

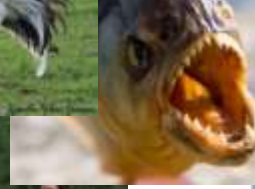
Introduction Brazil

The work began in Brazil over 50 years ago by two missionary families. One of the missionary families lived in Guyana, a few miles from the border of Brazil. They worked with indigenous people who would cross over to Brazil and back again. Eventually the Brazilian government prohibited this kind of across-the-border-work. The work could continue only if they set up a mission in Brazil. So the work began in the capital of the Amazon state, Manaus. Today there are 20 Wesleyan churches and church plants in the Amazon state. Work among river people is growing rapidly. There are also 5 churches in another coastal city, Fortaleza, where there are other works opening up.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Fact Page	16
Story	17
Memory Activity	18
Lesson	19
Game	21
Prayer	22
Activity	23

Amazon River facts
 4000 miles long
 120 miles wide at the mouth during wet season.
 66.3 million cubic ft per second of water flows from the Amazon
 Ocean going boats can sail 1000 miles upriver to the city of Manaus.
 Rubber originally comes from the Amazon basin
The world's largest snake the anaconda lives in the Amazon



Pel e

Favorite sport
 Soccer



Ronaldinho



Unique Animals

Arapaima—largest fish 400 pounds
 Piranha—deadliest fish
 Giant Anteater—7 feet
 Rhea—like an ostrich
 Capybara—largest rodent 200 pounds
 Pink Dolphin—only fresh water dolphin
 Can you find their pictures?

Lily Pad—6 ft across



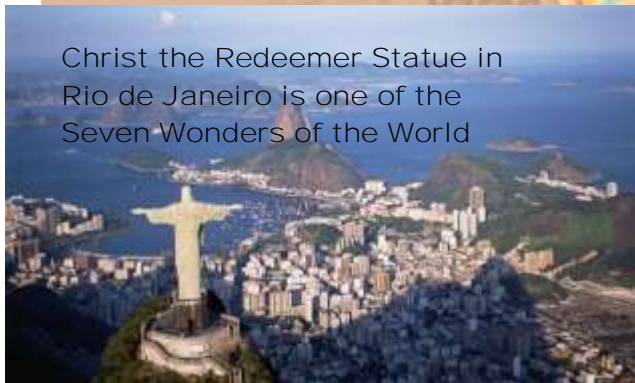
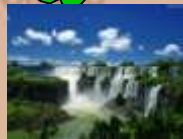
Brazil

Language:

Portuguese
 Many Indian Languages

Religion:

Catholicism
 Animism



Christ the Redeemer Statue in Rio de Janeiro is one of the Seven Wonders of the World



Children's Story

Ruth's Story

The doctor was not very hopeful. He was certain that Miriam's child would be born with terrible defects. Miriam was not a Christian but knew she needed God in a way she never had before. She knew some Christians and asked them to pray. She even began attending a house Bible study. Miriam grew in her faith but resisted asking Jesus into her heart. Her husband was very clear he wanted nothing to do with Jesus or the church. When her baby Ruth was born, perfect in every way, she not only gave her thanks to Jesus, but her heart as well. Clearly God had heard and answered her prayers.

Although Miriam's husband still did not believe in God, Miriam took her baby Ruth to the nearby Wesleyan church. Ruth grew up hearing about Jesus from her earliest days. One day when Ruth was six years old a man with a strange accent came to speak at Vacation Bible School. He was from Columbia. He told interesting stories and made the Bible so real that she knew she wanted to stay close to Jesus all her life. He showed the children that they needed to know Jesus for themselves, not just because their parents knew Jesus. Ruth loved Jesus but had never told him how sorry she was for all of her sin and had never made a clear decision to follow him. She did that morning.

Ruth's life suddenly grew difficult. Her father moved away. That made her realize how much she needed her Heavenly Father. Now her mother had to work all the time. But when she was afraid she knew that Jesus would be with her. Her friends at school also were her church friends so they helped her walk with Jesus. Her grandmother, who had prayed for her since before she was born, came to live with them. These influences helped her continue to make right decisions and walk with Jesus.

Today Ruth is married to a youth pastor and is the secretary at the Wesleyan Bible College where she serves Jesus with her sweet spirit and lovely smile. Even before she was born she was bringing people to Jesus and today that is still her greatest joy.

Memory Activity

Heb 3:13

**But encourage one another daily,
as long as it is called Today**

Memory echo game -

Leader uses different types of emotion when saying each phrase of the memory verse and the children echo back the phrase using the same emotion as the leader.

echo sounds: loud, soft, macho, happy, sad, victorious, etc.

Bible Lesson

Encouraging One another.

Introduction idea: Which of these would you like to hear if you were having a bad day?

Oh, that isn't so bad, you should hear what happened to ME!
You really are having a rough day, I'm sorry
Grow up! You are acting like a baby
Gee, I can see why you feel that way.
Don't let it get to you. It's really nothing.
Is there anything I can do to help?
You got to be kidding! That is bothering you?
Wow! You are really handling this well.
You are really weird. I wish I could help you but it seems hopeless.
Can I pray for you?

You can see that some of these statements help and some seem to make it worse.

Our words are very important. They can help others or they can discourage others. In the Bible it says we are to "Encourage one another daily." The Bible gives us this command because we all need the help of others to walk like Jesus walked.

(Illustration idea: Get some bricks, some blocks or Legos for this next part)

What does it truly mean to encourage? When I think of encouragement I think of something that helps to "build up." Let's say my words are like bricks. Every time I said something helpful my words build something good and strong (lay blocks on top of each other.) Every kind, encouraging word would be like laying another brick. In this way I build people up so that they are stronger and firmer. Then they can stand firm against whatever comes. But the opposite of that would be true too. Every thoughtless, harsh word would be taking a brick away, it would be tearing people down (take blocks down.) So to discourage someone would make them weaker and less firm and less able to resist things that are wrong.

Do you remember Ruth from our story. When she accepted Christ at a young age she was able to continue walking with Jesus through all the difficult years of school and through her years of not having a daddy at home. One of the things that really made a difference in her life was that she had good friends who were also Christians. They were friends who encouraged her. They helped her, with their words and actions, to continue her walk with Jesus; to be strong against anything the devil tried to tempt her to do.

You have an important role to play in the lives of your friends. You can be the key to help

Bible Lesson

them stay firm with Jesus and keep walking with Him. You also can have this effect on those who don't know Jesus yet, because your words and actions will be so different. Kind and firming words can make a huge impact on their lives.

Take a minute to think about the words you have already said this morning. If you got a dollar for every kind word you already spoke this morning would you be rich? Or would you be in debt? Do you say things that make someone else feel good, or do you have a habit of finding something negative to say? Your words matter.

Speaking encouraging words should be just like making your bed or brushing your teeth. You are to do this everyday, the Bible says. And also it says to do it now, "today". There is no time like the present to begin saying things that make your friends see themselves as Jesus sees them.

Why is this important? Sin is everywhere. Sin hardens our hearts to not follow Jesus. The devil's greatest desire is for us to tear people down and discourage them so that they can't resist him. But words that encourage, affirm, and strengthen give a powerful defense against his sneaky ways.

See how much "money" you can make today, by speaking encouraging words to others. They will be all the richer for it and really, so will you.

Kite Wars

To some, the thought of kite flying sounds very relaxing, but not if you are a Brazilian young boy or teen. It means an afternoon of adrenaline pumping adventure.

Each kite is specially prepared. The kite may carry a symbol of a favorite soccer team just to spice up the competition. Then the kite line is designed for maximum effect as finely crushed glass is glued to the tail of the kite.

Once the kite goes up, other kites begin to make their way closer and the war is on. The kite fliers try to get the advantage and with enough maneuvering they are able to use their glass-covered tail to cut the line of the other kite.

Once a kite has been cut it's free game. As the kite drifts earthward youth are scrambling, running, jumping over fences, trying to get to the disabled kite. When retrieved, and if undamaged, it will be tied up and sent up again for yet another skirmish.

You can have your own kite war. Find a simple pattern and have the children make kites. If you have the space see if you can fly the kites. Let the war begin.

Game Time

Time for Prayer

- Pray for the Bible club that the Japiim Wesleyan church has for children who live in a very poor area. There are so many kids at times that they have to turn them away. Pray for more workers! Pray for a bigger place! Pray for the needed resources like more chairs and snacks.
- Pray for a new church in João Paulo II. After only a few weeks there have been some dramatic conversions. One lady accepted Christ on Sunday and then on Saturday got really sick. She called out to her new Savior, Jesus. Immediately all the sickness went away. Pray for more people to come to know Jesus at this new church plant.
- Pray for Brazilian Wesleyans to be called to be missionaries especially to other Portuguese speaking countries like Mozambique and Angola.
- Pray for new works to be opened along the Amazon River. There are so many communities without a church.

Activity

Crossword

Brazil crossword—start at one end and follow the puzzle around to the end.



The biggest snake in the world is an anaconda and can be 30 feet long. The crossword is like an anaconda. Dark squares are the first letter of a word. All the answers can be found in the lesson.