“HEY KIDS, REMEMBER”

What is done in Santa Clara, Cuba, affects the whole nation. Pray that what the Coffee House team does will spread the news about Jesus to every city.

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“Wait a minute!” you say. “Isn’t Cuba a communist nation? Communists don’t believe in God. They don’t know Christ. And if Cuban coffee is special, I didn’t know that. So what do you mean, Cuba, Coffee, and Christ?”

Come with me and let me explain.

In the middle of communist Cuba is the city of Santa Clara. A man named Luis lives there. For many years he had been a communist party member. Communism didn’t give Luis the peace in his heart that he wanted. That made him angry inside.

One day Luis walked into a small, crowded
coffee house along a narrow street in downtown Santa Clara. Luis didn’t look friendly when he walked in to the coffee shop that day. But there Luis found friendly people who talked to him about Jesus and listened to him. In a few weeks, Luis gave his life to Christ. In Jesus he found the peace he wanted.

The coffee house is ugly and small. It needs paint and repair, but it has what nowhere else has. The shop has good Cuban coffee and accepts everyone. They say, “It’s a happy place where things like style, tattoos, hair, and ear rings don’t matter. It has music we like, a place to chat, meet new people, and be cheered up.”

Who made a coffee house there?
It was some young Christian artists, musicians, doctors, engineers, and others. They know Jesus and wanted a place where they could tell other people about the Savior. They know that most people in Cuba are afraid to go to church, and even if anyone did go, they would get bored. In those churches, people have no way to safely ask questions or talk like they can in the coffee shop.

The coffee house gave Luis the safe place he needed. It does the same for others, too.

Luis is older than most of the coffee house visitors. The downtown streets of Santa Clara are alive with over 25,000 university students.

The students have discovered a new love for coffee. They often pop in to that crowded little coffee shop. There, a group of courageous young people talk about Jesus Christ to whoever comes in.

Paul told King Agrippa what God said to Paul:

“Now get □ and ○_______ on your feet.

I have __☐☐____ ___ to you to __☐☐____ you as a ___ ___ ___○○

I am _________ you to the ______________

to __☐☐____ their ___ ___○ and turn them from ______________○○ to light, and from the __☐☐____ of ○_______ to God, ○___ that they may receive ______________○○ of ○___○.”
Once a king named Agrippa asked the apostle Paul why so many people were angry, saying Paul had broken the law and should be put in jail. Paul said all he was doing was what God told him to do. That is, teach the Gospel. God had told Paul,

“Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. ... I am sending you to (the Gentiles) to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins ...” Acts 26:17-18 NIV

A man named Eugene H. Peterson put the Bible into words that are easy to understand. He called his book “The Message.” This is how he wrote Acts 26:17.

“I’m sending you off to open the eyes of the outsiders so they can see the difference between dark and light, and choose light, see the difference between Satan and God, and choose God. I’m sending you off to present my offer of sins forgiven, and a place in the family, inviting them into the company of those who begin real living by believing in me.”

Think About It

The Coffee House team in Santa Clara, Cuba, is doing what God told the apostle Paul to do. How are they doing that? (Hint: Communists don’t believe in God. It is like they are blind to the truth about Him.) Write your answer here:

The Coffee House team carefully studies the Bible so they can learn to serve Jesus better. A missionary and an older wise Cuban Christian are helping the team do those things. The Cuban helper says, “My father died for Jesus’ sake because of Communism. We need to help these young people be strong in Jesus, too, no matter what.”

The coffee house group says, "Pray for us." Will you?

Picture a Cuban boy or girl your age. In a few years both of you may be in college. You know Jesus now, but he or she probably doesn’t yet. Pray that God will help the coffee house to stay open for years and tell that grown-up boy or girl about Jesus.
Cuba – The Largest Island in The Caribbean

- Cuba is famous for two things – its cigars and its sugar.
- Huge plantations grow tobacco and sugar cane, which are processed into cigars and sugar, and shipped around the world.
- Cuba was among the first islands conquered by the Spaniards after Christopher Columbus discovered it.
- United States troops helped gain Cuba’s independence from Spain in 1902.
- In 1959, Fidel Castro and his communist revolutionaries took control of the country. Cuba has been a communist country ever since.
- Many animals live here which are found nowhere else in the world, such as the bee hummingbird. This tiny bird is only 2 inches long.

**Question:** What is the most popular sport in Cuba?

**Answer:** Most Latin American countries love soccer, but Cubans love **baseball**, which was introduced from the U.S.