

# "HEY KIDS, REMEMBER"



Only 1.1% of people in Italy know the truth about Jesus. They need to hear who Jesus really is. Will you pray that God will send His people there? Will you ask God if he wants you to go to Italy some day, to talk about Jesus?

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**GREAT COMMISSION KIDS** aims to **inspire a new generation of missionary goers and senders** who will be active in the Great Commission throughout their lives.

This **quarterly** publication is mailed **free** to individual children or adult leaders of children. To financially **contribute** to this project or for other matters, **Contact the editor: [elinor.young@worldteam.org](mailto:elinor.young@worldteam.org)**

**GC Kids** is a service of **World Team:**  
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Issue 50: Italy

## Italy Needs Jesus



Patrizia was an adult, but in a way she felt like a child. She felt lost, confused and alone in her search for answers to the questions in her heart. Questions about God. Her friends wanted to talk only about soccer or movies or music.

"Where can I find the truth about God?" Patrizia wondered.

One day she met a World Team missionary and soon began reading the Bible with her.

"I felt like a lost sheep all these years and finally God has answered my prayers. Now there is someone to help me understand the Bible and God's will for my life."

She will tell you that Italy needs more missionaries! Do you wonder how that can be? Italy is a modern country in Europe. They already know the gospel, right? No, they don't.



★ *Think About It* ★

**What did Paul do in Rome?**

“Paul stayed two full years in his own rented house. He welcomed all people who came and visited him. He preached about the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ. He was very bold, and no one stopped him.” (Acts 28:30-31 (International Children’s Bible [ICB]))



Paul asked God to help him, then he obeyed and did the job God gave him to do. **What was that job?** (See the verses above.)

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**What can you do where you are?**

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Most people in Italy don't know the true gospel, and don't care. They think they know about God, but the religion of their culture does not tell the truth about what Jesus did for us.

World Team missionaries invite people to small groups to learn about Jesus. Then, the new followers of Jesus are the start of new churches. This is called church planting.

Most people have never decided to believe in Jesus and live for him. In fact, more and more young people are moving toward not believing in God. They don't see anything real in the religion of their culture. The religion they see seems hollow. It doesn't connect to their daily life.

How do missionaries start these small groups? In the northern city of Milan, missionaries make ways to talk to people about the gospel in many places. They do park outreach events, art exhibitions, and children's programs.

Cathedrals, which are large church buildings, are almost empty of people. At the same time, more mosques are being built for the large number of Muslim immigrants.

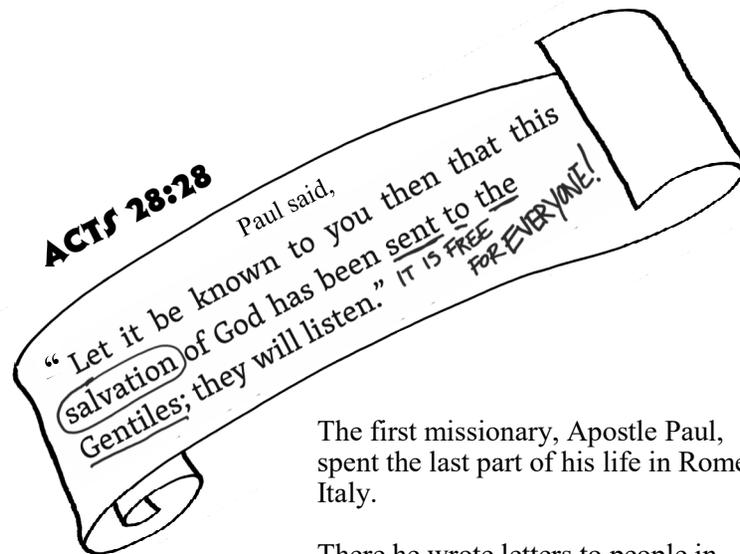
One small group of true followers of Jesus began to meet a few years ago. This small group always talks to their friends and neighbors about the gospel. This is how the good news about Jesus spreads.

# The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20 and more

Most of the people of Italy think they know about Jesus. But they don't know -

- that he loves and wants to forgive their sin forever.
- that he wants lead them into a wonderful life with him.
- how to receive all that from Jesus.



The first missionary, Apostle Paul, spent the last part of his life in Rome, Italy.

There he wrote letters to people in other countries. He reminded them that they must take the Gospel to everyone, including Gentiles.

Gentiles are people who are not Jews. When Paul was alive, that meant *people who worshiped idols, not the true God.*

**Paul wanted the Gentiles in Italy to hear the Good News about Jesus.**



Besides people who grew up in Italy, every year thousands of other people go through this nation. They left hardships in Africa to look for a better life in Europe. In northern Italy, they might find a job in market stalls, in factories or in machine shops. Often, they earn enough to send money to other family members so they can go to Italy, too.

One city has an especially

large and growing number of immigrants. Local Italian church planters and missionaries there work together. They started a new ministry to tell the immigrants about Jesus.

It will take many years before most of Europe has heard the true Gospel. Will you ask God if he wants you to be a missionary there when you are older? *Even in Italy maybe?*



“...more mosques are being built for the large number of Muslim immigrants.”

# Fun Facts

## All About Italy – Find the Missing & Hidden Words!

Read the sentences below. Find the underlined words in the puzzle.

Words might be hidden horizontally, vertically and perhaps even back to front and diagonally...!

- Italy lies in southern Europe. Two islands, Sardinia and Sicily, also belong to Italy.
- The country is shaped a bit like a boot.
- Later, Greeks arrived in Italy, followed by Romans. The city of Rome was the center of the great Roman Empire.
- Italy is a very old civilization.
- The capital city of Italy is Rome.
- The Euro is the recognized currency.
- Italian is the official language of Italy.

P	U	R	P	O	S	E	I	A	N	A	I	L	H	O	B
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C	O	O	E	L	O	G	O	V	E	D	N	M	E	N	T
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Learn about Italy and more here: <http://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-italy/>  
Fun Science Facts, Activities, Videos, Interactive Quizzes and more...

## Some of your favorite food is Italian!

- **Pizza:** probably the most famous Italian dish, it was invented in Napoli/Naples around 1860
- **Calzone:** folded up pizza bread filled with tomatoes, ham, cheese and all kinds of filling
- **Lasagna:** layered pasta dish with tomato, mozzarella cheese and ground meat filling.
- **Spaghetti:** Who doesn't know what this is—especially with meatballs!

Look up this fun 4.5-minute video on YouTube: [10 Things We Love About Italy | The Perennial Plate's Real Food World Tour](#).

32. What country is this?

