



CHILDREN'S MISSION



2021 • **QUARTER 2** • INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION



AdventistMission.org

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Your Offerings at Work



Your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago helped construct a new wing for Southeast Hospital, a Seventh-day Adventist facility, in Villahermosa, Mexico. The new wing (the gray building in the background) is expected to open in 2024.



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Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help the Inter-American Division to open 13 Better Living centers of influence, one at each of the following:

- Antillean Adventist University (Puerto Rican Union), Puerto Rico
- Colombia Adventist University (North Colombian Union), Colombia
- Cuba Adventist Theological Seminary (Cuban Union), Cuba
- Dominican Adventist University (Dominican Union), Dominican Republic
- Haitian Adventist University Academy (Haitian Union), Haiti
- Linda Vista University (Southeast Mexican Union), Mexico
- Navojoa University (North Mexican Union), Mexico
- Montemorelos University (North Mexican Union), Mexico
- Northern Caribbean University (Jamaica Union), Jamaica
- Central America Adventist University (South Central American Union), Costa Rica
- University of the Southern Caribbean (Caribbean Union), Trinidad
- Adventist University Institute of Venezuela (West Venezuela Union), Venezuela
- Belize Adventist Junior College (Belize Union), Belize

This quarter we feature the Inter-American Division, which includes countries and territories in the Caribbean Sea, Central America, and the northern part of South America. The region is home to nearly 300 million people and has a Seventh-day Adventist membership of 3.75 million. That's a ratio of one Adventist for every 80 people.

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath projects are unique: All thirteen universities and colleges in the division will receive part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to establish a Better Living "center of influence" where students can train to become missionaries. You can find a list of the institutions of higher learning on this page. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that helped fund projects at Antillean Adventist University in Puerto Rico, University of the Southern Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago, and Southeast Hospital in Mexico. You can read stories from University of the Southern Caribbean on pages 4-11.

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.

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



HAITI | April 3

Maxo Dorlis, 40

Do You Understand?

Fourteen-year-old Maxo enjoyed reading the Bible for about an hour every afternoon in the grassy yard outside his home in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince. He liked Bible stories, especially about Moses, and the Ten Commandments.

Twelve-year-old Natasha saw Maxo reading one day.

"Do you understand the Bible?" she said.

"Yes," he said. "I understand."

He invited her to study with him.

He knew that Natasha was a Seventh-day Adventist and went to church on a different day than him. He thought that studying the Bible together would be a good way to convince her that she should go to church with him on Sunday.

"Oh, I would be happy to study with you!" Natasha exclaimed. "I would like to share what I know about the Bible with you."

Maxo and Natasha agreed to meet

three times a week to study the Bible.

After a month of Bible study, Maxo was convinced that Saturday, not Sunday, was God's Sabbath. Natasha showed him 86 verses about the seventh-day Sabbath in the Bible.

Maxo asked his pastor about why their church worshiped on Sunday.

"Can you show me in the Bible where Sunday is set aside as the Sabbath day?" he asked, holding up his black Bible.

The pastor couldn't show any verses that showed that Sunday is the Sabbath.

"Yes, Sunday is the first day of the week," the pastor said. "But Jesus was resurrected on Sunday, and that is why we keep it as the Sabbath."

Maxo opened his Bible and began showing the 86 verses about the seventh-day Sabbath. The pastor was surprised.

"I'm a pastor, and this is the first time that I have seen these verses," he said.

“Where did you find them?”

“Can I share these verses in church next Sunday?” Maxo said.

“No!” the pastor exclaimed. “Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected on Sunday. That’s the end of the conversation!”

The next Sunday, Maxo didn’t go to church with his family. He continued studying the Bible with Natasha. He stopped eating pork, shrimp, and other unclean foods. He stopped drinking beer with his friends.

Natasha invited him to go to the Seventh-day Adventist church. “Maybe next week,” Maxo said. He wasn’t used to going to church on Saturday.

But one Sabbath he decided to go to church with her. To go, he would have to skip school, which met on Saturdays in Haiti. He didn’t want to tell his mother because he was afraid that she would stop him. He packed his suit in his backpack. Halfway to church, he stopped in a restaurant restroom and changed his clothes. Then he met Natasha, and they went to church.

The worship service was new for Maxo. “I don’t understand,” he told Natasha afterward. “They don’t play loud music, and the singing and preaching is different. I like the way you worship.”

Maxo returned the next Sabbath and

Story Tips

- Find Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago on the map.
- Watch Maxo on YouTube: bit.ly/Maxo-Dorlis-1.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Know Haiti also will get 13th Sabbath funds for a missionary training center at Haitian Adventist University Academy.

the next. On September 22, 1995, fifteen-year-old Maxo was baptized during an evangelistic series. Natasha was thrilled!

Maxo was the first person in his family to become an Adventist. Through his witness, fifteen family members, including his mother, are Seventh-day Adventists today. 🌍

Maxo is grateful to Natasha for being a real missionary and teaching him about the Bible. Today, he is studying to be a pastor at University of the Southern Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center on the university campus.

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION
RECORD

The first Seventh-day Adventist missionary, W.J. Tanner, arrived in Haiti in 1905 and was surprised to find several groups of Adventist believers. He learned that someone in England had sent Adventist literature to Haiti in 1879. A Jamaican tailor, Henry Williams, and his wife, living in Haiti, had read the literature and decided to keep the Sabbath. The couple’s influence led to the establishment of the Adventist groups that the astonished missionary found 26 years later.



HAITI | April 10

Angry Mother

Maxo Dorlis, 40

Fifteen-year old Maxo had told his mother for the past year that he was going to school on Saturday mornings in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince. But he was going to a Seventh-day Adventist church with his 13-year-old friend, Natasha.

Finally Maxo decided to give his life to Jesus, and his baptism was scheduled to take place in the Caribbean Sea on a Sunday morning.

As Maxo prepared to go to the beach, Mother asked him to accompany her to her church. Maxo solemnly shook his head. He told her that he planned to be baptized by an Adventist minister that morning. Mother was an important leader in her church, and she was furious.

"Why do you want to be baptized?" she demanded. "You already are a Christian."

Maxo explained that he had learned about the seventh-day Sabbath in the Bible, first through Bible studies with

Natasha and later at the Adventist church. Mother didn't want to listen.

"Let me tell you something!" she screamed. "If you get baptized, I will no longer pay your school fees! I will throw you out of my house!"

Maxo felt sad to hear Mother talking that way, but he was convinced that he was making the right decision.

"Jesus says in the Bible, 'If your mother and father forsake you, I will take care of you,'" he said. "Even if you don't pay my school fees and stop giving me food, I know God will take care of me."

"You have two options," Mother said. "Go to church with me on Sundays, and I will pay your school fees. Or go to church on Saturdays, and I will stop paying your school fees, and you will have to leave my house."

Maxo went to the beach and was baptized together with 200 other people who had attended an evangelistic series with him at the Adventist church. Afterward, he returned home and packed his clothes. He would leave the house as

Story Tips

- Find Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago on the map.
- Watch Maxo on YouTube: bit.ly/Maxo-Dorlis-2.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Know Haiti also will get 13th Sabbath funds for a missionary training center at Haitian Adventist University Academy.

mother had ordered. As he walked to the door, carrying his suitcase, he felt a hand touch his shoulder.

“Why did you disobey me, my son?”

Maxo turned around and saw Mother crying. “Mom, let me share with you what I have learned about God,” he said.

The boy and his mother sat on a sofa in the living room, and Maxo opened his black Bible. For the next four hours, the two studied the Bible together.

Mother’s face softened as she read.

“I’m sorry for being angry,” she said. “I didn’t know anything about your beliefs.”

It was Maxo’s turn to apologize. He admitted that he had been going to the Adventist church every Saturday for the past year even though he had told her that he was going to school. Mother

was surprised. “How did you manage to get good grades while skipping school?” she asked.

Maxo described how he had been studying extra at home and somehow always received top marks on his exams. “You can see that God has blessed me for keeping the Sabbath,” he said.

Mother wanted to know more about the Bible, and she asked to study together again the next day. As they read day after day, Maxo taught her from the Bible the same way that Natasha had taught him. After a while, Maxo’s 13-year-old brother asked to join the Bible study. Then a 16-year-old cousin who was staying in their home joined the small group.

The near-daily Bible studies continued for three years. Then Maxo’s brother was baptized. A month later, Mother and the cousin also were baptized. After that, twelve other family members were baptized. 🌍

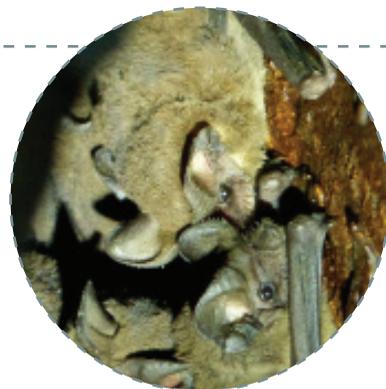
Maxo is a real missionary for bringing fifteen family members to Jesus. Today, he is studying to be a pastor at University of the Southern Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center on the university campus.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Haiti has many kinds of bats, some of which are unique to the country. Bat species include: sooty mustached bat, Parnell’s mustached bat, Waterhouse’s leaf-nosed bat, greater bulldog bat, Mexican funnel-eared bat, Jamaican fruit-eating bat, Cuban fig-eating bat, big free-tailed bat, and Brazilian free-tailed bat.





TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO | April 17

Magdalena, 12

Discipling a Dentist

Little Magdalena stood outside a pharmacy waiting for Father to pick her up after school every afternoon in St. Martin, a town in Trinidad and Tobago.

Sometimes she had to wait an hour or an hour and a half for Father to come after work and take her home. She saw so many people coming in and going out of the pharmacy. She wondered if those people loved Jesus.

She had a question for Father when she hopped into the car one afternoon.

“So many people come in and go out of the pharmacy,” she said. “Can I share some tracts with them?”

Father smiled broadly. He was happy to hear that his daughter wanted to share Jesus with other people.

“Sure, no problem,” he said.

Father found some tracts about the love of Jesus, and Magdalena put them in her backpack when she went to school

the next day. After school, she offered the tracts to people coming in and going out of the pharmacy. “Hello, how are you?” she said. “Can I share with you this tract about the love of Jesus?”

Everyone accepted the tract. Nobody refused one. When Father arrived to pick her up, she happily announced that she had given away all the tracts.

Magdalena took more tracts the next day and the next. When Father ran low on tracts, he made photocopies on the printer at home.

After a while, the girl noticed that a dentist passed by the pharmacy every afternoon. He was walking to and from his office. Every afternoon, she gave him a tract, and every time he took one. Magdalena told Father about the dentist.

“Daddy, can I talk to him about Jesus?” she asked.

Father knew the dentist because he had

fixed Mother's teeth. "Sure, no problem," Father said.

The next day, Magdalina was waiting for the dentist when he walked by. "Do you have Jesus in your life?" she asked.

The dentist was surprised to hear the question. He had not read the tracts that the girl had given him.

"I have heard about Jesus, but I don't believe in Him," the dentist said.

Magdalina was sad to hear that. She wanted him to know about Jesus. "Do you have time to hear a Bible story?" she said.

The man couldn't refuse the offer and invited the girl to come to his office the next day. Father gave permission for Magdalina to go to the dentist's office. He said he would pick her up at the dentist's office instead of the pharmacy for the ride home after school. That night, Magdalina asked Father for some Bible verses about Jesus to share. She had one more request.

"The dentist doesn't have a Bible," she said. "Can I give him one?"

Father found a brand-new black Bible. The dentist was overjoyed when Magdalina presented the Bible to him the next afternoon.

For the next month, Magdalina went to the dentist's office every day after school. She and the dentist read the Bible together and talked about the Bible stories that they had read. The dentist began to believe in Jesus. One day, he said he understood that God had set aside the seventh-day Sabbath as holy at Creation. Magdalina invited him to go to church with her the next Sabbath.

"Yes, I have time," he said. "I can go."

Magdalina excitedly broke the news to Father when he picked her up. "I invited the dentist to go to church with me, and

Story Tips

- Find Trinidad and Tobago on a big map.
- Watch Magdalina and her father on YouTube: bit.ly/Magdalina-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

he said, 'Yes,'" she said, joyfully.

The next Sabbath, Magdalina arrived with Father and Mother in the car to take the dentist to church. Magdalina was very happy. Father was very happy. Mother was very happy. And the dentist was especially happy.

"Your daughter is wonderful," the dentist told Father. "Before, I didn't know anything about Jesus. But now I know Him." 🌍

Magdalina is a real missionary for sharing tracts and for speaking to the dentist about Jesus. Her father, Maxo, also is a missionary for leading his own mother and 14 other family members to Jesus when he was a boy. Today, Maxo is studying to become a pastor at University of the Southern Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago. Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center on the university campus. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help students train to become missionaries.

By Andrew McChesney



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO | April 24

Stolen Money

Eddison Young, 18

Eddison's eyes widened as his friend pulled the money from his pocket. He saw a \$20 bill, three \$10 bills, and a bunch of smaller notes. His friend, Antonio, had 100 Trinidad and Tobago dollars, or about U.S.\$15.

"I stole this," Antonio said with a big smile. "I want to buy something."

The two 15-year-old boys were walking across the street from the public school in Bonaire, a town in Trinidad and Tobago. Antonio hungrily eyed food stalls selling fried chicken, fried fish, and fried pies alongside the road. He stopped and handed \$20 to Eddison.

"What do you want to buy?" he said.

Eddison was hungry, and he took the money. None of the street food, however, looked appetizing. "I don't want to buy anything here," he said. "I'll buy something to eat near my home."

The next day, Teacher called Eddison into his office.

"I was just talking with Antonio about someone stealing \$100 from a girl's purse yesterday," he said. "Antonio said that you stole the money. Is that true?"

Eddison felt very sad. He told Teacher about his conversation with Antonio and how he had accepted \$20. Teacher was glad that Eddison hadn't stolen the money. "But you still did the wrong thing by accepting stolen money," he said.

The next day, Eddison found himself back in Teacher's office. Also in the room was the school principal, his mother, Antonio, and Antonio's mother.

"You are a good child," the principal said to Eddison. "How did this happen?"

"I'm sorry," Eddison said, sadly. "It will never happen again."

The principal announced that Eddison would be suspended from school for seven days as punishment for accepting stolen money. Antonio was suspended for one month for stealing the money. Both boys

were required to make restitution to the girl by giving back twice the amount of money that they had stolen. Eddison borrowed \$40 from his mother to give to the girl.

That evening, Eddison's father called when he heard about the school suspension. He and Mother were divorced, and he lived another town.

"You should go to church," he said.

"Yes, I should," Eddison agreed.

And he meant it. He hadn't gone to church since he was a small boy. He looked around his home for a church. It had to be within walking distance because he didn't want to ask his mother for money to take the bus. Then he remembered that there was a Seventh-day Adventist church only a 15-minute walk away. He went the next Sabbath and found everyone to be friendly and welcoming. He went again the next Sabbath, and then the next.

Three years passed, and big evangelistic meetings were organized at the church. Eddison invited his family to go with him, and they did. At the end of the meetings, Eddison was baptized together with his mother, grandmother, 12-year-old

Story Tips

- Find Trinidad and Tobago on the map.
- Watch Eddison on YouTube: bit.ly/Eddison-Young.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

brother, 9-year-old sister, and an 11-year-old cousin. "I am happy," Eddison said. "Now we celebrate Sabbath together, and we have the same love for God." 🌐

Today, Eddison attends an Adventist high school, Caribbean Union College Secondary School, on the campus of University of the Southern Caribbean. He is a real missionary for bringing his family to Jesus. University of the Southern Caribbean wants to train more missionaries, and part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center on the university campus.

By Andrew McChesney

MISSION RECORD

Adventist teachings were probably introduced to Trinidad and Tobago around 1879 through literature sent from England. As early as 1880 or 1881, a group of Sabbath keepers, led by James R. Braithwaite, met in Tobago. By the early 1880s, Adventist literature was being sent to Trinidad and Tobago by the International Tract and Missionary Society (ITMS) in the United States. The first specific positive response to Adventist teachings in Trinidad came through a copy of Ellen White's "Patriarchs and Prophets," which was passed to an individual who became one of the first Sabbath keepers on the island.



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO | May 1

Ethan, 10

Traveling Mercies

Ethan's family likes to have adventures. Once Ethan and Father and Mother traveled seven days by train on the Trans-Siberian Railroad in Russia. Another time, they rented a camper-van and traveled around Australia for three weeks. But the one trip that Ethan will never forget took place in his home country, Trinidad and Tobago.

Early Sunday morning, Ethan piled into the car with Father and Mother to go to the beach on the Caribbean Sea. Before turning on the ignition, Father prayed as the family always did before a trip.

"Heavenly Father, we ask You for your traveling mercies on this journey," he prayed. "Please guide us as we go to the beach. Thank You."

Then the family set off for the beach.

It was a pleasantly warm morning. The beach wasn't too crowded, and Ethan happily splashed in the water. Around

noon, however, the sun grew hot, and the beach became crowded.

"Let's go home," Mother said.

The family piled back into the car. Father sat behind the steering wheel, and Mother sat beside him. Ethan sat behind Father in the back seat. The family talked merrily as they rode along the forested mountain road. Suddenly ...

BAM!

A terrific crash shook the car. The sound of breaking glass and crunching metal pierced the air. The car jolted to a stop.

Father turned around and looked at Ethan. "Ethan, are you OK?" he asked.

The boy was sitting calmly in the back. He didn't have a scratch. "Yes, I'm fine," Ethan said. "What happened?"

"Something fell on the car," Father said.

Mother was screaming. She didn't hear Father and Ethan's conversation. "Is Ethan OK?" she screamed.

"He's fine," Father said. "He's fine."

Story Tips

- Find Trinidad and Tobago on the map.
- Watch Ethan on YouTube: bit.ly/Ethan-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

People quickly surrounded the car. Someone wanted to call an ambulance. Someone else offered water.

Ethan, Father, and Mother got out of the car. They weren't hurt at all.

"Don't worry about calling an ambulance," Father said. "We're fine."

Ethan looked at the car. The windshield was shattered, and the front of the car was smashed in. In front of the car lay an enormous tree. The tree had fallen from a cliff high above the road and landed on the car. Now the tree was lying across the entire road, blocking traffic in both directions.

It was a miracle that Ethan and his parents were alive. If the tree had fallen a few seconds later, it would have hit the car roof right above Ethan's head.

"It's a good thing that we prayed for traveling mercies," Ethan said.

Father and Mother immediately agreed.

"Thank You, Jesus," Father said.

"Thank You, Jesus."

After that day, Mother always reminds Ethan that it is very important to pray for traveling mercies. "If You reach out to Him, He will protect you," she says.

Father kept a piece of the tree as a reminder of God's traveling mercies. When Ethan sees the piece of tree, he remembers that God is always with him and that he can be grateful for His protection.

He likes to pray before the family goes on adventures.

"Dear God, please be with us we travel, and please give us traveling mercies," he prays. "In Jesus' name, amen." 🌍

Ethan and his parents, Leon and Corine, attend the University Church at University of the Southern Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago. Your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago went to help build a new University Church. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings that help spread the gospel around the world.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
TRINIDAD

The only new acoustic instrument invented in the twentieth century came out of Trinidad and Tobago's oil industry. Steel pans, or steel drums, are considered the island's national instrument, and the first ones were made from oil drums. Calypso music and steel drum bands feature in carnival celebrations on both islands.





TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO | May 8

The Outie

Matthais, 10

Matthais was born with what some people call an “outie” in Trinidad and Tobago’s capital, Port of Spain.

His belly button stuck out. But the doctor said it was not an “outie.” Instead, part of Matthais’ intestine was protruding from his belly button.

“Don’t worry,” the doctor said. “It will probably close by itself by the time he is 3 years old.”

But the doctor also told Mother and Father to be careful to protect the belly button from damage. If the skin was injured, Matthais would become very ill.

Mother and Father waited and prayed that the belly button would close. If it didn’t close, Matthais would have to undergo an operation.

One year passed. Two years. Three years. Matthais’ belly button did not close. The doctor said he would have to undergo an operation.

It took another three years to find a time to have the operation. Father and Mother prayed about the operation. Church friends prayed.

Matthais was scared when Father took him to the hospital for the operation. He didn’t want to be operated on.

The doctor asked Father whether the boy had a cold.

“No, he is well,” Father said.

“That’s good,” the doctor said. “We cannot operate if he has a cold.”

Matthais began to cough in the waiting room. The doctor looked alarmed when he heard the boy coughing. “We cannot operate if he has a cold,” he said.

“He doesn’t have a cold,” Father said. “He is just scared about the operation.”

The doctor shook his head. “We cannot take any chances,” he said. “We will have to reschedule the operation.”

Matthais smiled with relief when he heard the news. Father was disappointed that his son was faking a cold, but he understood that the boy was scared. He

would be scared, too.

Father and Mother continued praying.

“Please give Matthais the strength to go through the operation,” Father prayed.

Matthais also prayed. “Dear God, I do not want the operation,” he prayed.

After a year, when he was 7 years old, the doctor said it was time for the operation. Again, Father and Mother prayed. Their church friends prayed. Mother took the boy to the hospital.

“What is your name?” the doctor asked.

“Matthais,” Matthais said.

“How old are you?” he asked.

“Seven,” Matthais said.

“Do you get good grades in school?” he asked.

“I get A’s,” Matthais said.

Mother took a picture of Matthais before the doctor put him to sleep. Then she went to the waiting room and prayed.

When Matthais woke up, he was lying on the same bed, but he was in a different room. Mother was standing by the bed with a smile. She said Matthais was now in the recovery room. “I’m glad that you did the operation this time,” she said.

The doctor said the operation was a success. When the bandage came off several weeks later, Matthais’ belly button no longer was an outie. It was a regular-

Story Tips

- Find Trinidad and Tobago on the map.
- Watch Matthais on YouTube: bit.ly/Matthais-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

looking belly button.

Matthais’ life changed. Before the operation he could not run and jump so as to avoid damaging his belly button. Today he is 10 years old and the fastest runner in his class. He remembers the operation while running and jumping during recess at school, and he pauses to thank God. “Dear God, thank you that the operation was a success,” he prays silently. 🌍

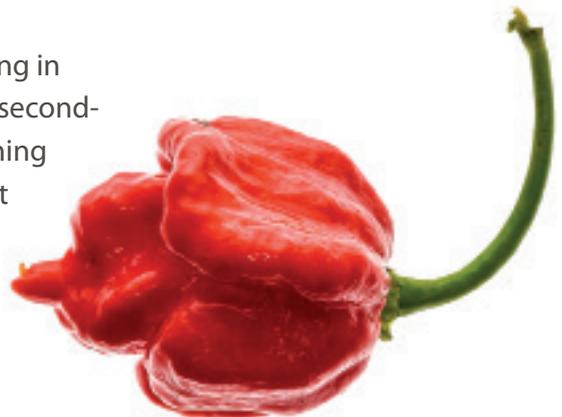
Matthais’ mother, Sylette, is a teacher at University of the Southern Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center on the university campus.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

The Moruga Scorpion, originating in southern Trinidad, is officially the second-hottest pepper in the world, reaching 2 million units on the Scoville heat scale. In comparison, a bell pepper registers zero to 100, and a jalapeno reaches 10,000.





COLOMBIA | May 15

Junior's Secret

Junior, 14

Junior is only 14 years old, but he has led about 50 people to Jesus in his home country of Colombia. How?

Junior's father is a farmer who grows cassava, rice, and corn. His mother is a seamstress who makes dresses and sandals. Junior has 12 brothers and sisters. He is the youngest. When Junior was 5, his parents joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Around the same time, flooding damaged the family farm, so the family moved to higher ground in a mountainous village called Floralito. The closest Adventist church was four hours away by foot. After making the long trek for four months, Junior had an idea.

"Daddy, the church is too far away," he said. "Why don't we invite the neighbors to meet in our house?"

Father liked the idea.

"Amen!" he said. "We also can invite them to lunch after the worship service."

Junior and one of his brothers knocked on the doors of the neighbors' houses.

"Good afternoon!" Junior said. "Would you like to come to our house for worship?"

Some neighbors said yes, and others said no. When a neighbor said no, Junior mentioned that lunch would be served after the worship service.

"We will have yummy food," he said.

"What kind of food?" the neighbors asked. Many of the neighbors were poor, and they didn't have much food after a poor harvest that year.

Junior rattled off the whole menu.

"Mother will make homemade whole-wheat bread, *bollo* sweet corn wrapped in corn husks, lentil patties, beans, and shredded palm and tomatoes cooked in lemon juice," he said.

On the first Sabbath, seven neighbors came to worship and eat lunch. The next Sabbath, 16 people showed up. On the third Sabbath, the whole village of 32 people came. Eight people were baptized

Story Tips

- Find Colombia on the map.
- Ask the children what Junior's secret is to leading about 50 people to Jesus. (He loves Jesus and wants others to go with him to heaven.)
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

over the next seven months.

After some time, Junior's father found it too expensive to transport his cassava, rice, and corn to the market. So, the family moved to another village, Chalán. The church was an hourlong walk away, and Mother suggested opening a house church in a neighbor's home. Three families worshiped the first Sabbath.

Father asked Junior whether he was brave enough to lead evangelistic meetings. The boy was 7 and had recently given his heart to Jesus. He agreed to try at the house church. Three people were baptized after the seven days of meetings.

As the house church grew, Junior and

his brother decided to go door to door and invite neighbors to take Bible studies.

After giving Bible studies at one house, the whole household of six was baptized. The house church grew into a full-fledged church, and the owner is now its elder.

Junior wanted to do more, so he began preaching on the street. Junior, a brother, and his parents took turns preaching every evening for four months. Twenty-three people were baptized.

Seeing that everyone in the village was familiar with the Adventist message, Father decided to move to another village, Turbo. Ten-year-old Junior led three evangelistic series and children's meetings there, resulting in 17 baptisms.

Today, the family lives in Mutatá, where Junior has led two evangelistic series, resulting in 13 baptisms.

"I like to tell other people about Jesus," Junior said. "I want other people to come with me to heaven." 🌍

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center at Colombia Adventist University in Junior's homeland, Colombia.

By Andrew McChesney

MISSION RECORD

In the early nineteenth century, Adventists went to the islands of San Andres and Providencia, which belong to Colombia but are located north of Panama. In 1901, S. Parker Smith (son of Uriah Smith) and his wife opened a school on San Andres. In 1908, Smith wrote in the *Review and Herald* that there was a church of 19 members on San Andres and a larger one on Providencia, and that Adventist work was carried largely through the school on the islands. During 1916 and 1917, several colporteurs entered mainland Colombia.



COLOMBIA | May 22

Baptizing Bullies

Elina, 10

Seven-year-old Elina arrived home from school in tears in Colombia.

Holding out her hands, she showed Mother that her palms were covered with black lead and red spots.

At school, a 9-year-old boy had taken a sharp pencil and poked her hands.

Teacher had refused to intervene, telling Elina to fight back.

“I don’t want to go to school anymore,” Elina cried.

Mother and Father asked Teacher to stop the boy from bullying Elina or they would go to the police.

The boy didn’t bully her again. But on another day, two girls who were friends of the 9-year-old boy kicked Elina in the stomach.

Father and Mother spoke with Teacher again.

“Elina has to learn how to protect herself,” Teacher said.

Now Elina really didn’t want to go to school.

One day Teacher told each of the children to bring a toy for a school activity.

Elina brought her baby doll. Two other girls, who also were friends of the 9-year-old boy, snatched the doll and hit her hard on the head.

Mother decided to send Elina to another school.

The girl ended up in a public school in the town of Janeiro.

Unfortunately, the bullying started again.

A group of 10-year-old boys saw that Elina was smart and began to make fun of her.

The principal overheard and scolded them.

“Why are you laughing at Elina?” he asked the boys. “She hasn’t done anything wrong.”

“She knows everything,” one of the boys said, as if that were a bad thing.

Elina stopped playing with the other

children. She preferred to be alone. But she did have one friend, a girl named Shaila.

Mother had an idea.

“Let’s form a small group for children,” she told Elina. “Children can come to our house and listen to you tell Bible stories.”

Elina liked Bible stories, and she invited her one friend, Shaila, to come over at 5 p.m. Friday.

Without telling Elina, Shaila invited the mean boys to come to the meeting as well.

On the first Friday, twelve children came to hear Elina tell the story of David and Goliath. Afterward, Mother fed the children a meal of empanada pies and red palm juice. All the children enjoyed the meeting and wanted to come again.

The next Friday, the same twelve children returned and brought four friends with them.

Soon thirty children were coming Elina’s house every Friday to hear Bible stories. In three months, ten children gave their hearts to Jesus and were baptized. Four of those who were baptized were the boys who had laughed at Elina for being smart. They were no longer mean to her. They had become her friends.

The mother of one of the children also was baptized.

Story Tips

- Find Colombia on the map.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

Today Elina is 10 years old, and every Friday evening she tells Bible stories to a small group of children in her home in Colombia.

She no longer worries about bullying. Instead she plans to spend all her time looking for ways to share her love for Jesus.

“I dream of bringing people to Jesus,” she said. “It is not for my own glory but for His glory.” 🌐

Elina is a real missionary for telling Bible stories to other children in her home every Friday evening. This quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a center to train missionaries at Colombia Adventist University in Elina’s homeland, Colombia. Thank you for planning a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help students train to become missionaries.

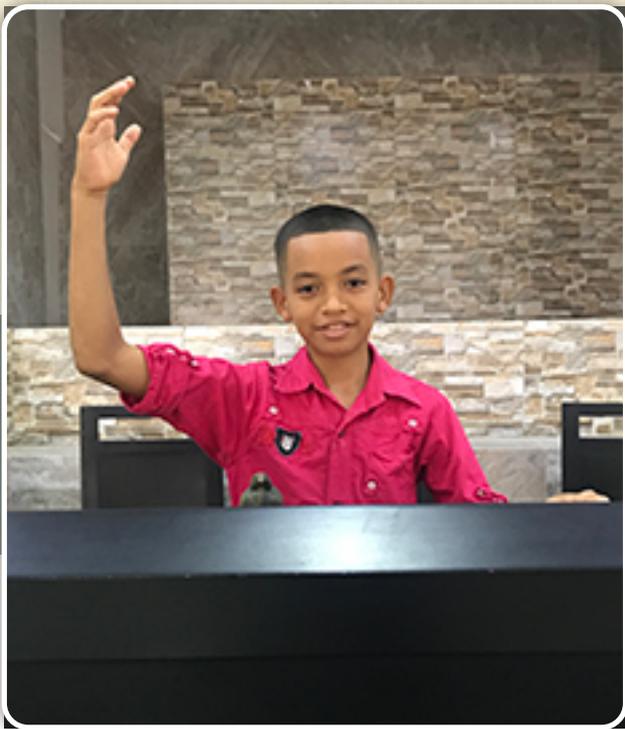
By Andrew McChesney



Literacy rates in Colombia are higher than the world average; more than 94% of the people can read and write.

BigStockPhoto.com





COLOMBIA | May 29

The Boy Preacher

Gabriel, 12

When Gabriel was 6, he saw older children preaching at his church in Necocli, Colombia. He liked to listen to them preach about Jesus, and he wondered what it would be like to preach.

After one Sabbath sermon, he went to Mother.

“I want to preach,” he said. “I want to know what it is like to preach in front of all the people.”

Mother was surprised but pleased.

“Let me ask the pastor,” she said.

Gabriel felt happy that he might be able to preach.

Mother spoke with the pastor right away, and the pastor said he would think about it.

Gabriel decided to prepare his first sermon while the pastor was thinking. He loved the story about how God created the world, and he especially liked how God blessed the seventh day and made it the holy Sabbath. He decided to preach about

Creation. He couldn’t read well, so he asked Mother to read the story of Creation in Genesis 1 and 2. Then he found an Adventist animated film about Creation and watched it.

As he waited for the pastor to make a decision, he grew excited about the thought of preaching the sermon that he was preparing. Every day he worked on improving the sermon.

After three months, Father asked the pastor whether Gabriel could preach his sermon at prayer meeting the next Wednesday.

“I’m scheduled to speak,” Father said. “Could Gabriel preach instead of me?”

The pastor agreed, and Father announced the news to Gabriel.

“The day that you have been waiting has arrived,” he said. “You will preach next Wednesday!”

Gabriel was thrilled. “God has given me

Story Tips

- Find Colombia on the map.
- Watch Gabriel on YouTube: bit.ly/Gabriel-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

a time to preach,” he said.

Gabriel put on a nice shirt and arrived at the church carrying a small notebook with his sermon notes. The congregation of 25 people was surprised to see Father place a large concrete block behind the pulpit. They were surprised to see Gabriel stand on the block and preach.

Gabriel felt nervous in front of all the people, but he was very happy. The congregation listened attentively. Before Gabriel knew it, his 30-minute sermon was over. He no longer felt nervous, and he wished that he had something more to say. People left the prayer meeting praising God for the young boy’s sermon.

Gabriel wanted to preach again, and his parents spoke with the pastor. While Gabriel waited for a decision, he prepared a sermon about Jonah and the big fish. Several months later, he preached the sermon at another weeknight meeting.

Today, Gabriel is 12, and the pastors in his hometown have given him the nickname “Preacher Boy.” He preaches once every two months in the three churches in the city. Sometimes he preaches during the week. Other times he preaches a Friday evening sermon for the Pathfinders or the Sabbath sermon.

Children have been impressed by his sermons. They want to know God the same way that Gabriel does, and some wish that they could preach like him, too. Eight children have been baptized through his sermons. “I like to preach because preaching changes lives for God’s glory,” Gabriel said. 🌍

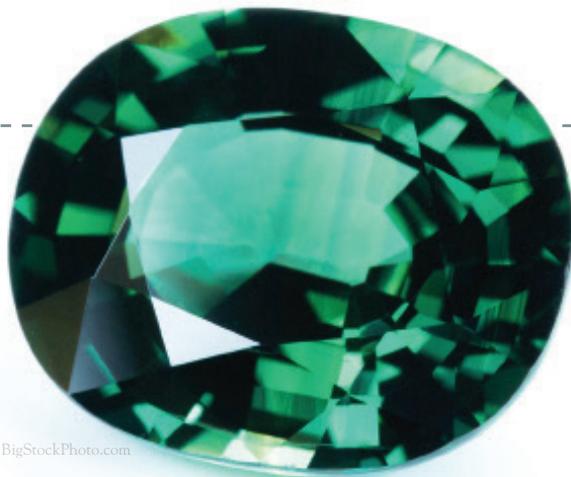
Gabriel is a real missionary for preaching about Jesus. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a center to train other missionaries at Colombia Adventist University in Gabriel’s homeland, Colombia.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Colombia is famous for two exports: It produces world-renowned coffee and is the world’s leading source of emeralds.



BigStockPhoto.com



COLOMBIA | June 5

Patiently Persistent

Alejandro, 10

One morning 3-year-old Alejandro woke up crying in his bed in Santa Marta, Colombia.

“Waaaaa!” he bawled.

Mother came running.

“What’s wrong?” she asked.

Alejandro said he had had a scary dream.

“Mommy, I dreamed that you were going to be lost in the lake of fire and brimstone,” the little boy said.

Mom was astonished. She had never spoken to Alejandro about how the Bible says wicked people would die in a lake of fire after Jesus’ Second Coming.

“How can you talk about a lake of fire if I’ve never told you about it?” she asked.

Alejandro said he had seen the lake of fire in his dream.

He had the same dream again and again, and he woke up crying every time.

One day the boy came to Mother with an unusual request. “Mommy, I want to go

to church,” he said.

Mother had grown up in a Seventh-day Adventist family, but she hadn’t gone to church for a long time. She didn’t know where Alejandro had heard about church, and she didn’t want to go.

“Don’t be so annoying,” she said.

“Waaaaa!” Alejandro cried.

He went to his room, where he cried some more. After he couldn’t cry anymore, he returned to Mother.

“Mommy, I want to go to church,” he said.

Mother was not pleased. “Stop! I don’t want to go to church,” she said.

“Waaaaa!”

This happened day after day.

Finally, Mother took the boy to an Adventist church on Sabbath. Alejandro was overjoyed and begged to return the next Sabbath. Mother took him. After a while, he learned that the church also had

Story Tips

- Find Colombia on the map.
- Pronounce Alejandro as: aleh-KHAN-dro
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

meetings during the week, and he begged to go. Mother took him to the prayer meetings on Sunday, Thursday, and Friday nights. But that also wasn't enough.

"Are there other days when we can go, too?" he begged.

After several months, Alejandro moved with Mother, Father, and his older brother to another city, Cartagena. Mother again took Alejandro to all the church programs.

Shortly before his fourth birthday, Alejandro had a special request.

"Mommy, I want to be baptized," he said.

Mother spoke with the church leaders. "No," the pastor said. "He is too young."

But Alejandro kept begging to be baptized. He wanted to give his heart to Jesus. Mother returned to the pastor and pled with him to baptize her son.

"I will only baptize Alejandro if you agree to raise him as an Adventist boy," the pastor said.

Mother promised and, to Alejandro's joy, he was baptized.

Then he got another idea. He liked to listen to the preachers in church, and he also wanted to preach about Jesus.

"Mommy," he said, "I want to be like them. I want to be a child preacher."

Mother found some books on how to teach people about the Bible, and she read them to Alejandro. He began to preach.

One day Alejandro announced that he wished that Mother would be baptized. Then he wanted his 20-year-old brother and his father to be baptized. Do you know what happened? Mother, Father, and his big brother all ended up giving their hearts to Jesus.

Alejandro is so happy! His patient persistence paid off. He brought his whole family to Jesus. 🌍

Alejandro is a real missionary for bringing his whole family to Jesus. Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a center to train other missionaries at Colombia Adventist University in Alejandro's homeland, Colombia.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

The national flower of Colombia is the *Cattleya trianae* orchid; the national bird is the Andean condor, the largest flying bird in the world by combined weight and wingspan; and the national tree is the wax palm tree, the tallest palm in the world.

BigStockPhoto.com





MEXICO | June 12

Angie, 17

Praying at Recess

Angie's older brother, Elmer, called all the teens into the church sanctuary after the Sabbath worship service in Tacotalpa, Mexico.

"I have an idea," Elmer said. "School starts on Monday. Let's have a prayer group once a week during recess."

Angie was happy at the thought of praying, singing, and discussing Jesus during the 45-minute recess at the public high school that she and her brother attended. Elmer was just starting his last year in high school, while she had two years to go.

But she felt nervous about how her church friends would react. As she looked around to see the response, a girl exclaimed, "That's a great idea! Let's have the prayer group every day!"

Ten students agreed to meet every day to pray.

"And invite everyone in your classroom

to join us," Elmer said.

On Monday, eighteen students gathered at recess in a large school courtyard circled by classroom buildings. Five students were from other Adventist churches, and three were not Adventists.

The group sang a song, prayed, and then Elmer read a story from a devotional book for young people. Afterward, he led a discussion about the story. The students sang another song and ended the meeting with prayer.

Other students noticed the meeting and walked by to listen.

The next day, twenty-two students gathered for the prayer group.

The teachers began talking about the prayer group, and before long the principal heard about it. He was not pleased. He called Elmer to his office.

"Stop having the prayer group at school," he said.

Elmer broke the news to the other Adventist students, but they didn't want to stop. They spoke with their parents and prayed. They read the law and saw there was rule against students having a prayer group during recess.

The students also didn't want to disobey the principal. They decided to pray for the Holy Spirit to change the principal's heart.

Several weeks passed, and the time came for an annual Pathfinder challenge. Pathfinders are challenged to wear their yellow scarves every day for a week and to tell everyone that they were Christians.

Elmer boldly asked the principal for permission for the Adventist students to wear their Pathfinder scarves to school.

The principal became quiet.

After thinking for a moment, he asked, "Why are you guys doing this?"

"We are celebrating being Pathfinders, and Seventh-day Adventist leaders have challenged us to wear our scarves," Elmer said.

To the students' surprise, the principal allowed them to wear their scarves.

Even more surprisingly, after the Pathfinder week ended, the principal said the students could have their prayer group during recess.

Story Tips

- Find Mexico on the map.
- Watch Angie on YouTube: bit.ly/Angie-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

Angie joined her brother, Elmer, and other Adventist students at recess to thank God for hearing their prayers.

"Thank you for working on the hearts of the students, the principal, the teachers, and especially on me," Angie prayed. 🌍

Angie is a real missionary for sharing Jesus through the prayer group at school. This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a center to train other missionaries at Montemorelos University in Angie's homeland, Mexico. Elmer is now studying at Montemorelos University to become a pastor, and Angie is the new leader of the school prayer group.

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION
RECORD

The earliest Seventh-day Adventist missionary work in Mexico dates to 1891, when an American tailor, S. Marchisio, went to Mexico City to sell the English edition of "The Great Controversy." Two years later, in 1893, a group of missionaries, including Dan T. Jones, Dr. Lillis Wood, Ida Crawford, Ora Osborne, and Alfred Cooper and his wife, arrived at Guadalajara and helped open a medical mission and a school. Later, the clinic developed into the Guadalajara Sanitarium, the first Adventist attempt at medical missionary work outside of the United States.



MEXICO | June 19

Miguel, 11

Making Music for Jesus

Miguel didn't feel like doing his homework.

When he came home from school shortly after 1:30 p.m., he reasoned to himself, "I have all afternoon and evening to do my math, science, and reading."

First, he ate lunch. It was his favorite: spaghetti with red tomato sauce and vegetarian meatballs. He also liked the salad of tomatoes, cucumbers, and spinach.

After he ate, Mother reminded him about his homework. "Miguel, go and do your homework," she said.

Miguel looked sad.

"Later, Mom," he said.

He went to his room and pulled out his collection of plastic dinosaurs to stage a dinosaur fight. After growing bored of the fights, he turned on the television and watched cartoons. When the cartoons got boring, he grabbed Mother's cellphone and watched YouTube videos on how to

make dinosaurs out of clay.

Before he knew it, the sun was setting, and Mother was not pleased.

"Miguel, come here!" she cried. "You must do your homework!"

Miguel picked up his backpack and very slowly made his way to the dining room table. "I'm coming, I'm coming," he said.

Mother sat with him while he did his homework. She wanted to make sure that he finished it.

The same story happened every day. Mother wasn't sure what to do to make sure that Miguel did his homework.

One day Miguel learned about musical instruments at Vacation Bible School, and he announced to Mother that he wanted to learn to play Christian music on the violin. Mother found a young music teacher who had just graduated from Montemorelos University and asked him to teach Miguel to play the violin.

But then she thought, “Why should only Miguel learn to play a musical instrument? All the children at church can learn to play — and so can their friends who don’t know anything about Jesus!”

Mother organized music classes for Miguel and the other children at church. The group of children started small but grew as children and parents heard about it. After a year, Miguel started playing the violin for special music in church. Other children saw him play and wanted to play like him. Soon forty-five children were coming to the church every Thursday and Friday to learn to play the violin, guitar, recorder, bells, flute, and piano.

Miguel loves to play the violin. Now when he comes home from school, he eats lunch and then immediately takes his dirty dishes to the kitchen and wipes the table clean. Mother does not have to remind him to do his homework. He wants to do it so he can play the violin. When his homework is completed, he goes to the living room and plays the violin. He loves to play from the church hymnal, especially the song, “I’d Rather Have Jesus.” If any time remains before bedtime, he plays with his dinosaurs.

Mother is surprised about how Miguel has changed. He no longer watches

Story Tips

- Find Mexico on the map.
- Watch Miguel and listen to music from his music school on YouTube: bit.ly/Miguel-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

television or takes her cellphone to watch videos. He doesn’t want to play video games or spend time on the Internet. Why? He doesn’t have time. He has violin lessons on Thursdays and Fridays and needs lots of time to practice the violin.

Miguel doesn’t miss his old life.

“I don’t want to go through life wasting my time playing video games,” he said. “I want to serve the Lord.” 🌐

Miguel is a real missionary with his music. This quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a center to train other missionaries at Montemorelos University, not far from Miguel’s home, in Montemorelos, Mexico.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
MEXICO

Mexicans take their sports seriously. In pre-conquest times, losers of a ritual ball game were often put to death. There are still dangerous sports, like bullfighting and rodeo (invented in Mexico), where competitors risk their lives. The most popular sport in Mexico is soccer.





13th SABBATH | June 26

Adrian, 15, front left

Gift of Life

The Sabbath School teacher had a big announcement to make to the children's class in Montemorelos, Mexico.

"I know a boy who isn't well," Teacher said. "Let's go to his house this afternoon to pray with him and give him a gift."

Teacher thought that a few children might show up at the scheduled time in Los Sabinos Seventh-day Adventist Church. He arrived with a plastic bag filled with canned food and chili peppers to present as a gift on behalf of the class. To his surprise, all fifteen children from the class showed up, and each had a gift. Some had toilet paper and soap. Others had beans, rice, sugar, and salt.

The children rode in two cars to a small house. The house consisted of only one room with two beds. The children found 15-year-old Adrian sitting on one bed. His crutches were resting against a wall. Adrian's father and 7-year-old brother slept on the other bed. The

room also had a two-burner stove and a small refrigerator.

All fifteen children crowded into the room and stood around Adrian's bed. Twelve-year-old Eli opened his Bible and read Psalm 23. "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want," Eli read.

Adrian wasn't interested in listening to the Bible. He had multiple sclerosis and, although he was only fifteen, had suffered several heart attacks. He was worried about his health.

But the words of the Psalm caught his attention. "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me," Eli read.

A desire was kindled in Adrian's heart to know more about God.

The children sang a song about God, and Teacher prayed for Adrian.

"Thank you, God, that we were able to meet Adrian," he said. "Please bless Adrian, his family, and his life."

Teacher offered to take Adrian to church every Sabbath.

“That’s a great idea!” the boy exclaimed. “I would really like that.”

The children piled into the two cars and headed back to church. They rode in silence. Each thought about how they had nice houses and good health. They felt ashamed for complaining to their parents about small things like not having a hairband or a toy car.

The next Sabbath, Teacher picked up Adrian and brought him to church. The boy immediately felt at home. People warmly welcomed him, and he liked hearing the Bible stories. As the weeks passed, he learned more about God and especially liked the story of Job, who suffered much but never stopped believing in God. He wanted to be like Job.

Adrian attended church for three months. Sometimes the children’s Sabbath School class came to visit him at home.

One day, Adrian’s father called Teacher. “I have big news,” Father said. “But it is not my place to tell you what it is. One minute.”

He passed his cellphone to Adrian.

“I’ve been thinking about something,” Adrian said. “I want to be baptized. What do you think?”

“This is the best news ever!” Teacher exclaimed. “This is the best choice you could ever make!”

He promised to make arrangements for the baptism.

Adrian handed the phone back to his father. “My son has more courage than me,” Father said, his voice breaking. “I have never been able to make the decision to be baptized.”

The children in the Sabbath School

Story Tips

- Find Mexico on the map.
- Know Teacher’s name is Gabriel, and his two sons, Junior and Diego, are among the boys who befriended Adrian. See Teacher and the others in the photo.
- Watch Adrian on YouTube: bit.ly/Adrian-IAD.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the Inter-American Division at: bit.ly/IAD-Facts.

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 June 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 13 projects in the Inter-American 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. Alternatively, the children can act out the story, playing the roles of Adrian, Teacher, and the Sabbath School class.
- Before or after the story, use a map to show the thirteen countries in the Inter-American Division that will receive the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Describe how each of the thirteen Adventist universities and colleges in those countries will receive missionary training centers with assistance from the offering.

class were thrilled when they heard that Adrian wanted to give his heart to Jesus.

After taking Bible studies, Adrian was baptized as the excited children from the Sabbath School class watched. The boys made a video of the baptism to give as a gift to Adrian.

Adrian is the first and only Adventist in his family, and he is praying that Father, who polishes shoes for a living, will be baptized one day.

“I made the right decision in being baptized because I feel like I am only really living when I am with God,” Adrian said. 🌍

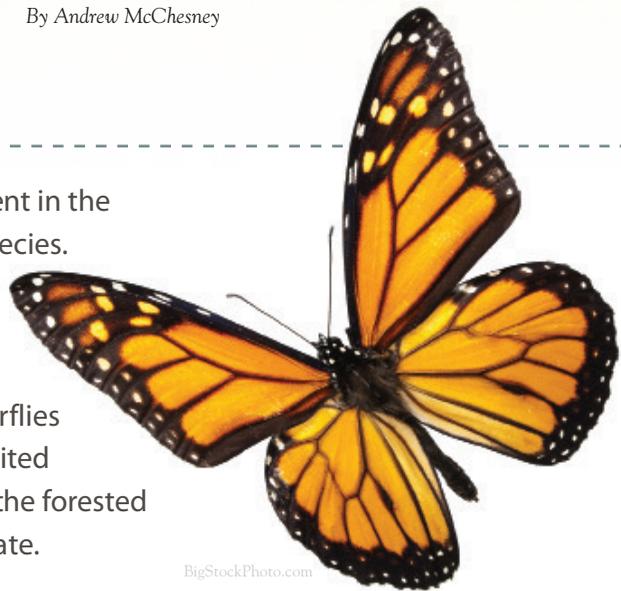
The children in the Sabbath School class are real missionaries for sharing Jesus with Adrian, and now Adrian is a real missionary for praying for his father. This quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a missionary training center at Montemorelos University, not far from Adrian’s home, in Mexico. Thank you for your generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help students train to become missionaries at Montemorelos University and twelve other universities and colleges in the Inter-American Division.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Mexico is a central component in the migratory patterns of many species. Innumerable ducks and geese fly every autumn into the mountains of Mexico. Millions of endangered monarch butterflies migrate each year from the United States to spend the winter on the forested peaks in eastern Michoacán state.



BigStockPhoto.com

Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering next quarter will help the North American Division to:

- Complete second phase of multifunctional gym, Hollbrook SDA Indian School, USA
- Construct staff housing, Palau SDA School, Palau
- Build church and community center, Igloolik, Canada
- Plant churches for refugees, Canada and USA

Sing a Song

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

(OH, QUE AMIGO NOS ES CRISTO)

(MEXICO)

SPANISH

¡Oh, qué amigo nos es Cristo!
El llevó nuestro dolor,
Y nos manda que llevemos,
Todo A Dios en oración.
¿Vive el hombre desprovisto
De paz, gozo y santo amor?
Esto es porque no llevamos,
Todo a Dios en oración.

¿Vives débil y cargado
De cuidados y temor?
A Jesús, refugio eterno,
Dile todo en oración.
¿Te desprecian tus amigos?

Cuéntaselo en oración.
En sus brazos de amor tierno,
Paz tendrá tu corazón.

Jesucristo es nuestro amigo,
De esto pruebas Él nos dió,
Al sufrir el cruel castigo
Que el culpable mereció.
Y su pueblo redimido
Hallará seguridad,
Fiando en este amigo eterno,
Y esperando en su bondad.

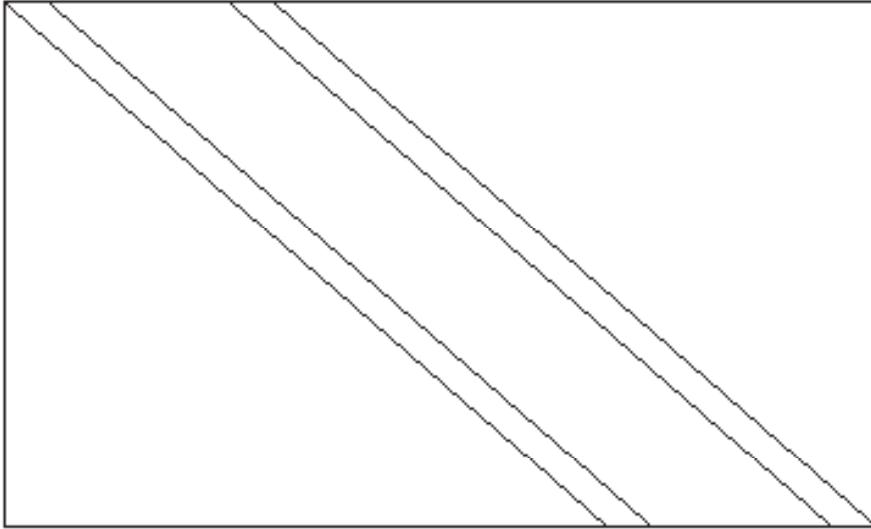
ENGLISH

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all
our sins and griefs to bear.
What a privilege to carry, ev'rything
to God in Prayer.
O what peace we often forfeit, O what
needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry,
ev'rything to God in Prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge, take
it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
take it to the Lord in prayer;
in his arms He'll take and shield thee,
thou wilt find a solace there.

Blessed Saviour, Thou hast promised,
Thou wilt all our burdens bear
May we ever, Lord, be bringing, all to
Thee in earnest prayer.
Soon in glory bright unclouded, there
will be no need for prayer
Rapture, praise and endless worship,
will be our sweet portion there.

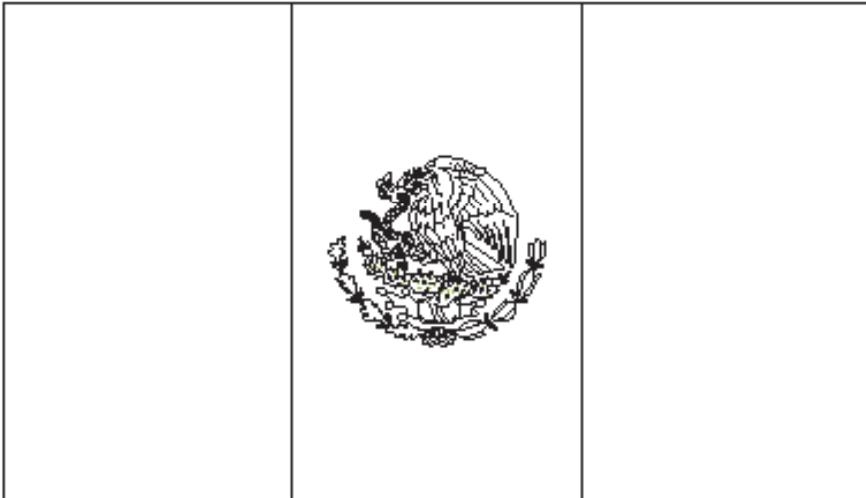
Color The Flag



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

DIRECTIONS:

The diagonal stripe in the middle is colored black and the thin stripes on either side are left white. The rest of the flag is colored red.

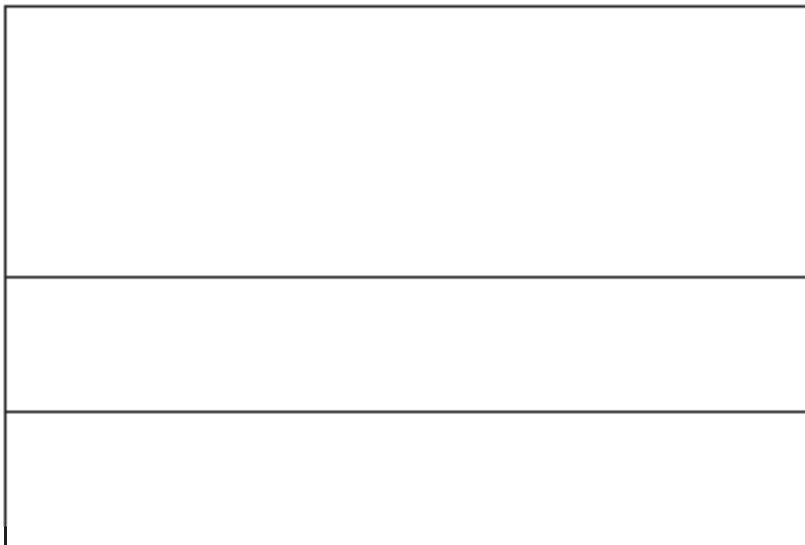


MEXICO

DIRECTIONS:

The left side is dark green and the right side is red. The middle is left white. The eagle is brown with a yellow beak and feet. The snake in its mouth is green. The garland and cactus under the eagle are green.

Color The Flag



COLOMBIA

DIRECTIONS:

The top half of the flag is colored yellow. The middle stripe is dark blue and the bottom is red.

Let's Cook!

COLOMBIAN HOT CHOCOLATE WITH CHEESE (CHOCOLATE CALIENTE CON QUESO)

(COLOMBIA)

INGREDIENTS

2 c (475ml) whole milk
1-3 tsp (5-15ml) sugar
2 oz (55g) milk or semi-sweet chocolate, chopped

Pinch of ground cinnamon
2 oz (55g) white cheese like mozzarella, haloumi, or queso fresco, chopped into small cubes

INSTRUCTIONS

Gently heat the milk, sugar, chocolate, and cinnamon in a saucepan. When the chocolate has melted, whisk until smooth. Pour into two mugs and divide the cheese between the mugs. Wait a minute for the cheese to start melting and then eat with a spoon.

Let's Play a Game!

MORAL

(TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO)

PLAYERS

Up to six

INSTRUCTIONS

Draw eight boxes, about a yard (1m) square so you have two rows of four boxes. At the short end, number the bottom left box (1), the one above it (2), the one above that (3) and the top left (4), then move over to the top right box and number it (5), the one below it (6), the below that (7) and the bottom right box (8). The boxes should look like this:

4	5
3	6
2	7
1	8

The first player stands in front of box 1 and rolls the ball into it. Then, the player picks up the ball and bounces it once in box 1. The player then places his or her left foot into box 1 and

EQUIPMENT

a tennis ball and something to draw the lines, like chalk

bounces the ball in box 2. Then the player puts his or her right foot into box 2 and bounces the ball once in box 3 and puts his or her left foot in box 4. This continues till the player reaches and bounces the ball in box 8.

In round two, the player rolls the ball into box 2, steps into box 1, picks up the ball in box 2 and bounces it twice. The player continues stepping and bouncing until reaching box 8.

The player keeps doing this, rolling the ball into the next furthest box, stepping in the boxes to reach the ball, and then bouncing the ball to match the number in the box. At the end, the player will bounce the ball 8 times in box 8. Then, the player turns around and bounces the ball 8 times in each box as he or she steps back to the beginning.

If the player steps on a line or bounces the ball on a line or fails to bounce the ball the correct number of times, it is the turn of the next player.

To make it more challenging for older children, each player can clap every time he or she bounces the ball.

Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free Mission Spotlight video, featuring video reports from around the Inter-American 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

Colombia: government website	bit.ly/ColGovt
CIA World Factbook	bit.ly/CIAWFBCol
Colombia Travel	bit.ly/ColTrav
Mexico: government website	bit.ly/MexGovt
Lonely Planet	bit.ly/LonPlanMex
Visit Mexico	bit.ly/Visit_Mex
Trinidad and Tobago: gov website	bit.ly/TandTGovt
US News & World Report	bit.ly/USNWRIT
Trip Savvy	bit.ly/TripSavTT
Seventh-day Adventist Inter-American Division	bit.ly/SDA_IAD
North Colombian Union Conference	bit.ly/SDA_NCUC
South Colombian Union Conference	bit.ly/SDA_SCUC
Central Mexican Union Mission	bit.ly/SDA_CMUM
Chiapas Mexican Union Conference	bit.ly/SDA_CMUC
Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Conference	bit.ly/SDA_IOMUC
North Mexican Union Conference	bit.ly/SDA_NMUC
Southeast Mexican Union Mission	bit.ly/SDA_SMUM
Caribbean Union Conference	bit.ly/SDA_CUC
South Caribbean Conference	bit.ly/SDA_SCC
Tobago Mission	bit.ly/36GkO6j

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 Inter-American 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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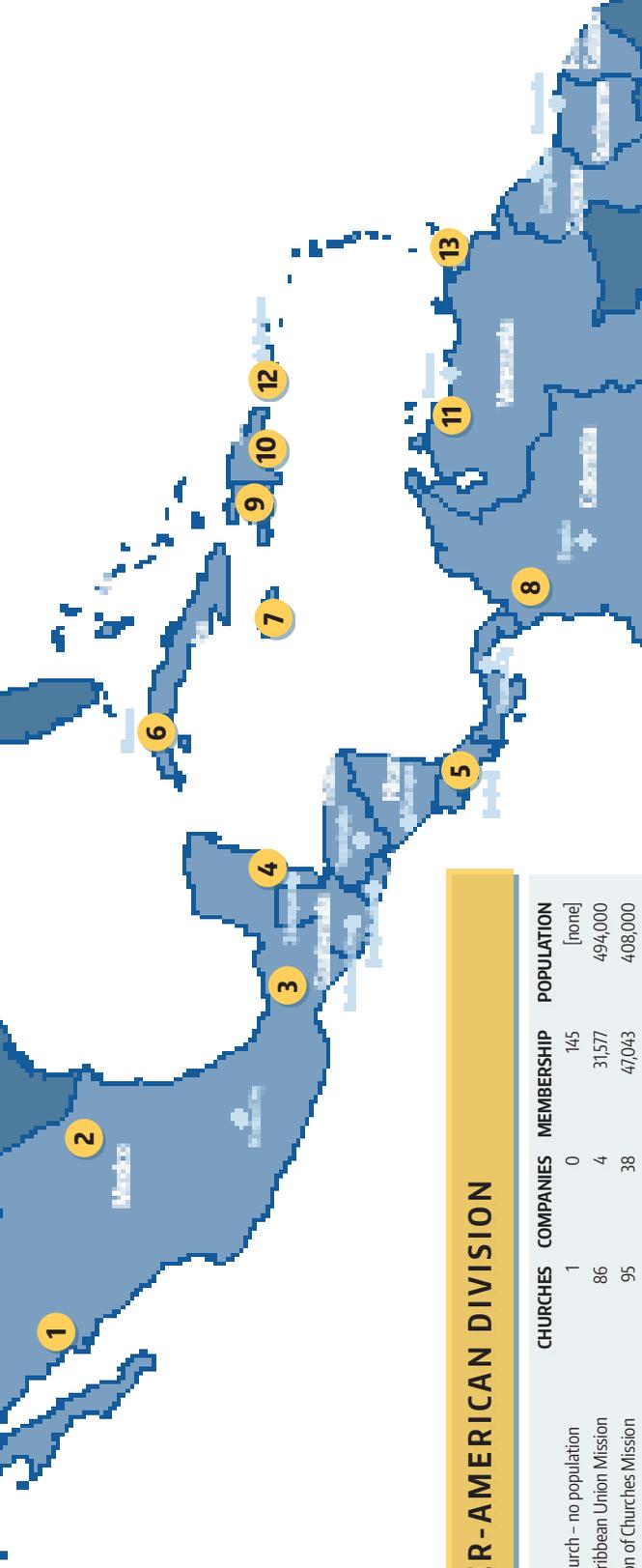
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INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

UNION	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Division Church - no population	1	0	145	[none]
Atlantic Caribbean Union Mission	86	4	31,577	494,000
Belize Union of Churches Mission	95	38	47,043	408,000
Caribbean Union Conference	635	114	248,979	3,864,000
Central Mexican Union Mission	250	151	87,829	45,609,047
Chiapas Mexican Union Conference	1,340	1,838	252,071	6,609,679
Cuban Union Conference	343	146	36,973	11,212,000
Dominican Union Conference	929	444	353,763	10,400,000
Dutch Caribbean Union Mission	37	6	9,798	285,000
East Venezuela Union Mission	593	270	183,451	13,881,589
El Salvador Union Mission	796	204	195,792	6,454,000
French Antilles-Guiana Union Conference	143	24	29,438	1,093,000
Guatemala Union Mission	1,017	273	236,216	17,581,000
Haitian Union Mission	612	512	480,496	11,263,000
Honduras Union Mission	471	227	102,008	9,746,000
Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Conference	1,760	1,392	204,506	26,188,376
Jamaica Union Conference	696	35	319,066	2,811,000
North Colombian Union Conference	1,002	573	127,840	21,751,493
North Mexican Union Conference	688	411	156,197	40,995,962
Panama Union Mission	371	232	91,374	4,219,000
Puerto Rican Union Conference	312	8	33,303	3,059,000
South Central American Union Mission	528	325	116,481	11,606,000
South Colombian Union Conference	756	316	158,291	28,622,507
Southeast Mexican Union Mission	588	588	71,717	7173,935
West Venezuela Union Mission	659	262	173,834	14,634,441
DIVISION TOTALS	14,708	8,393	3,754,188	299,962,000

PROJECTS

Open 13 Better Living centers of influence, one at each of the following:

- 1 Navajoa University (North Mexican Union), Mexico
- 2 Montemorelos University (North Mexican Union), Mexico
- 3 Linda Vista University (Southeast Mexican Union), Mexico
- 4 Belize Adventist Junior College (Belize Union), Belize
- 5 Central America Adventist University (South Central American Union), Costa Rica
- 6 Cuba Adventist Theological Seminary (Cuban Union), Cuba
- 7 Northern Caribbean University (Jamaica Union), Jamaica
- 8 Colombia Adventist University (North Colombian Union), Colombia
- 9 Haitian Adventist University Academy (Haitian Union), Haiti
- 10 Dominican Adventist University (Dominican Union), Dominican Republic
- 11 Adventist University Institute of Venezuela (West Venezuela Union), Venezuela
- 12 Antillean Adventist University (Puerto Rican Union), Puerto Rico
- 13 University of the Southern Caribbean (Caribbean Union), Trinidad