

“Hey Kids, Remember...”



Mozambique and other African nations need more missionaries to take the Gospel and at same time build schools, clinics and other things to help them. Pray that God will send more missionaries.

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GREAT COMMISSION KIDS aims to nurture a love 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.

Contact the editor at: elinor.young@worldteam.org.

GC Kids is a service of World Team:

“God Centered. People Focused.”

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Issue 25: Mozambique, Africa



The Jobs of a Missionary

Missionaries do all kinds of jobs to tell and show people that God loves them. Our story this issue talks about some of those jobs. Think about that as you read it.

Adventures In Mozambique



When we came to Mozambique in 1993 to work as missionaries, it turned our family’s world up side down. It wasn’t the “being missionaries” part that did it. We had already been missionaries in South Africa for four years and my husband and I had grown up as missionary kids. It was because Mozambique had just had a civil war and the country was a bit like the Wild

West. A peace agreement had been signed but the country was still in chaos. And the needs everywhere were huge.

Our Mozambique adventure started when we found a house to rent on the edge of Mozambique’s capital



city, Maputo, in an area called “Bairro do Fomento”. Fomento means “promotion,” but there was nothing about that place that resembled a promotion. The yard and house were run down and full of cockroaches. The electricity didn’t work most of the time. Near us was a neighborhood that had been a combat zone and acted like they still were. Our neighbors owned guns for self-defense and there we were, newcomers on the block, with a friendly German shepherd dog as our sole security system.



Even though there were reports of ambushes along highways, we still had to travel them to get groceries and do business each month. We drove a single cab pick-up and our kids rode in car seats in the back canopy.

At the beginning of each trip, we warned them that if they heard gunfire they should drop from their seats and lie flat on the floor. They didn’t even flinch at

the thought. They just nodded their heads and said, “Ok Dad, ok Mom!” then kept on singing or playing with their toys. And we would pray. We’re thankful that our trips were always safe ones.

When possible, we travelled in convoy with other people. One thing about convoy travel is that you go the speed of the guy in front. That can be tricky. On one weekend picnic trip with friends, the road we drove was very bouncy and sandy. The leading vehicle went so fast that to keep up, we bounced around like jack-in-the-boxes in our Toyota. We held on for dear life! Our kids rode in the covered back...in proper seats with seatbelts, of course. At one point, we stopped and opened the

back door to check on them (they were about 6 and 8 years old then) only to find picnic mats, coolers, chairs, etc. all in a mess. My husband, Dwight, commented on this to the kids and suggested they should have banged on the cab window to get our attention to stop or something. Their eyes went wide at this and they exclaimed, “But Dad! We were hangin’ on, just trying to survive!” I smile now

What things that Jesus did do missionaries do?

(Draw a line to connect the right picture with the action.)

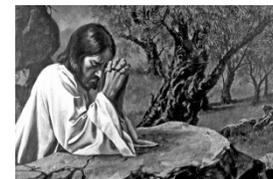


Pray

Teach people about God

Help sick people

Love and help children



Can you think of other things Jesus did that we should do, too?



The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20 and beyond

After Jesus was crucified, buried and risen alive again, he went to His disciples with a very important message. He told them what He wanted them to do now.



John 20:21 (NKJV)

Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

In other words, Jesus wanted them—and wants us—to do the same kind of things He had done. What were some of those things? Are they the kinds of things the missionaries in Mozambique do? (See pages 1-3.)

Let's think about that.

when I think of this because we were really only at the beginning of our Mozambique adventure.

Two years after we got to Maputo, our lives went up side down again as we moved north. It was a two-day trip on rough roads, straight into the African bush, as rural areas are called. For the first month, we camped "in the rough". This means we had no proper toilet, or shower, or kitchen, or bedrooms or quick access to phone or emergency services. We had no cell phones or internet back then either. There were lots of animals and reptiles and the kids loved it! We slept in the tents, and a thatched structure was our kitchen, bathroom, dining room, office, and first aid station. It was a busy place!

The needs of the people living in the bush were worse than any we had seen before. We didn't feel so badly for ourselves when we realized the people in the bush lived in stick huts, slept on grass mats on the bare dirt floor, and did not have any kind of health care.

Over the years, the Lord has helped us to establish a primary school, a program to teach women how to read, clinics to



provide basic first aid, an orphan care program, and training for pastors in remote areas like this who have no training.

The country has changed a lot since those early years and things are improving all the time. Our children, who were homeschooled in the African bush, are now grown up and in Canada studying education and engineering. We don't know what plans the Lord has for them, or for the beautiful people we still work with in Mozambique,

but we know His plans are always good. And there will probably be a bit of adventure thrown in for good measure, too! ■



Story by Lynn Lagore.
Photos by Lynn Lagore
and Tony and Leila Frank.

MOZAMBIQUE



Mozambique is shaped like a lopsided "y."



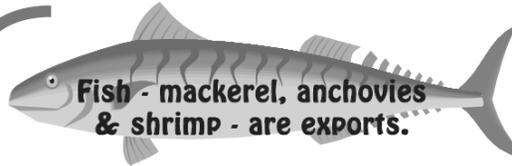
Cashew nuts are grown in Mozambique.



The people of Mozambique make everyday things pretty by working with available materials such as wood, cane and shells.

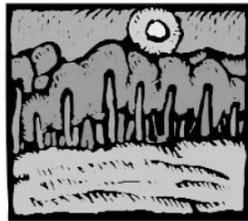
Capital city: Maputo
Main languages: Portuguese, original languages
Religions: traditional religions, Christian, Islam

Did you know?



Fish - mackerel, anchovies & shrimp - are exports.

Because there was no written language, long-ago village elders passed along knowledge and wisdom by telling stories.



Half of Mozambique is forest and woodland, unusual in Africa because many areas have been stripped for fuel.

Lynn Lagore, who wrote the story on pages 1-3, writes a blog with lots of photos and stories.
www.lynnlagore.blogspot.com

TO DO:

Cross out every other letter starting with Y to find out who you can help God reach with His love.

TYHGEJWKHEORL
LETWFOARHLBD

Answer (hold up to a mirror): The whole world



This is Mozambique ...

... and this is Mozambique, too. It is the capital city, Maputo.

