

# Introduction Ghana

The Wesleyan Church of Ghana started in 1991 as a mission outreach from the Standard Church of Canada. Joe and Jemima Ocran had migrated from Ghana to Canada where they were converted and trained by the Standard Church. Eventually they were sent back to Ghana as missionaries.

Rev. Ocran established a non-profit organization in Canada, Project Reach Out (PRO), and then registered it in Ghana as well. In this way the work was given focus and resources as a development agency from the beginning. Rev. Ocran is leader of both the church and PRO. He and his wife have established clinics, a forestry project and several preschools. They planted churches by employing pastors trained in other bible schools.

Rev. Ocran developed a constitution for the church in Ghana and registered the denomination with the Ghanaian government. In 2003 the Standard Church joined the Wesleyans in North America and the work in Ghana became part of GP's work in Africa.

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Through a partnership with Central Wesleyan Church in Holland, MI, significant outreach using the Jesus Film in the northern part of the country among the Islamic Wa people has been launched. The church is currently exploring the possibility of establishing work across the border in the north into Burkina Faso.



Mona monkey  
Roan Antelope  
Diana Monkey  
Colobus Monkey



Tro-Tro

Money  
19,525 cedi  
= \$1 US



Kofi Annan  
Gen. Sec of  
UN 1997-  
2001



Cola Nut  
Neem fruit



Instruments  
Saperewa  
Nnawuta  
Prepensua  
Torowa  
Donno

Craft  
Adinkra—stamped  
traditional cloth.  
Each symbol has  
special meaning.  
Bolgatanga askets  
Kinte Cloth—each  
pattern has a name  
and a story. There  
are over 300 pat-  
terns. Each color has  
a specific meaning.  
Pink—gentleness  
Blue—peace  
Green—health  
Gold—wealth  
White—purity  
Maroon—protection



Second largest  
producer of cocoa



# GHANA



Wakye,  
Rice and beans, plantain with ginger, rice with tomato, kabob

Language—English, French



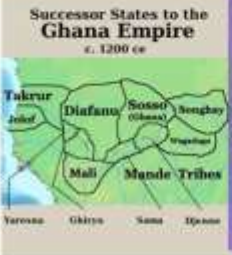
Lake Volta—  
the largest man  
made lake (800  
sq km) is formed  
by the Akosombo  
Dam

Many colorful festivals  
Aboakyir—deer hunting, Bakatue—fish harvest,  
Fetu Afahye—first contact with white man,  
Homowo—harvest, Damba—birth of Mohamed,  
Aday—purification of ancestral stools



Religion  
Christian, Muslim,  
Indigenous beliefs

Unique  
Sculptured  
coffins  
Hair braiding



Ghana means  
Warrior King  
Ghana was once part  
of the Wagadou  
empire which lasted  
3 centuries  
Formerly was called  
Gold Coast



# Children's Story

Evans Tetteh

My name is Evans I am a boy of 12 years. I attend church at the Wesleyan Church in Sakumono, Tema, Ghana. My Sunday School teacher is Miss Victoria Anku. On Christmas day last year, I attended church with my parents and younger brother. Our pastor preached about why Jesus had to be born so he can take away the sin of all the people in the world. Pastor explained that in the Garden of Eden, our first parents disobeyed God by eating the fruit that God said they should not eat and that is how sin came into the world.

I was sad because sometimes I am disobedient too. I have not always been a good boy. When I went home that day I was thinking about what the pastor said so I decided to ask Jesus to forgive me all my sins and make me a good boy.

Since that day I have tried to attend church every Sunday and learn more about Jesus. Our Sunday School teacher always asks us to tell other boys and girls about Jesus Christ so I tell my friends about Jesus and our church. I know that God is helping me to be good at home and wherever I go. I like my church to pray for me so that I can bring all my friends to church. Thank you for your prayers.

# Memory Activity

1 John 5:3 This is love for God: to obey his commands.

## Memory Verse Faceoff

Review the memory verse with the children. Have two children who think they know the verse stand back to back. Have one child say the first word of the verse. The other child says the next word, and they continue to recite the verse in this manner until someone makes a mistake. The one who made the mistake has to sit down and another child takes his/her place.

If someone forgets a word, the whole class counts out loud to three (one...two...three). If the person cannot remember the word after three counts, he/she must sit down.

Let each child have a chance to compete. Don't forget to include the reference in the recitation of the memory verse.

# Bible Lesson

A study of the life of Timothy.

Timothy was one of the Apostle Paul's most constant companions in the ministry. He traveled with Paul to many different places and worked with him to share the gospel message and disciple new believers. Here are some Scriptures to read and questions to answer that will tell you more about the man named Timothy.

1. Read 2 Timothy 1:5 together. Who were Timothy's mother and grandmother? Were they followers of Jesus? Do you think that Timothy first heard about Jesus from his mother and grandmother?
2. Read Acts 16:1-2 together. How did the Christians in Lystra and Iconium speak about Timothy? Do others speak this way about you?
3. Read 1 Timothy 1:2 together. What did Paul call Timothy? He was not his real son. Why do you think he called him that?
4. Read Philippians 2:19-24 together. Paul is in jail, but he is still in close contact with Timothy. Paul is writing a letter to the Philippians. What does he say about Timothy?
5. Read 1 Timothy 1:3-4 together. One time, Paul told Timothy to stay and work with the church in Ephesus. Why?
6. Read 2 Timothy 4:2 together. Paul senses that his life is coming to an end. What does he tell Timothy to continue to do?

Timothy began serving the Lord as a young man. His desire was to be obedient to God in everything that he did. For Timothy, that meant accompanying the Apostle Paul as he shared God's word with many people and in many different places. In the children's story, we read about Evans, who at the age of 12 is telling other boys and girls about Jesus. Maybe someday, he will be like Timothy and travel to other places to tell people about Him. But for now, he is being obedient to God right where he lives in Ghana.

# Da Ga

## Number of Players

12 to 20 children

## Origin

This game is from Ghana. Da Ga means "boa constrictor" which is rarely found in the United States.

## How to Play

1. Make two circles with tape or chalk, one 4 meters in diameter, the other circle (inside the larger circle) measuring 3 meters in diameter. This inner area is called the "Home of the Snake".
2. Choose one player to stand inside the "Home of the Snake." All the other players should surround this person in the area between the two circles.
3. The first player reaches out and tries to touch any of the players (he/she must stay inside the inner circle). If touched, that player joins the player on the inside. The two hold hands and then reach out (using only the free hand) to try and touch the other players.
4. The remaining players must stay in the area between the two circles. They can sing, dance, or skip to avoid the players in the circle. However, if they step outside of the outer circle then they must join the children in the inner circle. The children who have been caught must hold hands and form a snake.
5. The last player left starts the next game as the first player in the inner circle.

Game Time

# Time for Prayer

1. Pray for Project Out Reach as it helps establish preschools and other programs to help meet key needs of the people where the church is ministering.
2. Pray that the Jesus film will be effective in presenting the gospel to the Wa people in northern Ghana.
3. Pray for our brand new missionary effort in Burkina Faso where we have just planted a new church.
4. Pray for pastor Joe Ocran and his family as they work with the churches in Ghana.
5. Pray that others will be called to serve as pastors and leaders as the church grows.

# Activity

## Kente Cloth Activity

In Ghana people weave patterns into cloth to tell stories about their lives. Each color used has a different meaning. They use the colors and create patterns they then can use to tell a story about their lives.

Have each student take a piece of paper and divide it into areas. They can create 4 to 8 spaces to color. Each area can represent a place, an event or something important in their lives. They then create a pattern using the colors to help tell the story about that time in their lives. Below is a list of colors and their meanings in Ghana and some samples of patterns. There are also some examples in the fact page.

- black—maturing or an intensified spiritual experience
- blue—peacefulness, harmony and love
- green—vegetation, planting, harvesting, growth, spiritual renewal
- gold—royalty, wealth, high status, glory, spiritual purity
- grey—healing and cleansing rituals
- maroon—the color of mother earth; associated with healing
- pink—associated with the femininity; a mild, gentle aspect of red
- purple—associated with femininity aspects of life; usually worn by women
- red—political and spiritual moods; bloodshed; sacrificial rites and death.
- silver—serenity, purity, joy; associated with the moon
- white—purification, sanctification rites and festive occasions
- yellow—preciousness, royalty, wealth, fertility

Here are two sample patterns

