

Reaching the next generation one child at a time

IMPACT

Winter
2022

SHARING THE
GOOD NEWS OF JESUS



A publication of Child Evangelism Fellowship®

EVERY CHILD
EVERY NATION
EVERY DAY



Helping the Hurting

As I think about all the children who have not heard about Jesus, my heart aches. Sharing the Good News of Jesus could change their lives for eternity. That's why I'm leading the way to train more teachers to conduct more clubs to reach more boys and girls. Will you join me in leading the way, whether it's through praying, teaching, volunteering, or giving? The needs are great and life is unpredictable.

Our world experiences many tragedies—floods, fires, abuse, war, injuries, and death. By reaching the hurting children with the hope of Jesus we're impacting lives and seeing hearts changed. One way we do this is by our quick response to distribute *Do You Wonder Why?* booklets in the wake of such tragedies. At a time when people are looking for answers, this booklet speaks to the trauma they're enduring and the answers that are found in Christ. Many children are also changed because of the love and grace shown to them by committed CEF workers and volunteers. The more we work together, the more testimonies we'll hear like the ones in this edition of *Impact* magazine.



Sharing the Good News of Jesus can be dangerous and difficult but also joyous and rewarding. The foundation of our service must rest on trusting God. He is always with us. Even bearing fruit in our ministry comes from Him. This magazine gives only a glimpse of how God continues to bless the ministry of CEF to see the Good News of Jesus shared around the globe.

*"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.
He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit."*

— Jeremiah 17:7-8

Yours for all the children,

Jeremiah Cho



Please Pray

- 1 More people will lead the way to share the Good News of Jesus.
- 2 *Good News Club*® workers will show love, grace, and compassion to hurting children.
- 3 Children's lives will be impacted by the teaching of God's Word in club ministries.
- 4 *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® missionaries will trust God whatever comes their way.
- 5 More people will receive training and faithfully teach others.
- 6 More Good News Clubs will start around the globe because of Christmas Party Clubs.



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- **Stories** that clearly teach the Gospel
- **Testimonies** from influencers that grow love for God's Word and God's mission

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

LEADING THE WAY

Meet Jeremiah and Sarah Cho

4

REACHING THE HURTING

Providing Hope to Flood Victims—Kentucky

6

IMPACTING LIVES

Better than 50 Sermons—St. Croix
Send Them Back to Us—St. Croix

8

TRUSTING GOD

Not Sometimes, But Always—Middle East
Martin—Asia

10

BEARING FRUIT

Hope for the Children of Bulgaria—Bulgaria
Who Will Tell Them If Not Me?—Burundi
Training Teacher and Student—South Sudan/Kenya

12

AROUND THE GLOBE

Christmas Party Clubs

14

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MEET

JEREMIAH AND SARAH CHO

Reverend Jeremiah Cho grew up in a small village in South Korea. There were no churches, and his family didn't believe in Jesus. He didn't learn about God until he was invited to church in high school. One day at a revival meeting, Jeremiah realized he was a sinner and that Jesus died on the cross for his sin. He cried out to God to save him.

Two specific memories stand out to Jeremiah from early in his faith when God used Scripture to give him clear direction. During a special time of prayer and fasting, Jeremiah sought God's purpose for his life. He read Jeremiah 1:7-8.

But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord."



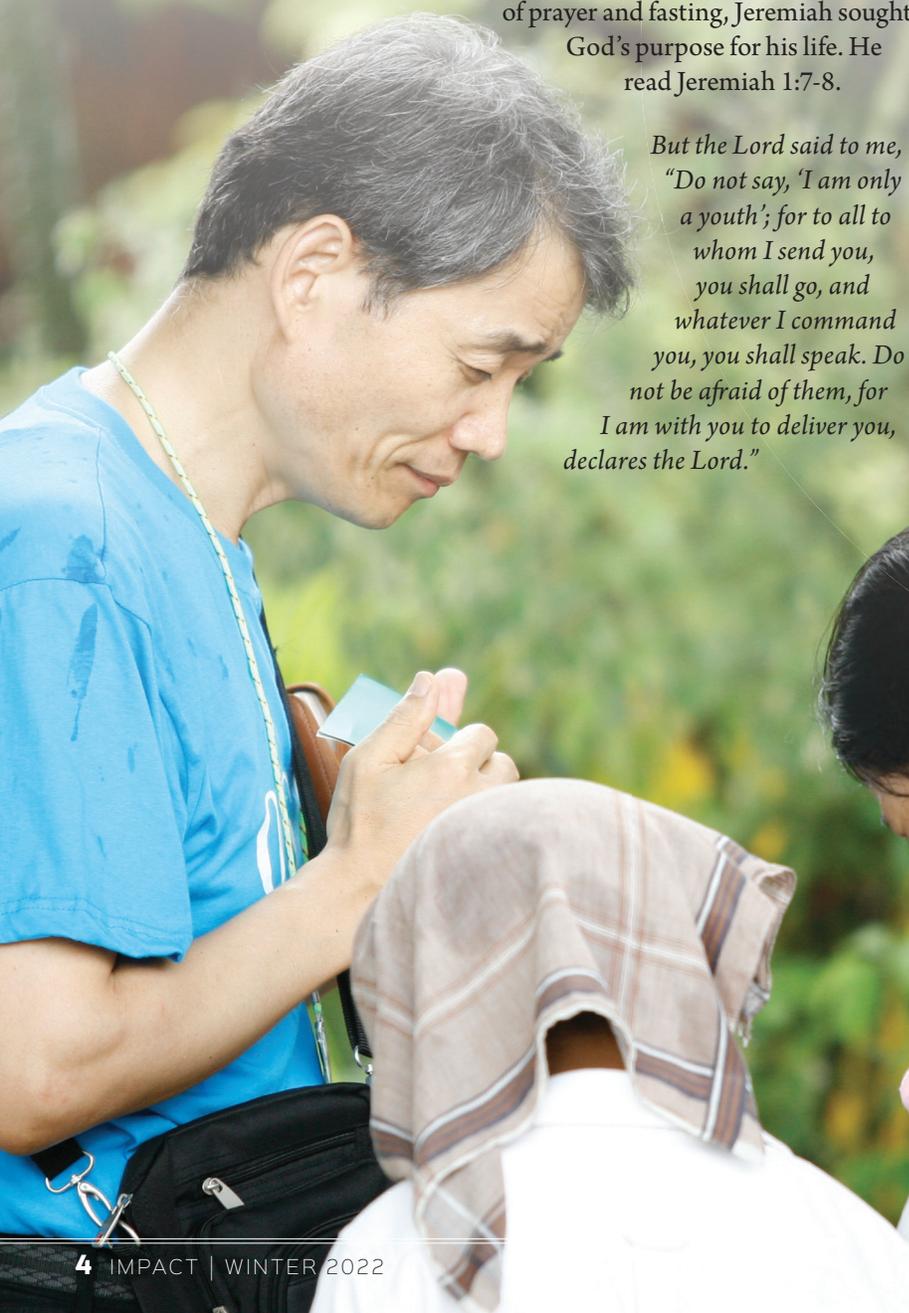
After telling God no three times, he finally obeyed and committed his whole life to serving God.

In 1984, Jeremiah received training for 5-Day Club® ministry and enjoyed telling children about Jesus. The first child he helped lead to the Lord made a lasting impression on him. However, when the local director of Child Evangelism Fellowship urged him to work for CEF®, he declined because he thought he had become a pastor to reach adults. But one day, God reminded Jeremiah about the spiritual situation of children and spoke to him through Lamentations 2:18-19.

...Lift your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint for hunger at the head of every street.

"Jeremiah's long-term experience with CEF, coupled with his exceptional success in bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the children of the world, make him an ideal person to lead in the ministry of CEF."

— Al Winterman,
International Board of Trustees Chairman





Jeremiah and his wife Sarah have relocated from Seoul, South Korea, to the International Headquarters in Warrenton, Missouri.

Then Jeremiah knew God was calling him to reach the boys and girls. In August 1988, he joined the local CEF staff in Seoul.

CEF MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

1988 – 1991

Local staff of Masan Chapter, CEF of Korea



1991 – 1999

Local Director of Jinju Chapter, CEF of Korea

1999 – 2001

National Education Director, CEF of Korea

2001 – 2004

National Executive Administration Director, CEF of Korea

2004 – 2008

National Missionary Director, CEF of Sri Lanka

2008 – 2014

National Director, CEF of Korea

2014 – 2022

Regional Director of the Middle East



Jeremiah and Sarah married in 1991 and have four daughters – Joy, Grace, Ruth, and Gloria – who all received Christ as Savior as young children.

For over 34 years, Jeremiah Cho has invested in the ministry of CEF®.

Having served in a variety of positions, he brings a wealth of experience in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with children of the world. And God has blessed his labor in extraordinary ways.

- During the four years Jeremiah served as national director of Sri Lanka, the staff grew from two to twenty and reached over 39,000 children annually.
- Significant growth followed when Jeremiah became the national director of Korea, with staff increasing to over 200 workers reaching about 325,000 children. Under his leadership, South Korea became instrumental in opening six countries in the Asia Pacific Region.
- Then as regional director for the Middle East, he expanded that ministry from 137 workers reaching 700,000 children annually to 387 workers reaching over 8.5 million children.



“Jeremiah is an inspired leader with a passion to reach children around the world. His accomplishments include expanding and growing this ministry in a way that cannot be explained apart from acknowledging the hand of God. I have worked with Jeremiah for many years and personally saw his integrity, character, and faith. He is a man of prayer. I trust and admire his leadership.”

– Reese Kauffman, CEF President Emeritus

People can clearly see Jeremiah’s burden and passion to reach boys and girls for Jesus. He readily speaks of the need to reach more children, the need for more workers, the need for workers to be trained, and the need for materials to be translated.

Reverend Cho shares, “By God’s grace we will seek to spread the Gospel to the 2.2 billion children around the world. The vast majority are lost in their sin. We have the privilege and responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to them because God loves them and desires to forgive their sins. We must embrace the vision of God and ask the Lord to give us everything needed to reach them. We must seek to reach Every Child, Every Nation, Every Day.”

PROVIDING HOPE TO FLOOD VICTIMS

KARI ASH, CEF State Director of Kentucky

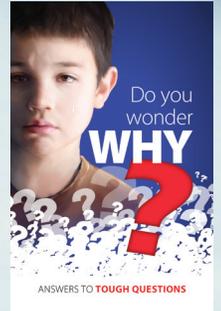
Vehicles in creeks, houses ripped apart, trees uprooted, and lack of water, power, and phone service—mountains of debris for miles...and miles...and miles.... Yet, this cannot begin to describe the utter devastation faced by thousands of people in eastern Kentucky after the late June flooding. Imagine losing your home, car, pictures, and documents, along with every possession you own. Then add to it the heart-wrenching loss of a family member or friend! How do you cope? Where do you turn for answers? Many relief agencies are shoveling mud, treating mold, and providing needed physical supplies like food, portable showers, and temporary housing, which are desperately needed after such a catastrophic event! Often the deep spiritual needs are overlooked amidst pressing immediate demands. Even Christians are struggling to understand why our good God would allow something like this to happen.

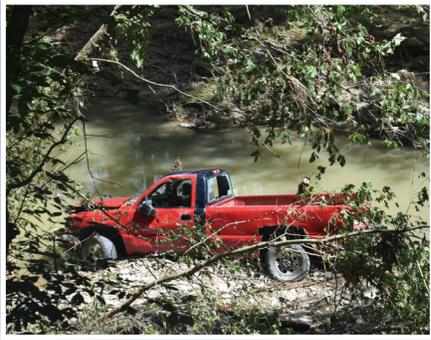


CEF has a 16-page color booklet designed to help those in crisis find biblical answers to tough

questions, pointing children and their families to eternal hope found only in Jesus Christ. In the last month, we made several trips to flood-ravaged areas to deliver *Do You Wonder Why?* booklets to those ministering on the front lines. Over 5,800 booklets have been delivered to 38 partner ministries, churches, camps, shelters, medical facilities, and disaster relief agencies who will share them with people affected by flooding. We met people who were rescued by helicopter from their rooftops, those who lost their livelihood and everything they owned, and a woman who lost her husband and all her worldly possessions and didn't know how or where to start anew. The outward sights pale in comparison to the inner hurt experienced by so many. At each stop, we prayed with and for those we met—some directly affected, some serving in relief efforts, some both. A long recovery period lies ahead.

Please pray with us that God will use truths from His Word to point searching individuals to our Savior as they begin to rebuild their lives from the inside out. Pray for traumatized children whose lives have been turned upside down. Even those





Please pray that God will send a *CEF* missionary staff member to serve full time in the area.



not directly impacted have witnessed the effects in their communities. Many of their schools have been flooded, disrupting the normal start of the school year. As you pray for flood victims, please remember the weary individuals serving on the front lines, many of whom have experienced tremendous loss themselves.

In September, phase 1 of recovery (the clean-up stage) transitioned to phase 2 (the rebuilding stage). Many areas were still without power, water, and phone service. Tents and trailers served as homes. We also concluded our own phase 1, which consisted of many phone calls and emails, along with the mass distribution of *Do You Wonder Why?* booklets. Please pray that God will send a *CEF* missionary staff member to serve full time in the area. Our phase 2 (after things settle down a bit) is to follow up with new contacts and prayerfully establish Good News Clubs in this large area of eastern Kentucky, where we currently have none. We desperately need God's help to accomplish this, but He is a big God!



Better Than 50 Sermons

BILL VOGEL, Director of Strategic Ministries, North America/ Caribbean Region

“Bill, this is better than 50 sermons,” the pastor said. “We followed the advice you gave us to go outside the doors of our church. We made it our mission to visit parents and guardians of the children who had accepted Christ as their Savior at a *Good News Club*.”

The pastor continued, “Listen to this! We were overwhelmed by our visits. One father told us his 12-year-old son got upset whenever the *Good News Club* didn’t meet. He was a tough boy, and now he is a totally different child because of what we taught him. Visits with this father, his son, and other families were the missing link in our ministry.”

The pastor’s testimony didn’t stop there. “We will continue this as a church,” he said. “I want to lead us into another children’s outreach project as soon as we can.

We’re already making plans to split our team of workers and train others. Bill, when you first told me about this vision and plan, I thought we wouldn’t be able to recruit the needed volunteers, but now it seems like everyone in our church is on board.”



SEND THEM BACK TO US

As a member of Powered by Prayer, Beth has the privilege of meeting with other believers by phone early each morning. Together they bring God our praises, concerns, and challenges. Vicky, the moderator, was aware that our Tuesday *Good News Club* was under spiritual attack. Satan was using some extremely disrespectful and disruptive teens to harass the outreaches. Instead of asking God to keep the teens away, we prayed that He would send them back to us one or

two at a time and touch their hearts in the process. We prayed they would listen to the Word and that God would do a miracle in their lives. God

answered our prayers in an unmistakable way. The ringleader showed up alone, and then another showed up later. God must have done something special because their behavior was markedly different. They not only behaved well but also listened attentively and participated. We rejoice!

We prayed they would listen to the Word and that God would do a miracle in their lives.

THE VOGELS

Bill and Beth Vogel have been involved with CEF ministry for over a decade. They served with CEF of Maryland in 2011-2014. In 2015, they took on the role of Director of Strategic Ministries with the North America/Caribbean Region and have been instrumental in strengthening the work in St. Croix (U.S. Virgin Islands).



May 8-12, 2023

We who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul.

Hebrews 6:18b-19a



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YOUR CEF RESOURCES:

Your nearest local CEF chapter: chapters.cefonline.com for training, children's ministry resources, and ministry opportunities

Children's ministry resources: cefpres.com
cefonline.com/resources
unite.cefonline.com

Training: cefcmi.com for campus and online training

Ministry Information: cefonline.com

TEACH KIDS! PODCAST

Teach Kids! is a short, powerful "HOW TO" for parents and children's ministry workers. Practical topics equip you with aspects of Gospel parenting, evangelism, and discipleship to help you teach the kids in your life, whether they are your own or those you minister to.



📻 Teach Kids! airs on 767 radio stations, and we're excited to offer it as a podcast so you can listen at any time and review.

Find it on major podcast platforms by searching for "Teach Kids."

NOT SOMETIMES, **BUT ALWAYS...**

BROTHER JEREMIAH CHO

ON MISSION TRIPS

When missionaries in a country closed to Christianity asked for support to go on a mission trip, I could not accept the request right away because it was like sending sheep in the midst of wolves. In this country it would put their lives at risk. The ministry is important, but considering the safety of the beloved workers, instead of giving permission right away, I decided we should pray about it.

One day as I prayed, God reminded me of His promise in Matthew 28:20, “I am with you always, to the end of the age.” The Lord said that He will be with us—not sometimes—but “always, to the end of the age.” Whether I am praying with a burdened heart or sleeping, the Lord is with His disciples who are dedicated to preaching the Gospel in the mission field. So I told the missionaries, “The Lord has promised to be with us not sometimes, but always. Go on the trip.”

The sheep were sent in the midst of the wolves, but the Lord had His plans. They felt the hand of God as they served and joyfully came back with a plentiful harvest.

Please pray for the safety of the workers who put their mission for the children in need of the Gospel before their own safety and are obeying their calling with faith in the Lord. And pray for the young lives who will be saved through this ministry.

DISTRIBUTING BIBLES

Some church leaders are put in prison for the sake of the Gospel, for distributing the Bible. However, such persecution does not keep some missionaries from ministry. While on their way to GNC™ with a car trunk full of Bibles for children, they reached a checkpoint where cars were inspected one by one. But they were let through without even opening the trunk. On another day, they were in the back seats of a bus with a bag full of Bibles when an inspector got on the bus and started checking all the bags. The inspector came towards them and made eye contact. Then, he got off the bus without checking their bags.

AT GOOD NEWS CLUB

Raja sat alone in GNC with a sad face. Though usually a happy boy, on this day he was heartbroken because his father had left his mother and was living with another woman and his father had beaten him. Raja said he did not want to live because he couldn't watch his mother cry anymore. His GNC teacher was grateful God led Raja to GNC that day. She told him about God, who is love, and that He is always with Raja. She encouraged him to thank God for his mother who loves him. As they talked, Raja's face brightened. Now he regularly attends GNC.





Martin

I was born into a Christian family but did not receive Jesus Christ as Savior until I attended a CEF teacher training in 1993. During the class on "The Importance of Conversion," I truly understood the Gospel, repented, and put my trust in Christ for salvation. I began working for CEF and continued to take CEF classes in teaching children and adults. Later I attended *Children's Ministries Institute*® and now serve as a local director.

Our province contains many islands. It was difficult when I began to serve with CEF. I had no support and had to walk to the places we held Good News Clubs. There were many times when we had nothing to eat, especially when we traveled to the other islands to hold clubs. Financial support from the Sponsor-A-National™ program has been a blessing to our ministry, allowing us to travel to more places and reach more children. It is all for the glory of God! Thank you for your faithful support and prayers, and please ask God to send more CEF workers.



Trained and equipped nationals are the ideal individuals to minister to children in their countries. They already speak the language, know the culture, and can work where people of other nations are not welcomed.



Since 1972 the Sponsor-A-National™ program has provided financial assistance to trained nationals who live in areas where it is difficult to raise support. Presently over 1,100 CEF national missionaries receive assistance through the SPAN™ program each month. This enables them to spend more time sharing the Good News about Jesus with the children.

HOPE FOR THE CHILDREN OF BULGARIA



IVAN STOITSEV, Bulgaria

Twelve boys and girls were prevented from coming to club this summer because their parents wouldn't allow them to attend. They had heard in the village that we were dangerous. That's how some people view the Good News of Jesus.

But at another club held next to a day care, parents brought their children after school. There were 15 children and as many parents. Clubs were held in 12 different places and reached 1,000 children.

This year at summer camp, children were challenged to evangelize their classmates. Yuli, an 11-year-old boy who lives with his parents in France, became concerned for his best friend who is a Muslim. During the lessons, he realized his best friend didn't believe in Jesus. Yuli understood that salvation is only through Jesus and was willing to risk losing his friend by telling him about Jesus.



WHO WILL TELL THEM IF NOT ME?

BIENFAIT RÉGIS NTAKABANYURA, Burundi

While attending the *Children's Ministries Institute* in Kenya, I was offered a job as an architect with a construction company. But God convinced me to surrender all my time to Him and serve full time reaching children.

When I returned home, I set July as my target month to start *Good News Club* in an area where many children didn't have an opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Although some of these children attended church with adults,

I saw it was difficult for them to understand what was taught. I knew I was the one trained to share the message of salvation with these children. That was going to be hard though because we were about to move to a different neighborhood. But God had plans for these children. He answered my prayers by providing a way for me to stay. On that first Friday of our *Good News Club*, I was amazed to see 30 boys and girls come and 21 receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

Training Teacher and Student

MARTHA OLANGO, Kenya

It is rare that a teacher and her student attend the same *Children's Ministries Institute* together as students. Kiden was in our first *Christian Youth In Action*® training in Kajokeji, South Sudan some years ago. She put into practice what she learned in *CYIA*™ in her Sunday

school class. That's when 11-year-old Victor put his faith in Christ. When Victor was a teen, he attended *CYIA*. In February, both Kiden and Victor traveled to Nairobi for *CMI*®. They graduated in May and now both train volunteers and reach children for God's Kingdom.



Children's Ministries Institute® offers one of the most innovative, practical training programs available for leaders in children's ministry. This 12-week diploma program can be taken in one- or two-week modules. Students receive training in direct ministry to children, teacher training and ministry organization, and leadership. Academic credit may be available through various colleges and CEUs can be granted through ASCI.

Under the direction of the education department, Institutes are held on every continent except Antarctica! Regional education directors oversee Institutes in their region and help ensure that international standards are maintained for the quality and integrity of our training programs. *CMI*® also offers classes online through the *CMI Online*™ program.

Young people who have an interest in children's ministry and have served two summers in *Christian Youth In Action*® may qualify for a discount to attend *CMI*.

Learn more at cefcmi.com.



Christmas PARTY CLUBS



Each year as fall approaches, an army of evangelists around the globe prepares for one of the most fruitful outreaches. Thousands of Christmas Party Club training seminars are conducted for hundreds of thousands of volunteers, many of whom teach multiple Christmas Party Clubs. In November and December, millions of children hear the true meaning of Christmas and many believe in Jesus as Savior. Lives are impacted.

HERE ARE TESTIMONIES FROM A FEW TRAINEES FROM UNDISCLOSED AREAS.

When I attended the Christmas Party Club training, I thought about God's perfect plan for me. It was God's plan that I should serve Jesus among children at Christmas. I conducted a Christmas Party Club where children and even some adults attended and listened to the message of salvation. It was a great experience for me. I thank CEF for giving me this opportunity to share the Gospel with children.

– *Bajendra*

Although I grew up in a Hindu family, God gave me an opportunity to listen to the message of salvation and accept Christ as Savior. During the Christmas Party Club training seminar, CEF staff gave me an opportunity to share the Gospel with children through the Christmas story. This was the first time in my life I learned to share with others the Gospel which changed my life. I thank God and CEF.

– *Raja*

I am truly amazed how the Lord has used the Christmas Party Club training seminar as an instrument to teach me and open my eyes to the need of reaching the unreached children. As a result, I introduced my friends and Sunday school teachers to the Christmas Party Club. Together, we can reach many children in our neighborhood. We are willing to take further trainings from CEF.

– *Monica*

**CHILDREN'S LIVES ARE
CHANGED FOR ETERNITY.**

I didn't know Jesus as my Savior, but when I attended the Christmas Party Club, I heard about the birth of Jesus and the reason He came. As the teacher explained Jesus died for my sins, I realized I needed to accept Jesus into my life. I used to tell lies and realized I am a sinner. That day I received Jesus as my Savior.

-Rakhi

I sang and played games at the Christmas Party Club. It was interesting to hear about Jesus. My life was changed when I learned about His death and resurrection. I accepted Christ into my life and decided to follow Jesus and learn His Word from that day forward.

-Sanskar, 12 years old



Children hearing the true meaning of Christmas!

IN THIS ISSUE:



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