

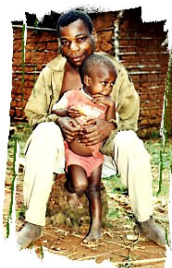
“Hey Kids, Let’s Talk !”

Do you have a comment or question about missions or about something you read in this issue? **Email elinor.young@worldteam.org**
Or **send a letter** to:



By Linda Dingeldein

GC Kids - Let's Talk
1431 Stuckert Rd
Warrington, PA 18976-2851 U.S.A.



Remember—Pray that a strong church will be planted among the Baka of Cameroon.

GC KIDS is for children ages about 9 to 13. It aims to **nurture a passion for missions** that will encourage children to be active in the Great Commission throughout their lives.

This quarterly publication is mailed free to individual children or adult leaders of children. (For multiple copies see the information below.)

For **suggestions, ideas or submissions**, send postal mail via the address below or email elinor.young@worldteam.org.

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Issue 14: The Baka people of Cameroon

“Tell the nations about God’s glory”

The command in this title is from Psalm 96. See how many times you can find it in this issue of “GC Kids”. Sometimes it will be in different words.

The main story, “Samba, a Baka,” tells about how one tribe in Africa heard about God’s glory and about how they are beginning to tell that story themselves.

That is what missions is—telling all people groups in all nations the Good News about Jesus. Telling them about God’s wonderful, glorious plan of salvation. Not all of the people groups in the world have heard that good news yet. Do you think God may want you to help change that?



Samba, a Baka

My name is Samba. I am a 23-year-old Baka man. My home is in the vast rainforest region of South Eastern Cameroon, Africa. I have been here since my birth and have learned the ways of the forest. I learned at a young age how to make a slingshot and how to set forest traps for a variety of animals. In my free time I would create things with my hands. Things like toy cars made out of the local bamboo. The wheels I made out of old flip-flops cut into circles. I took pride in my creations and still do.

My people live off of the forest. I remember the stories of when I was a child

and my family would travel from place to place in the forest according to the availability of fruits or good hunting. They call my people pygmies because we are shorter than other people. A difficulty for me was that I ended up being even shorter than the average Baka man. I was born with a limp, but I've tried not to let that hold me back. Sometimes it does. I still like to make cars.

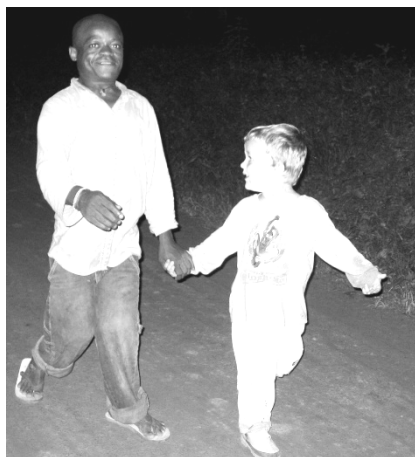
I am the second to the last of my parents' children. There were 15 of us in all. All of my siblings died as babies except for 5 of us. I lost another brother to sickness a few years ago. Life is difficult at times due to sickness and disease, but we continue to live. My mother makes medicine for people with a variety of medical needs. She knows which plants contain the right substances to help people. Sometimes they work, sometimes they don't.

People have heard many things about the Baka. They know that we love music. They know that we love to dance. They know that we love to tell stories and to sing in a very unique way. They know about the Baka, but that's not all that I am.

All of my life there have been stories about Komba. I heard

that He created this vast forest that I call home. I knew that He was very great and powerful. I understood all of this. I just wasn't sure that He cared much about me.

I was about ten years old when the strangers came to visit my family. Some of them had



children too, but were very different from me.

When they decided to live in our village, I imagined that they would bring some good things to us. They brought medicine and small jobs to our community. They also began to teach us about how to best use the local resources in order to have nutrition and live healthier lives. We were happy that they had come for these reasons. We

Look on page 2 to see what Samba said about the Baka people. They love to s _ _ _ , d _ _ _ _ and t _ _ _ s _ _ _ _ _ _ .

Now read Psalm 96:1-3.



Psalm 96:1-3

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Think About It

God wants whom to sing to the Lord? (Verse 1)

.....

Samba used to sing songs about things around him in the forest. What "new songs" does Samba sing now? What does he sing about?

What does God want us to proclaim or tell? (Verse 2)

.....

.....

Verse 3 uses other words for "all the earth"? What are they?

.....

What are the new stories Samba loves to tell?

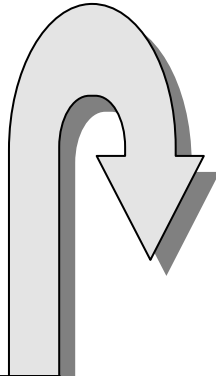
the.....

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all

Look at Psalm 96:1-3 again and answer these questions:

How can you obey these verses now? How can you when you grow up?



FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE BAKA OF
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The Great Commission

**SING TO THE LORD
AND PRAISE HIS NAME.
EVERY DAY TELL HOW
HE SAVES US.
TELL THE NATIONS
OF HIS GLORY.
TELL ALL PEOPLE
THE MIRACLES HE DOES.
- PSALM 96:2-3**

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were all very surprised when they began learning to speak our language. It was amusing at first as they stumbled over the words, but then they began to tell us new stories in the Baka language. They were stories about Komba (our name for the God who created everything). These stories were different from the ones that I had heard in the past. These stories were about His love for me and for my people. This was good news to me. This was news that gave me life. The stories told about His Son Yesua (Jesus) who gave His life for sinners so that they could live. I was overwhelmed by this gift of love.

I am a Baka man, but that is not all that I am. I am a child of Komba and I live to tell His story. ■



Story submitted by Barry Abbott, a missionary working among the Baka.

John 3:16



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."



GOD'S LOVE is BLACK, WHITE, Tan



Splash In

1) The Baka love to _____, and _____ in unique ways.

2) God loves the _____, just as much as He loves you and me.

Word Bank:


- * dance
- * sing
- * Komba
- * Cameroon
- * Baka

3) The Baka call God _____.

4) The Baka live in the forests of _____.



Remember to pray that missionaries will spread the love of Christ to the Baka and around the world.

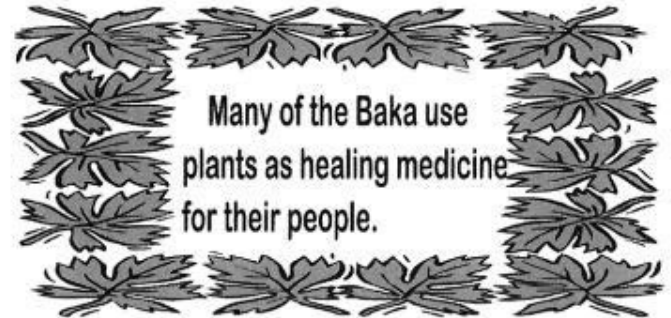


DID YOU KNOW?

The Baka eat yams, fruit, mushrooms, and many different foods. During some seasons it is possible



for the Baka to find tiny insects like termites and caterpillars to add to their diet.



Many of the Baka use plants as healing medicine for their people.

FUN FAST FACTS:

about Cameroon

Capitol City: Yaound'e (ya.'un.day)



Languages: French, English, and 24 major African groups

Religions: Indigenous beliefs, Christian, and Muslim



Psalm 96:3

(NIV)

"Declare His _____ among the _____
His marvelous _____ among all the _____."