

engage Kids

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MODERN DAY
MISSIONARIES



GOD CALLED ME

GOD GAVE ME A HEART FOR OTHERS

Hi! My name is Angela Thornton. What's yours? How old are you? I'm sure you are learning all sorts of things right now, aren't you? How old were you when you prayed for the first time? How old were you when you felt Jesus talking to you for the first time? Those are very special moments in our lives, aren't they?

I remember hearing about Jesus when I was just three years old. My Sunday school teacher told us how Jesus died on the cross to pay for my sins. She said Jesus wants us to talk to Him and tell Him how sorry we are for our wrongdoings. Then she explained how we could ask Jesus to forgive us and how He would make our hearts all clean once again! Even though I was only three, I remember asking Him to do just that. And He did!

One evening before falling asleep, I felt like Jesus was suddenly standing by my bed with His hand on my shoulder.

I heard my name! “Angela,” Jesus said, “when you grow up, I want you to be a missionary for me.” My four-year-old heart was warm and willing as I simply answered “Yes, Jesus.” While the sense of His physical presence left my room that night, the feeling of His call has never gone away.

Not long after that special night, my family had the exciting privilege to be in the Turks and Caicos Islands over my fifth birthday. I absolutely loved being with kids about my age but of a different culture. One girl in particular became a special friend as we laughed and played together. God was already giving me a missionary heart.

I’m so grateful God called me to serve Him in another country. What about you? If God calls you, what will your answer be?



KINGDOM OF THE SKIES

Lesotho. About the size of the state of Massachusetts, this tiny, independent country is home to southern Africa's highest mountains and is the fifth-highest country in the world.

Try it! Can you pronounce these words? This country's name is **LESOTHO** (lah-SOO-too). The people of Lesotho are called the **BASOTHO** people (bah-SOO-too). They speak the **SESOTHO** language (sah-SOO-too).

Basotho people often live in unique houses called rondavels, that are in a circular shape. Many of these are made with baked mud bricks and have thatched roofs. Can you draw a picture of a small house with a thatched roof?

A little over two million people live in Lesotho, and over 50 percent of them are twenty-five years old or younger. Unfortunately, many of these precious young people grow up as orphans or have only one parent. Can you pray especially for the young people of Lesotho?





MEMORY VERSE

In all your ways acknowledge Him
and He will direct your path.

Proverbs 3:6



**GOD DIRECTED
MY PATH**

It's me again. Angela. Have you guessed yet where I am serving as a missionary? If you answered "Africa" or "Lesotho," you would be...CORRECT! My favorite Scripture is found in Proverbs 3:5-6. Those verses tell us that if we allow God to take control of our lives, He will guide us and show us where to go. That is what God did for me!

As a teen, I considered several possibilities for my future. I loved teaching. But there were also several nurses in my family, so I loved playing nurse with my dolls as a girl. Then there was my missionary call. What exactly DID God want me to do? I turned to God with my questions, and He led me into...all those things! I studied to be a nurse, a missionary, AND a teacher.

So what does that look like? In Lesotho I work with precious African children and teach them about Jesus on some days. On other days I work in a clinic, helping people with their medical needs. Every day God calls me to show His love to the Basotho people in simple yet meaningful ways.

One sweet mother-to-be stayed for several weeks in our clinic. She really wanted me with her when her baby was born. Unfortunately, the mother had to go to the hospital, due to some problems. I could not be with her as she had hoped. When the mother was released from the hospital, she stopped by the clinic to see me. As she handed me her new baby girl, she asked me to pray for her daughter, and I felt God's call once again. He called me to care for this mother and baby. He also led me to pray that God would protect her from evil, surround her with good people, and lead her to salvation when she is older.

Sometimes God's call is life-changing for us, and sometimes His call to us is life-changing for someone else. Let's all be ready to hear and answer!



Louie's treehouse Lair



God Calls You Too

Angela told us some stories about God's calling on her life. He wants to use YOU too! Here are some ideas for showing God's love in meaningful ways to those near you:

- Write a letter to a lonely shut-in.
- Volunteer to clean your elderly neighbor's yard.
- Offer to pray out loud for a hurting friend.
- Offer a hug to a frightened child.

How has He called you to reach other people with His love?



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