



# YOUTH & ADULT MISSION

2015 • **QUARTER 4** • SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION



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**On the Cover:** Najabuliso was afraid to attend the evangelistic meetings because she feared the people there were Satanists. Read her story on pages 20 and 21.



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## Your Offerings at Work



Thanks to your generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering for 2nd Quarter, 2012, all of the students at the Yangon Adventist School in Myanmar were able to receive Bibles in Burmese. Of the 651 students at the school, more than 80 percent are not Seventh-day Adventists. The students were delighted to receive their own Bibles. Thank you again for your kind and generous support of Adventist Mission!



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## Dear Sabbath School Leader,

This quarter features the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division. More than 176 million people live in this division, of which more than 3 million are Seventh-day Adventists. Approximately one person out of every 58 is a Seventh-day Adventist.

This quarter we feature stories from several countries, including Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. While these countries represent a wide range of diversity in culture, language, climates, and people, it is exciting to see how God is working in similar ways across the continent.

Our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering projects this quarter focus on education and health. In Botswana, we have the opportunity to help provide a much needed Adventist primary school—the first in the Northern Botswana Conference. In Zimbabwe, the Thirteenth Sabbath offering will help fund an Adventist medical clinic in the city of Gweru, where land has already been allocated for this



purpose by the local government officials. At Solusi University, also in Zimbabwe, our mission offerings will help to expand the university's dining hall to serve the growing student population.

In addition to sharing the stories in this *Mission* quarterly, I want to encourage you to visit our website at [www.adventistmission.org](http://www.adventistmission.org) for more information and to download your free *Mission Spotlight* DVD, featuring more inspiring mission stories from the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division and beyond.

Wishing you God's richest blessings!

Gina Wahlen, *Editor*

### Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help:

- build the Gateway Adventist Primary School in Botswana.
- construct the Gweru Adventist Health Center in Gweru, Zimbabwe.
- extend the dining hall at Solusi University.

# Cry of the Kalahari

## Bushmen



photo: BigStock.com

Heat waves danced above the burning sands. A tiny, black Bushman strode purposefully eastward across the vast Kalahari Desert, glancing frequently at a small gray cloud in the sky ahead. Sekoba was obeying instructions given to him in a dream. An angel had directed him to look for a man named William, who would teach him about the true God.

As wise men once followed a star, so Sekoba followed the cloud until it stopped over a village. But when he told the inhabitants of the village about his dream they mocked and laughed at him. That night the angel appeared again and told him to continue his eastward journey. After traveling over the desert for nearly a month, Sekoba found Pastor William Moyo, who had been prepared for his coming through a dream.

For several weeks Pastor William taught Sekoba about God. In turn the Bushman

told a marvelous story of God's guidance. As a young man he had felt a strong impression that he must learn to read and write, so now he was able to read Pastor William's Bible for himself. Several years earlier when hungry lions were killing many cattle, he felt impressed that a higher power controlled the lions. When he prayed to this power the lions left the area. When he heard of Christianity and began seeking God in earnest, an angel in a dream had led him to Pastor William.

After Sekoba had learned the good news of the gospel he took Pastor William back with him to tell the rest of his family and prepare them for baptism. And that is how, at a camp meeting in 1948, the first converts among the Bushmen were baptized.

The Bushmen are a short race, averaging about five feet in height, who traditionally wander in small groups hunting and gathering wild fruit. They are a nomadic

people who have learned to survive in the harsh desert region of Botswana.

Botswana's climate is generally arid; the Kalahari Desert, which covers the southwestern part of the country, receives less than nine inches of rain a year. For many years they have had contact with Seventh-day Adventists through the dedicated doctors at Kanye Hospital.

### The Only Help He Knew

The desert sun streamed down mercilessly as the little man crept forward with his bow. From his thin, wrinkled appearance one might suppose he was in his seventies, but his body was accustomed to the scarcity of food and water, and his reflexes were lightning fast.

Steeped in the accumulated wisdom of his ancestors, he cautiously moved closer to the small herd of grazing buck. When he was close enough he fitted a poisoned arrow to his bow, aimed carefully, and let the arrow fly. It found its mark, but the buck's hide was tough and the arrow didn't penetrate deeply. The buck looked around and then charged the Bushman, catching him on its long, sharp horns and tossing him until his intestines hung out of his abdomen, covered with sand and grit. After the buck left the Bushman staggered to his feet and, clutching the dirty mass to himself, headed for the only help he knew, the Adventist hospital miles away!

He was barely conscious when he reached the hospital compound. The horrified staff rushed him to the operating room, marveling at the desperate stamina that had brought him there. The surgeon prayed earnestly as he cleansed the intestines, replaced them in the abdominal cavity, and sutured the gaping wound closed. He knew that only God

could heal the Bushman.

With careful nursing and much prayer the Bushman eventually recovered and returned to his family, leaving the hospital staff to wonder if he had also learned of God's love during his hospital stay.

Several months later, a little man with a horrible scar on his abdomen came to the hospital bringing a four-foot chain of beads, painstakingly handcrafted with primitive tools, as his expression of gratitude to the doctor who had saved his life.

### Global Mission Pioneers

In addition to the wonderful work being done at the Adventist hospital, Global Mission Pioneers are reaching the people of Botswana for Christ.

For three years Mookodi Mokopotsa served as a Global Mission pioneer at a little white church in the village of Sojwe. When he began his ministry at Sojwe there were seven Adventist members. Now there are 42 members, including many energetic, happy children.

During his ministry, Mookodi held evangelistic meetings, prayed with the village chief every morning, visited the students at local schools, and prayed with the staff and patients at the health clinic. Every day he visited the village people in their homes to study the Bible and pray with them.

"Jesus is coming very soon," Mookodi said. "Please pray for the latter rain to help us Global Mission Pioneers around the world to be more powerful and effective in sharing Jesus."

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help to establish an Adventist primary school in Botswana. Please plan to give generously. 🌍



# The Infidel

Antoine

**M**y father is a deeply religious man. He raised my brothers and me to believe that Christians are infidels and that we must avoid them. We must never touch their Holy Book, the Bible, much less read it.

When I completed primary school, my father couldn't find a secondary school in our area that taught the classes I wanted to study. The only school available was a Seventh-day Adventist boarding school in another town. The school had an excellent reputation, so my father reluctantly allowed me to enroll. But he warned me, "If they talk about their God, don't listen."

I nodded and promised myself to ignore anyone who tried to talk to me about God or the Bible.

## Curiosity Leads to Faith

I worked hard to please my family with good grades. But I soon realized that the Bible was central to the school's existence. I couldn't avoid hearing about the Bible and God. Every day classes began with morning worship and a Bible text. Bible class was a required course for every student. And that meant I needed to use the Bible. Reluctantly I obtained the forbidden book.

My teachers were different from others I had studied under. They were kind and cared about my progress in class. The students were different too. *How can these people with such deep faith be infidels?* I wondered. *And how can the Bible be so bad if these people live by its principles?*

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**My father reluctantly allowed me to enroll. But he warned me, 'If they talk about their God, don't listen.'**

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I started listening in class and in morning worship. I listened to my Bible teacher and to my fellow students. I was surprised to find that what they had to say made sense. One day I picked up the Bible and began reading it for myself. The more I read, the more I wanted to know. I asked questions and asked for Bible studies.

## Test of Faith

I realized that my father would be angry if he knew of my growing interest in Jesus, so I didn't tell my family. But when I decided to be baptized I knew I would have to tell my parents. I was afraid to tell my father, so I told my mother. I knew she would understand. And she did.

When I returned home during school break, neither of my parents said anything about my new faith. I knew my father expected me to work in the fields while I was home. I worked hard every day, and on Friday I worked twice as hard so I would not have to work on Sabbath. Then on Sabbath morning I went to the Adventist church in my town.

Father didn't even know I had not worked on Sabbath. But when someone

told him that I had gone to church on Sabbath, he doubled the work I was supposed to do on the following Friday and still expected me to work on Sabbath. It was impossible to finish Friday's and Sabbath's work before the Sabbath began.

On Sabbath morning my father called me to work in the fields. Humbly I explained that I would work twice as long on Sunday, but I wanted to worship God on Sabbath. As respectfully as possible I explained God's commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy.

Father did not want a theological discussion; he wanted obedience. "If you disobey me and go to church, then let those Adventists be your father. Let them buy your food and pay your school fees!"

I knew how hard it was for my father to disown me. I had been his favorite son.

## Choosing to Obey

"I have always obeyed you," I said. "But I am searching for wisdom, and God is wise. I must obey God. Let me worship God as He asks, and I will continue to work for you and be your son too." But my father refused.

So after church I returned home and gathered my things. I traveled to the Adventist school and told the principal what had happened. The school helped me with food and lodging so I could continue my studies.

I still love my family, but God is my Father now, and my church family takes care of me. I have no regrets. I thank God for the Adventist school where I first learned to love and follow God. Thank you for your support through the weekly mission offerings and through your generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. 🌍

## Mission Post

- Mahajanga Adventist School is located in northwestern Madagascar.
- Every year an average of 80 students are baptized as a result of the school's evangelistic efforts on campus. Between one third and one fourth of these are from non-Christian backgrounds.
- The school has become crowded as its reputation for excellence spreads across the region.

# Accused and Despised

MADAGASCAR | October 17

Ranary



I didn't know much about Adventists, but I was sure they were a little bit crazy. Nevertheless, when I learned that Zurcher Adventist University near my village was hiring workers, I applied for a job.

I was hired and started working at the school. Then I heard that the Adventists were planning to hold evangelistic meetings in my village. I wanted to see what these people believed, so I went to the meetings.

## Truth or Heresy?

When the speaker talked about baptism and explained that it was a public declaration of a Christian's willingness to follow Jesus, there was a lot of debate among listeners. *Isn't being baptized as a baby enough?* I questioned. But when I looked up the Bible texts the speaker had given, I realized that the Bible did indeed

teach baptism by immersion as a sign that a person was a follower of Jesus.

I had to concede the baptism idea, but when the speaker talked about the Sabbath, I was sure he was wrong. *The week begins on Monday*, I thought. *Therefore the seventh day is Sunday, not Saturday*. But I again checked my Bible and my dictionary and realized that the words for Saturday and Sabbath were almost identical in my language.

Reluctantly I had to admit that the Adventists were teaching Bible truths. I felt that my own church had been untruthful.

When I told my wife that I wanted to become an Adventist, her response was strong. "Are you crazy?" she demanded. "I thought you didn't like Adventists! What's wrong with the church you've been attending all these years?" My parents and brothers were also shocked



and couldn't understand why I was joining a church I didn't even like!

## Standing for Right

I began attending a small Adventist congregation in a village near my home. My wife fumed when I refused to eat a meal that contained pork. My father couldn't understand why I would give 10 percent of my earnings to a church when I could barely provide for my family. It was difficult, but I decided to stand for what the Bible said and trust God to bless me.

It wasn't easy, and some days I felt totally alone. In my culture family is all-important. And while I had a loving church family, my relatives stood against me. But I kept studying the Bible, even when my wife told me that so much reading would make me crazy. It was difficult to stay strong, especially when the work at the university ended.

## The Big Surprise

But then slowly things began to change. I took a job in a distant town and was

away for six months. When I returned my wife greeted me with the news that she was preparing for baptism! I learned that she had been studying the Bible with someone from the university during my absence and would be baptized the next day. What a wonderful surprise!

My mother began asking about my faith, and I started studying the Bible with her. When my brothers accused me of abandoning our family's long-held beliefs, my father told them to let me believe as I wished and to treat me with respect.

I was happy to be hired as a security guard at the Adventist university, for it meant I could have a steady job near my home.

## Accused

Then one night while I was on duty, some robbers entered the campus and held me at gunpoint as they forced the business manager to give them money. The men fled the campus, and the police arrived. I was shocked when they arrested me for cooperating with the criminals. I spent more than a year in prison while awaiting trial.

During this time my brothers insisted that I had brought this trouble on myself by becoming an Adventist. My wife and children struggled alone without help from my brothers. But they remained strong, and both my daughters were baptized.

At last the guilty men were arrested, and I was released from prison. The university offered me another job.

Becoming an Adventist has not made my life easy. But following God's truth is always worth it, and I have never regretted my decision. I pray that all my family members will someday feel the warmth of God's love as I have. 🌍

## Fast Facts

- Madagascar lies off the eastern coast of southern Africa. It is the fourth-largest island in the world. About 80 percent of its plants and animals are found nowhere else.
- The people of Madagascar originally came from what is now known as Indonesia and the eastern coast of Africa. Later people from India and Arab regions settled here. The earliest settlers brought with them their culture of ancestor worship, which is still practiced today.
- Some 20 million people live on the island today.

# A Most Satisfying Career Part 1

MALAWI | October 24

Harry



Harry and Alex\* worked as security guards in Malawi. They often talked to break up the boredom. One night Alex said, “I have an idea how we could earn some extra money.”

“What’s that?” Harry asked, interested.

“We could use our rifles in a little side business,” Alex said, lifting his gun. “Rich people have more than they need, and we need more than we get. We could take a little from them so we can have enough for ourselves.”

Harry wasn’t sure, but eventually he was convinced. The two broke into the home of a wealthy family and stole cash and anything they could carry. A few days later they robbed

more homes. But one night they were caught. Sitting in jail, Harry realized the seriousness of his crimes. The two men were sentenced to eight years of hard labor in a maximum-security prison and sent to separate prisons.

## Determined to Escape

Harry arrived at the prison determined to escape. His prison shirt was imprinted with the length of his prison term. One day Harry bribed another prisoner to trade shirts.

When he wore his new shirt with an earlier release date, he was assigned to a low-security job in the prison garden. Harry

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**The prison walls were made of mud bricks with a thick coating of cement . It took Harry and Alex only three days to dig through the wall.**

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noticed that every afternoon the armed guard watching them grew sleepy. One day when the guard was yawning, Harry dropped his hoe and ran. Other prisoners started running too.

The guards caught all the prisoners except Harry, who had hidden among some large stones. At dark the guards gave up their search and returned to the prison. Harry crawled out and escaped.

Harry found a job, and for 18 months he worked hard and stayed out of trouble. Then one day when he came into the bus station, the police were waiting to take him back to prison. He now had to serve 10 years.

### Surprise Cellmate

When Harry was escorted to his cell, he was surprised to find that his cell mate was Alex, his former partner in crime.

“Hey, I have an idea,” Alex said after Harry settled in.

“What’s your idea?” Harry asked. And suddenly it was just like old times.

The prison walls were made of mud bricks with a thick coating of cement over them. Harry and Alex decided to dig a small tunnel to the outside. It took them only three days to dig through the wall. The two waited until dark, then they crawled through the hole.

Everything seemed quiet, but as they scrambled up the outside wall, a guard saw them and shouted. The guards chased them, but Harry and Alex had a good head start.

The two stopped a car on the road, made the driver get out, and took the car. They drove to the city and sold the car for parts. But someone became suspicious and told the police. Alex escaped, but Harry was caught. This time he was

### Fast Facts

- After 73 years of being a protectorate of Great Britain, Nyasaland finally gained independence on July 6, 1964, and adopted the name of Malawi.
- Malawi adopted its constitution on May 18, 1994, and formed a legal system based on English common and customary law.
- The city of Lilongwe is the capital and largest city in Malawi.
- The official currency is called *kwacha*.
- The official languages of Malawi are English and Chichewa, spoken by 52 percent of the population.

sent to a small prison where he could be watched more closely. That decision changed his life. 🌍

*To be continued.*

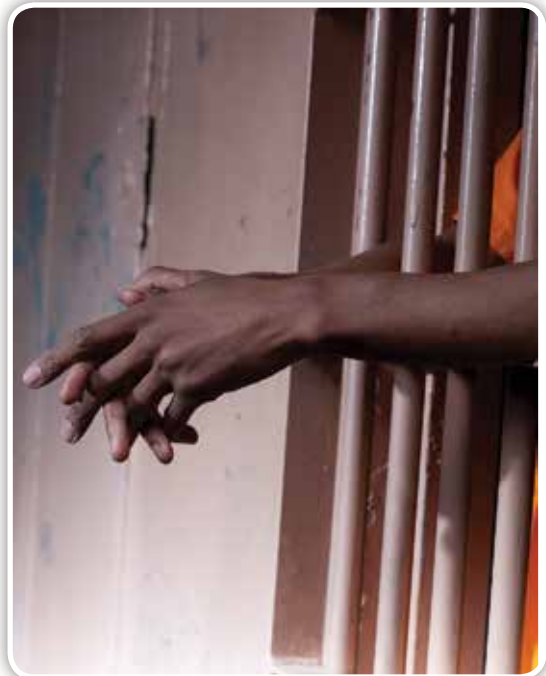


photo: BigStock.com

# A Most Satisfying Career Part 2

MALAWI | October 31

Harry



Some Christian lay workers visited the prison each week to teach prisoners about God. One of the prisoners invited Harry to join them. He went, but his mind focused on a way to escape from prison. A lay worker gave him a book called *The Great Controversy*. Harry read it, but he was sure that with all the crimes he'd committed, God wouldn't bother with him.

Often at night, some of the prisoners would sing and pray together from their cells. One night the words of their song touched Harry's heart. "I've wandered far away from God, now I'm coming home," they sang. In the darkness, tears fell

unchecked from Harry's eyes. Then he began sobbing. The same thing happened again a few nights later. Harry realized that God was calling him to come home, and he couldn't refuse.

Harry hesitated to join any one religious group, for he didn't know

which one taught Bible truth. He began studying many different religions. He even learned Arabic so he could read the Koran. But none of these religions seemed to hold the truth.

Then Harry remembered the book that he had received. He pulled it out and began reading it again. As he

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**Harry hesitated to join any religious group, for he didn't know which one taught Bible truth. . .**

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read *The Great Controversy*, he sensed that this book was teaching the truth.

Harry began meeting with the Bible class taught by the Adventists. He joined the baptismal class and prepared to be baptized. But because of Harry's reputation for escaping, the guards refused to allow Harry to leave for his baptism.

A month later Harry was transferred back to the original prison from which he had escaped. When he entered the prison, the guards greeted him. Some of them had heard that he had changed, and they watched to see if it was true. They even bribed other prisoners to spy on him.

Harry rejoiced to learn that Adventists held worship services in this prison too. He joined them and continued studying the Voice of Prophecy lessons he had started several months earlier. Finally he was allowed to be baptized.

Harry wrote to his family and told them

## Mission Post

- David Livingstone, a Scottish missionary, landed on the banks of Lake Malawi in 1859.
- Nearly 80 percent of the people in Malawi are Christian. The other major religion is Islam, followed by 12 percent of the population.
- The Malawi Union Mission was organized in 1925 and has three secondary schools, numerous hospitals, clinics and dispensaries, a publishing house, and an Adventist television and radio station.
- There are 1,360 Adventist churches in the Malawi Union Mission. Total membership is 418,847.

that he had given his life to God. When they visited him, they were amazed at the changes they saw. When Harry and his family prayed together, the guards bowed their heads too. They even left him alone with his mother, for they were convinced he would not try to escape again.

Harry threw himself into prison ministries from the inside. He held meetings, enrolled other prisoners in the Voice of Prophecy Bible courses, and shared books by Ellen White with other prisoners. The Adventist group worshiping in the prison grew to about 100 before Harry was released.

When Harry returned home, he began working as a literature evangelist. He loves sharing his faith with those he meets and leading them to God. "Leading souls to Jesus is a new and satisfying career, far better than the one that landed me in jail," he testifies. 🌍

\* *Alex is a pseudonym.*

photo: by Michael Fu via wikimedia



# The Unexpected Answer

MALAWI | November 7

Willan



## Spirit Worshiper Comes to Church

When the nyau came nearer, he stopped dancing and turned toward the speaker. The crowd following him stopped, and the nyau didn't move. Instead, he leaned against a wall, apparently planning to listen to the evangelist. The crowd following him stopped clapping and listened as the speaker quickly resumed his message.

The nyau listened quietly to the rest of the sermon. Someone estimated that 200 people who had been following the nyau listened as well. The speaker was nervous, but he continued with his presentation about Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2. After the closing prayer, the nyau and his followers continued toward the cemetery.

The next evening the meeting started with the same 30 people, but as the program progressed, more came. Even the nyau, dressed in his mask and swishing skirts, came with his followers. He didn't stand outside the meeting place this time, but entered the tent and sat down. His followers sat down too. The speaker couldn't be sure that the nyau was the same who had come previously, but he recognized many of the

A small group of Adventists in Malawi planned to hold evangelistic meetings. On the first night of the meetings they were disappointed when only a few people came. They prayed, but attendance hovered around 30. Some suggested that they cancel the meetings, but the speaker refused. "If we pray earnestly," he said, "God will make something happen."

The next evening the meeting opened with the same 30 people. They sang and prayed, then the speaker stood up. Suddenly a commotion of clapping and cheering drowned out the speaker.

The commotion increased as a crowd of people following a *nyau* [nee-ow]—a spirit worshiper dressed in swishing grass skirts and rags and wearing an ornate headdress and mask—approached the meeting place. The nyau probably was on his way to a graveyard.

## Fast Facts

- The total population of Malawi is 16.36 million.
- The terrain of Malawi is a mix of rolling plains with long plateaus and some mountains.
- The most prominent feature of the country is Lake Malawi which stretches 580 kilometers (360 miles) in length.
- The economy of Malawi is greatly dependent on agriculture, which forms about 90 percent of the country's export revenues. The country's main exports are tobacco, tea, sugar, and cotton.

nyau's followers. Other visitors came, curious to know what was being preached in their neighborhood that could possibly interest a nyau. That night almost 80 people attended the meeting.

Attendance at the meetings continued increasing. A few nights later, the speaker invited listeners to accept Jesus as their Savior. That evening 95 people accepted Jesus and asked for further Bible studies.

### More Spirit Worshipers

The next night close to 200 people came to the meeting, including two more nyaus, dressed in torn clothes and wearing leafy branches to cover their faces. That night an additional 50 answered the call to accept Jesus.

The meetings continued for 21 nights, and baptismal classes followed. On the day of the baptism 145 were baptized. Among them was a man who identified himself as the nyau who had interrupted the meeting when he stopped to listen that first night.

This former nyau continues to be faithful to Jesus.

Today the little group that prayed and worked to increase their membership are now worshiping in a larger church. Their previous church was too small to accommodate all the new members and those who continue to come, curious about the message that attracts devil worshipers to worship the living God.

### Medical Missionary Work

In 1908 a small Adventist hospital was started near Makwasa, Malawi. For more than 100 years this hospital has provided physical and spiritual healing to one of the poorest countries in Africa. Malawi is home to more than 13 million people, many of whom live in poverty and are in dire need of medical care. HIV/AIDS is rampant and is changing the face of Malawi.

Today Malamulo Adventist Hospital has more than 200 beds and runs numerous community outreach and outpatient programs. The hospital also runs a medical school that trains nurses, laboratory technicians, and other medical staff. The school attracts students from all over the country and is an important part of the hospital's outreach to the community. Students learn skills that will help them earn a living, as well as save lives of those in need.

One of Malamulo's greatest challenges is HIV/AIDS patients. Approximately 50 to 60 percent of adults who are admitted to the hospital have HIV/AIDS. Despite the high number of these cases, the hospital is often able to help transform their patients' lives, both physically and spiritually. Thank you for your support of Adventist mission. 🌍

# God's Saving Hand

## Part 1

### The Banda Family

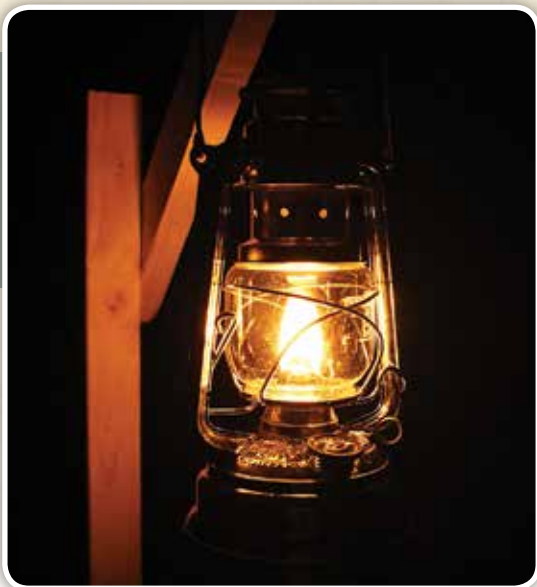


photo: BigStock.com

Wesley Banda pastored several villages in Malawi. The family lived in a two-room house. Because the area had no electricity, Mrs. Banda prepared the family meals outside over an open fire.

One evening after dinner Mrs. Banda returned to her fire to prepare the morning meal of sadza (a thick porridge of cornmeal). Her husband sat in the family's front room, working on some papers. The children sat quietly in the room waiting for family devotions, but 5-year-old Joshua had fallen asleep on the mat at his father's feet.

As Pastor Banda lit the paraffin lamp, their only source of light, the flame sputtered, and he noticed the lamp was running low on fuel. He fetched the paraffin and began refilling the tank. But unknown to him, the paraffin was

contaminated with a small amount of gasoline. As he poured the fuel into the lamp's reservoir the fumes caught fire, and the lamp exploded in his hands.

### Devastating Fire

Instinctively Pastor Banda threw the lamp across the room, but his clothes had caught fire. Mrs. Banda heard the explosion and looked up to see her husband run out the door, his clothes aflame. She immediately threw a pan of water onto his burning clothes while he rolled on the ground. Soon the fire was out.

The children ran out of the house, screaming, "Fire! Fire!" The burning fuel had set the front room ablaze. In the excitement, nobody noticed that little Joshua was missing. Moments later Mrs. Banda looked at the doorway and saw Joshua crawling out of

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**The burning fuel had set the front room ablaze. In the excitement, nobody noticed that little Joshua was missing.**

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the house; his clothes were burning. She shrieked and grabbed her youngest child and dropped him into a pan of water. The fire hissed and went out, but Joshua was terribly burned.

The neighbors dashed out of their houses to see what had happened. They rushed to put out the fire, but most of the family's belongings were destroyed.

Their village had no clinic or hospital, so a neighbor ran to the house of a farmer who had a car. They banged on his door and begged for his immediate help. He rushed over to drive the Bandas to the nearest hospital. Even so, it was nearly midnight when the family entered the hospital emergency room. It had been more than four hours since the explosion.

The doctors shook their heads as they looked at the burns that the pastor and his son had suffered. Pastor Banda's burns were serious, but little Joshua was even more seriously injured. Terrible burns

## Mission Post

- Malamulo Hospital is a Seventh-day Adventist Church institution located 65 kilometers southeast of the city of Blantyre.
- The Seventh-day Adventist Church purchased the land area that is now called Malamulo for a mission station in 1902. The missionaries named it "Malamulo" after the Chichewa word for "commandments." During the next few years, various entities were established: a secondary school, training schools for teachers and ministers, and a publishing press. The first clinic opened in 1915, with advanced services being offered by 1927. Since then, the Malamulo Mission compound has grown to include primary and secondary schools, the Malamulo College of Health Sciences, and a vibrant church. At the center of the compound is the hospital.
- The hospital serves a population of 129,000 from two surrounding districts. It is estimated that Malamulo treats 6,000 individuals per month as inpatients, outpatients and community-based clinics.

covered his legs, stomach, and chest. Every movement brought screams of pain from the little boy. Even while they worked to save father and son, some of the doctors tried to prepare the family for the likelihood that Joshua wouldn't survive.

"We're doing everything we can for your son," the doctor said gently. "But he is so badly burned that it would be a blessing if he died."

"No!" Mrs. Banda said firmly. "God has saved his life. Do what you must, but God will save my son." 🌍

*To be continued.*

photo: Fire by Tony Webster, via Wikimedia



# God's Saving Hand Part 2

## The Banda Family



photo: BigStock.com

Treating the wounds was nearly as painful as the burns themselves. Every day nurses removed the bandages and soaked the burns in saltwater. Then they gently scraped the burns to remove the dead skin. This would help prevent infection. The nurses taught Mrs. Banda how to wash the wounds and apply the medicine. She stayed in the hospital with her husband and son to prepare their meals and help care for them.

After two long months Pastor Banda insisted that he could stay no longer in the hospital. His muscles were weak and he could barely walk, but he was concerned about his church members.

After Pastor Banda returned home, Joshua and his mother remained in the hospital for four more months. Every day his mother talked gently to him as she cleaned

and dressed his wounds. Her presence strengthened the boy and gave him hope.

It was difficult for the family to be separated for so many months. They couldn't visit one another, but they could pray.

After six months Joshua was transferred to a rehabilitation hospital for another three months of physical therapy. He couldn't walk, but he learned to shuffle along behind a walker. His mother began a new routine of daily therapy. She soaked

his legs in warm water and then stretched the muscles in his legs. It was painful, but she urged Joshua to sing instead of cry.

At last Joshua was able to go home, but his mother continued treating him and encouraged him to walk. When he saw his friends playing outside, he wanted to play too.

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**His mother soaked his legs in warm water, then stretched the muscles in his legs. It was painful, but she urged Joshua to sing instead of cry.**

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After a year of recovery and therapy Joshua was able to walk without help.

Pastor Banda's recovery took a long time too. His damaged leg muscles would not stretch enough to allow him to ride a bicycle. And this made it very difficult for him to get from one church to another in the countryside. But his churches continued to grow in size and in faith.

Pastor Banda knows that throughout their ordeal God was beside each member of the family, encouraging, blessing, and healing. "God was blessing us even during our most difficult hour," he says. "When I returned to work from the hospital, the church prospered even more, and more people came into the church than had been coming before the fire."

Mrs. Banda was also grateful for God's blessings during the terrible ordeal. "I thank God for saving my husband and son," she says. "This experience taught me the importance of spending more time with my family. I had failed to notice some

## Fast Facts

- Malawi is a landlocked country in the southeast part of Africa. It is bordered by Zambia to the northwest, Tanzania to the northeast, and Mozambique on the east, south and west.
- Lake Malawi contains more fish species than any other lake on earth.
- Malawi has a subtropical climate with a rainy season (November to May), and a dry season (May to November).
- Malawi boasts more than 750 different species of birds.

special qualities in little Joshua that I saw when he was in the hospital. For example, he has a wonderful talent for singing that I did not fully realize until I heard him singing while he was confined to his bed in the hospital. During our long hospital stay we had time to become good friends with each other and with God." 🌍



photo: Wiki.com

# Discovering God's Way

SOUTH AFRICA | November 28

Njabuliso



*[Ask a teen or young adult woman to present this first-person report.]*

I live in a town in northeastern South Africa. I've attended church and Sunday School all my life, but when a large tent appeared on a vacant lot in town, my life changed forever.

## **"Lo, He Is Coming"**

Posters announced the tent meetings with the words "Lo, He is coming again!" *Who is coming again?* I wondered. Some people said that the people sponsoring the meetings were Satanists, so I was afraid to attend.

Then I heard a woman say, "Tonight

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**Some said that the people sponsoring the meetings were Satanists, so I was afraid to attend.**

---

the speaker will tell about Jesus' second coming." That caught my attention. *Jesus already came as a baby*, I thought. *Why would He come again?* I'd never heard anything like this before. *Are these Christian meetings?* I asked myself.

Curiosity overcame my fear, and that evening I crept close to the tent. I wanted to know what this speaker was talking about, but I was afraid to go inside. *If what the speaker says is too scary*, I reasoned, *I can always leave.*

"Good evening," a man greeted me, giving me a Bible. I took it and sat down in a plastic chair inside the tent. *These men don't seem scary*, I thought. As I waited,

## Fast Facts

- Ingwavuma is a town in northeastern South Africa. It lies close to the borders of Swaziland and Mozambique.
- Most of the people are farmers. They raise tomatoes, sweet potatoes, maize (corn), and some cattle. Most raise just enough to feed their families. They're not a wealthy people.
- HIV/AIDS is a serious health matter in the region surrounding Ingwavuma, where about one in three people is believed to have or carry the disease.

I flipped through the Bible I had been given. I had a New Testament at home, but I'd never owned an entire Bible.

### Discovering Bible Truth

The speaker stood to begin. He showed slides to illustrate his sermon and display Bible texts he quoted. He quoted so many Bible texts that I began to wonder if what I had heard about these meetings could be lies. *Satanists wouldn't quote from the Bible*, I thought. Each Bible text supported what the speaker was saying. I became convinced that he was telling the truth.

At the end of the meeting I realized that I had found something precious. In my church we seldom used our Bibles, but this speaker used the Bible for every point. I wanted to know more.

God's Word brought me back to the meetings every night for the rest of the series. Near the end of the meetings I told the speaker, "I've learned so much about Jesus during these meetings. I feel that I barely knew Him before. How can

I give my life to God? How can I join your church?"

The pastor invited me to join a special class that was forming for those who wanted to learn more about the Bible and Adventist beliefs. Eagerly I joined the class and prepared for baptism.

### Standing for My Faith

My parents knew that I had been attending the tent meetings, but they hadn't said anything to me about it. They assumed that when the meetings ended, I would forget about these Adventists. So when they learned I was planning to study the Bible and become an Adventist, they weren't happy.

In fact, it seemed lots of people were unhappy to learn that 30 people had asked to become Seventh-day Adventists during the meetings. Pastors and church leaders in the town tried to discourage us from joining the Adventist Church. They even held public meetings to discourage us from becoming Adventists. Some people gave in to the pressure to remain in their former churches. But I was determined; I wanted to follow God. And when the excitement died down, even more people asked to become Adventists.

In the end, 40 people were baptized and became the first members of the Adventist congregation in my town. Two Global Mission Pioneers who remained in the town after the evangelistic meetings taught us how to share our faith with others. We went door to door and talked and prayed with people. Today our church membership has doubled to 80 people plus visitors and lots of children. 🌍

# Making Wise Choices

## Julius



Julius lives in southern Zambia. He grew up in a family that had no religious roots. When he was 14, some friends invited him to join their gang, and he did. He didn't understand the dangers of alcohol and drug use, and before long Julius was addicted. Soon he joined his friends in other activities—activities that offered the thrill of danger.

### Riots

Riots broke out in the city and Julius and his friends decided to join in. To boost their courage, the boys smoked marijuana and drank beer. When they arrived at the scene of the riots, the police were there, trying to break up the fighting.

Julius followed his friends to a house, where the boys grabbed anything of value and fled. They saw a police officer ahead and tried to dodge him. But the police officer yelled for them to stop. One of the boys attacked him, and in the skirmish that followed, bullets flew. Suddenly Julius felt something sting his neck, and blood trickled

onto his shirt. He had been shot. Another boy fell to the ground, shot in the stomach. He died on the street.

Suddenly the boys were not brave warriors, but terrified teens. They helped Julius home and treated his wound. It wasn't serious, and Julius realized how lucky he was to be alive.

### A Different Kind of Friend

That evening Alex, a friend of Julius, visited him. Alex had heard about the shooting and knew that Julius needed to change his life. Alex invited Julius to go to church with him. Julius reluctantly agreed, but added, "I don't want to hear anything about God."

Alex was different from most of the boys Julius knew. When Julius and his friends teased him about being a Christian, Alex didn't become angry. In fact, he wanted to be Julius's friend.

That night following the shooting, Julius had a dream. In it he saw a man who looked like Jesus sitting on a throne and judging people. Julius watched as Jesus sent people to heaven or hell, and he wondered where Jesus would send him. But when Jesus looked at Julius, He said nothing. He just stood and left

the room, leaving Julius standing alone.

Julius awoke with a start, sure that God was speaking to him through the dream. But he wasn't sure what to do about it.

## Struggle for Allegiance

The next morning one of Julius's friends came to see him. He offered Julius some marijuana, and soon both boys were high on drugs. Julius forgot about his dream.

But that night he had another dream. This time three angels carrying black books came to talk to him about Jesus and heaven. This time when Julius woke up he knew that God was calling him. He dressed and went to his friends and told them, "I'm giving my life to Jesus. I'm not going to smoke or drink anymore."

His friends didn't believe him and made fun of him, but Julius was determined to change. He thought of his dead friend and of Alex, who had invited him to go to church on Wednesday for Bible study. Julius left his friends and got ready to go to church.

As he entered the church that evening, Julius found several groups of people studying the Bible together. He sat near one of the teachers and listened to things he had never heard before. He sensed that this was the church that taught the truth. He told Alex that he wanted to attend church on Sabbath.

At Sabbath School and worship service that Sabbath Julius realized how much he had to learn. He asked his friend how he could become a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. Alex introduced him to the pastor, and Julius joined the baptismal class. Alex also invited Julius to study the Bible with him. The two went to a quiet place outside of town to study. His friends saw him and invited him to drink beer and smoke marijuana with them, but he refused. "I can't go back to that," he told them. They laughed and left him alone with Alex.

## Struggle and Victory

Julius quickly discovered that it wasn't easy to quit using drugs and alcohol. He struggled with his cravings, but Alex stayed with him, studying the Bible and praying for victory for Julius. "Alex helped me focus on God, not on drugs and drink," Julius said. "And God delivered me." Once Julius gained the victory over his addictions, he was ready to be baptized.

Just as God used Alex to lead Julius to Jesus, Julius now shares his faith with his friends. Although some still make fun of him, two of his friends have been baptized. "That's what mission is about," Julius says with a smile.

Your mission offerings help train youth and adults to share their faith with friends and neighbors. Thank you for giving. 🌍

## Fast Facts

- The capital city of Zambia is Lusaka.
- The country's name comes from the Zambezi River and means "heart of all."
- Victoria Falls is located on the Zambezi River. This is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. Africans refer to it as *Musi-o-Tunyl*, meaning "the smoke that thunders."
- The Kwacha is the Zambian monetary unit.
- Iron and copper have been mined in Zambia for more than 2,000 years.
- The official language in Zambia is English.

# Enlarge My Vision

ZAMBIA | December 12

Moses



I never intended to become a Christian. I met God while enrolled in a public boarding school. Actually, I met a girl whom I wanted to date. I got up the courage to ask her out, then went to her study hall to charm her into dating me. I knew she was a Christian, but that didn't bother me. When I entered the room, I found her reading a pamphlet. I sat down beside her and asked her what she was reading. She offered me one of the pamphlets, and I pretended to read it just to impress her. When I asked her for a date she gently declined, but asked me to keep the pamphlet. Later that evening I sat down and read it. It was a Voice of Prophecy lesson about hell, and it worried me. I hardly slept that night.

I was often in trouble because I frequently broke school rules. On Saturday morning, the day after I had asked this girl for a date, I went to the administration building to see

if I had been caught breaking any rules that week and had been assigned campus duties.

## An Invitation

As I was reading the list a guy came up beside me and invited me to come to a worship service with him in the auditorium. I wasn't interested in religion, but for some reason I accepted the invitation. We walked across campus to the auditorium. Little did I know that the girl I had asked out the day before was an Adventist.

I had two dollars in my pocket that I had planned to spend drinking on Saturday night. But when the offering basket was passed, I surprised myself by giving the two dollars. Later I realized that this action saved me from drinking that weekend.

While I hadn't accepted the invitation to attend church because of the girl I wanted to date, I was glad when I saw her there. She befriended me and helped me feel



welcome at the church meetings. But she still wouldn't go out with me.

From the first day I attended church I decided to stop smoking and drinking. Thank God, I never smoked or drank again. When I broke away from old friends, they gave me trouble about my new religious interest. They begged me to go drinking with them, and did everything they could to get me back. But I refused. I made new friends in church. Several months later I gave my life to Christ and followed Him in baptism. I was 17 years old at the time.

### A Sober Realization

After completing high school, I worked as a literature evangelist for three years. One day I visited a hospital, and there I saw someone who looked familiar. I barely recognized him, but it was one of my former drinking buddies, my childhood friend. He was dying of TB and AIDS. I stared at him in shock as he lay there unconscious. It was too late for me to share Christ with him, but I couldn't shake the realization that if I had resisted God's call, it could have been me lying there. My former friend died a few days later. This experience deepened my conviction that I must answer God's call whenever and wherever it comes. To put it off could mean death.

I planned to be a literature evangelist for the rest of my life. After all, it had been the printed page that had influenced me to consider Christ. But the local field called me to pastor three churches. I had no training as a minister and had never thought about doing this kind of work. I struggled to decide whether to take this call, because it was not in the direction I thought God had been leading me. Nevertheless, I finally accepted the call.

After I had been in ministry for several

years, the conference sponsored me to study at Solusi University in Zimbabwe. During school breaks I held evangelistic meetings wherever someone asked me to go. Word spread that I was willing, and more invitations came. I discovered that this is what I love to do.

### Don't Limit God

During an evangelism field school a speaker challenged us to expand our vision of how God can use us. "Don't limit yourself," he said, "and don't limit God." The speaker's words challenged me. But how could I expand my vision of what God expected of me? He had already done so much more than I thought would ever be possible!

Several months later I received a call to hold evangelistic meetings in South Africa. I looked at the calendar and realized that the dates they gave me were the dates of my final exams. Because of my prayer for God to expand my territory, I didn't tell the people in South Africa of my dilemma, but I fasted and prayed that God would make it possible for me to go. I believed God would open the way. I knew that the dates for the meetings were not changeable, and I knew I could not change my exam schedule. God went to work on my behalf, and I soon learned that my exams had been moved up a full week!

The meetings were such a blessing. Nineteen people gave their lives to God. Surely God has increased my territory, enlarged my vision, and made a worthless sinner into a willing instrument of God's power. I completed my studies at Solusi and am now serving as an ordained minister in Zambia. 🌍

# Nothing But Faith

ZIMBABWE | December 19

John



John grew up knowing that God was calling him to become a minister, and he longed to attend Solusi University. However, in Zimbabwe, paid work for students is nearly impossible to find, so John had to rely on his mother to pay his school fees.

Because of his love for soul winning, John spent the summer traveling to several towns where he held short evangelistic meetings. He rejoiced to see 100 people come to Christ.

Returning home from his evangelism summer, John learned that there wasn't money to pay his school fees. His mother explained that her goods weren't selling. "Perhaps you'll have to wait a semester to go to school," she told John.

"Don't worry," he told her. "God called me to the ministry, and He'll help with my school fees."

## An Urgent Prayer

John packed his bag and got on the bus to Solusi, arriving with not enough money to buy a ticket home. He had nothing but his faith.

That night, John stayed in a friend's dorm room. The next day he went to see the dean, who was reluctant to assign him a room before he had financial clearance. But the dean knew John and finally agreed. "But if you haven't received financial clearance by 5:00 p.m. tomorrow, you'll have to move out."

John thanked him and went to the room. Immediately he knelt down and prayed. "God, thank You for the time that I have this room. If You don't pay my fees, I'll have to move out tomorrow, so it's up to You. Thanks, Lord. Amen."

John had heard that his friend Sister Jeremiah, an evangelist, was holding meetings on campus. He went to visit her. "Did you pay your fees?" she asked him.

"No," he said honestly. "We don't have the money. I've come to pray with you about it."

"Let's not ask God for the money," she

said. “Let’s just thank Him for providing the money you need.”

The money didn’t come that day. As John walked around campus several friends stopped to ask how things were going. John didn’t tell them about his financial needs, but replied, smiling, “Everything is fine; God is in control.”

But by bedtime that night nothing had happened. John again placed his situation in God’s hands and then went to sleep.

### Answered Prayer

The next morning John went to a campus prayer service. The leader asked for volunteers to pray. John prayed for the students who had needs, and silently he prayed for his own need.

A couple hours later he met a friend on campus. “How are you? Is everything OK?” his friend asked him.

“Yes,” John said, “everything is OK. God is in control.”

“How’s your mom?” the friend asked.

“She’s fine,” John answered. Then without thinking, he added, “But she’s worried about my school fees.”

“How much do you need?” he asked.

“Fifty thousand [Zimbabwean] dollars.”

His friend pulled out some *pula*, currency from Botswana. “Here’s 250 *pula*,” his friend said. The money was equivalent to 23,000 Zimbabwean dollars. John thanked his friend warmly.

OK, God, he thought. *Now how do I turn this pula into enough Zimbabwean dollars to register?*

Within minutes John found someone willing to exchange his pula for Zimbabwean dollars—at a rate that gave him half the amount he needed to register. John hurried to a phone to tell his mother what God had done.

“Mom,” he said, “can you please send Mercy [John’s sister] to the bank to deposit 25,000 [Zimbabwean] dollars?”

“John,” she answered, “you know I don’t have the money.”

“Just send Mercy to town,” John said. “God will provide the money.” His mother was puzzled, but she didn’t argue. If John had that kind of faith, she dared not doubt. So she asked Mercy to go to town and wait for God to give her the money for John.

Meanwhile John went to deposit the \$25,000 that he had received into Solusi’s bank account. Then he called his mother again.

### Another Miracle

“I’ve been trying to reach you!” she said. “Mercy met a friend of yours in town who had planned to give you some money, but you had already left for school. When Mercy told him how much you needed, it was more than he had planned to give, but when he opened his wallet, he had more than \$25,000. So he gave Mercy the money for you. We just need to know Solusi’s account number so we can deposit it!”

John’s eyes filled with tears as he heard how God was answering his prayers. Hurrying back to school, John arrived just minutes before the office closed. His heart felt light, and his step was easy as he thought of how God had performed another miracle for a young man with nothing but faith.

More than 1,000 students are enrolled at Solusi University. The school is growing larger, and more space in the dining hall is needed. Thank you for supporting the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering which will help build an extension to the university’s dining hall. 🌍

## Thirteenth Sabbath Program

➤	<b>Opening Song</b>	“Far and Near the Fields Are Teeming” <i>The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal</i> , No. 358
➤	<b>Welcome</b>	Superintendent or Sabbath School teacher
➤	<b>Prayer</b>	
➤	<b>Program</b>	“The First Mission Project: <i>The Pitcairn</i> ”
➤	<b>Offering</b>	
➤	<b>Closing Song</b>	“Bringing in the Sheaves” <i>The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal</i> , No. 369
➤	<b>Closing Prayer</b>	

**Participants:** A narrator and two story readers.

**Props:** Enlarge the pictures of the *Pitcairn* and of Daniel Fitch, or download them from [www.adventistmission.org/resources](http://www.adventistmission.org/resources).

**Narrator:** This coming year, 2016, marks the 130th anniversary of the first mission project of the Seventh-day Adventist Church—raising funds to build a missionary boat, the *Pitcairn*. In honor of this anniversary, today we will listen to the story of the first mission project.

**Reader 1:** The First Mission Project

Catherine and Elisha\* sat in the wooden pew of their small-town church on Sabbath morning. Their fingers tightly clutched coins they had brought for the mission offering. It was the Adventist Church’s first mission offering, and it would help build a mission ship. Catherine had helped her mother bake and sell bread, and Elisha had washed

windows and delivered groceries for the owner of the general store. Together they had earned 11 cents to give to the mission-ship fund. That’s worth more than US\$3.50 today. For comparison, in 1886 a loaf of bread sold for less than five cents.

When the offering was announced, the children marched forward. “We’ve brought enough to buy a board!” Elisha told the pastor, his eyes shining. Other children and adults came too. Some brought one cent, while others brought 10 or even 15 cents. “My offering can buy some nails!” one boy almost shouted. “I hope my offering will buy canvas for the sails,” a much quieter girl said.

Adventist believers were excited, for



*The missionary boat, Pitcairn, was built from the first Seventh-day Adventist mission offering.*

*Daniel Fitch first served as a cabin boy on the missionary ship Pitcairn. Later he became a Seventh-day Adventist minister.*



this mission ship was *their* ship, built and equipped to share God's love with people in the South Pacific. One boy helped his mother make hundreds of popcorn balls, which he sold to raise \$15 for the mission ship! Imagine popping popcorn over a woodburning stove to make all those popcorn balls!

Every cent had been earned by sacrifice and hard work. It was almost impossible to imagine raising the \$12,000 needed to build the missionary ship. And actually, the final cost of the ship, including furnishings and a pump organ, came to about \$19,000.

**Reader 2:** The story of the ship called *Pitcairn* started many years earlier when a young man named John Tay heard the story of a rebellious crew on a British ship who had put their cruel captain aboard a lifeboat and sailed away. The crew had found refuge on a tiny island in the South Pacific called Pitcairn. The rebels, called mutineers, had been sure they would never be found.

But alcohol nearly destroyed the islanders as the men fought among themselves. Eventually only one man, John Adams, remained alive to care for the women and children on the island. He

gave up alcohol and turned to the Bible. Soon he and all the people of Pitcairn gave their hearts to God.

After some time news of Pitcairn Island reached the world. John Tay vowed to visit the island and share the Adventist message with the people there. In 1886 he arranged to sail to the South Pacific in exchange for working aboard a ship. Four months and six ships later John Tay arrived on Pitcairn.

The people of Pitcairn invited Tay to stay on their island until the next ship arrived several weeks later. Tay introduced the people to new Bible truths, and the islanders accepted his message. They began keeping the Sabbath and studied the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation together. By the time Tay left the island several weeks later, virtually everyone on Pitcairn was keeping the Sabbath.

"Please baptize us!" the people begged. John Tay promised to send a pastor to baptize them.

**Reader 1:** Tay returned to the United States and shared the story of Pitcairn. Soon church leaders voted to raise funds to build a mission ship that would sail to Pitcairn and other South Pacific islands to share the gospel with the people there.

Fittingly, the boat was named *Pitcairn*.

Sabbath School members across North America—for that’s where most Adventists lived at the time—joined together to build the mission boat. Penny by penny the ship was built, and in 1890, four years after John Tay had first visited Pitcairn Island, the mission ship *Pitcairn* sailed with its crew and three missionary couples, including John and Hannah Tay.

When the little ship arrived at Pitcairn Island, the people of Pitcairn rejoiced! At last they could be baptized! Within a few weeks 82 people were baptized, and a church was formed on Pitcairn Island.

But the *Pitcairn’s* work wasn’t finished. It continued sailing the seas in the South Pacific, bringing the gospel message to city folk and cannibals alike. And just think: it all started with a dream, a lot of hard work, and hundreds of popcorn balls!

**Reader 2:** The ship *Pitcairn* was built with the first mission offerings taken in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It took six months to raise the funds. Adults and children alike worked to raise money for the first mission ship. After the *Pitcairn* left Pitcairn Island, it sailed to other islands of the South Pacific. John Tay and his wife stayed in Fiji to share God’s love with cannibals living there. Sadly, John Tay died five months later and is buried on the island.

**Narrator:** Since that first mission offering given in 1886, Seventh-day Adventists around the world have sacrificially given more than US\$2.2 billion (or \$13.3 billion in today’s U.S. dollars) in mission offerings.\*

This quarter our mission focus has been

\* See “100 Years of Mission Giving” by Gina Wahlen, *Adventist World*, November, 2012, <http://www.adventistworld.org/2014/august/100-years-of-mission-giving/739-100-years-of-mission-giving.html>

on the people of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division. Our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering today will help to build a much needed Adventist primary school in northern Botswana, where there are academies but no Adventist schools for younger children. The value of Adventist education is well known in Botswana for its integral part in producing good citizens. Many of the students who attend Adventist schools choose to be baptized, and they serve as a bridge to their family members and friends. This new Adventist primary school will serve as a missionary center in reaching entire families for Christ.

**Reader 1:** In addition to building the Gateway Adventist Primary School in Botswana, our offerings today will greatly help the students at Solusi University in Zimbabwe who each day crowd into a too-small dining hall. Since its establishment in 1894, the school has grown tremendously and now hosts more than 14,000 students. Solusi University was the first private institution of higher learning in the country of Zimbabwe. Our offerings today will help to expand their facilities to accommodate many more students in the university dining hall.

**Reader 2:** Health is also an important priority, and today our Thirteenth Sabbath offerings will help establish the Gweru Adventist Health Center in Zimbabwe. This outpatient clinic will provide services to all members of the community, stretching from the vulnerable low-income earners to high-class citizens. It will include a special pediatric unit serving all children in the area.

**Narrator:** Today, let’s continue the wonderful tradition of giving liberally

to support mission. Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that will help the people in Botswana and Zimbabwe.

[Offering]

*\*Note: The children's names in the story are fictional, as records of individual donors were not kept.*

## Leader's Resources

For more information on the cultures and history of Botswana, Zimbabwe, and other countries within the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division, visit your local library or a travel agency, or check out the websites listed below.

Visit the following websites for cultural information and pictures:

Botswana: [www.lonelyplanet.com/botswana](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/botswana)

Zimbabwe: [www.lonelyplanet.com/zimbabwe](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/zimbabwe)

You may also wish to visit the following denominational websites:

Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division: [www.sidadventist.org](http://www.sidadventist.org)

Botswana Union Conference: [www.bu.adventist.org](http://www.bu.adventist.org)

Zimbabwe Union Conference Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/zuc.adventist.org](http://www.facebook.com/zuc.adventist.org)

Solusi University: <http://solusi.ac.zw>

The Adventist Mission website contains additional material that can add flavor to your mission presentation. You will find recipes and other activities in the Children's Mission Quarterly section.

Mission Spotlight video reports are available to download or stream at [am.adventistmission.org/mission-spotlight](http://am.adventistmission.org/mission-spotlight).

An offering goal device will help focus attention on world missions and increase weekly mission giving. Ask your Sabbath School council to set a quarterly mission-offering goal (set the goal a little higher than last quarter and divide it by 14, one part for each of the 12 regular Sabbaths this quarter and two parts for Thirteenth Sabbath). Chart the weekly progress toward the quarter's goal on the goal device.

**Next quarter the South American Division will be featured.** Special projects include two floating churches on the Amazon River, a church at the Agro-Industrial Adventist Trans-Amazon Academy, and centers of influence in Paraguay and Uruguay.

**Second quarter 2016 will feature the South Pacific Division.** Special projects include a Hope Channel studio in Auckland, New Zealand; a Family Wellness Center in Suva, Fiji; and Children's Discipleship Centers in Papua New Guinea, the Trans Pacific Union Mission, and New Caledonia

# YOUTH & ADULT MISSION

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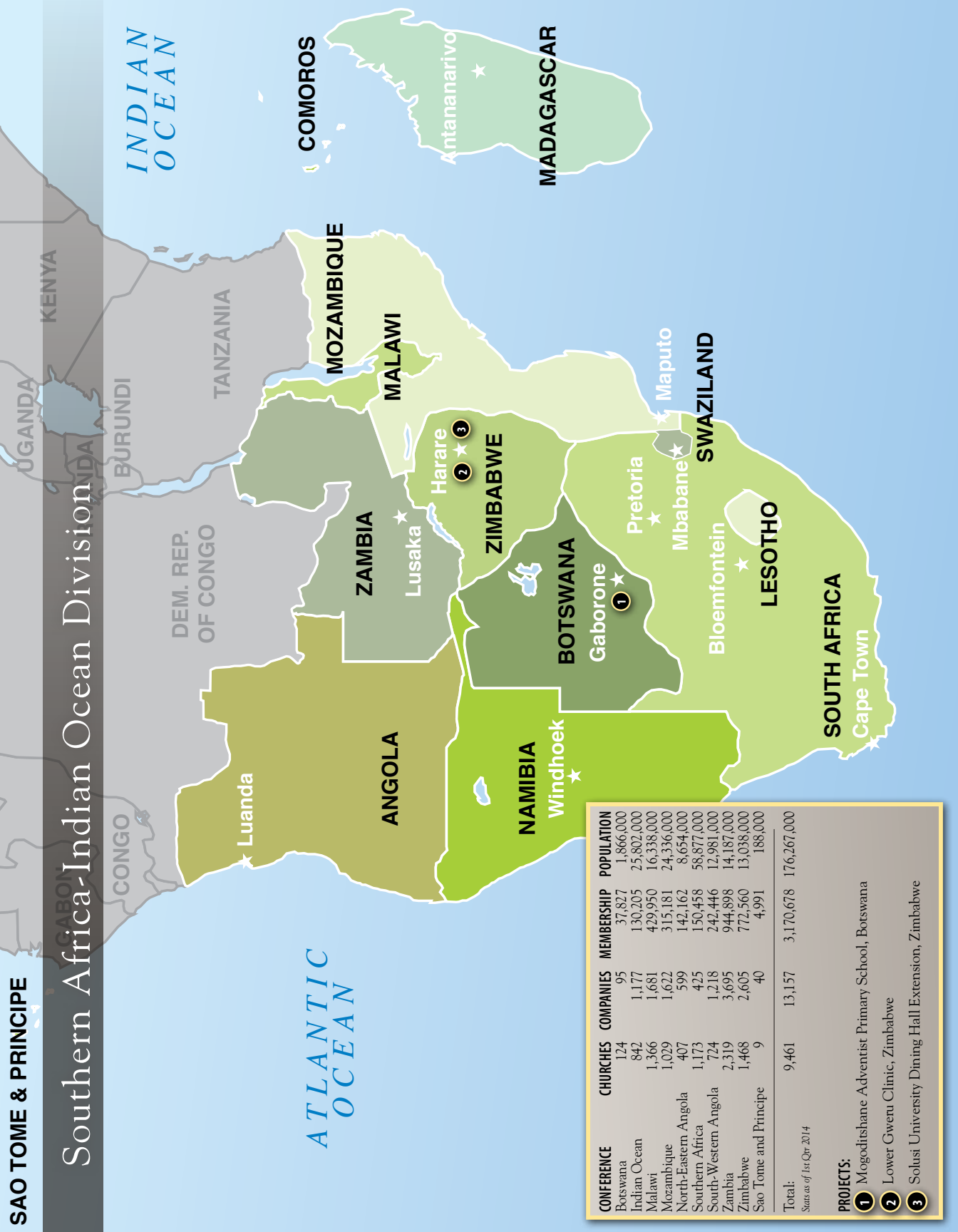
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# Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division



CONFERENCE	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Botswana	124	95	37,827	1,866,000
Indian Ocean	842	1,177	130,205	25,802,000
Malawi	1,366	1,681	429,950	16,338,000
Mozambique	1,029	1,622	315,181	24,336,000
North-Eastern Angola	407	599	142,162	8,654,000
Southern Africa	1,173	425	150,458	58,877,000
South-Western Angola	724	1,218	242,446	12,981,000
Zambia	2,319	3,695	944,898	14,187,000
Zimbabwe	1,468	2,605	772,560	13,038,000
Sao Tome and Principe	9	40	4,991	188,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9,461</b>	<b>13,157</b>	<b>3,170,678</b>	<b>176,267,000</b>

*Stats as of 1st Qtr 2014*

**PROJECTS:**

- 1** Mogoditshane Adventist Primary School, Botswana
- 2** Lower Gweru Clinic, Zimbabwe
- 3** Solust University Dining Hall Extension, Zimbabwe