

engage  
Kids

Volume 12 | Issue 11

HIM AFRICA



**OVERCOMING  
THE DARKNESS**



# COLORFUL CAMEROON

**“Wow. It’s...tall! And interesting.”** I balanced myself and leaned waaaay back to see the face of the sixty-two-foot-tall statue in front of me. “What is this big guy’s name again?”

*“Monument de la Nouvelle Liberté.* It means ‘New Freedom Monument.’” Vashon pointed at the statue’s belt. “See that car tire, Louie? Who knows where the artist found that huge metal steering wheel and those massive tubes.”

The statue’s framework was covered with various scrap metals, plastic, and rubber, including pipes, car parts, wheels, and other random items. The Freedom Monument stood on one foot in a busy roundabout in Douala, Cameroon. Vashon wanted me to see it before we got down to the real business of our stop.

“Tell me about Cameroon, Vashon.” As we walked back to our car, I bounced the bright red rubber ball Vashon had given me. “Besides all the rubber Cameroon makes and sends to other countries, what makes Cameroon special?”

“As you know, Africa is massive, and its countries differ in many ways. I think I would describe Cameroon as fascinating, colorful...and chaotic. It is fascinating because of its rainforests—home to wild chimpanzees and gorillas. It is colorful because its people love bright colors, and you will see them everywhere! It is chaotic because of its civil war and corruption (bad people doing bad things).

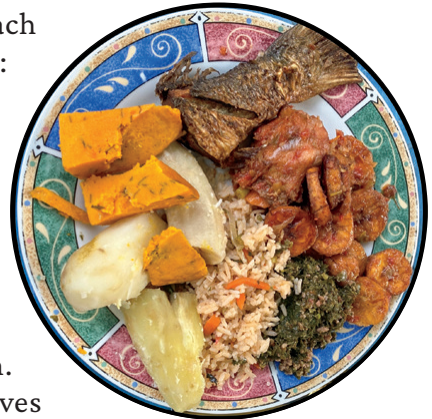
“Cameroon is divided—the English speakers are fighting with the French speakers. This war has been hard on this beautiful country with all its natural resources, leaving the people terribly poor and afraid. Even Cameroon’s policemen do things they shouldn’t.”

“Wow. How sad...” My tummy growled. Loudly. “But before you tell me more, when do we eat?”

Vashon grinned. “Your menu choices today are koki, eru soup, jollof rice, kwacoco, mbanga, ndolé, or fufu. Which would you like?”

“Ko...bang...fu...what???” I stammered.

“Koki: fresh corn and spinach steamed in banana leaves. Eru: vegetable soup with smoked fish or maybe cow skin. Delicious, flavored jollof rice goes with everything. Kwacoco is a smushed-up potato-like root steamed in banana leaves and served with mbanga soup made from palm fruit and smoked fish. Ndolé is stewed nuts and bitter leaves with fish or beef, and fufu is a sticky dough used to scoop up stew.”



“You don’t happen to know of a burger place anywhere, do you?” I groaned. Vashon just laughed and directed me to our next stop.

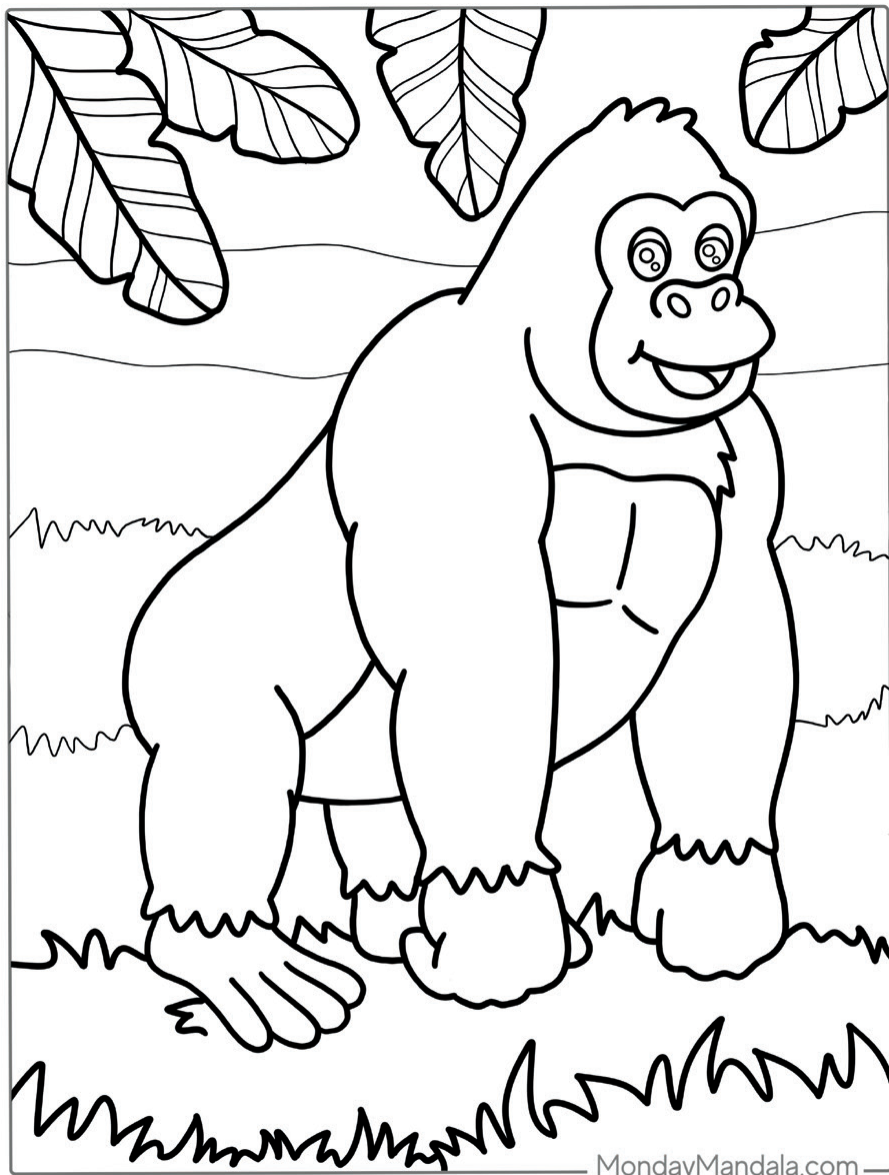
# CAMEROON MINISTRY

# WORD SEARCH

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SOLUTION  
ON PAGE 7

U E W A L M B X M Q Z E D P A E G Z M A T T H E W W R F W B  
G S I L V Z N Y T Q G O R I L L A S Z W N Z C L I V C J Q K  
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G R W T H C J J I R S Z A P S W R B K P N Z N P A T R I C K

- Chimpanzees
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- Gorillas
- Timothy
- Matthew
- Global
- Statue
- Overcoming
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- Shepherd
- Patrick
- Vashon
- Gospel
- Mango
- La Nouvelle
- Cameroon
- Preacher
- Tsepiro
- Africa
- Orphan
- Louie
- Koki
- Fufu



## MEMORY VERSE

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.  
*Romans 12:21 NKJV*



# FROM ORPHAN TO PREACHER

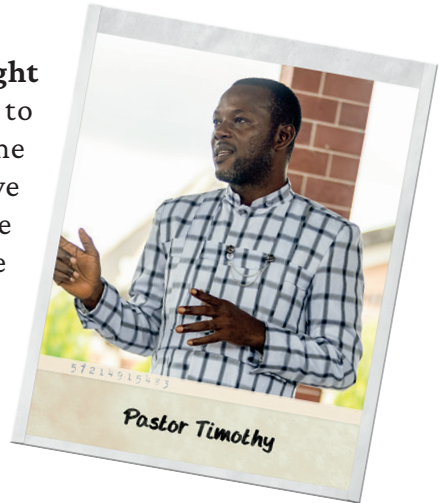
**“You may wonder why I brought you here** before your trip back to the States.” Vashon handed me a mango to snack on as we drove through the countryside. The small villages we passed were dotted with mud and thatch huts and other poorly built homes.

“I am curious! Where are we going?”

Vashon smiled as he explained. “We are headed to another city to meet up with Pastor Timothy and Patrick. Did you know an online search was the beginning of our work with the people of Cameroon? Someone in Cameroon contacted someone in the United States and asked for help. They wanted to minister but knew they needed better training. That first contact has resulted in three years of teaching with Shepherd’s Global Classroom materials. Several missionary teachers, two cities, and nearly forty students later, churches in Cameroon are being strengthened from the inside. The pastors have learned that peace doesn’t come from politics or government but from God alone.”

I nodded. “Good. That’s great to hear! So tell me more about Patrick.”

“Patrick was orphaned as a young boy, and his family abandoned him. Pastor Timothy and his wife took him in and



raised him as their own. He went to school and university. Patrick is very smart and has a degree and a job in computer technology.

“Along the way Pastor Timothy also helped Patrick deal with the pain of his family situation. Most importantly of all, Pastor Timothy taught Patrick about Jesus. Now Patrick is an adult, helping in the church as a leader and junior pastor. God is using him to train other pastors and teach them how to best reach the people of Cameroon with the gospel.”



“I am truly impressed,” I said as we hopped out of the car. “I’m looking forward to meeting these special men whom God uses in such powerful ways. What a wonderful way to wrap up my time in Africa!”

“You will have much to share with your friends once you get home, won’t you? I am so glad you came and that we’ve become such good friends.” Vashon held open the door of the classroom for me to enter. “Now...let’s go hear Patrick teach!”

Signing off in Cameroon,  
Louie



FIND THE SOLUTION TO THE PUZZLE ON PAGE 7

# Louie's Treehouse Lain



## OVCM Spotlight: Tseviso

Seventeen-year-old Tseviso has a heart and passion for Jesus. That isn't a surprise, but the enjoyment she gets from helping in her family's fields might be. And her career choice might be. Tseviso attends trade school and is training to become a carpenter! She is building her life on a solid foundation—God's Word. Her favorite verse is Matthew 11:28.



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