

"Hey Kids, Remember..."



The villages and people of Moldova are very poor. Not only do they need money, but many also need a way to hear the true Gospel of Jesus. Over 600 villages don't even have a small evangelical church like this one. Pray that God will send more missionaries to help Moldovan Christian men to start and be pastors of churches in those places.

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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. To financially contribute to this project or for other matters, Contact the editor at: elinor.young@worldteam.org.

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Issue 30: Moldova

Moldova

Tucked between Romania and Ukraine (see page 4), Moldova is the poorest country in Europe. To get money, the people depend mostly on growing fruit and vegetables and making wine.

Life is hard for most Moldovans. Ritual-based Christianity and communism do little for people's daily needs and do not give hope for their future.

But Moldovans are happy to learn about God. Missionaries can help grow true followers of Jesus by helping their church leaders.

Over 600 villages have no evangelical witness.



Always Be Prepared!

It appeared that the kitchen workers at a summer camp in Moldova were facing a food shortage. Despite the careful planning of the mission director, as the days passed, there were fewer and fewer hotdogs on hand to feed the 300 campers. The missionary team overseeing the camp had a problem on their hands.

The English camp was held at an old pioneer camp built by the communists when Moldova was still part of the former Soviet Union. Those were times when Moldovan families went to relax and escape the summertime heat.



The communists used the camp to convince people about “the glories of communism.” Their saying was, “Are you prepared? Always be prepared!” This meant always be prepared to serve the motherland.

Now days, churches work together to operate camps as a place where families can relax, study God’s Word, and take lessons in English as a second language.

Most of the kitchen and hospitality staffs are local Moldovans and most of them are not Christians. So when the missionary camp manager asked the kitchen staff about the missing hot dogs, he was careful how he asked it. He knew that stealing is fairly normal in Moldovan culture. It seemed the staff was cutting back on the meat to use it for their own needs.

Instead of directly confronting the workers, the missionary camp manager asked if they knew anything about why the meat was in short supply. They told him, “We’ll look into it.”

Mysteriously, the next morning there were enough hot dogs for lunch. The staff

respected the manager for how he dealt with the situation so he did not shame them.

One of the kitchen workers became curious about what the campers were studying. She asked a camp counselor about the book they were reading from. The counselor quickly pulled out her Russian and Romanian Bibles, shared the Gospel, and led the woman to the Lord on the spot!

Always be prepared! That may have been the cry of the communists, but as followers of Christ we are called to always be prepared to give an answer for our faith. ■



In a tiny village in south-central Moldova there was a church. It was a little church. It had one room, and marked dirt paths directed the way for the congregation of just under twenty people. Every Sunday grandmother

Declare God's glory among the nations.

Psalm 96:3 in Romanian looks like this: 

Psalmi 96:3 — Povestiți printre neamuri slava Lui, printre toate popoarele minunile Lui!

Below is Psalm 96:3 in five languages. Can you guess what languages they are? Draw lines to your guesses, then check the key.

1. סִפְרוּ בַגּוֹיִם כְּבוֹדוֹ בְּכָל־הָעַמִּים.
נִפְלְאוֹתָיו:

A. French

2. Contad su gloria
entre las naciones,
sus maravillas entre
todos los pueblos.

B. Simplified
(modern)
Chinese

3. 在列邦中述说他的
荣耀！在万民中述说
他的奇事！

C. Hebrew

4. Racontez parmi les
nations sa gloire,
Parmi tous les peu-
ples ses merveilles!

D. Spanish

E. Arabic

5. حدثوا بين الامم بمجده بين
جميع الشعوب بعجائبه



E = 5
A = 4
B = 3
D = 2
C = 1

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20 and more



Declare his glory
among the nations,
his marvellous
deeds among all peoples

Psalm 96:3

To declare God's glory and goodness to a nation, a missionary usually has to learn the language of that nation. Take a good look at the map on page 4. You can see that the countries of Moldova and Romania border each other. Maybe that is why their languages are a lot alike. To be a missionary and tell about our wonderful God in Moldova, you have to learn both Romanian and Moldovan, because both languages are spoken in Moldova.

faithfully walked to church with her dog, who never left her side.

As she talked to her dog, Grandmother prayed for her husband who, no matter how much she begged, would not join her at church.

When Grandmother and her dog arrived at church every Sunday, Grandmother took her worn spot on the dirt floor and the dog always nuzzled up next to her and took his seat by her side.

Every Sunday the two of them did this, and each week Grandmother said another prayer for the stubborn grandfather.

Then one day the grandmother passed away.

But every Sunday, the dog still trekked along to church. He woke up early, followed the beaten path, sat in his spot at church, and then returned home.

Grandfather didn't know where the dog went every Sunday. One week he decided to follow the dog. Of course, he ended up at the



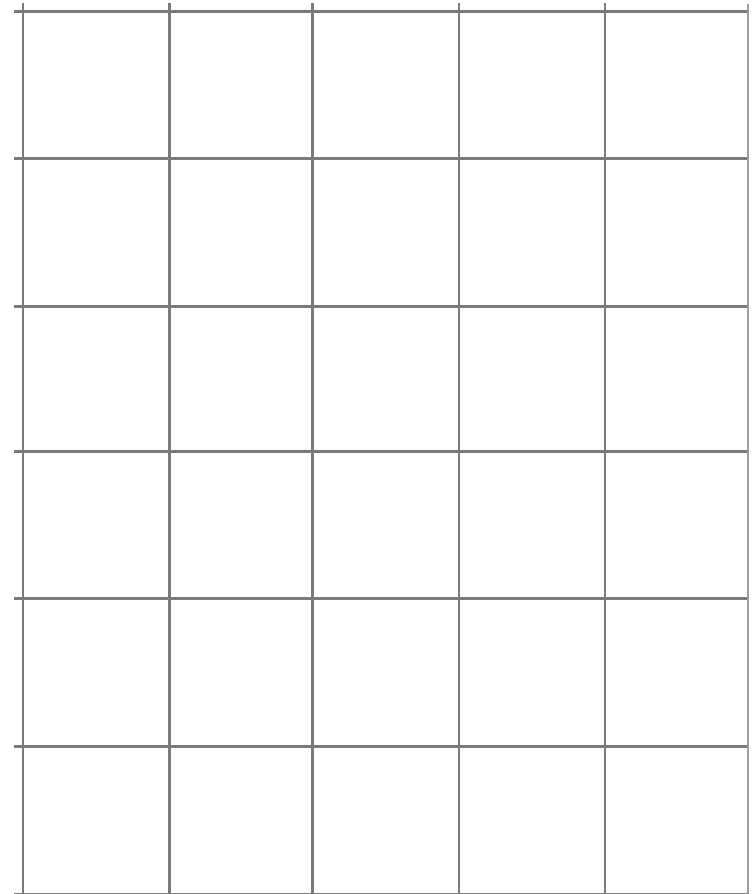
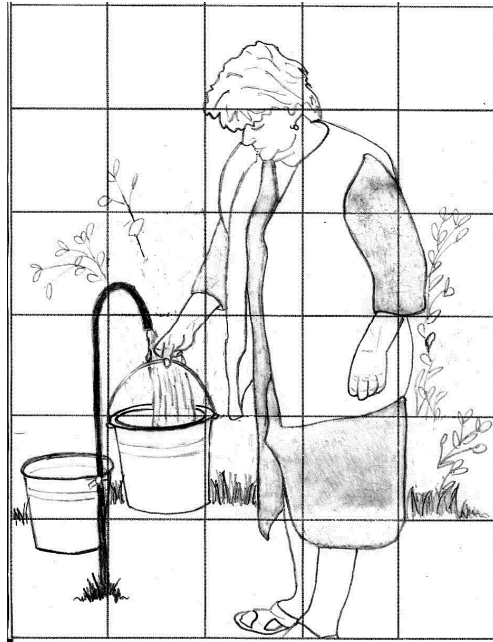
little church.

Soon after that, Grandfather became a follower of Christ. And the dog once again had a walking buddy.

Needless to say, our prayers outlive us. God has a plan. Women tend to outlive men in Moldova, but not this time. God used this unusual event to bring Grandfather to church. But even more special is that, like God used Balaam's donkey, God used this little dog to lead this man to Christ. God loved Grandfather so much that he used something very different to help Grandfather know and praise God. ■



*This woman
lives in
Moldova. Copy
the picture
of her onto
the grid to
the right.*



MOLDOVA

For His Glory
Declare his glory
among the nations,
his marvelous deeds
among all peoples.
Psalm 96:3