

“Hey Kids, Let’s Talk !”

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By Linda Dingeldein

Or send a letter to:

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

GC KIDS is for the Christian child who displays an interest in worldwide evangelization. It **aims to nurture a passion for missions** that will encourage children to be active in the Great Commission throughout their lives. Target age is 9-13, but may also be used appropriately for younger and older children.

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.

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GC Kids is a service of **World Team**, “Glorifying God by working together to establish reproducing churches focusing on unreached peoples of the world.”
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Issue 7: Church Planting

Church Planting

When you think about it, church and planting are two words we wouldn't usually put together. We plant flowers and lawns and farm crops, but *churches*? Have you ever seen church seeds at a yard and garden store? What a silly question!

So what do we mean when we talk about planting churches? We mean starting a church by bringing people to Jesus, helping the growing believers learn how Jesus wants us to live and teaching them to plant and train other churches themselves.

It is like planting a corn seed where there is no corn, then watering and fertilizing it until it grows into a plant with ears of corn that produce new corn seeds that grow into more corn plants.

It is what Jesus told us to do.

Like Father, Like Son

This is a parable. A parable is a story with a meaning, but don't try to make all the details fit the moral of the story.



The Kingdom of God is like two friends who went camping.

Paul and Jeremy wanted to go camping by themselves one weekend. Paul asked his father, who said, “I think you are old enough now to go by yourselves. Just remember all the rules and advice I have given you about camping and you will be O.K. Take my cell phone so you can call for help if you need to.”

Jeremy's dad fussed. “I'm not sure you should go without me.

The Great Commission



Jesus said,
“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

That is, helping new Christians to make a firm confession and stand for Jesus.

2. “T_____ them to _____ I have _____ you.”

The people we bring to Jesus and help to stand strong for him also must be taught well from all of God’s Word. Then they can know what Jesus commanded us to obey.

What an important job Jesus gave us to do!

It is summed up in what we call church planting. These two verses tell us how to do it. The first part tells us what the end result of our missionary work should be.



Think About It

We do missionary work to bring people to Jesus and help them to become strong believers who know God’s Word and are planting other churches themselves. Do you think this job is quick and easy? What promise did Jesus give us that helps us to be patient and keep working?

“I w_____ b_____ w_____ y_____ a_____.” ■

What is it?

- “Make _____ of _____.”

Jesus wants people of all nations to be his disciples - his followers. How do we make sure that happens? Two other parts of Matthew 28:19-20 give us the answer.

1. “B_____ them.”

“I don’t know how to light a fire,” complained Jeremy. “My dad does that. He says he should do it in case I hurt myself.”

Paul was beginning to form some opinions about Jeremy’s dad.

“Let’s go collect some tinder and small sticks, and I’ll show you how to light a fire,” sighed Paul.

When the fire was going, Paul asked Jeremy, “Can you cook some wieners and beans for supper?” He knew the answer before he asked.



“Not really. My mom always does that. “She likes to control the cooking so the food is not spoiled.”

Jeremy did not know how to mark the path when they went for a walk, so that they could find their way back to their camp. He did not know what wild berries and nuts they could or could not eat. When they caught a fish he did

What if something happens? “ Paul’s father persuaded him the boys would be alright, and would learn some valuable life lessons during the weekend.

Friday afternoon Jeremy’s dad dropped them off at their campsite. He was still fussing when he drove away.

“Great! No parents. Let’s have fun,” shouted Jeremy.

“Fine, but we still have to behave responsibly,” said Paul. “Let’s put up the tent first.”

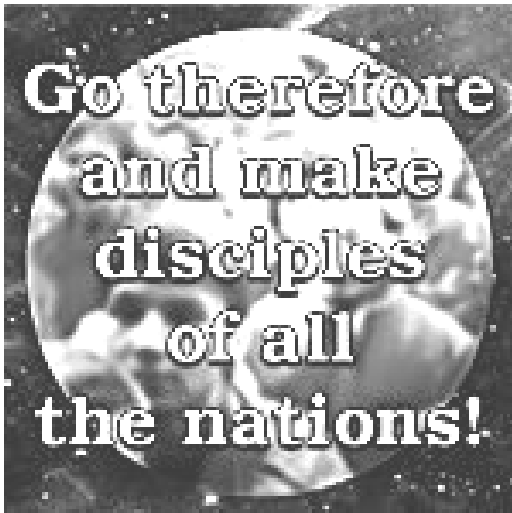
“Never mind that,” replied Jeremy. “Let’s go swimming.”

Paul insisted they put up the tent while it was still light enough to see what they were doing. Jeremy did not know how to put up the tent, so he was not much help.

“Hasn’t your dad showed you how?” asked Paul, amazed.

“My dad always does that,” he said. “He says it has to be done properly so he does not think I can be of much help.”

Paul suggested they light a fire to start cooking supper.



Wanna Play?

There is a new game on the Internet called

“The Missionary Game”

The hosting website says, “The game takes place in an country where the gospel is not well known. The “player” travels from village to village, sharing the good news, handing out Bibles, building churches and providing food, water, medicine and clothing. ... If the player also provides for the congregation’s needs, the church will stand. If not, the church will disappear after a short while. ...” **Yes, you can plant a church!** Or at least “virtually.”

First ask your parents to check the game out at www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/483
If they approve, go to www.themissionarygame.com and

Have fun!!

not know how to clean and cook it.

By the end of the weekend, Paul was wondering if Jeremy could do anything or make any decisions for himself without his parents’ help. Although he was a teenager, it was like he was still holding his parents’ hands!

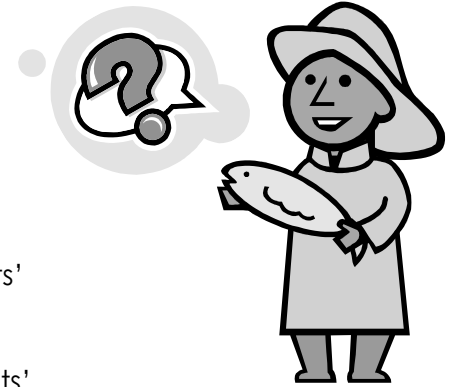
As they sat waiting for Paul’s dad to pick them up Sunday evening, Paul asked Jeremy what he was planning to do when he finished high school.

“I want to become a missionary,” said Jeremy.

“What will you do as a missionary?” asked Paul.

“Why, plant churches of course,” replied Jeremy.

“How will you train the



new Christians?” Paul persisted.

“You do ask a lot of questions,” Jeremy answered. “I don’t know. I’ve not thought about it yet.”

“Well, I think you had better think about it real quick,” said Paul. “If you treat them the way you have been brought up, the church will never grow and become mature.” ■

The story of Paul and Jeremy and the article “How Church Planting Works” were written by missionary Gloria Wilson. She and her husband John (with their three sons) worked several years in Papua, Indonesia. While there, they helped plant the Yali church which has meeting places in several villages. They started with Bible translation and basic Bible teaching and eventually trained church leaders to guide the church themselves. The Wilsons now live in Canada but go back to Papua, Indonesia, sometimes to see how their Yali friends are doing and to help them as needed. The Yali church is now part of a church organization that is sending its own missionaries to other parts of Indonesia!

For more information about the planting of the Yali church see the award-winning “Yali Story” DVD, available at www.christianbook.com and other outlets. ■



How Church Planting Works

Being a missionary and planting a church is like being a parent. Parents train their children so they will become mature adults who don't need child-like help anymore. When those children grow up, they train their own children. In the same way, a missionary's job is to help their spiritual children develop. It is the work of a missionary to train new Christians until they have grown up spiritually.

The Apostle Paul said, "You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others." (2 Timothy 2:2, New Living Translation)

When you were a baby your dad and mom did everything for you. When you were still little your parents told you everything you needed to know. As you grew older, they helped you work things out for yourself. They

helped you become responsible.

That's how planting a church works. At first missionaries teach everything. They want Jesus' followers to become mature Christians who trust God and serve Him faithfully. Eventually the believers can run their churches by themselves and the missionary can leave, though the friendship continues.

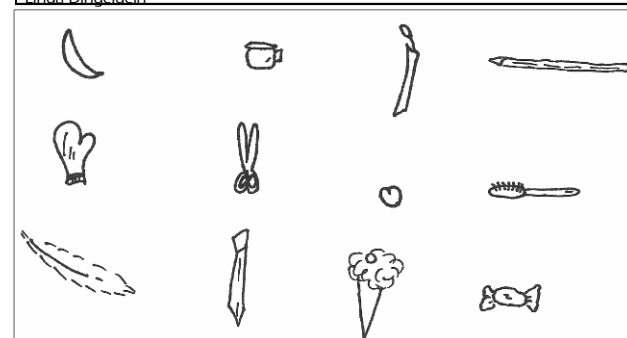
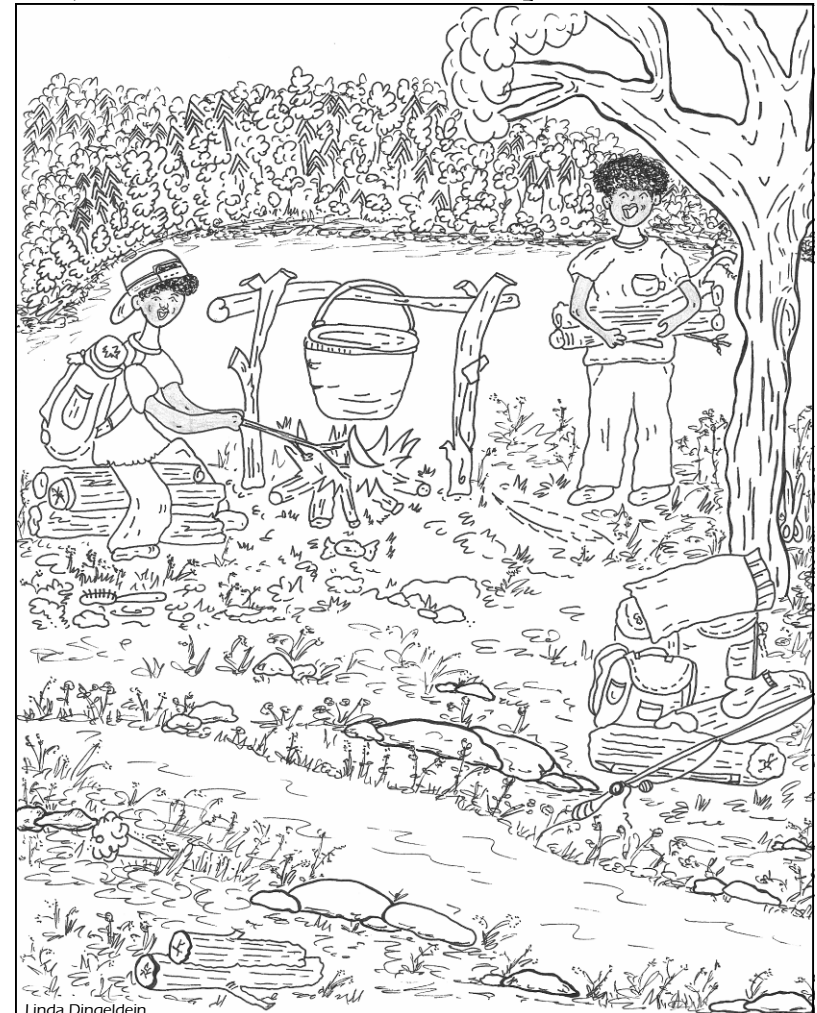
Here are the steps:

- S - Show them how
- T - Tell them how
- A - Allow them to fail
- R - Review the results with them
- T - Turn them loose

Remember this saying. Practice it when you get old enough to lead a group in your church—even little kids—and use it when you become a missionary.

This is how you plant a church. ■

Find the hidden pictures.



All these objects are in the picture about Jeremy and Paul's camping trip. Can you find them?