

Reaching the next generation one child at a time

IMPACT

Spring
2019

PRAY
FOR LABORERS

Róma 10,13

„Aki segítségül
hívja
az Úr nevét,
üdvözülni.”

Róma 10,13



A publication of Child Evangelism Fellowship®

EVERY CHILD
EVERY NATION
EVERY DAY



FROM THE PRESIDENT

God's Word truly is living and active. That's why you can read the same portion of Scripture at different times and different places and God will show you something new. One day last fall as I read familiar passages in the Gospel of Luke, I was struck afresh with the words of Luke 10:2. I studied further and over several weeks spoke to ten Bible scholars and pastors to check my understanding of the verse.

JESUS SAID, "THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL, BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW. THEREFORE PRAY EARNESTLY TO THE LORD OF THE HARVEST TO SEND OUT LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST."

– LUKE 10:2

As we pray to God we often focus on our requests to Him. But as I read and reread Luke 10:2, I noticed God Himself gives us a request for prayer. Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." God tells us to ask Him to send more laborers to the fields that are ready to harvest.

- The need is great! Millions have never heard the Gospel and presently there are not enough laborers to tell them.

- Many lives desperately need to be changed. They are apart from God on a path to destruction. But God changes lives for the good and for eternity.
- Laborers serve the lost, forgotten, and destitute and bring joy, hope, and love.
- With effective training laborers become more bold and able

witnesses who can train others also.

- Laborers who love don't forget; they faithfully pray for those who are lost, confused, and hurting.
- The Lord's laborers make a difference. They are witnesses in how they live, what they say, and who they love.

In order to fulfill God's great commission to "Go to all the world..." laborers must go out. People need to hear the Gospel message to be saved. The harvest is ready. The window of opportunity is narrow. The time is now. We must reach them while they are still children.

God tells us to pray earnestly, to beseech Him, to beg, to implore. That's strong language. It points to the condition of our hearts—the need for a burden for the lost.

I believe in the absoluteness of Luke 10:2. Let's do what God says! It will work. Will you earnestly pray with me for God to send more laborers into His harvest?

Yours for all the children,

Reese R. Kauffman



Please Pray

- 1 God will give you a greater burden for lost children.
- 2 For a heart to beseech the Lord of the harvest for more laborers to bring in His harvest.
- 3 Boys and girls in North Korea will hear the Good News of Jesus and be able to attend *Good News Club*®.



PLEASE PRAY FOR
NORTH KOREA

ORDER YOUR "PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN IN NORTH KOREA" WRISTBANDS FROM CEFPRESS.COM

LABORERS

THE NEED IS GREAT!

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Debra Hane (Editor)
SDPcreative (Design)

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children need to

BY LORI MCGRAW, Local Coordinator, Florida

HEAR

AND HE (JESUS) SAID TO THEM, "THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL, BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW. THEREFORE PRAY EARNESTLY TO THE LORD OF THE HARVEST TO SEND OUT LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST."

— LUKE 10:2

The need for *Good News Club* has become increasingly apparent. Everywhere I turn, I come across children in our community who know very little about the Bible and the Lord.

A few months ago a new group of elementary-aged girls came to our church. As I taught a lesson on Creation, it didn't take long to realize they didn't know anything about it. Because of this, I shared the plan of salvation with them and five of the girls accepted Christ as their Savior! I was glad they made this decision, but it also grieved my heart—these children were in fourth and fifth grade and they had obviously never heard the Gospel before.

On another occasion, I met a fifth-grade girl named Bella, who asked me with tears in her eyes what she should do. The kids at her school were bullying Bella because she was open about her faith. Bella told me the same thing was happening to her little sister, who was in third grade.

In trying to encourage and comfort Bella, I asked her what school she went to—it was one that had a *Good News Club*!

I was thrilled to tell her there were a group of believers having a Christian club for kids at her school and that they would love for her and her sister to join them. I knew she would get the love and support she needed.

We have to bring the light of Christ into our schools again. Children need to hear the Good News and children like Bella, who already believe, need us there as well. We need to support them as they stand in faith in a world that is increasingly opposed to Christianity.

Seventeen of the schools in our county had Good News Clubs last year. Over 475 children attended these clubs and 57 children received the Lord Jesus as Savior. I am thankful for volunteers who share the Gospel with children and bring the love of God into their schools.





7.7 Billion

People Live on Earth

Over 2 billion
(26%) 
ARE UNDER AGE 15

Children are the most open to the Gospel—

OVER 80% 
of professions occur before the 15th birthday

CEF®, the largest children's ministry in the world, **shares the Gospel with over 22 million children annually** (a little over 1% of the world's children).

✓ OUR GOAL IS TO REACH **100 MILLION CHILDREN** PER YEAR.



When more laborers join the ministry, more children will hear. **On average, a full-time CEF worker's ministry reaches 8,000 children annually** as he brings in additional workers and volunteers.

- 1 more laborer—**8,000 more children**
- 10 more laborers—**80,000 more children**
- 100 more laborers—**800,000 more children**
- 1000 more laborers—**8,000,000 more children**
- 10,000 more laborers—**80,000,000 more children**



PLEASE PRAY FOR MORE

LABORERS!



Trained and equipped nationals are the ideal individuals to minister to children in their countries. They already speak the language, know the culture, and can work where people of other nations are not welcomed.

Since 1972 the *Sponsor-A-National™* program has provided financial assistance to trained nationals who live in areas where it is difficult to raise support. Presently over 900 CEF national missionaries receive assistance through the SPAN™ program each month. This enables them to spend more time sharing the Good News about Jesus with the children.



This photo of Chathuri and Christine is taken where Chathuri's house was located before the tsunami.

A Day to Remember

AS TOLD TO BROTHER JEREMIAH, CEF regional director

One beautiful sunny day, ten-year-old Chathuri played with her younger sister and brother at the beach. Suddenly, a huge wave came rushing onto land. As her family fled, another wave raced toward shore. Everything was swept away. That day over 30,000 people were killed by a tsunami in Sri Lanka.

Chathuri's family survived, though separated for a time. Having lost everything, they lived in a tsunami refugee camp. One day Chathuri noticed many of the camp children gathered together. She thought, *Maybe people have brought us toys or gifts.* She quickly brushed past the other children to get to the center of the crowd. But the people *weren't* handing out toys for the children—they were singing songs and playing games together. It was a *Good News Club*.

As the teacher, Christine, finished leading the last song, she placed pictures on a big board and told the children about God. Chathuri listened intently as Christine shared the Gospel. For a whole week, Chathuri eagerly waited for Christine to come back to the camp to teach *Good News Club* again. She invited some of her new friends to attend too. Chathuri realized God's love for her and knew she could trust Him with her problems. Chathuri

began to pray regularly, "My dad is an alcoholic. Jesus, please make him a good father."

Not long after that Chathuri's father suddenly stopped drinking. He didn't hit her mother anymore. Chathuri learned to trust God.

Chathuri said, "The tsunami took away everything that was important to me—my bag, my books, my toys, and the house for the seven people in my family. However, it also brought me something more special. I was given an opportunity to hear about my Jesus at *Good News Club*. It was the most wonderful news I had ever heard and I received Jesus Christ as my Savior. My sins were forgiven and Jesus gave me a new life. My dad quit drinking and stopped hitting my mother. If it weren't for the tsunami, I would still be living in the darkness of sin, living a miserable life. But now, I know the most important truth in the world. I have received Jesus who is the most precious and the worthiest One in the whole world. I am now so happy because of my Jesus. I know it is true, "The Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world" (1 John 4:14).

"If it weren't for the tsunami, I would still be living in the darkness of sin, living a miserable life."



NO LONGER ALONE

BY DANIEL FÉR, CEF of Czech Republic

There were 30 children at the CEF camp, 9 from an orphanage. One morning after devotions, ten-year-old Nikolka stayed behind and said, “I want to see the Lord God or touch Him.”

I explained to her that God is Spirit. He is everywhere but cannot be seen. “He is everywhere? And is He with me too?” asked Nikolka. After further conversation, Nikolka trusted in Christ as her Savior.

Because of past neglect, Nikolka has delayed development and can only speak with great difficulty. Children often laugh at her. Following the example of the Lord’s Prayer, I asked if she was willing to forgive others. After a while of hesitation, she decided to forgive and I helped her as she prayed.

As soon as she said “amen,” she turned to me with her eyes big, “Wow, that’s good! That’s so good!” At the campfire that evening, Nikolka was sad. She didn’t want to go home because Jesus was here. I reminded her that now Jesus lives in her and will be with her everywhere, including the orphanage. She immediately replied, “Now I get it! I was crying in

the afternoon, and God gave me an idea not to cry. It was because He is with me everywhere.”

Nikolka was not the only child from the orphanage to come to Christ. That same day, Nikolka’s older sister Kaja was sitting at the table with some leaders discussing faith in God. “I don’t believe in God!” she claimed. At that moment her voice broke down, “But I want to believe!” As she received Jesus as Savior, she also felt Him healing her emotional wounds, including those brought about by sexual abuse. Her constant sour facial expression changed to reflect God’s peace and her anger toward her hyperactive little brother changed to kindness.

We leaders knew of four orphanage children saved that week at camp, but they didn’t know about each other. They all were afraid it would be impossible to be believers in an orphanage. Each said, “They will mock me to death!”

That evening, we asked those who had received Jesus during camp to stand up. Among others, Nikolka, Kaja, Samuel, Elizabeth, as well as Martin and Kamil stood up. They looked around and shouted together, “You too!” The joy was great because now six born-again children would live in the same section of the orphanage.



GOD BREAKS CHAINS AND BAD TRADITIONS



Fatima comes from a special Roma family living in Kosovo. According to tradition, the first-born child was determined to become the magician for the Roma society in the area. Fatima was the firstborn. One day she was to follow her father and become the magician. But God had other plans for her.

At first Fatima's life was marked by sad traditions and strokes of fate. Married at age 14 and still new at motherhood, her husband left her because he no longer liked her. Her father arranged for her to be married again. She had a child with him before he was killed in the Kosovo War.

After the war, Christians came to the country and invited the people to meetings where the Gospel was shared. Fatima attended and gradually came to faith. Miraculously her father agreed she should break the family tradition and be baptized.

Though life continued to be difficult for Fatima, her faith remained strong. At age 20 Fatima learned to read and began to serve the Lord. In 2009 she attended a *Teaching Children Effectively*™ training course in her city and began to teach children in her church. Then she felt God's call to also evangelize children outside the church. The Roma children

are especially dear to her heart. Fatima goes where they are and teaches them right on the street. Often into late autumn or even winter, the children's meetings take place outside because there are no heated rooms available for them. For years Fatima has been a great support for Metush and Nora, full-time *CEF* missionaries in Kosovo, and accompanies them on ministry outreaches.



A woman dedicated to sorcery has become a faithful servant of the Most High God! Today it is Fatima's greatest fulfillment when Roma children begin a life with the Lord Jesus and follow Him.



a JAMAICAN Adventure

BY EMILY MCGRAW

As 2018 began I was unsure as to what I wanted to do with my summer ministry days. I had been away from home for several months serving as an intern with the Creative Services department at *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® International Headquarters in Missouri. Many friends encouraged me to come back home for *Christian*



Youth In Action® in Florida, but I felt the Lord asking me to say no. Friends and mentors in Missouri encouraged me to trust God and His plan; He knew what was best for me. A few weeks after I told my *CYIA*™ back home that I

wasn't coming, I heard about an opportunity to join a team from Richmond, Virginia to help with Jamaica's first ever *Christian Youth In Action*. I was very excited.

After raising support and lots of prayer, I was on my way to Jamaica. The students at *CYIA* were wonderful—they were friendly and fun. It was awesome to work with them and watch them grow as teachers.

My Jamaican adventure taught me over and over again that God is faithful. After I said no to my *CYIA* back home, God provided a different place for me to serve. He was with me in Jamaica as I taught four sessions and helped with demonstration 5-Day Clubs. He helped me to be prepared and calm as I taught and to love the students. I grew in my trust of God even when I was afraid. I will always look back on my trip to Jamaica with a grateful heart.



CEF OF JAMAICA WAS ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS AGO.

The 43 Jamaican teens and adults who attended *Christian Youth In Action* had no previous training or preparation. They left fully equipped to share the Gospel with children in their neighborhoods. God worked through the six teams that went out the second week of training to reach 294 children with 74 professions of faith.

“**Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God...**”

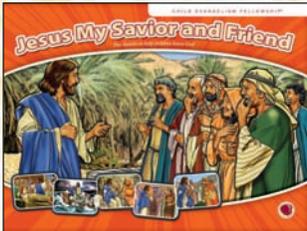
— DEUTERONOMY 7:9



Host a 5-Day Club[®]

for boys and girls in your church or neighborhood.

This summer many will be trained through *Christian Youth In Action* to teach 5-Day Clubs. Boys and girls will play fun games, sing, and hear how Jesus wants to be their Savior and friend.



Visit cefpres.com to learn more about Christian evangelistic and growth materials for children.

Learn how you can get involved at—
cefonline.com/get-involved/

What I learned as a Summer Missionary

BY DREW (age 12)

I decided to become a summer missionary because three years ago my friend and I were walking to *Good News Club* after school and he told me the only reason he was going was for the snacks. At that time, I agreed with him and said, "Oh yeah, me too." If I had known then what I know now, after becoming a summer missionary, I would have told him more about Jesus being the reason. Jesus is the Good News! Jesus saved us from our sins, so we could live forever.

If you are unsure of how to tell others about Jesus like I was, you should go to *Christian Youth In Action* and become a summer missionary. The training I received taught me how to be comfortable telling other people about Jesus. I love that the *5-Day Club* teaches kids about the love of Jesus and through *CEF* I've learned how to share that Good News with my friends and everyone I meet.



children's ministries
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Children's Ministries Institute[®] offers one of the most innovative, practical training programs available for leaders in children's ministry. This 12-week diploma program can be taken in one- or two-week modules. Students receive training in direct ministry to children, teacher training and ministry organization, and leadership. Academic credit may be available through various colleges and CEUs can be granted through ASCI.

Under the direction of the education department, Institutes are held on every continent except Antarctica! Regional education directors oversee Institutes in their region and help ensure that international standards are maintained for the quality and integrity of our training programs. *CMI[®]* also offers classes online through the *CMI Online* program.

Young people who have an interest in children's ministry and have served two summers in *CYIA* may qualify for a discount to attend *CMI*.

Find out more about *CMI* at cefcmi.com or about *CMI Online* at online.cefcmi.com.

FREED FROM

FEAR

BY ESTHER BEASLEY

CRIME SCENE

I AM NOT AFRAID ANYMORE
BECAUSE I KNOW HE IS WITH ME.



**“I THINK OF YOU
ALL THE TIME.
YOU HELPED ME
SO MUCH IN MY
RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD. I WOULD
LOVE TO SEE YOU
AND TALK ABOUT
THAT NOW.”**

– DEJUNAE

Dejunae started coming to my *Good News Club* when she was seven years old. I was only 15 at the time but remember her so clearly. She always listened and had lots of questions about God. Every week she asked things like: “Why do I need to believe in God?” “I am scared all the time that a man with a gun is gonna come.”

Week after week my sister and I did our best to answer her questions. We faithfully prayed for Dejunae and could see God working. The following year she trusted Jesus as Savior.

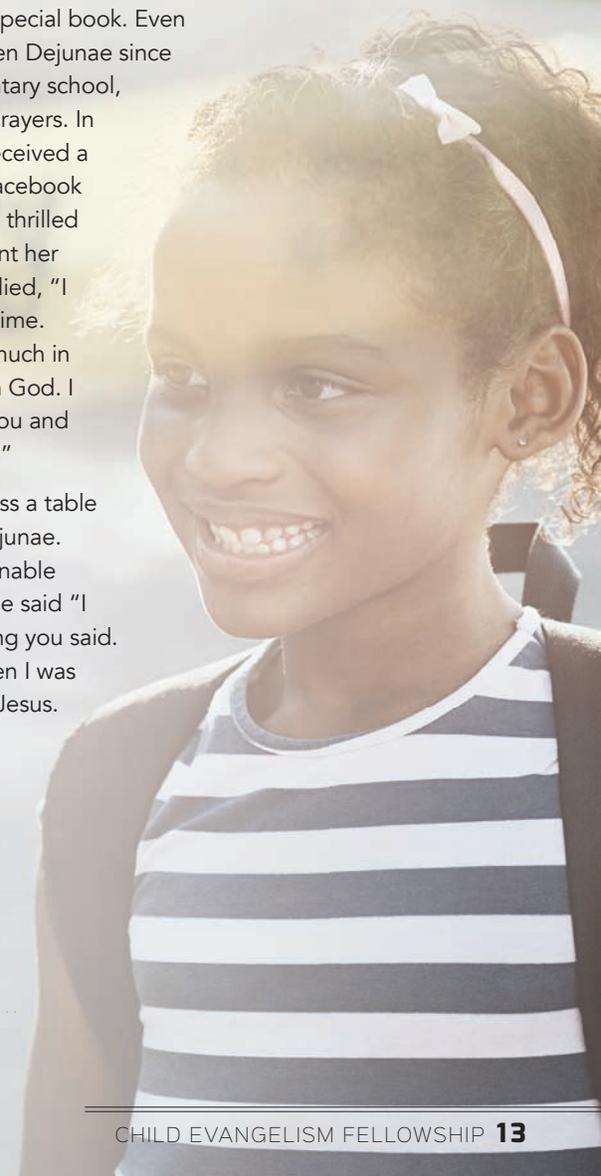
Dejunae struggled with assurance of salvation. “How do I know I believe?” she continually asked. Living in the heart of Omaha’s inner city made her scared, especially at night. We assured Dejunae that God was with her, but when the brother of another *Good News Club* member was murdered (the shots were heard while in *GNC*[™]) her fear magnified.

Although she still had these questions, Dejunae loved Jesus. She began to read her Bible regularly. Since she attended *GNC* all throughout her elementary years, we had five years to disciple her. I will never forget the day we stood in the school library and she said, “Miss Esther, I now understand how I know I believe in Jesus. Because I can feel Him

in my heart. I am not afraid anymore because I know He is with me. I don’t cuss very much anymore because Jesus has changed the way I live.”

I continue to pray for the children who accepted Christ in my clubs. I have their names written in a special book. Even though I haven’t seen Dejunae since she finished elementary school, she remains in my prayers. In December 2017 I received a friend request on Facebook from Dejunae. I was thrilled and immediately sent her a message. She replied, “I think of you all the time. You helped me so much in my relationship with God. I would love to see you and talk about that now.”

In January I sat across a table with 16-year-old Dejunae. Although she was unable to attend church, she said “I remember everything you said. I still remember when I was eight and received Jesus. I still have the Bible you gave me.” We decided to meet monthly so I could help her with some of her questions about Jesus.



Nana's Gift

BY LAURIE ANDREWS, North Carolina

When I was five years old my Nana gave me a set of 12 booklets called **Daily Bread for Boys and Girls**. Each one had 30 devotionals—enough for every day of the year.

My Nana lived over 700 miles from us. My father was in the Marine Corps and during the first years of my life he was in Vietnam. He continued to serve his country for nearly 30 years.



My childhood was dysfunctional and sad. Though we attended church, life at home was a different matter entirely. I was taught that God the Father was vengeful and mean-spirited, ready to strike at the slightest infraction of rules. Along with rigid

legalism and demands for absolute obedience, I experienced abuse and neglect and lived my life

surrounded by addiction.

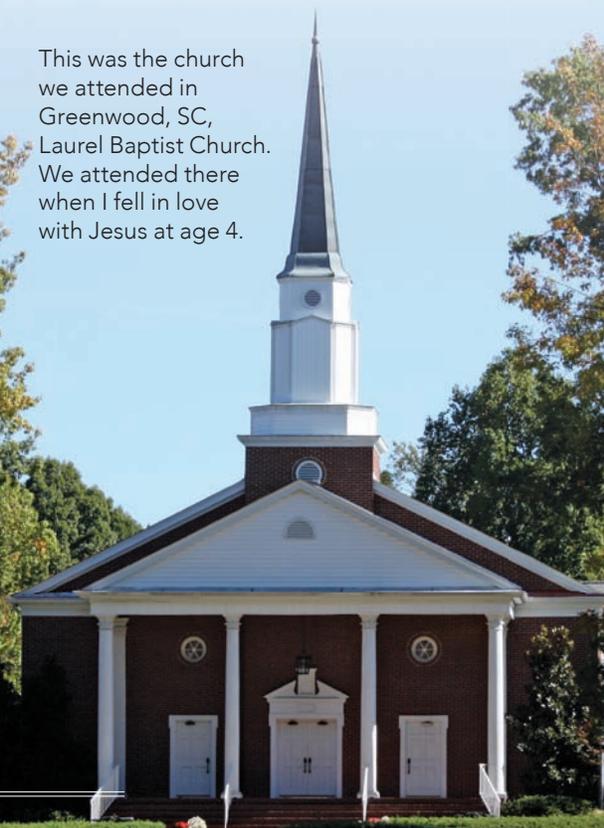
But my Nana...

She was wonderful, loving, and genuinely interested in me. I only got to see her once a year for two weeks. Her home was everything I wanted ours to be. It was a safe place, but it was so much more. I watched her study her Bible every morning, heard her words, and felt the depth of her love and compassion. She loved me, prayed for me, and invested herself in me.

When I was four, I fell in love with Jesus. During Sunday school I would stare at His picture hanging over my teacher's head. He looked loving and warm. I had always wanted a big brother—someone to protect me and shield me from the abuse. It was easy to fall in love with who Jesus declared Himself to be.



This was the church we attended in Greenwood, SC, Laurel Baptist Church. We attended there when I fell in love with Jesus at age 4.



“The Lord Jesus notices when one sparrow falls to the ground. Since he notices the common little sparrow, you need never fear that He will forget you.”

– DON'T BE SAD, GOD CARES, Book 7, Day 16



This photo of my grandparents and me with my future husband was taken after we went to a live filming of the 700 Club with Pat Robertson in 1984. I was 16. My Nana passed away just 1 year later.

I grew up reading these little booklets from my Nana, and other devotional books. The words sank deep into my heart and tethered Gods' heart to mine. When my family didn't attend church, I caught rides with anyone I could. Church was a safe place, it was better than being at home.

At 15, I would come home from school every day, do homework, and read my Bible. I highlighted special verses, listened to sermons, took notes, asked questions, and filled my broken heart with His Word. When I was 16, I met my husband at church. We married three years later and are happily heading into our 33rd year. We have two beautiful daughters who love the Lord too.

It has taken a lot of healing and grace for me to discover who God the Father really is. He is a good, good Father. He is nothing like what I was raised to believe Him to be.

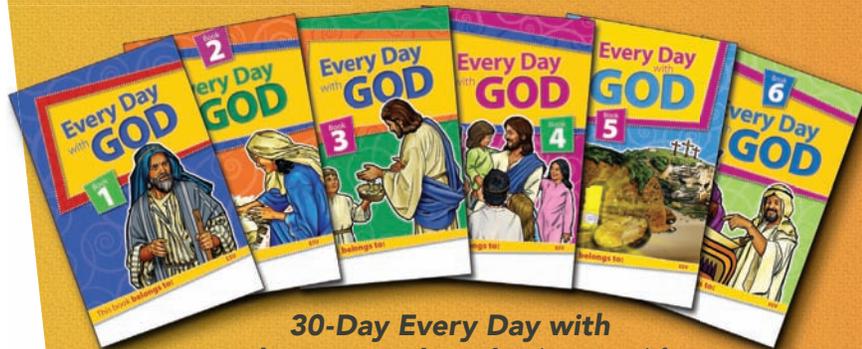
I still have those 12 little devotional booklets from CEF. They are kept in a special box with other treasures from my Nana. I believe with all of my heart that Nana's gift extended beyond the written page. I lost her when I was only 17. Her example and the words written in those little books still resound deep in my heart.


"I BELIEVE WITH ALL OF MY HEART THAT NANA'S GIFT EXTENDED BEYOND THE WRITTEN PAGE."

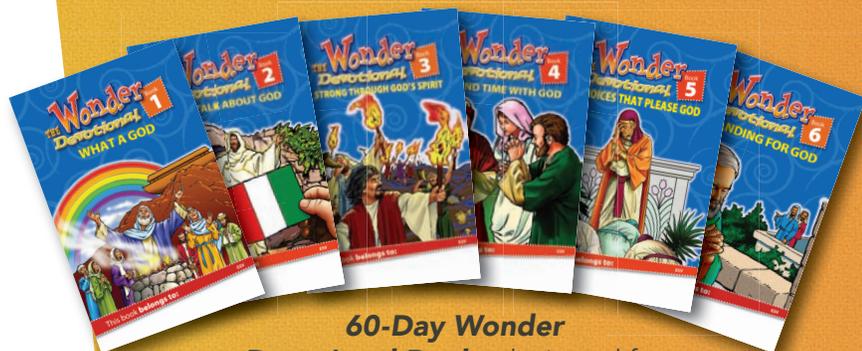
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 Encourage time in God's Word

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