledonia.



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NEW CALEDONIA | July 20

Felix Wadrobot, 59

# Owner Said Nothing

Seventeen-year-old Felix Wadrobot had graduated from high school and was working at a bookstore in Noumea, capital of the South Pacific territory of New Caledonia.

Felix wanted to earn money to send to his parents on his home island, Maré. His parents were poor farmers who grew sweet potatoes, yams, bananas, cabbage, lettuce, radishes, and taro.

One day, a coworker invited Felix to a music concert at a Seventh-day Adventist church. Felix belonged to another Christian denomination, but he decided to go to the concert because the church was located just down the street from the house where he lived with relatives.

At the concert, the young people welcomed Felix warmly. It was like they knew him already. Felix felt good, and he quickly made new friends.

After that evening, Felix returned to

church every Friday evening to sing with the church's youth choir. But he didn't go to church because he had to work Saturdays.

One day, the church pastor told Felix, "I'm glad that you are spending time with the young people at church, but you also should study the Bible."

Felix liked the idea and began to study 24 Bible lessons with the pastor. When they reached the lesson about Sabbath, Felix read that God created the Earth and set aside the seventh day of the week to rest. He read that the Four Commandment says the seventh day is the Sabbath.

The pastor said the seventh day was Saturday.

Felix was surprised. He had always thought that Sabbath was on Sunday.

Back at work, he wondered which day is the true Sabbath. He suddenly remembered that he worked in a bookstore and could



look for answers in a dictionary.

Felix opened a dictionary to the entry for Sunday. He read that Sunday is the first day of the week. He turned to “Saturday” and read that Saturday is the seventh day of the week.

“This is exactly what the pastor told me during Bible studies!” Felix thought.

From that moment, he believed that Saturday is true Sabbath.

But he had to work on Saturdays, so he asked the pastor for help. The pastor suggested that he ask the bookstore owner for Saturdays off or quit his job.

On Monday, Felix approached the bookstore owner behind the cash register. The owner who was not a Christian.

“I would like to stop working on Saturdays because it is the Sabbath day,” Felix said. “I can work an extra hour every day to make up for it.”

The owner looked at Felix and didn’t say a word. Felix returned to his work.

On Wednesday, he went to the owner again and asked for Saturday off. The owner just looked at Felix and didn’t say anything.

Felix prayed. He liked working at the bookstore and wanted to send money to his parents. But he didn’t want to break the Sabbath.

On Friday, Felix prayed especially hard as he worked. Finally, it was time to close the bookstore.

The owner turned to Felix. “I’d like to drop you off at your house,” he said.

Felix was surprised. He always went home by bus.

The owner didn’t say anything during the drive. Felix also was silent, and he wondered what would happen next.

The owner stopped the car in front of

## Story Tips

- Find the island Maré in New Caledonia on the map.
- Watch a video of Felix at the link: [bit.ly/Felix-Wadrobot](http://bit.ly/Felix-Wadrobot).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

Felix’s house, and Felix opened the door to get out.

“Felix,” the owner said. “Tomorrow you can go to the church.”

Felix was shocked and happy. He immediately prayed, “Thank You, God!”

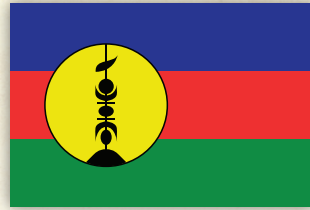
Felix never had to work on Sabbath in the bookstore. He also never had to work extra hours to make up for missing work on Saturdays. To this day, he doesn’t know exactly why the owner decided to give him Saturdays off. But he is certain that God touched the owner’s heart.

Felix finished the Bible studies with the pastor and was baptized. He later became a pastor, and today he is the leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for all of New Caledonia.

“God is always with us when we face difficulties,” he said. “He answers in His time, not our time, and He knows what is best for us.” 🌐

Part of a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago helped build two children’s Sabbath School classrooms on Maré, the island where Felix grew up. Thank you for your Sabbath School mission offerings that help other children learn about prayer and the power of God.

By Andrew McChesney



NEW CALEDONIA | July 27

Julius Philomin, 13

# Special Gift From God

Mother woke up 13-year-old Julius Philomin at 4:30 a.m. in their hometown of Mont-Dore in New Caledonia.

“Julius, you have to go to school,” she said. “Get ready.”

Julius got up and went outside to play with the family’s three dogs.

Mother called him back inside.

“Did you forget that you have to go to school?” she said.

Julius felt bad for not listening and put a pot of water on the outdoor fire to boil water for his bath. After bathing, he dressed in his school uniform. Mother reminded him to put on his glasses, to place hearing aids in his ears, and to grab his school bag.

After Mother reminded Julius about breakfast, he poured cream of wheat porridge into a mug and climbed into the car with his 8-year-old brother. He ate the

porridge as Mother drove in heavy traffic toward school.

After eating, he took a toothbrush and a bottle of water from his school bag and brushed his teeth. Every time he needed to spit, he motioned with his hand for Mother to stop the car.

Mother and the two boys arrived at school in time for classes at 7 a.m. Mother silently prayed for both sons as she left, but she prayed extra for Julius. At school, the other children were mean to him. He stayed away from them and only played with those who wanted to play with him. Usually he played alone.

Julius is a special gift from God. He was born dead. His heart wasn’t beating when Mother gave birth to him. Doctors somehow started his heart, but he lay in a coma for two and a half weeks. Doctors said his brain was damaged and he would not be a normal child.



## Story Tips

- Find New Caledonia on the map. Mont-Dore is located a little north of the capital, Noumea.
- Share that “Mont-Dore” means “Golden Mount” in French.
- Ask what the children think Julius’ first sermon will be. Suggest that this story is his first sermon. It is his personal testimony about what God has done for him.
- Tell the children that they are giving a sermon every time they share with others what God has done for them.
- Julius’ mother is Barbara Philomin.
- Watch a video of Julius at the link: [bit.ly/Julius-Philomin](http://bit.ly/Julius-Philomin).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

But today Julius is normal in every way. He just requires constant reminders. Every morning Mother has to remind him to wake up and get dressed. Every morning, she has to tell him to stop playing with the dogs and, again, to get dressed. She reminds him about his glasses, hearing aids, school bag, and breakfast.

Julius also was selfish. When he packed breakfast, he never thought about helping Little Brother. Mother wanted him to be generous and helpful,

and she spoke with him after school.

“If you want to go to heaven, you have to have a heart like Jesus,” Mother said. “Jesus has a sharing heart. If you are going to prepare porridge for yourself, you have to try to put your brother first and prepare for him.”

Julius didn’t say anything.

Mother didn’t raise the matter with Julius again. Instead, she prayed every morning and evening for God to give her son a sharing heart.

Several weeks passed, and Mother was surprised one morning to hear Julius call out to Little Brother.

“Come take a bath,” he said. “I have heated a pot of water for you on the fire.”

When Mother reminded Julius about breakfast, he washed Little Brother’s mug and filled it with porridge. Then he filled his own mug.

Mother was overjoyed!

Little by little, Julius has changed and become helpful to Little Brother and other people. Recently, he told Mother that he would like to become a preacher. Mother believes God will help him.

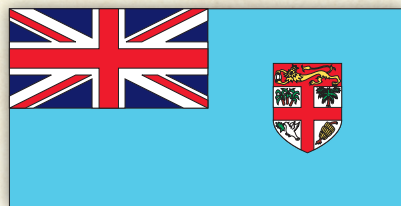
“I don’t know how God answered my prayer for my son not to be selfish, but He did,” Mother said. “So, He can also answer my prayer for Julius to work for Him. God works in mysterious ways.” 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION  
RECORD

The first Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to work in the island group were Captain G.F. Jones and his wife, who sailed from Sydney for Noumea, New Caledonia, on Oct. 23, 1925. The islands were some of the most difficult areas in the South Pacific.



FIJI | August 3

Litea Cavalevu, 15

# Giving Away Money

Father pulled out several banknotes as 15-year-old Litea ate her breakfast of oatmeal and bread.

"Here," he said, handing her 80 Fijian dollars, or about U.S.\$40. "This is for the school fees that you need to pay for the year. Make sure that you pay your teacher and bring home the receipt."

The new school year had just begun for Litea in Fiji. Tuition was free at her Seventh-day Adventist school, just as it was at all schools in Fiji. But students needed to make a special payment for field trips and other expenses.

Litea took the money. "I'll give you the receipt after school," she promised.

When she arrived at school, she immediately went to Teacher and held out the money. Teacher opened a book.

"No," he said after a moment. "I don't need the money. Your fees already have been paid."

Litea was surprised, and she sat down at her desk. Teacher looked in the book again and began to call out the names of students who had not paid their fees. One of those students was Litea's friend, Ilisavani.

Litea knew that Ilisavani's family didn't have much money. Ilisavani's father was working in faraway Australia, picking oranges as a seasonal farm laborer. But he wasn't earning much money to send home to Fiji. Ilisavani's mother was struggling to feed her and her three brothers and sisters.

Litea went over to Ilisavani.

"Here," she said. "Use this money to pay your fees."

"No," Ilisavani protested. "I can't take your money."

Litea pressed the money into her hand. Ilisavani, with tears of gratitude in her eyes, accepted the banknotes and gave them to Teacher. Teacher filled out a receipt.



Father, who worked at the church's headquarters in Fiji, wasn't at home when Litea returned from school. He forgot about the money until the family was eating a supper of taro and soup. Litea looked uncomfortable when he asked.

"There was a problem," she said, hesitantly. "I went to the teacher to pay him the money, and the teacher told me, 'Your fees have already been paid.'"

At that moment, Father remembered that his workplace had taken the money for the fees from his salary and sent it directly to the school. He had forgotten about that.

"What happened to the money that I gave you?" he asked.

Litea told how she had given the money to her needy friend.

Father and Mother were shocked. Eighty dollars was a lot of money. They exclaimed in unison, "WHAT?!"

Litea squirmed in her seat. She didn't want her parents to be unhappy.

Then Father and Mother looked at each other and smiled. They realized that Litea was putting into practice a Bible verse that she had learned in Sabbath School. The verse, Matthew 22:39, says, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Father turned to Litea.

"We're glad that you did that," he said.

## Story Tips

- Find Fiji on the map.
- Pronounce Litea as: lit-EE-a.
- Pronounce Ilisavani as: il-ee-sav-AN-EE.
- Pronounce Save as: sa-VAY.
- Watch a video of Save Cavalevu at the link: [bit.ly/Save-Cavalevu](http://bit.ly/Save-Cavalevu).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

"Thank you for looking out for your friend."

Litea heaved a sigh of relief. "Thank you for understanding," she said.

The next day, Ilisavani's mother called Litea's mother on the phone. She was crying.

"Thank you very much for what your daughter did," she said. "You know our family situation. Thank you."

"You can thank Jesus," Mother said. 🌐

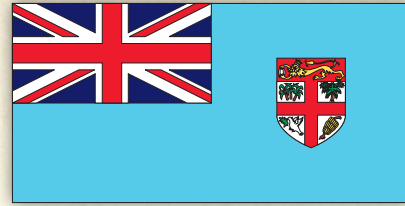
Father, whose full name is Save Cavalevu, is glad that Sabbath School taught Litea how to love others, and he hopes that many children will learn the same lesson at his Narere Seventh-day Adventist Church. Thank you for your offerings that helped build children's Sabbath School classrooms in Fiji.

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION  
RECORD

The first Adventist missionary to arrive in Fiji was John I. Tay, in 1891, on the mission vessel Pitcairn. After a few months he became ill and died. The work was taken up again in 1895, when J.M. Cole from the United States began work in Levuka, then the capital of the islands. The same year, the islands were organized as a mission.



FIJI | August 10

# Only One Leg

Senitiki Roqara, 55

Senitiki Roqara put on his work clothes on Saturday morning and headed for the door.

His wife, Vasemaca, wearing her Sabbath best, stopped him.

"Where are you going?" she asked.

"To the wharf to load and unload shipping containers as usual," he said.

Senitiki knew that his wife wanted him to go to church with her and their children. When she was baptized a few years earlier, she had invited him to church every Sabbath. But he didn't go, and eventually his wife stopped inviting him. Instead she prayed for him.

Senitiki walked out the door on the sunny Saturday morning and headed for the wharf in Fiji's capital, Suva. It was going to be a long day. He had work from Saturday morning to Sunday morning, loading big cargo containers onto ships and off of ships at the wharf.

The long hours passed, and the workload eased up at 2 a.m. It was dark, and Senitiki sat down on some stairs to rest. He chatted with some coworkers, who also were taking a break, and then stretched out his legs to take a nap. He fell asleep.

Suddenly, a searing pain shot through his body. Senitiki jumped to his feet, and someone shouted, "Oh no! Look at your leg!"

Senitiki looked down. He saw that his pant leg was torn and soaked in blood. He fell to the ground, unable to stand anymore. A forklift had driven too close to the stairs where he had been seated and run over one of his legs.

An ambulance whisked Senitiki off to the hospital, and the doctor said sadly that he couldn't do anything to save the leg. The leg was amputated that morning.

Someone called Senitiki's wife, and she rushed to the hospital. As she stood beside



his bed, Senitiki looked up at her sadly.

"This might be the end of me," he said.

His wife reached out to hold his hand.

"You have to go to church," she said, softly.

"OK," he said. "I'm going to church."

Senitiki remained in the hospital for a month. During that time, his wife and Adventist church members visited regularly. None of his own friends came to see him. The church members shared the love of God and told him that God loved him. Senitiki was amazed that the church members were so kind and decided that God was with them.

He went to church on the first Sabbath after he was released from the hospital. Soon he was baptized. The pastor was happy to see him in church, but he had an idea.

"There is no Adventist church in your village," he said. "Let's open a church in your home."

Senitiki agreed.

Relatives and neighbors began to attend the Sabbath worship services in his home, and after a while eight people were baptized. The church got so big that it moved out of Senitiki's house and into

## Story Tips

- Find Fiji on the map.
- Pronounce Senitiki as: sen-e-TIKI.
- Pronounce Vasemaca as: vuh-suh-muh-kuh.
- Watch a video of Senitiki at the link: [bit.ly/Senitiki-Roqara](http://bit.ly/Senitiki-Roqara).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

its own church building. Senitiki was so happy! Even though he only had one leg, he had planted a church!

Now Senitiki is planning to plant another church in a neighboring village. He is working with several church members to hold evangelistic meetings in the village.

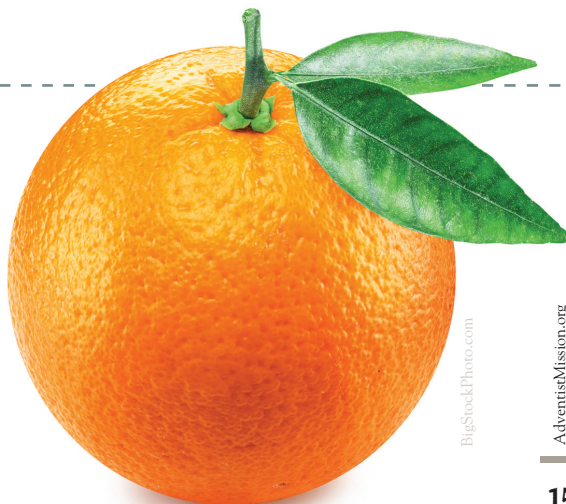
He said that he is thankful God for the terrible work accident that cost him his leg.

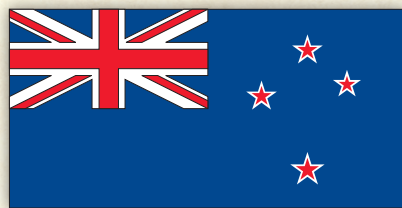
"If I hadn't had the accident, I don't think that I would have become an Adventist," he said. "I love this church! I love to take the gospel to the villages." 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



Fijian women play a game on New Year's Eve called "veicaqemoli" (kick the orange). Played by two teams, the winning team must give gifts of new garments to the members of the losing team, so there's really more incentive to lose than to win.





NEW ZEALAND | August 17

Grace Teao, 11

## Standing With God

Ten-year-old Grace liked playing tag with her friends in a big field across the street from her home on the outskirts of New Zealand's capital, Auckland.

She liked running back and forth, laughing, tripping, playing.

One day she suddenly she felt a pain in left leg as she ran around the field. Her leg hurt! Grace stopped and rubbed her leg. It felt like she had a cramp in her calf.

The pain remained for the rest of the day and then the next day. Grace tried to ignore it, but the pain moved up her leg.

Teacher noticed that Grace was limping at South Auckland Seventh-day Adventist Primary School.

"Are you OK?" Teacher asked.

"Yeah, I'm fine," Grace replied.

Grace's friends noticed the limp. Mother noticed, too. Everyone asked Grace if she was all right. "I'm fine, I'm fine," Grace said. She wasn't fine, but she

kept hoping that the pain would go away.

A month passed, and Grace couldn't bear the pain any longer. She told Mother.

Mother looked worried. "It might be the same thing as your brothers," she said.

Grace had two older brothers with SUFE, a condition of the hip joint that requires an operation.

Grace didn't want an operation. "I don't think I have that," she said.

Mother didn't do anything, and Grace kept limping. Several days passed, and Mother abruptly told Grace, "We have to go to the doctor."

Grace was scared, but Mother assured her that everything would be all right. Before leaving the house, Mother prayed, "Please help Grace, and be with us if she needs to go to surgery."

At the doctor's office, Grace lay down for some tests. The doctor asked her to raise her leg and move it back



## Story Tips

- Find New Zealand on the map.
- Watch a video of Grace at the link: [bit.ly/Grace-Teao](http://bit.ly/Grace-Teao).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

and forth. It hurt to move her leg.

The doctor looked serious. “You have to get an X-ray at the hospital,” he said. Mother prayed in the car.

After the X-ray, Grace waited nervously. She told herself that the leg pain wasn’t a big deal and that she would go home soon.

After an hour, the nurse came out and told Grace that she had to be admitted to the hospital immediately for surgery. Grace was frightened and began to cry.

Mother comforted her. “God will be with us,” she said. Grace stopped crying.

Grace underwent surgery the next day. While she was sleeping, the doctor put some pins in her hip to make it stable. She woke up, feeling dizzy, and a nurse gave her an ice cube to suck on. Then she saw Mother waiting for her in the room.

“Are you OK?” Mother asked.

“I didn’t feel a thing,” Grace said.

With a big smile, Mother thanked God for the successful operation.

Grace left the hospital two days later and, after using crutches for a few weeks, was walking normally. She was happy that the pain was finally gone.

For five months. Then Grace noticed a pain in her other leg. She had to undergo a second operation at the hospital, but this time she wasn’t scared. She knew God was with her.

“We prayed before the surgery,” Grace said. “But I knew God would take care of everything. No problem.”

God did take care of everything. A few weeks after the operation, Grace was walking on crutches and looking forward to playing tag again soon in the big field across from her home.

Grace has advice for other children who are scared.

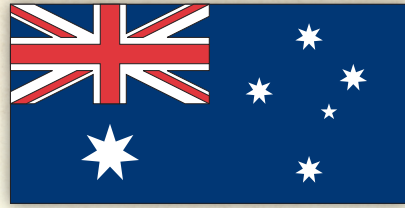
“Don’t be afraid,” she said. “Know that God is always with you.” 🌐

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that made it possible for Grace and everyone in New Zealand to watch Adventist TV programs for free on Hope Channel.

By Andrew McChesney

As early as 1874, an interest in Seventh-day Adventist teachings was kindled in New Zealand by publications sent from friends or relatives in the U.S.

In October 1885, U.S. Adventist minister S.N. Haskell came to Auckland from Australia and lodged in the boarding house of Edward Hare who, with his wife, became the first converts in New Zealand. Within four weeks, a small group began to observe the seventh-day Sabbath in Auckland.



AUSTRALIA | August 24

## Jaxon's Journey

Jaxon Stacey, 14

Thirteen-year-old Jaxon Stacey gathered with his parents and three younger brothers in the living room for “Family Night.”

It actually wasn't nighttime. It was only 4 p.m., and the boys had just returned home for school. The family met for 20 minutes every day to discuss life.

At this particular “Family Night,” Mother wanted to talk about family plans to travel far from their home in Australia for a vacation in Cambodia. Jaxon was looking forward to the trip. He hoped to see old Buddhist temples and eat fresh pineapples and papaya. But Mother didn't want to talk about that. She wanted to change the vacation plans. “Today, I was talking with a woman from church, and she suggested that we build a school classroom during our vacation,” she said.

Mother explained that the 10th-grade students at the school needed a classroom,

and she wanted her family to team up with two other Australian families to construct the building. The project would take a week of their three-week vacation.

Jaxon thought to himself, “I'm not sure what this is, but I'll give it a shot.” Out loud, he asked, “What would I do?”

Mother said each member of the family would have a task. Jaxon's brothers would hammer nails and paint walls. Jaxon and Father would saw wood for the walls.

Mother also said Jaxon and his three brothers each needed to raise 1,000 Australian dollars (U.S.\$740) to pay for project expenses. Jaxon and his brothers got to work. For several Sundays, they shut themselves in the kitchen, baking cottage cheese patties, quiche, muffins, and puff pastry stuffed with vegetarian sausages. They advertised on Facebook, and church members bought the food.

Soon Jaxon and his brothers had raised the money, and they flew to Cambodia. The family spent the first week exploring the ancient Angkor temple in Siem Reap



and eating fresh pineapples and papaya.

Then the family got into a minibus and rode several hours to the school. There, they and the two other families began to work on the classroom.

Jaxon quickly noticed something different. Every morning, the group prayed for God to keep them safe and to help them finish the project. During the day, the group paused from work to pray for more help and protection. Every evening, prayers of thanksgiving were given to God for safety and the work that had been accomplished. The group also prayed before every meal.

Jaxon had never prayed so much in his life. At home, he didn't pray when he got up in the morning or when he went to bed at night. He often forgot to pray at meals. He liked the many prayers in Cambodia.

Jaxon was exhausted after work every day. He took a nap, woke up for supper, and then went straight back to bed.

When the week ended, the classroom was finished. Jaxon was delighted! God had answered their prayers — they finished on time, and no one was injured.

"When we finished, we felt like we had achieved something very big," Jaxon said.

Jaxon is now 14 and back at Avondale School in Australia, studying in the

## Story Tips

- Find Jaxon's home near Sydney, Australia, on the map. Show the plane route to Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
- Ask whether the children have gone on a trip (mission or otherwise). What did they learn about God?
- Watch a video of Jaxon at the link: [bit.ly/Jaxon-Stacey](http://bit.ly/Jaxon-Stacey).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

eighth grade. But something is different. When he wakes up in the morning, he thanks God for the new day and asks for protection. At school, he pauses to ask God for help with his schoolwork. When he lies down to sleep, he thanks God for the good day and asks for a good night's rest. He also prays before every meal.

Jaxon said the Cambodia trip taught him about the importance of prayer.

"I pray now more than I used to," he said. "I see that God is answering my prayers. I asked for help before a math exam, and I did pretty good!" 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



Australia is home to a variety of unique animals, including the koala (pictured), kangaroo, emu, kookaburra, and platypus.





AUSTRALIA | August 31

## Miracle Milly

Lara Hawkins, 14

Sunday morning started quietly at the Hawkins home in Cooranbong, Australia.

After breakfast, 14-year-old Lara and her little brother, Jack, said goodbye to their new puppy, Milly. Then Father drove them to the sports field at Avondale School, the Seventh-day Adventist school where both children studied. Mother was away on a business trip in Fiji.

Jack played soccer with friends for an hour. Lara and Father shot hoops on the basketball court.

Afterward, as the car neared their house, Lara saw smoke rising from the roof. People were gathered on the front lawn, talking excitedly and pointing.

Lara and Jack jumped from the car and raced to the back door. It was locked.

"Where's Milly?" Lara cried. "Hurry! Open the door!"

Father opened the door. Thick black smoke filled the room. Lara frantically

called for Milly, but the puppy, who was usually obedient, didn't come.

"Where is she?" Lara said. "Milly! Milly!"

Father tried to enter the house to look for the puppy, but the smoke drove him out.

The children, tears streaming down their cheeks, ran to the front lawn. Lara said to Jack, "We can't do anything about the fire. Let's just kneel down and pray."

Oblivious to the crowd, the children knelt on the lawn.

"Dear God," Lara said. "You know what is happening, and You know how much we love little Milly. You said You look after the sparrows, so please look after Milly. Please help the firefighters find Milly."

Soon eight fire trucks, lights flashing and sirens wailing, raced up to the house. As the firefighters unwound their hoses, Father pleaded for them to look for Milly.

The firefighters couldn't find the puppy. Lara and Jack, still crying, crossed the



## Story Tips

- Find Cooranbong, Australia, on the map. The town is near Sydney.
- Ask how the children know that God is real. Have they, like Lara, experienced an answered prayer?
- Watch a video of Lara at the link: [bit.ly/Lara-Hawkins](http://bit.ly/Lara-Hawkins).
- Find photos of Milly and more for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

street to the neighbor's house to wait.

After a short time, Father's voice rang out. "Lara, Jack, come out!" he shouted.

Lara and Jack ran out of the house. Father held Milly in his arms. Her white fur was black with soot, but her tail was wagging happily. Sad tears turned to happy tears, and Lara and Jack threw their arms around the puppy and each other.

"Thank You, God! Thank You, God!" the children exclaimed.

Firefighters called Milly a miracle. After putting out the fire, they had found Milly hiding under a bed. Somehow a pocket of air had formed under the bed, and Milly had been able to breathe the air instead of the poisonous smoke.

But that wasn't the only miracle. The neighbors also helped saved Milly's life.

They had called the fire station while the family was still at the sports field and stuck a water hose into the window of the room where the fire had broken out. The water flowing into the room had contained the fire and prevented the house from exploding in a ball of flames.

Firefighters later said the fire had been ignited by a short circuit.

The fire changed Lara's mind about God. Several months before the fire, she had begun to pray for God to show Himself to her. She had heard stories in church about God performing miracles and wondered why she had never seen God in her life. The Bible promises that God will show Himself to those who seek Him. 1 Chronicles 28:9 says, "If you seek Him, He will be found by you."

Now Lara knows God is real.

"The fire was a big game changer," she said. "Before that, I was questioning God. I wanted a real God moment like the stories in church. I was praying silently for God to show Himself to me, too."

Lara has given her heart to Jesus and plans to be baptized exactly one year after the fire miracle.

Milly, meanwhile, is back to her normal happy self. Only she has a new nickname. Lara calls her "Miracle Milly." 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION  
RECORD

Seventh-day Adventist teachings were first preached in Australia by Alexander Dickson, of Melbourne, Australia. While serving as a missionary in Africa, he encountered another missionary, Hannah More, who told him about what she had learned of Adventists when visiting New England in 1861.



SOLOMON ISLANDS | Sept. 7

Mitlyn Todonga, 15

## Extra-Easy Exams

Fourteen-year-old Mitlyn Todonga felt nervous because she had to take three big exams that would decide where she would study for the seventh grade.

If she got low or average marks on the exams, she would have to stay in her village in the Solomon Islands and attend public school. But if she got high marks, she could study at one of her country's 10 national schools. One of those 10 schools was Betikama Adventist College in the nation's capital, Honiara.

No one in Mitlyn's home was Adventist. But she had attended the local Townend Primary Adventist School since first grade, and she had gone to church many times with a school friend, Janet. Now she wanted more than anything in the world to study at Betikama Adventist College, located three hours by boat from her village.

Mitlyn decided to pray for God to help her pass the exams, and she asked

her parents to join her.

Father wasn't sure that prayers would help. Mitlyn had to earn the highest marks to go to the Adventist school. Many other sixth graders across the country also wanted to enter the school. To many, qualifying for the school was like winning a million dollars.

For Father, the school also was expensive. He didn't have much money. But Father decided to pray anyway.

"Dear God, please help Mitlyn pass the exams so she can attend seventh grade at the Adventist school," he prayed.

The day of the first exam arrived. The subject was English. Mitlyn prayed and prepared to take the exam. As she started, she was amazed. She found that the exam very easy!

Then Mitlyn had to take the second exam. The topic was mathematics. Mitlyn prayed and, to her surprise,



found that the exam was very easy!

At home that evening, her parents asked her about the first two exams.

“They were rather easy,” Mitlyn said, happily.

“God has answered your prayers,” Mother said.

The next day, Mitlyn had to take the last exam. It was the most difficult and covered three subjects: science, health, and social studies. Mitlyn prayed — and the exam was very easy!

That evening, Mother asked, “Did you finish your exam?”

“Yes,” she said.

“Did you find it very easy?” Father asked.

“Yes!” Mitlyn exclaimed.

Father, Mother, and daughter bowed their heads and thanked God.

“Do you think that you will pass all three exams with high marks?” Mother asked.

“Yes!” Mitlyn said with a big smile.

While waiting for the exam results, Mitlyn went some distance away for a vacation. While there, Father called her on the phone.

“The exam results are out,” he said.

“What kind of scores did I get?” Mitlyn asked.

“You passed to get into Betikama Adventist College!” Father said.

Mitlyn was overjoyed to hear the news! Father suggested that Mitlyn cut her vacation short to prepare for the move.

That evening, Mitlyn returned home and joined her family in thanking God for His goodness. Father especially thanked God for hearing their prayers, and he promised to work extra hard to pay for the school tuition.

“God has a plan for you,” Father told

## Story Tips


- Mitlyn is pronounced: mit-LINN.
- Find Solomon Islands on the map. Point out Malaita Province, where Mitlyn lives, and show the boat route that she took to the nation’s capital, Honiara, where Betikama Adventist College is located.
- Ask who planted the first seed in Mitlyn’s heart that led to her baptism. Mitlyn first went to church seven years ago, as a first grader, because her friend Janet invited her. Ask the children how they can plant seeds.
- Read more about Mitlyn’s adventure in the youth and adult Mission magazine or at the link: [bit.ly/bedding-and-more](http://bit.ly/bedding-and-more).
- Watch a video of Mitlyn at the link: [bit.ly/Mitlyn-Todonga](http://bit.ly/Mitlyn-Todonga).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

Mitlyn. “He passed you so you could do something that I thought was impossible — go to the Adventist school.”

Mitlyn is now 15 years old and studying in the seventh grade. She has been taking Bible studies and plans to be baptized soon.

In two years, when she finishes ninth grade, she will have to take another set of big exams. If she gets high marks, she can stay at the Adventist school. If she gets low or average marks, she will have to return to her home village, Mbalelea, in Malaita Province to attend public school for 10th grade.

But Mitlyn isn’t worried.

“I’m not worried about the exams because I know God will help me,” she said. 

By Andrew McChesney



SOLOMON ISLANDS | Sept. 14

Joseph Samani, 13

## Little Church Grower

Ten-year-old Joe Samani watched movies and played video games with friends at his home in the Solomon Islands. But he wasn't happy.

Joe's family was poor, and life was rough in their neighborhood in the South Pacific country's capital, Honiara. Neighbors sold illegal drugs, and children stole and got into trouble with the police.

Joe's house was a popular place for neighborhood boys to hang out every evening. Joe noticed that one friend didn't talk like the other boys, and he participated in a Pathfinders club every Sabbath. Joe decided to follow him to the Seventh-day Adventist church to learn more. Soon he joined the Pathfinders and went to church every Sabbath.

After a while, Joe and the other Pathfinders were invited to fly to Australia to attend a camporee for Pathfinders from

all over South Pacific Division. Joe really wanted to go, and Mother worked hard to save the money for the plane ticket.

Joe loved the camporee.

Back at home, when the neighborhood boys came over that evening, he told stories from the camporee. The boys loved the stories, and they asked to hear more the next evening.

Then Joe thought to himself, "These boys like to hear about Pathfinders. Why not also tell them about Jesus?" He kept telling Pathfinder stories but began to include Bible stories, too.

The number of boys coming to Joe's home grew as one boy told another about the stories. Soon 30 to 40 boys were meeting every evening. Although Mother didn't have much money, she began to cook food for the children to eat after story time. She somehow always had enough food for everyone.



## Story Tips

- Find Solomon Islands on the map. Point out the nation's capital, Honiara, where Joe lives.
- Ask the children how Joe opened the church and whether they could do the same. Joe told Pathfinder and Bible stories and invited children to Pathfinders. His family was hospitable, inviting people over and feeding them.
- Watch a video of Joe at the link: [bit.ly/Joe-Samani](http://bit.ly/Joe-Samani).
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

The boys began to ask Joe if they could join Pathfinders, and four went with Joe to church the next Sabbath. More boys went the following week.

The Pathfinder leader couldn't understand where all the boys were coming from.

"Joe, why are so many kids from your neighborhood coming to Pathfinder club?" he asked. "What did you do?"

"I didn't do anything," Joe replied. "I just tell stories about what we did in Australia, and we have evening devotions. That's all."

The leader asked to visit Joe's home to

see the evening meetings for himself.

The Pathfinder leader was amazed at what he saw. Afterward, he said to Mother, "This neighborhood would be a good place to open a church."

He noticed that Joe's house had a large unfinished living room that no one used and asked whether it could be used for Sabbath worship services. Mother agreed.

Several dozen neighborhood children came to Joe's house for church the next Sabbath. All the Pathfinder leaders and their families came as well, and they brought food for everyone.

Then something happened that made Joe very happy. Mother decided to be baptized. After that, a 20-year-old cousin was baptized, and so were three neighborhood boys who Joe had introduced to Pathfinders.

Today Joe's living room is packed every Sabbath with about 70 people, and plans are under way to open a permanent church in the neighborhood.

Today Joe is 13 years old. He is short and humble in appearance and speech. But no one doubts that God is using him in a powerful way.

"I may be small, but in God's hands I can grow a church," Joe said. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING  
NATURE

The conch shell is an instrument used widely across the Pacific, including the Solomons. It is used as a traditional form of trumpet, summoning people to gather and signaling the start of important events. The blowing hole is created by removing the end of the shell or making a hole in the side.



BigStockPhoto.com

AdventistMission.org



PAPUA NEW GUINEA | Sept. 21

Andrew Seth, 14

# Taking a Visitor to Church

Teacher made a big announcement to the children's Sabbath School class in a church in Wankun, Papua New Guinea.

"Next week, we are going to have visitors day," she said. "I'd like each of you to bring a visitor.

Four-year-old Andrew Seth listened attentively as Teacher spoke. He wondered, "Who am I going to bring to Sabbath School next week?"

Walking home after church, he remembered a friend of his father named Mr. Samuel Gini. Both his father and Mr. Gini worked as teachers at the same school. Andrew thought, "I could ask him to be my visitor on Sabbath. That would be great!"

Early Sunday morning, Andrew went to Mr. Gini's house and knocked on the door. Mr. Gini came out and saw Andrew.

"Hi Andrew," he said. "It is early in the morning. How can I help you?"

"I went to Sabbath School, and my teacher told me that we are having visitors day next Sabbath," Andrew said. "She told us to bring a visitor, and I thought of you. So, I am here to ask you if you can be my visitor on Sabbath."

Mr. Gini, who went to church on Sundays, thought for a moment and replied, "Andrew, I'll think about it."

Seeing Andrew's disappointed face, he quickly added, "It's OK. I'll be your visitor on Sabbath."

Andrew went home and told his parents. Mother was really excited and said, "We'll prepare lunch for Mr. Gini and his wife after the worship service."

Every morning during family worship that week, Andrew prayed for Mr. Gini and his wife.

Sabbath arrived, and Andrew was the first to wake up and get dressed in his church clothes. He had nothing to give to



his special visitor, so he picked a flower to present as a gift. Andrew hurried to Mr. Gini's house with the flower. Hiding the flower behind his back, he knocked on the door and called out, "Mr. Gini!"

He heard the door open and saw someone coming out. It wasn't Mr. Gini. It was his wife.

"Andrew, how can I help you?" she said.

"I am here for Mr. Gini," said Andrew.

"I told him that he would be my visitor in Sabbath School class today."

Mrs. Gini was surprised, and she said, "He didn't tell me about that. He left for his village yesterday."

Andrew felt sad. Then a thought sprang into his mind. "Mrs. Gini," he said. "Since Mr. Gini is not here, would you care to be my visitor today?"

Now Mrs. Gini was very surprised. But she wanted to honor Mr. Gini's promise.

"Give me a minute," she said. "I'll get myself ready and come to church as your special visitor."

When she came out, Andrew gave her the flower. Then he took her hand and led her to church. After Sabbath School, she stayed for the sermon and went to Andrew's home for lunch.

After that, Mrs. Gini came to church every Sabbath. She learned that the Bible teaches that the seventh day, Saturday, is the true Sabbath. After a few months

## Story Tips

- Find Papua New Guinea on the map. This story happened in Wankun, a village located about 60 miles (100 kilometers) west of Lae, the country's second-largest city.
- Know that Andrew is now 14 years old and in the seventh grade. He is the youngest in a family of five children, including three older sisters and a brother.
- Andrew and his family still live in Morobe Province, and his father is a missionary teacher at Ragiampun Adventist Primary School.
- Ask the children who they can invite to Sabbath School next week. Encourage them to bring someone.
- Find photos for this story at the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](http://bit.ly/fb-mq).

of studying the Bible, she was baptized. Mr. Gini joined her afterward and also became a member of the church. 🌐

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that helped build Sabbath School classrooms for children like Andrew — and visitors like Mrs. Gini — in Papua New Guinea.

By Samson Obedi, personal ministries and Sabbath School director, Eastern Highlands Simbu Mission, Papua New Guinea. Andrew is his cousin.



Early Adventist work in Papua New Guinea was difficult because the government had divided the Papuan territory between three mission bodies — the Methodists, the Anglicans, and the London Missionary Society — and it was hard for any other missionaries to purchase land or work in these territories.



13<sup>th</sup> SABBATH | September 28

Rohi Goiye, 16  
Dwight Ope, 14

# Getting Rohi Out of Bed

**Narrator:** Dwight and Rohi are best friends in Goroka, Papua New Guinea. They walk home from school together. They play together. They dislike saying goodbye to each other. But Dwight was sad.

**Dwight (speaking to audience):** Rohi was missing out on Pathfinders and interesting Sabbath School lessons every Saturday at my church.

**Narrator:** That night, Dwight decided to pray for Rohi to go with him to church on Sabbath.

**Dwight:** Dear God, please help Rohi to come. Help us to stay good friends. Help us to all go to heaven together.

**Narrator:** At school the next day, Dwight spoke with his friend between classes.

**Dwight (speaking to Rohi):** Come for the Sabbath program, and then we will go to my house for a big lunch.

**Rohi (hesitantly):** OK, I'll come.

**Narrator:** But Rohi was thinking:

**Rohi (to audience, shaking his head):** No, I'm not going to go.

**Narrator:** Rohi was shy about going to church. He didn't have many friends there. On Sabbath, Dwight looked for Rohi at church and didn't see him. On Monday, he saw Rohi at school and invited him to go the next Sabbath.

**Dwight:** Come for the Sabbath program, and then we will go for a large lunch together.

**Rohi:** OK, I'll come.

**Narrator:** Rohi felt bad for not keeping his promise, and he didn't want to disappoint his friend again. He thought:

**Rohi:** I'll probably go — if I can wake up early.



# 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 September 28.
- 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 four projects in the South Pacific Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.

**Narrator:** Dwight prayed for Rohi every night that week.

**Dwight:** Dear God, please help Rohi to come. Help us to stay good friends. Help us to all go to heaven together.

**Narrator:** On Sabbath morning, Rohi woke up at 8 a.m. Sabbath School began at 8:30 a.m., so he had only 30 minutes to get ready and run to church. Rohi sprang out of bed, dressed, and rushed to church. But when he arrived, he was too scared to go inside. He stood outside the building, wondering what to do. A school classmate saw him and led him to the Sabbath School class. Dwight was thrilled to see his best friend in the class and jumped up and down with joy! God had answered his prayers. Rohi liked the Sabbath School class. The boys and girls talked about social media.

**Teacher:** The time spent on Facebook and Instagram could be better spent reading the Bible.

**Narrator:** Rohi realized that the teacher was right. He thought:

**Rohi:** Social media takes up most of my time, and I could be doing better things.

## Story Tips

- Five children are needed for this skit to play the roles of a narrator, two boys, a teacher, and a school classmate. The children don't need to memorize the script, but they should know it well enough that they don't have to read every word. The scenes can be acted out as the narrator reads.
- Pronounce Rohi as: row-HEE.
- Show Goroka, Papua New Guinea, on the screen when the narrator introduces to the story.
- Optional story features: Watch a video of Dwight and Rohi at the link: [bit.ly/Rohi-Goiye](https://bit.ly/Rohi-Goiye), and show photos of the children in this story from the link: [bit.ly/fb-mq](https://bit.ly/fb-mq). Also, encourage audience members to follow Dwight's lead by inviting a friend to Sabbath School next week. Dwight said, "I decided to invite Rohi because I saw that he was missing out on Pathfinders and the Sabbath School class. I wanted him to be part of what we were discussing in Sabbath School."

**Narrator:** After Sabbath School, Dwight invited Rohi to sit with him and his family for the sermon. Rohi found the

worship service a little confusing. His own church didn't have a children's story before the sermon or a Pathfinders club afterward. But he liked them both. He also enjoyed lunch at Dwight's house.

The next Friday night, Rohi set his alarm clock for 6 a.m. Normally, he didn't set the alarm for Saturday morning, but he didn't want to be late for Sabbath School. When the alarm went off, he promptly jumped out of bed.

His mother was surprised and asked:

**Mother:** Where are you going?

**Rohi:** I'm going to church.

**Narrator:** Rohi was waiting outside the church building when Dwight arrived for Sabbath School. Dwight was so happy to see his friend!

A year has passed. Now Rohi sets the alarm for 6 a.m. every Sabbath. He also is a Pathfinder and takes parts in other church activities. He likes his new life.

**Rohi:** I didn't used to be busy on weekends, and I stayed at home. But now I come to church and am very busy. It's fun!

**Narrator:** Dwight still prays for Rohi every night.

**Dwight:** I hope Rohi will be baptized. God answered my first prayer and brought him to church. I'm sure God will answer this prayer, too.

**Narrator:** Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped construct children's Sabbath School classrooms in Papua New Guinea and other countries in the South Pacific Division so children like Rohi could learn about Jesus. Today we are taking another Thirteenth Sabbath Offering for the South Pacific Division. The money will help "Save 10,000 Toes," a campaign to prevent toe amputations through health services in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Kiribati, and Tonga. The money also will be used to construct Hope TV and radio studios in Tonga and produce a children's animated series about Daniel in Australia. Thank you for your generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. 🌐

*[Offering]*

*By Andrew McChesney*

## Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering next quarter will help the East-Central Africa Division to:

- Construct classrooms at Goma Adventist University, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Build three auditoriums at Philip Lemon Adventist University, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Expand health services at Kinshasa Adventist Clinic, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Open field headquarters, Wau, South Sudan
- Establish Juba Adventist Secondary School, South Sudan
- Construct Kisumu Adventist Hospital, Kenya
- Build four children's Sabbath School classrooms, Ethiopia



# Play the Game

## WEME AUSTRALIA

The Walbiri people of central Australia played a stone-bowling game. One player threw a stone, which then was used as a target by the second player. Players alternated turns with each aiming at the other's stone. The game is named "weme" after a word from the Eastern Arrernte language of central Australia that refers to "throwing something at something else and hitting it."

The game can be played alone, one player against another player, or one pair of players against another pair.

One player starts the game by rolling their ball toward the line marked on the ground 5-10 yards (meters) away, depending on age. If the ball is rolled beyond this line, then the other player scores a point.

If the first player's ball stops before the line, the second player rolls their ball to try to hit the first ball. If the ball is hit, the second player scores a point.

Both players then collect their balls and the game is restarted from the other end.

Players alternate turns. The second player now has the first turn.

If the game is played in pairs one player from each pair stays at each end. Teams alternate turns.

One point is scored for each hit. The first player or team to reach 11 points is the winner. Play continues until the game is decided.

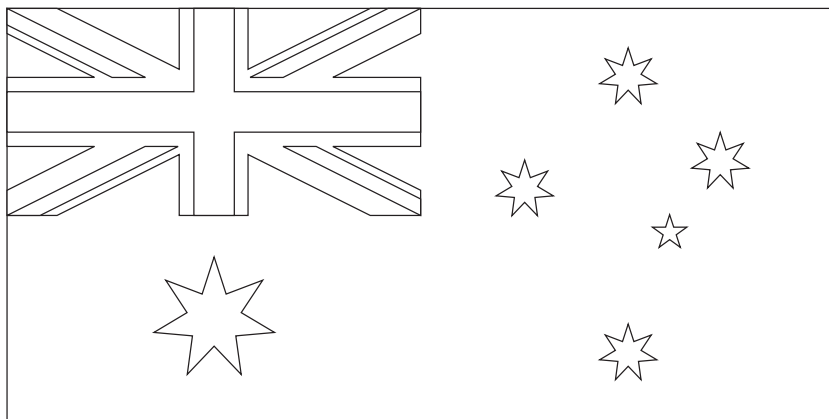
# Sing a Song

## TENA KOE NEW ZEALAND

Tena koe – hello to one.  
Tena korua – hello to two.  
Tena koutou – hello to all.  
Haere mai everyone.  
Welcome everyone!  
(Repeat)

*A downloadable lyric sheet is available at the link: [bit.ly/TenaKoe](http://bit.ly/TenaKoe), and a video with the tune and lyrics can be found at the link: [bit.ly/YTTenaKoe](http://bit.ly/YTTenaKoe).*

# Color The Flag

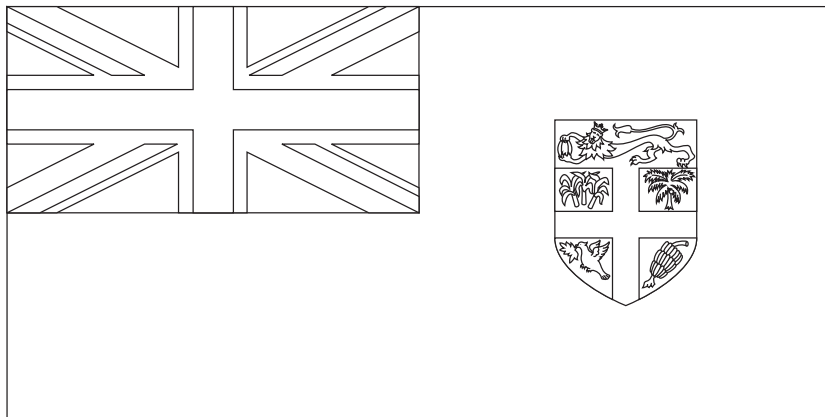


## AUSTRALIA

### DIRECTIONS:

The main background is dark blue. The stars are white.

In the top left corner is the Union Jack. The big middle cross is red and the cross around it is white. The big X is white, with red stripes in the middle of it. The rest is the same dark blue as the main part of the flag.



## FIJI

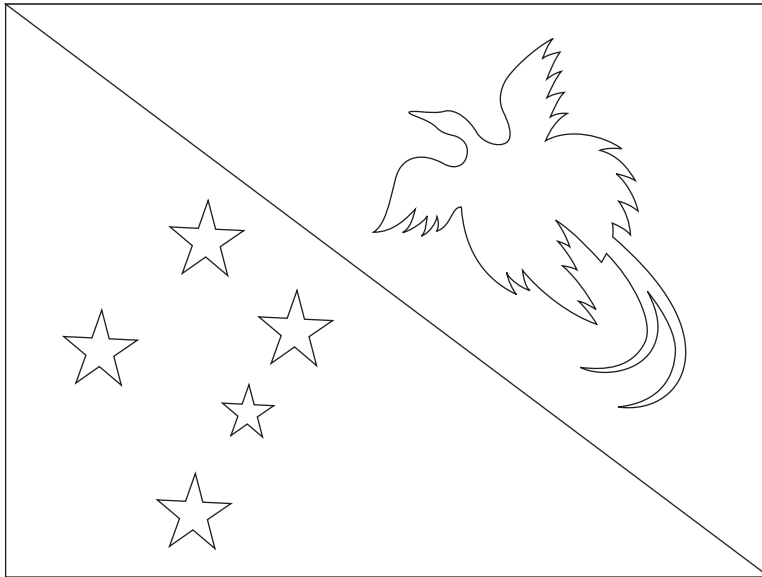
### DIRECTIONS:

The main background is light blue. In the top left corner is the Union Jack. The big middle cross is red and the cross around it is white. The big X is white, with red stripes in the middle of it. The rest is dark blue.

On the right of the flag is a shield. The top section and the cross in the middle are red. The lion is yellow. The sections in each quarter of the cross are white. The dove is white, and the bananas are yellow. The trunk of the tree is brown. The palm fronds, sugar cane, banana stalks, and leaves in the beak of the dove are all green.



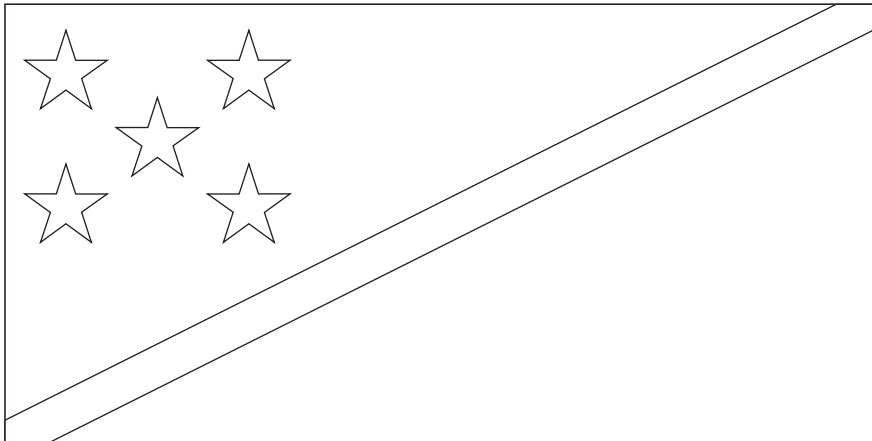
# Color The Flag



## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### DIRECTIONS:

The top right triangle is red with a yellow bird. The bottom left triangle is black with white stars.

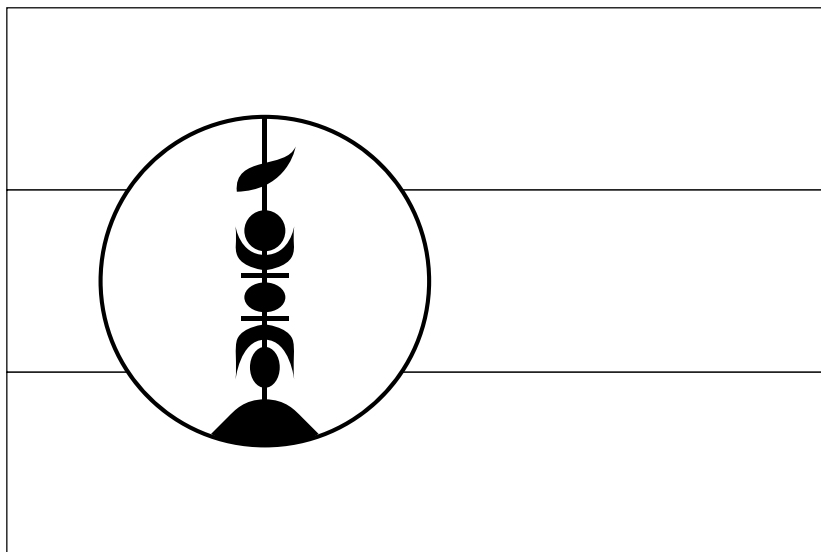


## SOLOMON ISLANDS

### DIRECTIONS:

The top left triangle is dark blue with white stars. The bottom right triangle is green. The diagonal stripe in the middle is yellow.

# Color The Flag

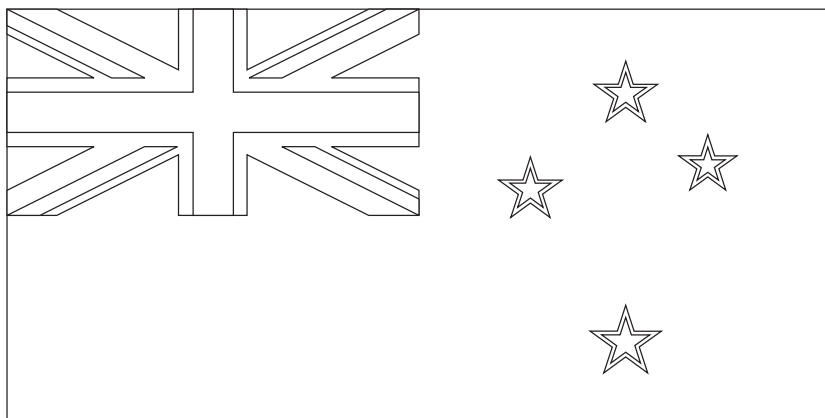


## NEW CALEDONIA

New Caledonia has two flags: the blue, white, and red French Tricolor, and this one.

### DIRECTIONS:

The top third is dark blue. The middle third is red. The bottom third is green. The circle is yellow and the figure in the circle is black.



## NEW ZEALAND

### DIRECTIONS:

The main background is dark blue. The stars are red. In the top left corner is the Union Jack. The big middle cross is red and the cross around it is white. The big X is white, with red stripes in the middle of it. The rest is the same dark blue as the main part of the flag.



# Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free **Mission Spotlight** video, featuring video reports from around the South Pacific Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at [bit.ly/missionspotlight](http://bit.ly/missionspotlight). A **printable mission bank image**, which the children can color, can be downloaded at [bit.ly/bank-coloring-page](http://bit.ly/bank-coloring-page).

## 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.

Australia: government website	<a href="http://australia.gov.au">australia.gov.au</a>
Information Planet	<a href="http://bit.ly/InfoPlanAust">bit.ly/InfoPlanAust</a>
Fiji: government website	<a href="http://fiji.gov.fj">fiji.gov.fj</a>
Nations Online	<a href="http://bit.ly/NatOnFiji">bit.ly/NatOnFiji</a>
New Caledonia: government website	<a href="http://gouv.nc">gouv.nc</a>
CIA World Factbook	<a href="http://bit.ly/CIANewCal">bit.ly/CIANewCal</a>
New Zealand: government website	<a href="http://govt.nz">govt.nz</a>
New Zealand Tourism	<a href="http://bit.ly/AboutNZ">bit.ly/AboutNZ</a>
Papua New Guinea: government website	<a href="http://bit.ly/GovPNG">bit.ly/GovPNG</a>
Lonely Planet	<a href="http://bit.ly/LonelyPNG">bit.ly/LonelyPNG</a>
Solomon Islands: government website	<a href="http://bit.ly/SIGov">bit.ly/SIGov</a>
World Travel Guide	<a href="http://bit.ly/WTGSolIsl">bit.ly/WTGSolIsl</a>
Seventh-day Adventist	
South Pacific Division	<a href="http://spd.adventist.org">spd.adventist.org</a>
Australian Union Conference	<a href="http://adventist.org.au">adventist.org.au</a>
New Zealand Pacific Union Conference	<a href="http://bit.ly/NZPUnionC">bit.ly/NZPUnionC</a>
Papua New Guinea Union Mission	<a href="http://adventist.org.pg">adventist.org.pg</a>
Trans Pacific Union Mission	<a href="http://bit.ly/TPUMSDA">bit.ly/TPUMSDA</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 South 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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SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

CONFERENCE	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Australian Union Conference	429	107	61,338	24,487,000
New Zealand Pacific Union Conference	146	50	20,474	5,378,000
Papua New Guinea Union Mission	1,045	3,182	315,759	8,317,000
Trans Pacific Union Mission	530	701	120,445	2,333,000
<b>Division Totals</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>4,040</b>	<b>518,016</b>	<b>40,515,000</b>

PROJECTS

- 1 Produce "Daniel Children's Series," a 13-part animated series for children aged 8-12 following the adventures of Daniel and his three friends, in Australia
- 2 "Save 10,000 Toes," a campaign to prevent toe amputations through health services in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Kiribati, and Tonga
- 3 Construct Hope TV and radio studios in Tongatapu, Tonga

