

engage Kids

Volume 12 | Issue 12

HIM AFRICA



SALA HANTLE

AMAZING JOURNEY

PASTOR

I welcome each of you to this evening's service. Please welcome our special guest—world traveler and field reporter Louie! Louie, we are looking forward to hearing your report.

LOUIE

Thank you, Pastor. I am happy to be here with you this evening. Please forgive me if I seem a little sluggish. Jet lag has hit! Our plane arrived just this morning, but my body still can't tell what time it is since we traveled across so many time zones. It might be 6 PM here, but it feels like 1 AM to me.

I am grateful I was able to take this trip to Africa. It was life-changing! I gained a new friend in Vashon, and he was a fabulous tour guide. He introduced me to Africa—specifically the countries of Lesotho, Zambia, and Cameroon—and many new friends. Vashon taught me about the people who began HIM's work in Africa and the lasting influence of the Howard, Marais, and van der Merwe families. Then Vashon introduced me to Angela Thornton and the Peterson and Gault families, all of whom have been working in Lesotho in recent years to train pastors, lead seminars, work in the clinic and schools, support orphaned children, build a tabernacle and homes, distribute Bibles, and more.

In Sesoto, Sala hantel means Stay well.

I also met some amazing Africans who are wholeheartedly following Jesus and shining brightly with God's love. The light in their smiles is attractive to people who have little hope left. God is working powerfully in Africa. From Itumeleng and Pastor Nthabe in Lesotho to Pastor Allegri in Zambia and Pastor Timothy and Patrick in Cameroon, we heard encouraging and strong testimonies of God using willing people to touch many lives with the gospel.

I think the moments that touched me most deeply were holding newborn Lindelani at the Matukeng clinic, singing with Miss Angela's preschoolers, packing school supplies for needy children with the Petersons, meeting the radiant Malashoane, hearing from young people who have been changed by Reach4Life, and watching Pastor Allegri teach in Zambia. Wow! I have come home challenged to see what I can do to share Christ wherever I go.

I came back with a full heart and a desire to visit Africa again someday. I am grateful for the gospel, good teachers, easy access to Bibles, and my home, family, and friends. I hope you have enjoyed this journey to Africa as much as I have. Please keep the people of Africa in your prayers. Our awesome God is at work all the time both here and in Africa—and everywhere else!



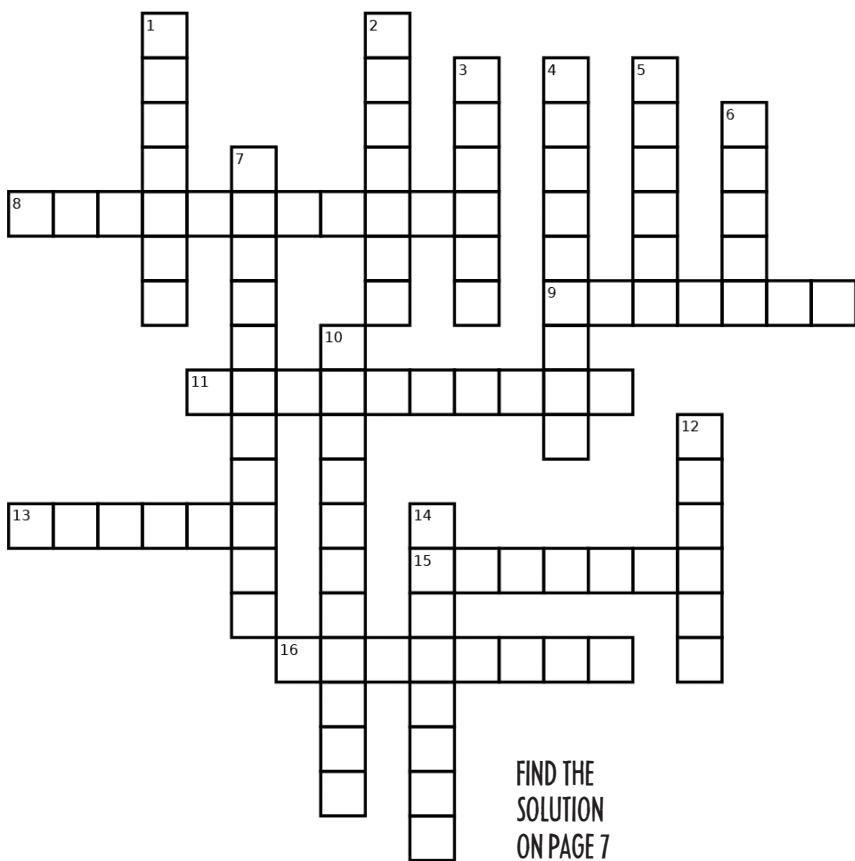
PEOPLE WE'VE MET & PLACES WE'VE VISITED

DOWN

1. Pastor _____ taught Patrick about Jesus.
2. Orphaned as a young boy and raised by Pastor Timothy and his wife as their own.
3. The _____ family served as HIM's first missionaries to Africa.
4. Attended Bible studies and wanted Jesus to live in her heart. Today she is a leader in the Reach4Life program.
5. Pieter and Hester _____ handed out gospel literature and built five churches in Lesotho.
6. Glenn and Stephanie _____ and their children serve as missionaries to Lesotho. Stephanie has taught Sunday school for years and enjoys sharing the Bible with Lesotho children and teens.
7. Pastors the mission church in Matukeng, Lesotho.
10. Johan and Hessie _____ own a wonderful farm in South Africa.
12. _____ is a preschool teacher and works in the Lesotho clinic.
14. Douala _____ is home to the Monument de la Nouvelle Liberté (New Freedom monument).

ACROSS

8. Vashon is a vervet monkey from this country.
9. Small country within the country of South Africa.
11. An OVCM participant who graduated with a nursing certificate and supports herself and her little brother by working at a pharmacy.
13. Home of the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp.
15. Pastor _____ Parmigren is a pastor in the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp.
16. Wes and Misty _____ and their family served as missionaries to Lesotho, working with the orphan ministry and building the Eternal Foundation rental homes.



FIND THE
SOLUTION
ON PAGE 7

MEMORY VERSE

If I ride the wings of the morning,
if I dwell by the farthest oceans,
even there your hand will guide me,
and your strength will support me.

Psalm 139:9-10 NLV



SHARING MEMORIES

Pastor: Thank you for your report, Louie! I think we all wish we could have gone to Africa with you. Some young people have a few questions for you. Do you have time?

Louie: Of course! What would you like to know?

Andrew: Africa is a long way from home. Were you ever scared?

Louie: Good question, but, no, I wasn't. You see, God goes with me everywhere. He is my Guide and Keeper. No matter where I am, I experience Him taking care of and helping me. And once I arrived in Africa, Vashon and all the others were super kind to me.

Gabriella: How many churches are part of the mission work in Africa?

Louie: Several. Matukeng is where the mission work is headquartered, and there is a large church there, but there are eight more in Lesotho and South Africa.

Ethan: You talked about the missionaries training pastors. That sounds interesting. How long have they been doing that?

Louie: At some level, that training has been part of the work for over twenty-five years. That ministry grew, though, with the more recent connection of Shepherd's Global Classroom. SGC is a fabulous tool for pastors and leaders. The courses teach what the Bible says about a LOT of different topics and better equip pastors to teach their church members.

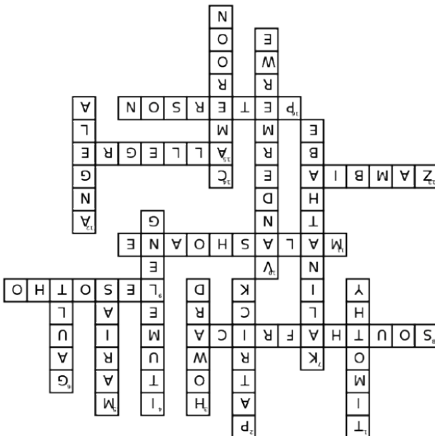
Cambria: I like the red vest you are wearing. Where did you get it?

Louie: It's one of my favorite souvenirs from the trip! I purchased it in Cameroon. I think I look absolutely stunning in it, don't you? It goes so well with my red rubber ball.

Grayson: I have another question for you—a super important one. What food did you like best of all?

Louie: You know me well, young man! The papa ka moroho (stiff, white cornmeal with greens) was surprisingly good, but the pannekoeks (similar to a pancake with filling) were amazing. Then I got to try some very interesting foods in Cameroon...some of which I liked and some of which—let's just say I left behind more than I ate. All in all, I enjoyed the adventure of trying so many new dishes!

Pastor: Good questions, everyone. Now, I think Louie needs rest as he is pretty tired after that long trip across the ocean. I am looking forward to seeing where he heads next.



ANSWERS TO THE
PUZZLE ON PAGE 5

Louie's Treehouse Lain



OVCM Spotlight: Kananelo

Do you have running water in your house? Fifteen-year-old Kananelo is thankful she has clean water, but she gets her water from a pump in the village, not from a faucet in her house. Kananelo is happy to help by collecting that water for her grandmother, uncle, and sister. Kananelo loves helping people, and that may be one reason she dreams of being a doctor someday. Even as an eighth-grader, Kananelo understands the truth of her favorite verse, John 6:35: Jesus is the source of true life!



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