

# "Hey Kids, Let's Talk!"

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GC Kids - Let's Talk  
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U.S.A.



By Linda Dingeldein

## GCKIDS

is for the Christian child who has been taught missions and who displays an interest in worldwide evangelization. We aim to encourage this child to keep a mission vision alive through childhood, and to consider missions as a career. Target age is 9-13, but with adult help GCKIDS may also be useful for a younger child. Older readers are welcome too.

This quarterly publication is mailed free to individual children or adult leaders of children.

For **suggestions, ideas or submissions**, send postal mail via the address below or email [elinor.young@worldteam.org](mailto:elinor.young@worldteam.org).

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Issue 6: Brazil

## Waiting for the Harvest

Jesus told His disciples,

**Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper ... harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.**  
(John 4:34-35)

This tells us that bringing people to faith in Jesus is like harvesting a crop of eternal life.

Sometimes that harvest does not come quickly. Sometimes we never see it ourselves.

Missionaries need to be patient. They need to understand that they may never see the harvest of their work until they get to Heaven, but God will eventually send "reapers" to bring it in.



## Over the Wall

By Lowell Bailey

Flora was seven and Linda was five when their family moved to a big city in Brazil named Porto Alegre. They were a family of missionaries. In the state of Mato Grosso, near the border with Paraguay, the girls had watched their parents teach some Indians of the Terena tribe how to share the good news about Jesus. Now, in the state capital of Rio Grande do Sul, their parents wanted to make friends for Jesus and start a church.

What could Flora and Linda do to

# The Great Commission

help? To begin with, they made friends with neighbor kids their age. Soon their parents got the idea of having a meeting in the house, for kids only, once a week. Dad would play his accordion while everybody sang. Then they would watch a short film, and Mom would tell a Bible story with pictures.

Quite a few kids came to the meetings in their house. One little boy from across the street would get tired and start to cry, and his sister would have to take him home.

But Ana Meri, who was Linda's age and lived next door, never came. Her mother always said, "We have our own religion!"

One day Flora and Linda got a cardboard box and pretended that it was a loudspeaker. They took it up into a tree in the yard and shouted into a make-believe microphone: "Hey, everybody! Our Dad knows all about Jesus! If you want to know about Jesus, just come and talk to our Dad!"

There was a high wall between their house and Ana Meri's. But at one end there was a way of climbing up and

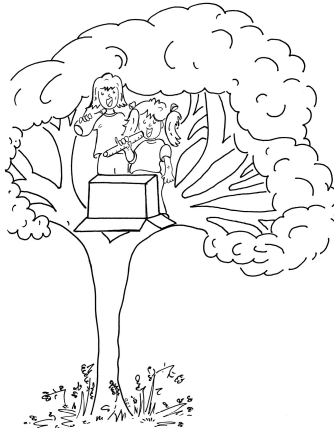
looking over. Then Ana Meri would climb up on her side and they would talk. Flora and Linda gave her a book of stories from the Bible. And they would tell her the Bible lesson that Mom had given in the kids' meeting.

But when the family went to the USA for a home assignment, none of those kids had believed in Jesus. After a year the family came back to Porto Alegre, but went to live in another part of the city. Flora and Linda thought: "Well, we tried, but we didn't get any of those kids to open up their lives to Jesus."

Years later, their Dad was in his office in downtown Porto Alegre, where he ran a Bible correspondence school and directed a training course

that taught people to be Christian leaders. A young man walked in and said, "You don't recognize me, but I'm that little boy in diapers that used to cry in your kids' meetings and have to be taken home. After you went away,

my Dad said, 'Those people were so good to us! I want to get to know about their Jesus!' Our whole family is Christian now. My Dad is preaching about



One of the first churches, the one in the city of Corinth, Greece, had an argument about who was most important, the apostle Paul who had first brought them the Gospel, or Apollos who had stayed longer to teach them the Gospel. So Paul wrote a letter to remind them who was the main one in helping them believe in Jesus. Here is what Paul said. On the blank lines, write the name of who was most important:

Paul said, "**My job was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was \_\_\_\_\_, not we, who made it grow. The ones who do the planting or watering aren't important, but \_\_\_\_\_ is important because he is the one who makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work as a team with the same purpose. Yet they will be rewarded individually, according to their own hard work. We work together as partners who**

**belong to \_\_\_\_\_. You are \_\_\_\_\_'s field, \_\_\_\_\_'s building-not ours."** (1 Corinthians 3:6-9, New Living Translation)

## Think About It

True or False?

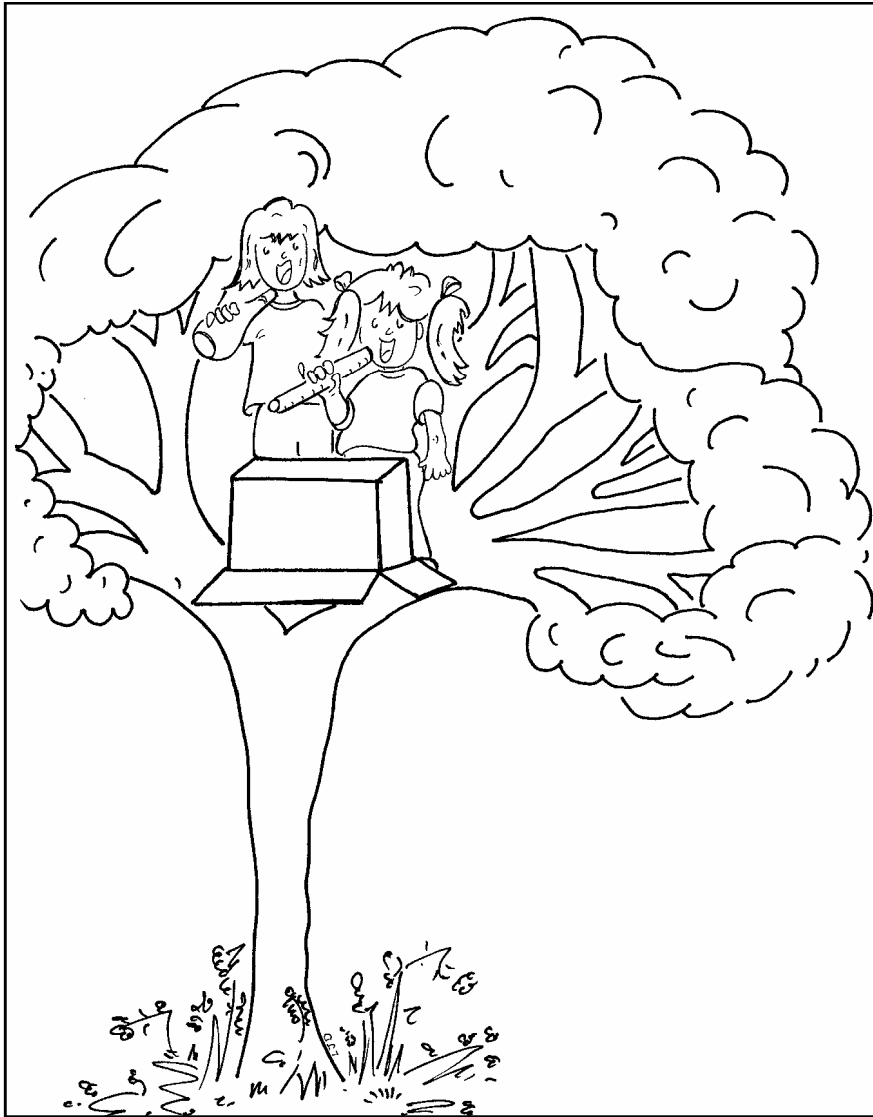
1. People will always believe the Gospel the first time they hear it. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Helping people hear the Gospel, believe in Jesus and become strong Christians takes more than one person and often a long time. \_\_\_\_\_
3. We will know about everyone who believes in Jesus partly because of our witness. \_\_\_\_\_

Who?

- Who is the most important person in all of this? \_\_\_\_\_



# Color this picture.



Flora and Linda wanted the neighbor children to hear about Jesus, so they thought of an unusual way to tell them about Him.

Practice being a missionary: think of some interesting ways to tell your friends about Jesus.

Jesus, and I'm going to be a preacher, too!"

A few years after that, the family was living in Miami while Dad worked in the International Office of World Team. One night the phone rang and a young woman said; "I'm Ana Meri, who used to live next door to you so many years ago. I'm a flight attendant on international flights of Varig Brazilian Airlines, and have a layover tonight before flying to Europe tomorrow. Could you come to my hotel so we can visit?"

In the hotel, Ana Meri told how she had always treasured that Bible story book that Flora and Linda had given



to her. And she had never forgotten the things they shared with her about Jesus, over the wall. ■

*The author of this story, Lowell Bailey and his wife Kathy, have been missionaries in Brazil for many years.*

## Did You Know?...

- Brazil occupies half of South America's land surface and has over half of South America's population.
- The City of Rio de Janeiro has a soccer stadium as high as a six-story building. It took 500,000 sacks of cement to build it.
- Unlike the rest of Latin America, which speaks Spanish, Brazil is Portuguese speaking because it was a colony of Portugal.
- Although Brazil's constitution allows freedom of religion, Catholicism is granted many special privileges.
- The number of people who believe the gospel is growing rapidly in many parts of the country.
- About 40% of the people participate in some form of spiritism (worship of evil spirits).



Brazil is famous for its 100-foot-tall "Christ the Redeemer" statue overlooking Rio, though most Brazilians don't truly know Him.