

Introduction Zimbabwe

About 150 years ago the Scottish missionary, David Livingston, was one of the first people to share the gospel in the country now known as Zimbabwe. Wesleyan churches began in the 1950's when missionaries from Canada started medical ministries around the town of Victoria Falls. The long war for independence made it difficult for these rural churches and put a stop to the medical work. After the war, missionaries were able to help strengthen the churches but the government has made it difficult for missionaries to stay in the country to help. There are only six Wesleyan churches in Zimbabwe today, but there is great potential for growth and church planting.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Fact Page	8
Story	9
Memory Activity	10
Lesson	11
Game	12
Prayer	13
Activity	14

The Cheneys are preparing to go to Zimbabwe to work alongside church leaders, encouraging and equipping them to serve and expand the kingdom of God. They will also assist with teaching at the Theological College of Zimbabwe. Their hope is that within the next five years more men and women will be called and trained to be pastors and at least two new churches can be planted.

Zimbabwe



Typical Animals
Warthog
Sable Antelope
Kudu
Impala



Typical Food
Kapenta—fish
Sadza Nyama-corn meal and meat
Nhedzi—soup made from wild mushrooms
Giant Mushrooms
Mapone-fried grubs
Mapopo Candy—made from papaya
Derere-okra dish

Rich in mineral resources
Gold, Nickel, Copper, Iron
Ore, Lithium, Tin, Platinum



Unique Fruit
Marula Fruit
Horned Fruit
Baobab Fruit



Language: Shona, Ndebele
English



Typical Clothing



Victoria Falls



Name means: Great house of Stone
Legendary land of Ophir—source of gold and ivory for Solomon
Formerly called Southern Rhodesia

Great Zimbabwe
Stone Ruins

Built without use of mortar
Housed 18,000 people in 11th century
Find the pictures of the ruins.



Craft
Shona stone carving

National Symbols
Zimbabwe Bird
Flame Lily
Sable Antelope
Balancing Rocks
Can you find them?



Zimbabwe Dollar—least valued currency in the world
Highest bill is
ZWD 100,000,000,000,000



Children's Story

Road to Bulawayo

As we moved down the road in a convoy, I thought to myself, “Why were we traveling to a country where there is a war going on?” I was seven years old at the time and my parents were missionaries in Africa. We were going to visit another missionary family who lived in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. There had been a long war which was coming to an end and people still traveled in armored convoys just in case of an attack.

Our convoy was made up of a long line of cars with blue armored pick-ups trucks at the front, middle and back of the line. I was both afraid and curious as I looked at the small blue pick-ups with round armored cages on the back. Sticking out of the cage was a big machine gun that could swing around in every direction as the pick-up went down the road. “What would happen if someone started shooting at us?” I was afraid.

The apostle Paul reminded Timothy that as a child of God, we do not have to live in fear. God’s spirit fills us with his power, love and wisdom so we can know and serve him. My parents were able to teach me what it was like to trust God with their lives. As a child I made a choice to accept Jesus as my Savior and although it’s not easy sometimes, I have learned to trust him no matter what.

My parents chose to come to Africa because they loved God and wanted to share that love with others. They could have stayed home because it was too difficult or too dangerous to move to Africa. But they chose to put their trust in God. Satan likes to fill people with doubt and fear in order to keep them from living and doing what they were created for. He’s scared of what will happen when we put our faith and trust in God. Maybe God is calling you to show his love to your family or your neighbors. Maybe God is calling you to share his love in another country. Do not be afraid, he is with you!

I’m glad we weren’t attacked that day on the road to Bulawayo. The war for independence in Zimbabwe ended long ago, but a spiritual war still continues. The devil wants to keep people living in fear and doubt, far away from knowing the love of God and its power to change their heart and the world around them. Now, as a pastor and missionary, God has called me and my family to move back to Zimbabwe to teach and work with the church. Our job will be to encourage and equip church leaders so God can use them to transform Zimbabwe and the world for his glory.

Memory Activity

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self-discipline. (2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)).

Gather a good number of old magazines or newspapers. Anything that has large printed items in them. Divide children into at least two groups. Give each a copy of the above memory verse. Then have them search the magazines/newspapers for the words of the verse (or letters to spell out the words).

Have them make a collage by gluing the words and images to another large piece of paper. The team with the best looking collage is the winner.

Bible Lesson

Matthew 8:23-27

Ask the children if they are able to control the weather. Can you make it rain? Can you tell the sun to shine? Can you command the clouds to go away?

Ask them if they know anybody who can do that. Of course, the answer is God, or Jesus. Ask the children if they can remember a Bible Story where Jesus stopped a storm, only by using His voice. If someone remembers the story, have them tell it as best they can.

Review the story found in Matthew 8:23-27.

Jesus got into a boat, and his disciples went with him. Suddenly a fierce storm hit the lake, and the boat was in danger of sinking. But Jesus was asleep. The disciples went to him and woke him up. "Save us, Lord!" they said. "We are about to die!"

"What are you so frightened?" Jesus answered. "What little faith you have!" Then he got up and ordered the winds and the waves to stop, and there was a great calm. Everyone was amazed. "What kind of man is this?" they said. "Even the winds and the waves obey him!" (Today's English Version)

Ask the children if they have ever been on a boat. It can be a lot of fun to be on a boat in nice weather. Then, ask them if they have ever been on a boat when it was surrounded by large waves, or it was raining? How did they feel? Were they afraid that they might fall into the water?

Why were the disciples afraid?

What was Jesus doing while it was storming?

When the disciples woke Jesus, what did he say to them? What did he say to the storm?

The disciples really didn't need to worry, did they? Jesus was with them and He was in control of everything – the wind, the rain, the water....everything. If we believe that, then we do not need to be afraid either, but we can trust Him to take care of us.

Banyoka

How to Play

1. Choose a play area that is a bit of an obstacle course, with bushes and large rocks. For younger players, it's probably best to have the starting point be on top of a hill. You can create an obstacle course using toys, pillows, boxes, and cartons.
2. The players divide into two groups, each group having at least six players.
3. Each group becomes a "Snake" by the players sitting one behind the other on the ground, legs spread and hands placed on the shoulders of the player in front, or arms wrapped around the waist.
4. Each snake moves forward by the players swaying their bodies back and forth. The snake can sing a song.
5. The object of the snake is to reach a designated finish line first. But the real fun of the game is to maneuver around bushes, rocks, and/ or other objects, to "slither" around and over them while remaining connected to each other.
6. The game can also be played with one snake. The competitive aspect is gone, replaced by a follow-the-leader quality. The "head" of the snake decides the direction, turning one way then another and choosing which obstacles to go across or around. If the line is long enough, it's fun for players to deal with a new obstacle or change of direction while players farther behind are still coping with the previous one.

NDONDO

Ndondo is a traditional game played by Shona boys of the Tangwena people, living on the border of Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The game is played with gourd shells, sticks, and corn cobs.

2 players or 2 teams face each other. The corn cobs are set up on both sides of the players. The *ndondo* is a gourd shell made in the shape of a disc with a hole in the middle of it. A stick is made to fit into the hole of the *ndondo*. The player picks up the *ndondo* with the stick and flings it at the cobs near the opponent. Whoever knocks down the most cobs wins.

If there's a tie then each side tries to fling their *ndondo* at the opposing player's *ndondo* at the same time. The one whose *ndondo* is knocked down first loses.

Game Time

Time for Prayer

1. Because of bad leadership the economy has been very bad for the last 12 years. Many people have no jobs and struggle to survive on very little. Pray for godly leaders who will serve the needy people in Zimbabwe.

2. Many people in Zimbabwe claim to be Christian but do not act like Christians. Pray that these people would be hungry to know God and live with His love in their hearts.

3. Pray that God would continue to call boys and girls, men and women to be ministers of the gospel who can share God's love with others.

4. Elections will be held soon. Pray for peace between people as they vote for new leaders

Activity

Activity


King Solomon's Bag of Wisdom

Make a pouch out of paper, cardboard, cloth or other material. It should be big enough to hold the coins on the following pages. They should write on the pouch the above title .

Print out a set of coins for each student.

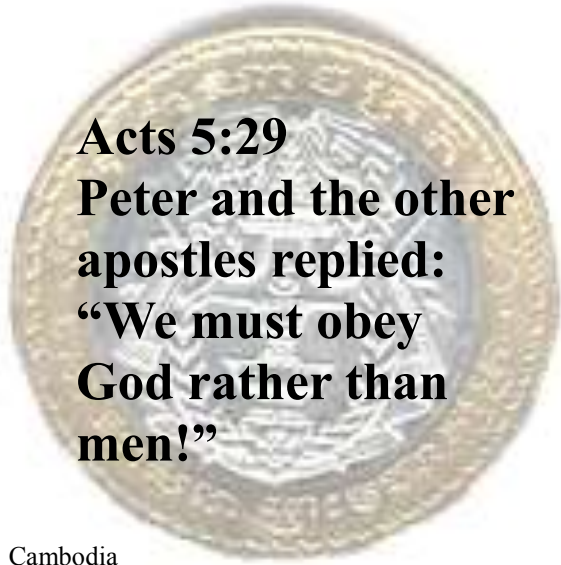
Have them color or paint the pouch they have made. Then cut out the coins, glue them to stiff paper, card stock, or other material. They can also color these front and back. They should write the name of the country of the lesson on the back of the coin.

Then they can place them in the pouch. Help them make a plan to take the coins out and review them.



**Mark 2:11 He Said
to the paralytic, I
tell you get up take
your mat and go
home.**

Argentina



Acts 5:29

**Peter and the other
apostles replied:
“We must obey
God rather than
men!”**

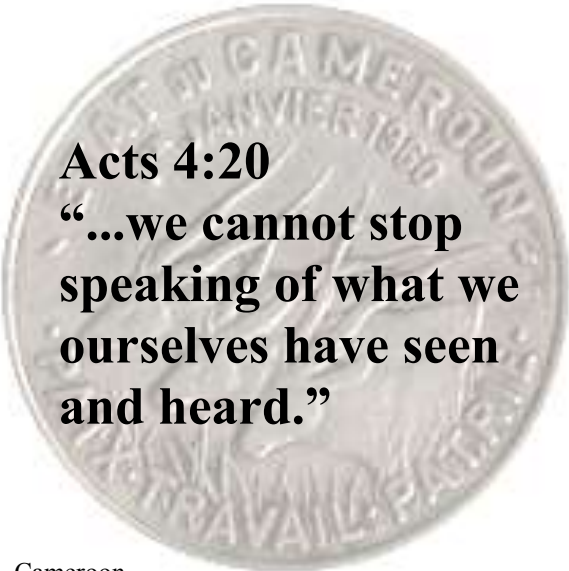
Cambodia



Daniel 3:29c

**“...there is no
other god who
can rescue like
this.”**


Egypt



Acts 4:20

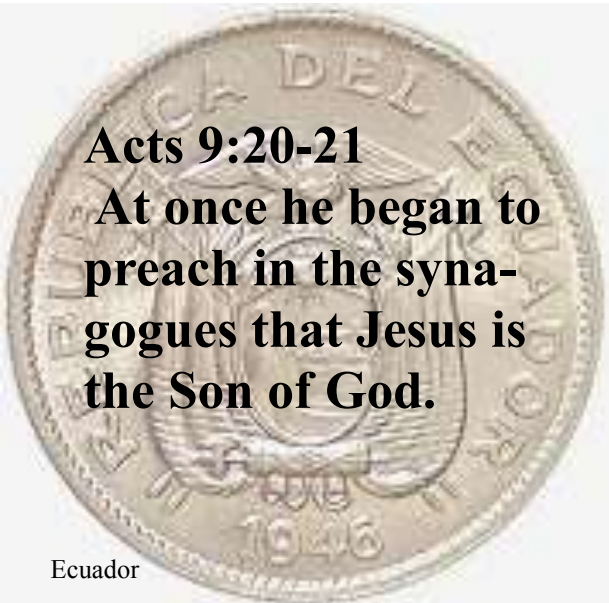
**“...we cannot stop
speaking of what we
ourselves have seen
and heard.”**

Cameroon



**Luke 2:52 And
Jesus grew in wis-
dom and stature,
and in favor with
God and men**

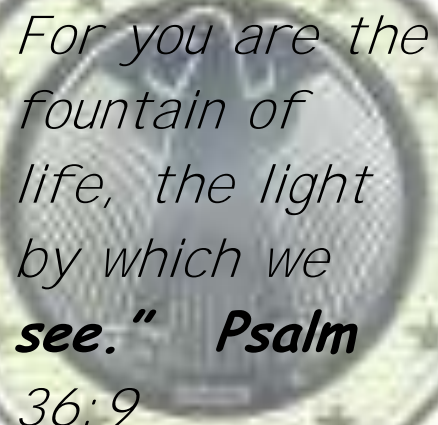
El Salvador



Acts 9:20-21

**At once he began to
preach in the syna-
gogues that Jesus is
the Son of God.**

Ecuador



*For you are the
fountain of
life, the light
by which we
see.” Psalm
36: 9*

Germany



Ghana



Nepal



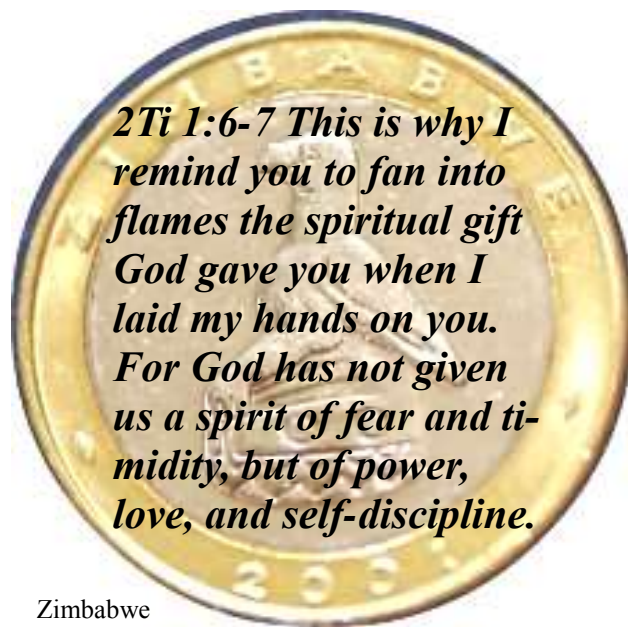
India



Poland



Karis



Zimbabwe