



CHILDREN'S MISSION

2020 • QUARTER 3 • WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION



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On the Cover: Bonte Medou, 14, loves to sing in Gabon, and Jesus has blessed his music. Because of his singing, two people have given their hearts to Jesus. Story, page 12.

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Your Offerings at Work



Three years ago, the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build a Seventh-day Adventist high school in Gabon's capital, Libreville. The school, pictured under construction in March 2019, was scheduled to open for 280 students in October 2020. You can read stories from Gabon on pages 4-19 and download the above photos and other Thirteenth Sabbath project photos at: bit.ly/WAD-2020.



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Dear Sabbath School Leader,

Andrew McChesney
Editor



This quarter we feature the West-Central Africa Division comprised of 22 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo. Its headquarters is in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

The region is home to 436 million people, including 834,183 Adventists. That's a ratio of one Adventist for 523 people.

The role that Seventh-day Adventist education plays in spreading the gospel became abundantly clear as I collected mission stories in three countries: Guinea and Liberia, which will receive part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to open schools this quarter, and Gabon, which received funds from a 2017 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to construct a school.

"Education is key to developing the church in West Africa," Alexis Kouadio, assistant Global Mission officer for the West-Central Africa Division, told me as

we visited Guinea, Liberia, and Gabon.

He said about 75 percent of Adventist schools in the division are located in Ghana, which is home to roughly half of the division's 834,183 church members.

"The church is not strong in French-speaking countries," Alexis said. "We need to help them with schools and even small clinics."

Guinea and Gabon speak French, while Liberia and Nigeria speak English.

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive this quarter, we offer a variety of photos, videos, and other materials to accompany each mission story. More information is provided in the sidebar with each story. For photos of tourist sites and other scenes from the featured countries, try a free photo bank such as pixabay.com and unsplash.com.

In addition, you can download a PDF of facts and activities from the West-Central Africa Division at bit.ly/WAD-facts. Follow us at facebook.com/missionquarterlies.

You can download the PDF version of the Children's Mission magazine at bit.ly/childrensmision and the youth and adult Mission magazine at bit.ly/adultmision. Mission Spotlight videos are available at bit.ly/missionspotlight. A printable mission bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at bit.ly/bank-coloring-page.

If I can be of assistance, contact me at mcchesneya@gc.adventist.org.

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

Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help to:

- Construct Kobaya Academy, a K-12 school, in Conakry, Guinea
- Open an elementary school/center of influence in Buchanan, Liberia
- Establish a medical center in Abuja, Nigeria



GABON | July 4

Pricilia Ndong, 14

Praying in Jesus' Name

The Ndong family loves to pray in Libreville, capital of Gabon.

Father and Mother love talking to God so much that they named their three children after the French word for “prayer,” or “priere.” The oldest boy is Priel; the second child, a girl, is Priella; and the youngest girl is Pricilia.

Little Pricilia has prayed before bedtime every night since she was 3. Sometimes she kneels in front of the bed. But usually she jumps up onto the bed and kneels on the nice, soft mattress. She folds her hands, closes her eyes, and bows her head.

One night, when Pricilia was 12, she jumped on the bed to pray at 9 p.m. Her 13-year-old sister, Priella, also jumped on the bed to pray. They slept in the same bed.

Folding their hands, they closed their eyes, and bowed their heads.

“Our Father in heaven,” Pricilia prayed. “We thank You for everything. Now that

I am going to sleep, I’d like You to send your angels to be around me and around the neighbors’ houses. Father, help me to have good dreams. Please reveal to us the hidden things that we need to know. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

After Priella also prayed, the two girls slipped under the blanket. Quickly they fell asleep.

Around 2 a.m., while still sleeping, Pricilia suddenly couldn’t breathe. She felt someone’s hands squeezing her neck. She struggled to gulp in air. She thrashed around on the bed, trying to get away from the hands clutching her throat. Then she remembered that Mother had told her to pray if she had any problems.

“Pray in the name of Jesus,” Mother had said. “You can call on the name of Jesus anytime.”

Although she was terrified, Pricilia calmly said, “In the name of Jesus.” Then

she recited Psalms 23, which begins, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

Pricilia woke up with a start. Opening her eyes in the darkness, she realized that she wasn’t dreaming. She really couldn’t breathe. Invisible hands were squeezing her neck. Her heart pounded with fright.

Pricilia slid onto her knees beside the bed.

“Lord, thank You for protecting me,” she prayed. “I don’t know who wants to harm me. In the name of Jesus, Amen.”

Immediately, the hands released their grip on her neck, and she could breathe. She took a deep breath of air. She saw that her sister was sound asleep. Climbing back into bed, she quickly fell asleep with the assurance that Jesus was protecting her.

In the morning, Pricilia told Mother about the scary experience. Mother was surprised and glad that she had prayed.

“Probably someone tried to harm you through witchcraft while you were sleeping,” Mother said. “Who knows what might have happened to you if you hadn’t called on the name of Jesus.”

Pricilia thanks Jesus every day for His deliverance. Every night she prays, “Lord, thank you for life and the protection that You give every day.” 🌍

Story Tips

- Find Libreville, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Ndong as: n-DONG.
- Pronounce Pricilia as: pri-sil-YA.
- Pronounce Priel as: pri-YEL.
- Pronounce Priella as: pri-ELLA.
- Pronounce “prayer” in French, “priere,” as: pri-YER.
- Read about Pricilia’s brother, Priel, next week.
- Watch Pricilia on YouTube: bit.ly/Pricilia-Ndong.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Praying-in-Jesus-Name).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped construct a high school for 280 students in Pricilia’s hometown, Libreville, in Gabon. Thank you for planning a big Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter to help build more schools in Guinea and Liberia.

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

The Adventist Church was officially recognized by the government of Gabon in 1981.

About 73 percent of the population practice at least some elements of Christianity; 12 percent practice Islam; 10 percent practice traditional indigenous religious beliefs exclusively; and 5 percent practice no religion or are atheists.



GABON | July 11

A Falling Bottle

Priel Ndong, 16

Thirteen-year-old Priel Ndong swept the floor of his house in Libreville, Gabon, on a lazy summer afternoon.

After the floor was clean, he picked up a green bucket and walked to an outdoor tap. Nobody in his neighborhood had running water in their homes, so they all went to the tap with buckets to get water for drinking and bathing.

Priel carried four heavy buckets of water into the house and emptied them into a large basin.

That was a lot of hard work, and he felt tired after lugging the water. He took a short nap on his bed. Afterward, he felt refreshed and went out on the front porch to read a book. Sitting down on a white plastic chair, he opened a Christian book and began to read. Not more than five minutes later, he heard a noise from upstairs.

Errrrrrrrrr ...

He looked up. His family lived on the first floor of a two-story building, and neighbors lived on the second floor.

Errrrrrrrrr ...

Priel tried to understand the noise.

Errrrrrrrrr ...

It sounded like a glass bottle rolling on the floor, rolling, rolling, rolling.

Errrrrrrrrr ...

Suddenly a voice said, "Get up and go!"

Priel felt annoyed and asked himself, "Why should I move? I'm reading a book here."

Errrrrrrrrr ...

Then he thought, "That voice was no accident. I'd better move."

He got up and took a step away from the chair. At that moment, a large green wine bottle fell from the neighbor's balcony above and crashed onto the porch right in front of the chair where he had been sitting. His head had been directly

in the path of the bottle. The glass bottle shattered into small pieces.

Priel jumped with fright at the sound. Not one piece of glass hit him. He was safe. Then he remembered feeling annoyed about the voice telling him to move. He felt ashamed. God had protected him in a remarkable way.

In his bedroom, he prayed, “Thank you, Lord. If You had not been there, I don’t know what would have happened to me.”

Priel has never forgotten how God protected him on that summer day.

“I learned a lesson,” he said. “God is so kind. He didn’t want me to be injured, and He spared me from a serious accident. We should always listen to God.” 🌍

Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped construct a high school for 280 students in Priel’s hometown, Libreville, in Gabon. Thank you for planning a big Thirteenth

Story Tips

- Find Libreville, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Priel as: pri-YEL.
- Read about Priel’s younger sister last week and about his father next week.
- Share a special message from Priel. He says, “God is our Father, and He protects His children. God is a God of love.”
- Watch Priel on YouTube: bit.ly/Priel-Ndong.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/A-Falling-Bottle).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

Sabbath Offering this quarter to help build more schools in two other African countries, Guinea and Liberia.

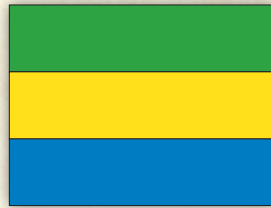
By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING NATURE

Ivindo National Park is located 225 miles (362 km) from Libreville in east-central Gabon. It is bisected by the equator, and it contains the famous Kongou Falls and Langoué Bai, one of the five most-important forest clearings in Africa. A variety of wildlife, such as forest elephants, gorillas, chimpanzees, and birds can be found there.





GABON | July 18

Brilland Abessolo Ndong, 44

Everything Went Black

Everything went black when 13-year-old Brilland Ndong stepped into the big cathedral in Libreville, Gabon.

His family had just moved to the city from Melo village on the border with Cameroon. Mother took Brilland and his three sisters and two brothers to the cathedral on Sunday.

But when Brilland stepped through the front door, he went blind. Everything was dark. He couldn't see a thing. And he felt really hot.

"I can't see anything," he called out to Mother. "I have a fever. Please take me back outside."

Mother led him by the hand out the door. As soon as he stepped outside, he could see the sky, trees, and Mother's worried face.

"Are you OK?" Mother asked. "Can you see?"

She placed a hand on his forehead.

"It looks like the fever is gone," she said. Brilland nodded his head.

"Everything is fine now," he said.

It was the strangest thing. He didn't understand what had happened, but it seemed that God was not present in that church.

The next Sunday, Mother took Brilland to another cathedral, the biggest in Libreville. He walked in — and everything went black. He had a fever.

"Mother, I can't see," he said. "The fever is back. Please take me to the street."

Outside the cathedral, he regained his sight, and the fever disappeared.

The next Sunday, Mother took Brilland to the big cathedral one more time. Again Brilland went blind and had a fever. Mother told the boy that he didn't have to go to church anymore.

Father was happy. He wasn't a Christian, and he didn't see any reason for

Story Tips

- Find Libreville, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Brilland as: bri-YAN.
- Know that Brilland is a physics teacher and the Global Mission coordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Gabon. As Global Mission coordinator, he oversees mission projects and Global Mission pioneers. Read more about pioneers at: bit.ly/GMpioneers.
- Read about Brilland's two children on July 4 and 11.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Everything-Went-Black).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

his son to go to church.

Some time passed. One day, Brilland was walking to school and noticed a sign with the words “Seventh-day Adventist Church.” Every day, he passed the sign, and he wondered about the church.

One Saturday, after he finished his chores, he had nothing to do and walked over to the church. At the front door, he cautiously looked inside and saw people sitting around the hall in small groups for Sabbath School. He had never seen people sitting in small groups in a church, and the unfamiliar sight shocked him. He ran home.

The next Saturday, he returned to the church and cautiously put a foot inside the door. He wanted to know more about the church, but he was scared that he would go blind if he entered. With one leg in the church, everything seemed normal. He could see just fine.

“Come in, come in,” a voice said.

Brilland looked up. A man inside the church saw his hesitation and was inviting him to sit down. The boy entered and took a seat. No blindness, and no fever.

Brilland returned every Sabbath after that and was baptized.

Father wasn't happy. He didn't like his son going to church.

Brilland prayed for God to soften Father's heart. But after some time, he could not listen to the angry words anymore and left home. He stayed with an Adventist friend for a week.

Father regretted speaking harshly and went to the Adventist church to beg the pastor to send his son home. He had many questions about the Adventist Church, and the pastor answered them. Father realized that the Adventist Church taught a lifestyle that he wanted for his children.

At home, Father called a family meeting and invited Brilland to join.

“The church where Brilland is going is the church of the Lord,” Father said. “They don't permit drinking or smoking. I want all of my children to go to that church, and I will go, too.”

Brilland was surprised and overjoyed. God had answered his prayers and touched Father's heart. Peace returned to the home. 🌍

Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped construct a high school for 280 students in Brilland's hometown, Libreville, in Gabon. Thank you for planning a big Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter to help build more schools in two other African countries, Guinea and Liberia.

By Andrew McChesney



GABON | July 25

The Big Fight

Aggee Mombo-Taty, 15

Emmanuel wanted to annoy 13-year-old Aggee during a break between French and physics classes at the Seventh-day Adventist school in Libreville, Gabon.

He knew that Aggee had a short temper, so he started saying unkind things.

Annoyed, Aggee immediately slapped the boy on the cheek. Emmanuel didn't like being slapped, and he slapped Aggee on his cheek. Now Aggee was furious. He punched Emmanuel in the face.

Children crowded around the two fighting boys. "Don't stop!" they yelled. "Let them fight!" A class monitor came running, causing the children to scatter to their seats. The class monitor pulled apart the fighting boys.

"Why are you fighting?" he asked.

"He was mean to me," Aggee said.

"He hit me," Emmanuel said.

"You shouldn't fight," the class monitor said. "Fighting is for animals. Apologize."

As punishment, the boys had to kneel

at the front of the classroom for two hours. It was a long two hours.

After some time, Aggee whispered to Emmanuel, "Why were you mean to me?"

"I was only joking," Emmanuel whispered back.

Aggee wished that he hadn't lost his temper.

That summer, Grandfather sent Aggee to a Pathfinder campout in Franceville, located a long 12-hour drive from Libreville.

Aggee's Bible teacher also went to the campout, and he spoke for morning and evening worship. At the end of the three-week campout, he asked whether any children wanted to give their hearts to Jesus.

"You have not made a decision to give your life to Jesus," he said. "You are still struggling with sin in your life. You don't want to let go of something because you have not completely surrendered to Christ."

When Aggee heard those words,

he remembered his short temper. He remembered how his temper and led to many fights and made his parents unhappy. He wanted to change, and he prayed silently, “Lord, I want to follow you.”

Then he stood up and went to the front. People were surprised to see him standing. His Bible teacher was happy that he wanted to be baptized.

When Aggee came out of the river after his baptism, he felt the same as before. He thought maybe something miraculous would happen, but everything seemed normal.

As the days passed, however, he noticed that he no longer enjoyed many things of the past. His friends noticed that he wasn’t easily angered like before.

Just the other day, Emmanuel brought some cakes to sell in class, and Aggee didn’t want to buy one.

“I don’t want to buy today,” he said. “I am not feeling well.”

“Come on, buy, buy!” Emmanuel said.

“No, I can’t,” Aggee said.

Emmanuel’s face twisted in anger, and he slapped Aggee.

“Go!” he snapped. “Go away!”

Aggee didn’t feel angry at all.

“Fighting is for animals,” he said, and quietly walked away.

Story Tips

- Find Libreville and Franceville, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Aggee as: azh-EE.
- Know that Aggee is Haggai in English.
- Watch Aggee on YouTube: bit.ly/Aggee-Mombo.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Big-Fight-WAD).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

With God’s help, his days of having a short temper were over. 🌍

Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped construct a high school for 280 students in Aggee’s hometown, Libreville, in Gabon. Thank you for planning a big Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter to help build more schools in two other African countries, Guinea and Liberia.

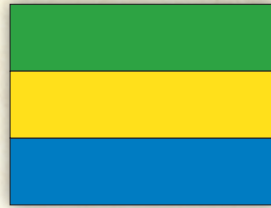
By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Gabon is home to 80 percent of Africa’s baboon population. Also 80 percent of the country is rainforest, and 80 percent of its population lives in cities.





GABON | August 1

Bonte Medou, 14

Power of a Song

The choir director had an exciting announcement.

“Our Christ’s Kids children’s choir has been invited to sing at a musical concert at the big Cabaret des Artistes concert hall,” she said. “We need to rehearse.”

The 30 children in the Christ’s Kids choir from the Seventh-day Adventist English Church would sing five songs at the concert in Libreville, Gabon. Children’s choirs from other Adventist churches also would sing.

Twelve-year-old Bonte couldn’t wait for the big day to come. He practiced with the choir for the concert.

At his Adventist school, he invited a friend to the concert. The friend laughed.

“Can you sing?” he asked, mockingly. “Do you know how to sing?”

Bonte had a concert ticket in his pocket, and he pulled it out to show his friend.

“Wow, you can sing,” the friend said,

impressed. “I’ll try to come.”

Bonte approached another classmate, Obame. Sometime earlier, Obame had invited him to visit his Sunday church, and Bonte had gone with his uncle just in case he needed to explain his own Adventist faith.

“Obame, I’d like to invite you to come to our concert,” Bonte said.

Obame smiled.

“You are always kind,” he said. “You accepted my invitation to visit my church, so I’ll try to come to your concert.”

Bonte invited eight classmates to the concert, and five ended up attending.

Afterward, Bonte asked his friends what they thought about the music.

“It was good,” said one.

“We had a great time listening to praises to Jesus,” said another.

Bonte was pleased that he could share his love for Jesus through music.

Story Tips

- Find Libreville, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Bonte as: bon-TE.
- Know that Bonte means “being good” or “being gentle.”
- Watch Bonte on YouTube: bit.ly/Bonte-Medou.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Power-of-a-Song).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

Two years passed, and he forgot about the concert.

One day, he went to a shop to buy groceries for Mother, and he heard someone call his name.

“Bonte! Bonte!” a boy said.

He turned around and was surprised to see Carlin, one of the boys whom he had invited to the concert. Carlin had left the Adventist school at the end of that year and told everyone that his family was moving to another city.

“You told me that you were moving,” Bonte said. “Why are you here?”

“My family didn’t end up moving,” Carlin said. “My parents just moved me to another school.”

Carlin began to talk about the concert. He said the songs had made a big impression on him, and he couldn’t stop thinking about Jesus afterward. He had wanted to know more, so he read the Bible and later gave his heart to Jesus.

“I don’t know how to thank you,” Carlin said. “You taught me the truth when I didn’t know anything about it.”

There was more. Carlin said someone else’s life also was changed by the concert. In his new church, he sang a song that he had heard at the concert and it had touched the heart of a man in the congregation. That man was baptized.

Carlin pulled money from his pocket and tried to give it to Bonte. Bonte shook his head.

“No, I cannot take any money,” he said. “We share the truth of the Bible for free.”

Carlin insisted that Bonte take the money.

A neighborhood boy, standing nearby, couldn’t believe that Bonte was refusing the money.

“What’s wrong with you?” he said. “He’s offering money. Take it.”

“No, we don’t take money when we help others,” Bonte said.

Carlin put the money back into his pocket.

Bonte smiled with joy as he left the shop. God had used him to change the lives of two people. He decided to invite other children and adults to church on Sabbath.

“I want to win souls for the Lord,” he said. 🌍

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By Andrew McChesney



GABON | August 8

“It’s Burning!”

Djerlinde Mounguengi, 32

Something strange happened when Djerlinde Mounguengi was 3. Her hands suddenly felt extremely hot.

“It’s burning! It’s burning!” she wailed, shaking her hands in an unsuccessful effort to cool them off.

Her brothers and sisters laughed. They thought she was playing a game.

“It’s burning! It’s burning!” they repeated, shaking their own hands.

But Djerlinde was not playing a game. She felt terrible.

The burning sensation lasted for about a week and then abruptly went away. Everything was normal for two or three months, and then —

“It’s burning!! It’s burning!” Djerlinde cried, shaking her hands.

“It’s burning! It’s burning!” her brothers and sisters giggled.

As Djerlinde grew older, other strange things happened. Sometimes she ran wildly as if someone were chasing her.

When she was 7, she ran out of the house, across the yard, and jumped over the 5-foot (1.5-meter) fence in a single leap. When Mother asked her how she had managed to jump so high, Djerlinde was surprised. She didn’t remember jumping over the fence.

“How could I jump it?” she said. “It’s too high.”

Sometimes Djerlinde felt a strong urge to strangle her parents or her siblings with her bare hands. But she sensed an inner voice say, “Don’t do that!” With all her might, she managed not to attack anyone.

Djerlinde could not go to school. No one knew when she would begin to act strangely, and someone had to watch her all the time. She felt so unhappy.

When Djerlinde was 13, an older sister took her to a Seventh-day Adventist church for an evangelistic series in Port-Gentil, Gabon. The preacher said Jesus could deliver people from any problem. Walking home, the sister asked Djerlinde, “Did you hear what the preacher said?”

Story Tips

- Find Port-Gentil, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Djerlinde as: GER-lind.
- Know that Djerlinde's father had six wives and 20 children. Djerlinde was the first child born to Father's fourth wife.
- Watch Djerlinde on YouTube: bit.ly/Djerlinde.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Its-Burning).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

Jesus can deliver you from your madness.”

“I want to be delivered,” Djerlinde said.

After the meetings ended, Djerlinde studied the Bible with a church member in preparation for baptism. But the strange occurrences continued. One evening, she skipped prayer meeting at church because her hands were burning again. Church members came to her house and prayed for her to be delivered from demon possession.

Djerlinde gave her heart to Jesus and

was baptized at the age of 14. The strange occurrences faded away, and her brothers and sister saw that something was different. Father asked what had happened.

“I gave my heart to Jesus and was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” she replied.

Djerlinde had a new life. Jesus had delivered her, and she was free.

Later she invited Father to evangelistic meetings and he was baptized. Ten of her brothers and sisters have also become Christians. Her favorite Bible verse is Psalms 37:4, which says, “Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

“Every time I ask God for something, He answers me,” she said. “I asked the Lord to deliver me from my madness, and He delivered me.” 🌍

Part of a 2017 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped construct a high school for 280 students in Libreville, in Gabon. Thank you for planning a big Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help build schools in two more African countries, Guinea and Liberia.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

The Gabonese people use masks to mark important life events by signifying transformation. They are part of funeral and agrarian rites, to promote fertility, provide spiritual protection, and express cultural identity. Masks vary in style and include geometric shapes, stylized, and exaggerated features and realistically detailed faces.





GABON | August 15

Rorive Vinga, 22

A Real Missionary

Rorive Vinga introduced a friend to Christ when he was only a boy.

Father, a soldier in the Gabonese military, was stationed in the eastern city of Koulamoutou. So, Rorive moved into a new home there with his parents and four younger brothers and sisters.

But they had a problem. There were no other Seventh-day Adventists in the city. There was a church, but it had been closed for many years because no one worshipped there anymore. The building was old and falling apart.

Father called Rorive and the rest of the family to repair the church.

"We will worship God on Sabbaths in the church even if we are the only Adventists in the city," Father said.

The family worked hard to repair the church, and soon they worshipped there every Sabbath, every Wednesday for prayer meeting, and every Friday for

sundown worship.

At school, Rorive made new friends. He loved Jesus, and he loved to talk about Jesus. A new friend, Glen, was curious and asked to know more. The two boys began to talk about Jesus after school.

One Friday evening, Rorive arrived at the church for sundown worship with Father, Mother, his little sister, and three little brothers. To his surprise, he saw Glen standing outside the church.

"What are you doing here?" Rorive asked.

"I live next door," Glen said.

"Great!" Rorive said. "Join us."

Glen couldn't come to church that day, but he promised to visit another time. Two weeks later he showed up for a Sabbath service worship, and he liked it.

"This church is different," he said.

Several months later, Glen gave his life to Christ and was baptized. After that, he invited his whole family to church, and

they also were baptized.

Glen told Rorive that he had been praying for God to lead him to the right church when Rorive's family moved to the city. "I never realized that the right church was located right beside my house!" he said.

Rorive was happy that Glen and his family had given their hearts to Jesus. As time passed, more and more people worshipped in the church on Sabbaths.

An Unusual Dream

Rorive grew up and moved to Gabon's capital, Libreville, to go to the university. He made new friends and became active in Samarie Seventh-day Adventist Church. But he noticed that the church was located in a bad neighborhood. Many young people his age used drugs and drank alcohol around the church. Some were thieves, and they broke into the church several times.

One day, Rorive wondered, "Can God change these people?" He doubted it and thought, "No, they are lost."

That night, he had a dream. Many people don't have running water in their homes in Gabon and have to take buckets to a neighborhood water tap to fetch water. In the dream, Rorive went to the water tap to fetch water, and a young man tried to steal his wallet. The man slid his hand into Rorive's pocket, but his hand came out empty!

The thief was surprised to find his hand empty, and Rorive smiled at him.

"Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you," he said.

Then he told the young man about Jesus.

When Rorive woke up, he knew that God had answered his question. He must

Story Tips

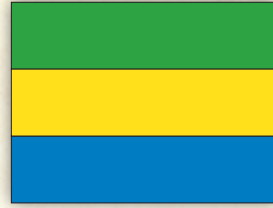
- Find Koulamoutou and Libreville, Gabon, on the map.
- Pronounce Rorive as: roar-EEV
- Ask the children why they think the story is called "A Real Missionary." Ask what it means to be a missionary. (A missionary is anyone who tells others about Jesus in words or actions.)
- Challenge the children to be missionaries this week by seeking opportunities to talk about Jesus and to invite friends to church.
- Watch Rorive on YouTube: bit.ly/Rorive-Vinga.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/A-Real-Missionary).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

share Jesus with the thieves, drug users, and drinkers who lived near the church. When his church organized an evangelistic meeting a short time later, Rorive invited thieves, drug users, and drinkers to come to the program. Six young people whom he invited were baptized.

Rorive is thrilled that God has used him to lead people to baptism. He has an important question to ask everyone who goes to church on Sabbath. "If God used me, why couldn't He use you?" he said. 🌐

Part of a 2017 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped open a Seventh-day Adventist high school in Libreville, Gabon. Thank you for helping young people learn about Jesus in school.

By Andrew McChesney



GABON | August 22

Emma Flore Etiabeguel, 23

Voice in the Well

Uncle was a mean man. When his children went to school, he made Emma stay at home in Libreville, Gabon. She didn't understand why the other children could study at school and she had to cook meals and clean the house.

"Why can't I go to school?" she asked.

"Why should you go to school?" Uncle said. "You're stupid."

Emma worked hard, waking up before her seven older brothers and sisters to cook and clean. She had never heard about God, but she believed that Someone out there loved her.

One morning when she was 7, she woke up late, and Uncle was furious. He called her as he left the house for work.

"Come with me," he said.

They walked a short distance, and Uncle stopped at a deep well.

"You're stupid," he said. "So, I'm going to throw you in."

He picked up the little girl and threw her in. Then he placed a wooden cover over the well.

Emma tumbled down 50 feet (15 meters) into the darkness. The water was cold and deep. She couldn't touch the bottom with her feet, and she didn't know how to swim. She didn't know what to do.

At that moment, she heard the gentle but firm voice of a man, speaking in the darkness.

"Don't be afraid," the voice said. "Don't move. Wrap your arms around yourself to keep warm."

Emma obeyed. She wrapped her arms around herself and didn't move. She didn't sink, and she didn't get tired.

That evening, Aunt asked Uncle about Emma when he returned home from work.

"Where's the child?" she said.

"I threw her in the well," he said.

Aunt was sure that Emma was dead.

But when she took away the wooden well cover, she found that the little girl was alive. She lifted Emma out with a rope.

Uncle was scared when he saw Emma. He didn't understand how she could still be alive. But after a while, he began to treat her even worse than before.

Emma wondered why she had been born and suffered pain. But she believed that Someone out there loved her.

One day, a stranger knocked on her door and spoke about God.

"Why are you talking about God?" Emma said. "God doesn't care about me."

"Even if you suffer and die, you will live again," the stranger said.

"How is it possible to die and live again?" Emma asked.

The stranger told how Jesus' death means that people who believe in Him can live forever. He said God allowed her to suffer because He must be preparing her for something special.

Emma believed. She knew that God was the Someone out there who loved her. It was God who had saved her in the well that day.

Emma Flore Etiabeguel is now 23 years old

Story Tips

- Find Libreville, Gabon, on the map.
- Watch Emma on YouTube: bit.ly/Emma-Etiabeguel.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Voice-in-the-Well).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

and will soon graduate from high school.

"People used to say that I was stupid and would never amount to anything because I never went to school," she said. "Now I am finishing the last year of high school. All the people who once mocked me see God's glory in my life." 🌍

Part of a 2017 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped open a Seventh-day Adventist high school in Libreville, Gabon, where students like Emma can study. Thank you for helping young people learn about Jesus in school.

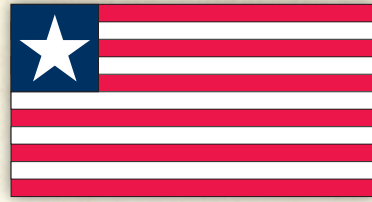
By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Local Gabonese cuisine is based on staples of cassava, rice, fish that is found in plenty along the rivers and coastal belt, game meat from antelopes, porcupine, wild boar and snake, as well as tropical fruits like bananas, pineapples and sugarcane.





LIBERIA | August 29

Albert Elijah Maye, 44

A Boy Named Daddy

Father called 8-year-old Albert to carry a plate of rice to a bush in Siahn village in Liberia.

“Daddy, come on,” Father said. “Let’s go and worship our ancestors.”

“My son, let’s go,” the boy replied, picking up the plate of rice sprinkled with red palm oil. Also on the plate were an egg and kola nuts.

At the bush, Father knelt and took the plate from Albert. Holding out the plate with both hands, Father called on his father, grandfather, and other dead relatives. “I’m ready to plant rice on my farm,” he said. “I need the farm to prosper. As my ancestors, I am leaving some food on the ground for you. If you agree with my wish for a good rice crop, let the plate be empty when I come back for it.”

The next day, Father called Albert.

“Daddy, go to the bush to see how our ancestors responded,” he said.

“My son, let’s go,” Albert said.

The plate was empty. There was no sign of the rice, egg, or kola nuts. “What happened, my son?” Albert asked Father.

“Daddy, that’s a sign that our ancestors have agreed that we can farm this year,” he said.

Whenever Father wanted something, he took Albert to the bush with a plate of rice. When he hoped for a good rice harvest, they went to the bush. When he wanted his wife to have a baby boy, they went to the bush. When he wanted rain, he went to the bush.

Albert wondered whether dead ancestors really ate the food, but Father forbade him from going to the bush to watch.

“Daddy, you can’t go to the bush on your own,” he said. “You can only go with me.”

“Fine, son, I won’t go alone,”

Albert promised.

You might be wondering why Father

called Albert “Daddy” and Albert called his father “son.” The answer is simple. A witchdoctor told Father that his own father had been reincarnated, or reborn, in Albert after dying. So, Father believed that Albert was actually his own father.

Everything changed when Father sent Albert to the Seventh-day Adventist school in the village. On the first day, the children were surprised to hear Father call Albert “Daddy.”

“How old are you?” one boy asked Albert.

Albert tried to explain. “He calls me ‘Daddy’ because we believe his father was reincarnated in me,” he said.

The other children were confused and not convinced. They had studied the Bible at school, and they were sure that dead people could not be reincarnated. Albert also was confused that the children didn’t understand him, and he asked a teacher to explain the Bible. The teacher opened the Bible to Job 14:12 and read, “So man lies down and does not rise. Till the heavens are no more, they will not awake nor be roused from their sleep.”

Albert believed for the first time that he was not his father’s father

At home, he told Father about the conversation with the teacher. Father couldn’t read, so Albert read to him from

Story Tips

- Find Buchanan, Liberia, on the map. Siahn village is located nearby.
- Watch Albert on YouTube: bit.ly/Albert-Maye.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Boy-Named-Daddy).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

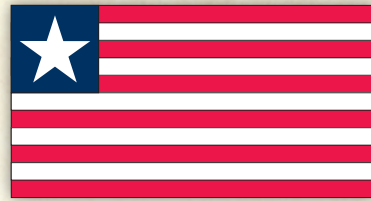
the Bible. Father became very sad. He realized that Albert was speaking the truth. From that day on, he never called Albert “Daddy” again. Albert stopped calling his father “son.”

Father and Albert also stopped taking plates of rice to the special bush. They no longer needed to worship their ancestors. They were determined to worship only their Father in heaven. 🌍

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help to construct a school in Buchanan, Liberia, to replace a school destroyed in Liberia’s civil war in the 1990s. Buchanan is located near to Albert’s home village.

By Andrew McChesney

The headquarters of the South-East Liberia Mission is located on Tubman Street in the city of Buchanan. Harriet Tubman (1822-1913) was an American abolitionist and political activist. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and subsequently made 13 missions to rescue about 70 enslaved people, family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.



LIBERIA | September 5

Amos P.M. Jacobs, 49

Rice for the River God

Father placed white rice sprinkled with red palm oil on a white plate. A boiled chicken went on top of the rice. Then Father walked with the rice and chicken to the mighty river located 45 minutes from his home village, Siahn, in Liberia.

He didn't go alone. Together with him walked 10 villagers, each carrying white plates with rice and boiled chickens. As they followed the path, the men and women sang traditional songs.

"Duoo, duoo, duoo," they sang, which means in the native Bassa language, "A blessing is coming, a blessing is coming, a blessing is coming."

"Duoo, duoo, duo," they sang.

At the river, the men and women sat down and placed their plates before them on the ground.

Father, who was the village chief, stood up to address the group.

"Do you believe that you will have a blessing?" he said.

Everyone shouted, "Yes!"

"Then eat," Father said. "But remember to leave a little food on your plates."

Father and the villagers ate the rice and the chicken. When only a little remained, the villagers stood in a line to the river's edge. At the front of the line, Father addressed the river.

"We have come for our blessing," he said.

He picked up the rice and chicken that remained on his plate and threw it into the river.

Stepping aside, Father motioned for the next person to go forward. That villager also addressed the river and threw in rice and chicken. After each person had taken a turn, the villagers held hands in a circle, and Father stood in the center.

"Do you have any other god who can bless you besides our river god?" he said.

"No!" the villagers shouted.

The group returned to the village.

One day, Father was working at the

seaport in Liberia's capital, Monrovia, when he received a phone call from a village friend who knew about his devout worship for the river god.

"I have good news," said the friend, Willie Helbig. "There's a new God. Come back to the village."

Father returned to the village. He learned that Willie had been baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church after learning about God from Rudolph Helbig, a German missionary pioneer. He had even adopted the missionary's last name. Now Willie wanted to give Bible studies to Father.

Over the next few months, Father learned about the God who lives in heaven and does not require rice to answer prayers. He was baptized.

Father, whose full name is Joe S. Jacobs, went on to become an Adventist pastor and to have 12 children. One of them, Amos P.M. Jacobs, the third-eldest, also became a pastor, and he loves to tell the story about how his father found the real God.

"Father forsook the river god in favor of the living God," said Amos, who is 49 years old. "That was a great change for a better life." 🌍

Story Tips

- Find Buchanan, Liberia, on the map. Siahn village is located nearby.
- Pronounce "duoo" as: DOO-woo.
- Know that Father died in 2011 at the age 74.
- Watch Amos on YouTube: bit.ly/Amos-Jacobs.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Rice-for-River-God).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help to construct a K–6 school in Buchanan, Liberia, to replace a school that was destroyed in Liberia's civil war in the 1990s. Buchanan, located near to Father's home village, is the birthplace of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Liberia and the place where the first Adventist missionary, Rudolph Helbig of Germany, planted the first church after his arrival in 1926.

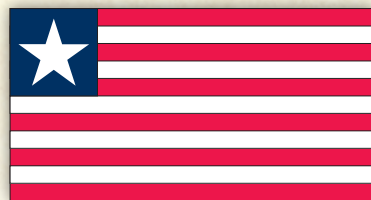
By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Liberia is known for its detailed decorative masks, wood carvings of realistic human faces, and carved accessories, particularly combs, spoons, and forks. Liberian wood sculptures are heavily influenced by ancient history, folklore, proverbs, spirituality, and rural life and show the artist's attention to detail and their connection to the people and objects sculpted.





LIBERIA | September 12

Wilmot Redd, 26

Big Feet, Big Trouble

Nine-year-old Wilmot Redd woke up to see that his feet and legs were gigantic. His feet and legs had doubled in size since he went to bed the night before in a village in the West African country of Liberia.

Wilmot tried to slip on a pair of pants, but they were too tight. He tried to put on a pair of shoes, but they were too small. He chose a pair of shorts and ran barefoot to Father.

“My feet are big!” he said.

Father looked worried.

“Does it hurt?” he asked.

“No, nothing hurts,” the boy said. “Just my feet are really big. I can’t wear pants or shoes.”

Father thought the swelling might go down on its own, and he suggested that they wait a few days. But after a week, Wilmot’s feet were bigger than ever. Father called the hospital. An ambulance arrived with lights flashing and siren shrieking.

The trip to the hospital took 30 minutes.

At the hospital, a physician ran tests but couldn’t find anything wrong. Leaving Wilmot at the hospital, Father returned to the village to find Nakontee, an old woman who prayed for people for money. Nakontee told Father to give her U.S.\$30 for a bar of soap, a towel, and a jar of olive oil. “When the boy comes home, he should use the soap whenever he takes a bath or washes his hands,” she said. “He should use the towel to dry himself. After baths, rub his body with the olive oil.”

Then the woman prayed for Wilmot. When she finished, she told Father to forget the soap, towel, and olive oil.

“I just had a vision,” she said. “The soap, towel, and olive oil won’t help the boy. He has been cursed by someone who lives near here, so you must take him far away. That is the only way that he will be cured.”

Father left the soap and other items at

Story Tips

- Find Buchanan, Liberia, on the map.
- Pronounce Nakontee as: na-KON-tee
- Watch Wilmot on YouTube: bit.ly/Wilmot-Redd.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/Big-Feet-Big-Trouble).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

home and returned to the hospital. Hailing a taxi, he took Wilmot to an uncle's house far away. He wanted the boy to be safe from the curse.

In the new city, Father took Wilmot to another hospital. A physician declared that Wilmot had a kidney infection. After two weeks of treatment, Wilmot's feet and legs returned to their normal size, and the boy was released from the hospital. But Father still believed that he had been cursed and only recovered because they had traveled far away from home. Father made arrangements for Wilmot to live with his uncle.

After four years, when Wilmot was 13, Father moved to another town and sent for his son. He enrolled the boy in the local Seventh-day Adventist school.

At the school, Wilmot learned that God does not require money to answer prayers. He loved God and wanted to show his love by keeping the seventh-day Sabbath. He was baptized.

Father worshipped on Sunday, and he was upset about Wilmot's new beliefs. Saturday was a busy day for the family, and Wilmot no longer helped wash clothes or clean the yard on that day. Father

sometimes punished Wilmot by forcing him go hungry all day on Sabbaths.

Wilmot tried to talk to his father about the Sabbath, but Father refused to listen. Wilmot prayed every day for God to soften Father's heart.

One evening during family worship, Wilmot asked Father to show him where the Bible said that Christians should worship on Sunday. Father opened his Bible and looked for a text. He couldn't find any. Then Wilmot turned in his Bible to Luke 4:16 and gave the book to Father.

"Read this," he said.

Silently, he prayed for God to soften Father's heart.

Father read that Jesus went to church every Sabbath. The verse said, "And as His custom was, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day." Father looked up with shock.

"I didn't realize that Jesus worshipped every Sabbath," he said. "Son, I'm sorry for treating you unkindly."

Wilmot never again had any trouble on Sabbath. He is praying for his Father to become a Seventh-day Adventist. But he has never gone to the prayer woman. He goes directly to God.

"I pray to the heavenly Father," he said. "I put everything into His hands." 🌍

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will open a K-6 school in Buchanan, Liberia, where Wilmot lives, so children can learn about Jesus just as he did as a child. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

By Andrew McChesney



GUINEA | September 19

A New Life

Moriba Monemou, 12

Little Moriba Monemou was always an obedient boy. But his life changed when he was 6. His mother died.

Father had no time for the boy because he was busy working on the family farm in the West African country of Guinea. Father's second wife had no time for the boy because she was caring for her own five girls and four boys. No one fed Moriba. No one hugged him or said a kind word to him.

Moriba became rude. He refused to work on the family farm. If Father asked him to deliver a message, he stayed out all day, playing with friends, and only returning home at night. He stole money to buy food to eat. He stole corn and peanuts from neighbors' farms and sold them to buy food.

Moriba lied to cover up his wrongdoings. When people asked if he had stolen something, he replied, "No, it

wasn't me." But no one believed him, and people beat him nearly every day.

Aunt Rosalie saw the beatings, and she worried that the boy might be injured seriously. She took him from the family farm and moved with him across the country to the capital, Conakry.

Aunt Rosalie was an Adventist, and she wanted Moriba to learn about Jesus. She enrolled him in a Seventh-day Adventist school.

School was very difficult for the boy. He had never studied, and it required a lot of effort to read and write. It was even harder to sit still at his desk. He was used to spending his days playing outdoors, and now he had to sit in a classroom.

Moriba couldn't sit for long. After a short time at his desk, he stood on his chair and jumped from chair to chair in the classroom. The other children liked it, but the teacher didn't. Then — CRACK! A chair broke, and Moriba was sent to the principal. The principal called Aunt Rosalie to the school.

Story Tips

- Find Moriba's birthplace, Nzerekore, a city in southeastern Guinea, on the map. Find his current city, Conakry, on the west coast.
- Pronounce Moriba as: MOREE-ba
- Watch Moriba on YouTube: bit.ly/Moriba-Monemou.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/New-Life-WAD).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

"I'm so sorry," Aunt Rosalie said. "We will do our best so he doesn't destroy school property."

But Moriba just couldn't sit still. He was used to being free outdoors. He didn't mean to be naughty, but he kept breaking chairs. Every time, Aunt Rosalie was called to the school, and every time she apologized.

"We will do our best so he doesn't destroy school property again," she said.

Neighbors wondered whether Moriba would ever be able to learn. They told Aunt Rosalie to give up trying to teach him to read and write and instead to teach him to become a farmer.

"This boy will never learn," said one. "You're wasting time with school," said another neighbor.

Aunt Rosalie firmly shook her head.

"Moriba is a smart boy, and God will help him learn," she said.

God heard her prayers. After the first semester, Moriba began to read well. He wrote well. He began to understand the lessons as he kept studying. The teachers were filled with joy, and they happily gave him extra tutoring every day after classes.

Today, Moriba is 12 years old and in the third grade. He can read his Bible, which he received as a gift from the school, and he is preparing to be baptized. He wants to serve God with his new life.

"I'm very happy for my new life," he said. "People like me now. I am not the same boy that I was before. I have changed. Jesus, the Sabbath, and the school have changed me." 🌍

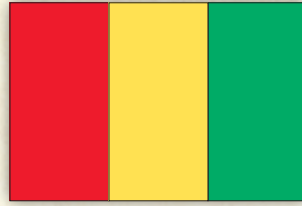
Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will open Kobaya Academy, a much-needed K–12 school, in Conakry, Guinea. Thank you for remembering Moriba and the school in your prayers.

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

The work in Guinea began in 1987, when a lay couple from Europe quietly witnessed to their faith. In April 1992, the first war refugees from Liberia arrived in Guinea, including a number of Seventh-day Adventists and a licensed pastor, W. Oloysius, who soon began witnessing for their faith.



13th SABBATH | September 26

Junior Kekura Soropogui, 13

The Big Contest

Junior was not pleased with his new school in Conakry, Guinea.

The one-story school building had no doors or windows. It didn't have a playground, only piles of dirt. In contrast, his old school was a yellow four-story building with doors and windows. It had a nice playground and a basketball court.

"I don't like this school," Junior complained to Father after his first day of third grade. "I'm not happy there."

Father had enrolled Junior and his younger brother, Emile, at the Seventh-day Adventist school because he wanted them to learn about God. The newly built school didn't have doors, windows, or a playground because money had run out.

Junior had gone to a regular school for the first and second grades, and Emile was just starting first grade.

Father insisted that Junior should stay at the new school.

"The school will get better," he said.

Junior wasn't so sure.

But as the days went by, he began to like the Bible class. He was interested to read that God had created the world and that Jesus had died for his sins. He had never heard about those things before.

One day, the teacher made a big announcement in Bible class.

"We are going to have a quiz tomorrow," he said.

He wrote five verses on the blackboard and told the children to copy them into their notebooks.

"Memorize one verse for the quiz tomorrow," she said.

At home, Junior repeated Ephesians 6:1, 2 over and over: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother,' which is the first commandment with promise."

Father and Mother were happy to see Junior memorizing from the Bible.

The next day, Teacher gave each student a piece of paper and told them to write what they had memorized. Junior received a perfect mark.

After that, Teacher gave many more quizzes, and Junior liked memorizing from the Bible.

Although the school didn't have basketball, the children began to play another kind of game. Teacher told Junior and another boy and a girl from the third grade to prepare for a big contest against the second-grade class. The contest would determine who knew more Bible verses.

At home, Junior opened his Bible and reread the verses that he had memorized. He was happy that Teacher had chosen him to represent his class. Mother also was happy.

"You will know more about the Bible," she said.

The next day, Junior joined his two classmates at the front of the classroom. Three students from the second-grade team also stood at the front. The other students watched from their desks.

Teacher gave the rules. She would call out the Bible book and verse, and both teams would have a chance to answer.

"John 3:16," Teacher said.

The second-grade team knew the answer, and one child said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

The third-grade team also knew the answer: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Both teams received a point. The

Story Tips

- Watch Junior on YouTube: bit.ly/Junior-Soropogui.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq) or ADAMS databank (bit.ly/The-Big-Contest).
- Download photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/WAD-2020.

Before 13th Sabbath

- Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on September 26. 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 three projects in the West-Central Africa Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.
- The narrator doesn't need to memorize the story, but he or she should be familiar enough with the material so as not to have to read it. The children can mime or otherwise act out the story as it is told.
- Before or after the story, use a map to show the three countries — Guinea, Liberia, and Nigeria — that will receive the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Briefly describe how each will benefit from the offering. For today's story, show Conakry, Guinea, on the map.
- Know that Father's name is Pepe Voctorien Soropogui, 43, and Mother's name is Tido Grace Haba, 36.

score was 1-1.

The teacher gave another verse, and both teams answered correctly. Two-two. Both teams answered all four verses correctly, and the score was tied at 4-4. The students were eager to see one team win.

“Let’s start again with another four verses,” Teacher said.

Both teams correctly answered the first three verses. The score was 7-7. Then came the last verse.

“Ephesians 6:1, 2,” Teacher said.

The children in the second-grade team looked puzzled. None could remember the verse.

Junior’s teammates also weren’t sure about the verse. But Junior remembered it. It was the verse that he had memorized for the first quiz at the school.

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with promise,” he said.

“Correct!” Teacher said. “The score is 8-7. The third-grade class wins!”

The third graders shouted with joy and clapped loudly. Warm satisfaction filled Junior. Maybe the new school didn’t look as nice as his old school, and maybe it didn’t have a nice playground. But it

wasn’t so bad after all.

Teacher saw that Junior enjoyed Bible class and invited him and Emile to church on Sabbath. Soon Junior and Emile were going to church every Sabbath, and they invited their parents to join them.

Father and Mother also liked the church, and they were baptized. Junior and Emile hope to be baptized as well. 🌍

Today, Junior is 13 and wishes that he was still studying at the Adventist school. The school only teaches children in grades one to six and Junior is now in the seventh grade. This quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will allow Junior to return to the Adventist school by constructing a new four-story building where children will be able to study from kindergarten to the twelfth grade. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help the school and other projects in Liberia and Nigeria.

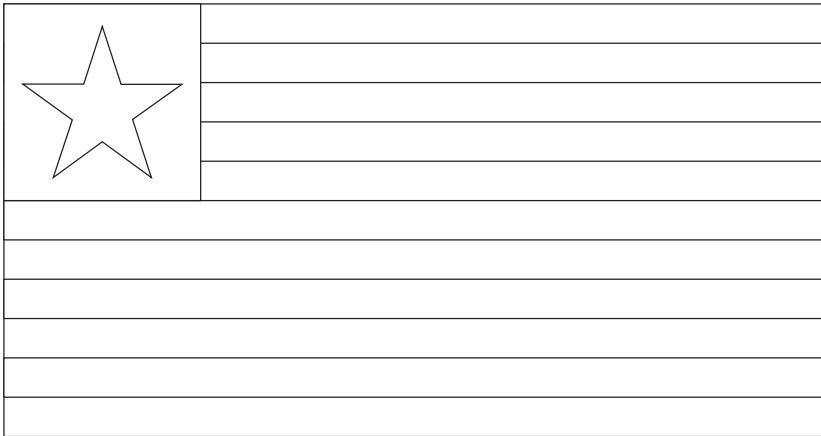
By Andrew McChesney

Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in fourth quarter 2020 will help the Southern Asia Division to construct the following projects in India:

- Boys’ dormitory, Garmar Academy, Rajanagaram, Andhra Pradesh state
- Five classrooms, Flaiz Adventist College, Rustumbada, Andhra Pradesh state
- Church building, Amritsar, Punjab state
- Church building, Ranchi, Jharkhand state
- Dormitory, Seventh-day Adventist School, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh state
- Second phase of school building at Roorkee Adventist College, Roorkee, Uttarakhand state
- New buildings for Central Kannada and Savanagar Tamil churches in Karnataka state
- Two classrooms, Seventh-day Adventist English High School, Azam Nagar, Karnataka state
- Boys’ dormitory, E.D. Thomas Memorial Higher Secondary School, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu state
- Labs and library, Thirumala Seventh-day Adventist Secondary School, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala state
- School building, Spicer Adventist University, Ahirewadi, Maharashtra state

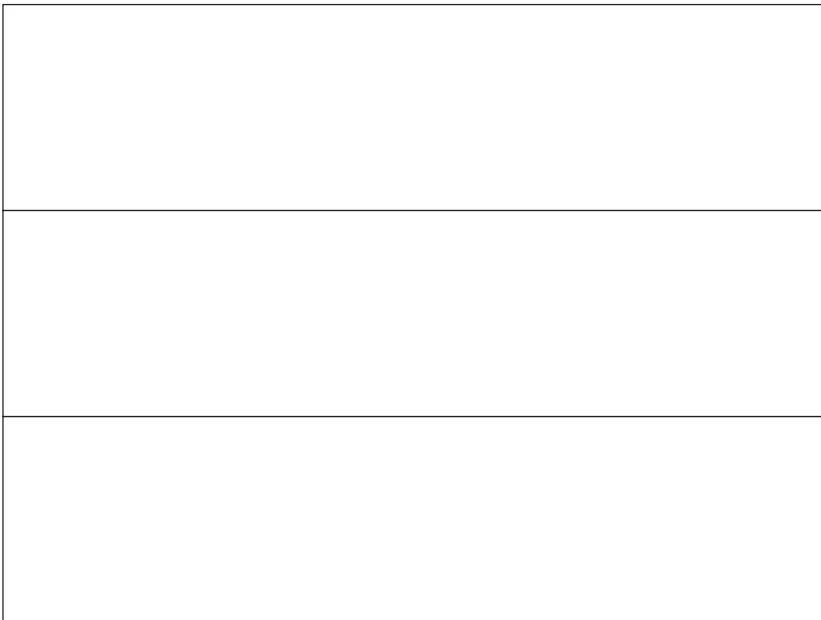
Color The Flag



LIBERIA

DIRECTIONS:

Color every other stripe red, starting at the top and ending at the bottom with red stripes. Leave the other stripes white. Color the square in the top left corner blue, leaving the star white.

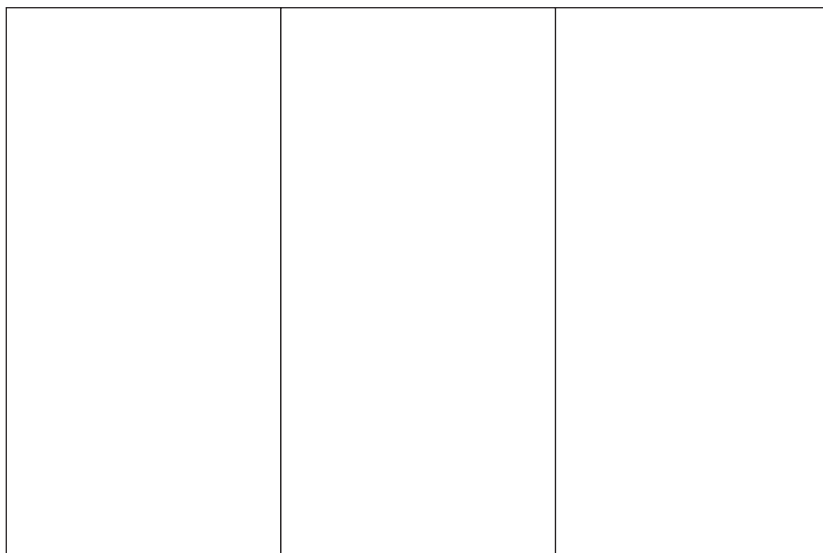


GABON

DIRECTIONS:

Color the top third green, the middle third yellow, and the bottom third blue.

Color The Flag



GUINEA

DIRECTIONS:

Color the left third red, the middle third yellow, and the right third green.

Let's Cook!

GINGER DRINK (GUINEA)

INGREDIENTS

6 cups (1.4 liters) boiling water
1 cup (115 g) fresh ginger root,
peeled and grated
1 cup (200 g) sugar
10–12 whole cloves

2 whole cinnamon sticks
1/2 cup (120 ml) fresh lemon or
lime juice
1 cup (240 ml) orange juice
8 cups (1.9 liters) cool water

INSTRUCTIONS

Pour the boiling water over the grated ginger root, sugar, cloves and cinnamon in a large enamel, glass or stainless-steel bowl. Cover and set aside in a warm place for at least an hour. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve or cloth, add the juices and water and set aside in a warm place for another hour. Gently strain the liquid again, taking care not to disturb the sediment at the bottom. Store in the refrigerator or a cool place in a large glass container. It can be served warm, cold, or on ice, either as it is or diluted with water or sparkling water. A squeeze of fresh lime juice in each glass of ginger drink is good.

Let's Cook!

BAKED BANANAS (GABON)

INGREDIENTS

8 bananas cut into three equal
diagonal pieces
1 egg
2 tbsp (30 ml) orange juice

3.5 oz (100 g) bread crumbs
½ cup (120 ml) vegetable oil
1½ cup (350 ml) sour cream
8 tbsp (100 g) brown sugar

INSTRUCTIONS

Beat the egg and the orange juice together. Dip the bananas in the egg mixture and then in the breadcrumbs. Heat the vegetable oil in a frying pan and fry the bananas until they begin to brown lightly. Transfer to a baking sheet and place in an oven pre-heated to 350 F (170 C) for 5 minutes. Serve 1 banana per person, topped with sour cream and sprinkled with brown sugar.



Let's Sing and Play!

LE PETIT LAPIN (THE LITTLE RABBIT)

(GABON)

FRENCH

Mon petit lapin a bien du chagrin
Il ne saute plus, ne danse plus dans
mon jardin.

Saute, saute, saute, mon petit lapin
Et va-vite embrasser quelqu'un.

ENGLISH

My little rabbit is very sad,
He no longer hops or dances in
my garden.

Hop, hop, hop, my little rabbit
And quickly go kiss someone.

GAME INSTRUCTIONS

One child plays the role of the rabbit. The children form a circle, with the little "rabbit" in the center. The children go around him singing the first two lines of the song and then they stop moving but continue to sing and clap their hands and the little rabbit in the middle starts hopping. On the last line, the little "rabbit" chooses one of the other children and tags him or her and that child takes the role of the rabbit in the center.

A link to an audio clip of the song can be found at bit.ly/LePetitLapin.

TRAIN, TRAIN PARTY

(LIBERIA)

DROP THE HANDKERCHIEF GAME

Leader: Train, train party!

Group: Aaaaa, party!

Leader: Train, train party!

Group: Aaaaa, party!

Leader: I wrote my letter to my Dad
And on the way I dropped it,
Little boy picked it up
And put it in his pocket.

GAME INSTRUCTIONS

The children squat in a circle looking forward. One child (the leader) walks around outside the circle holding an object like a handkerchief or a shoe. The leader sings her part of the lyrics and the group responds with their part.

At some point the leader drops the object behind one of the children in the circle and runs around the ring. The second child then has to chase the leader. If he catches the leader before she reaches his empty space in the circle, the leader must go around again with the handkerchief. Otherwise, the second child becomes the new leader and the game starts over again.

The game and song can be seen on YouTube at bit.ly/TrainTrain (the game starts in the video at 1:57).

Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free Mission Spotlight video, featuring video reports from around the West-Central Africa Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at bit.ly/missionspotlight. A printable mission bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at 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:

Websites

Liberia: government website	bit.ly/LibGovt
World Travel Guide	bit.ly/WTGLiberia
Gabon: government website	bit.ly/GabGovt
Wanderlust	bit.ly/WLGabon
Guinea: government website	bit.ly/RepGuiGovt
Lonely Planet	bit.ly/LPGuinea
Seventh-day Adventist	
West-Central Africa Division	bit.ly/SDAWAD

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 West-Central Africa 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

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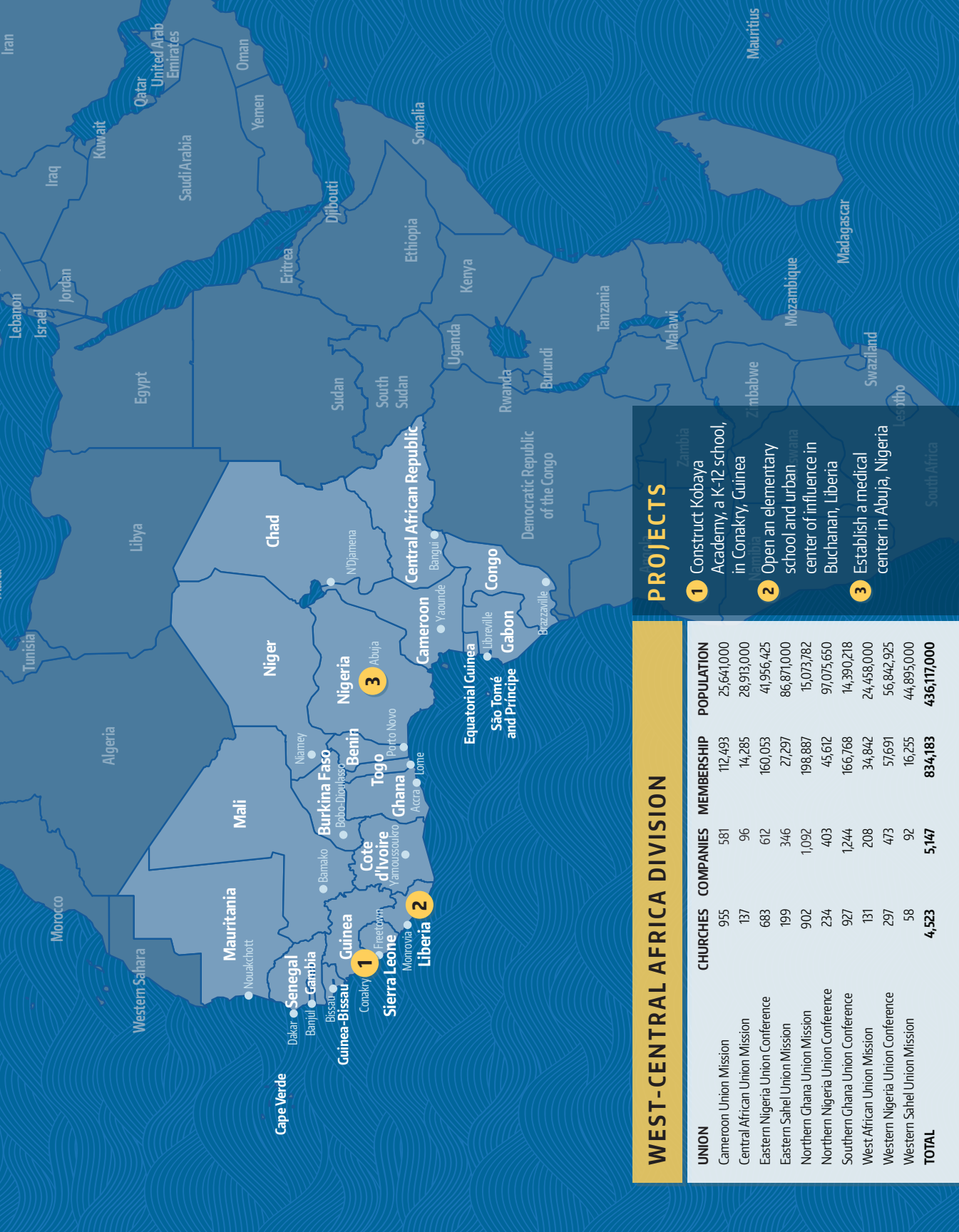
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WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION

UNION	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Cameroon Union Mission	955	581	112,493	25,641,000
Central African Union Mission	137	96	14,285	28,913,000
Eastern Nigeria Union Conference	683	612	160,053	41,956,425
Eastern Sahel Union Mission	199	346	27,297	86,871,000
Northern Ghana Union Mission	902	1,092	198,887	15,073,782
Northern Nigeria Union Conference	234	403	45,612	97,075,650
Southern Ghana Union Conference	927	1,244	166,768	14,390,218
West African Union Mission	131	208	34,842	24,458,000
Western Nigeria Union Conference	297	473	57,691	56,842,925
Western Sahel Union Mission	58	92	16,255	44,895,000
TOTAL	4,523	5,147	834,183	436,117,000

PROJECTS

- 1 Construct Kobaya Academy, a K-12 school, in Conakry, Guinea
- 2 Open an elementary school and urban center of influence in Buchanan, Liberia
- 3 Establish a medical center in Abuja, Nigeria