

Materials I Need:

Legend:



= Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Grade




= Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Grade

Memory Work:


**“We ought therefore to show hospitality to such men so that we may work together for the truth.”
3 John 1:8**

Hook:





What is a Missionary? (Visual Aid/Discussion).  Use pieces from the Betty Lukens flannel graph to explain the process that a missionary might go through. Suggestions: Start with a group of people (don't use a building) on the left side of the board. This group is a local church. Have them send one person out of the local church. This is the missionary. A missionary is a person sent out by a church to share the Gospel and start local churches where there aren't many Christians. A missionary works to train leaders who will someday start their own churches. On the right side of the board, have several people scattered. Have the missionary go to that side and begin to share the Gospel. Bring several of them together on the right explaining that these people became Christians and this is the start of a new church. This church then sends a missionary to another area. Today in the Bible Adventure, we are going to see how a man named Gaius helped missionaries as they went to tell people about Jesus.





Sending a Missionary (Relay Race).  Obtain large pieces of cardboard from an appliance store. Cut them into airplane or car shapes so that two students can get inside. Divide students into teams that form a line behind each car/plane. The students in line are the church and the students in the car/plane are the missionaries. Have each car/plane go across the “ocean” (room). As they pass the teachers in the middle, they are to say, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.” Have the car/plane return across the “ocean” for the next missionaries to go across. The team to finish “spreading the Gospel” first is the winner.





Missionary Packet Part 1 (Activity).   As a class, make a banner out of butcher paper with your class name and the year on it. Make it large enough so that the class can stand in front of it for a class picture later during TOOK time.



What is Hospitality? (Review/Discussion).   Hospitality is helping strangers feel comfortable in your home. This can mean new children in your neighborhood, new couples your mom and dad invite over, or traveling missionaries. Hospitality is a practical way to show love to another person.



What Would Make You Feel Comfortable? (Discussion).   If you were going to someone else's home for the first time, what would make you feel comfortable?



Book:

Presentation Ideas –



John Rejoices (*Illustration/Coloring Page*). 3 John 1:1-3, **3JN01.GF1.**



Gaius Welcomes Demetrius (*Illustration/Coloring Page*). 3 John 1:5-8, **3JN01.GF2.**



Diotrephes Refuses to Welcome Demetrius (*Illustration/Coloring Page*). 3 John 1:9-10, **3JN01.GF3.**

Bible Adventure –

Today we are going to study another of the Apostle John's letters to the Christian church. The main teaching of all his letters revolved around telling the difference between true and false teachers and how to know one is truly saved. Any true Christian will believe the correct truth of the Bible, obey the commands of God, and show love to others. In 2 John, we learned that the love we show for believers must be based on God's truth. We should never treat a false teacher as a fellow believer and let him stay in our home. We must do nothing to help him spread his lies. In 3 John, the Apostle John explained how God wants us to show love to true teachers and missionaries.

This personal letter was written to a man named Gaius. He was John's dear friend. Other believers reported to John that Gaius was faithful and obedient to God's truth and this gave John great joy. "It gave me great joy to have some brothers come and tell about your faithfulness to the truth and how you continue to walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth" (3 Jn. 1:3, 4). John praised Gaius for showing hospitality to true teachers and missionaries even though he didn't know them personally. He reminded Gaius that when he showed kindness and gave financial support to missionaries, he was a partner with them in their work to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "We ought therefore to show hospitality to such men so that we may work together for the truth" (3 Jn. 8).

Not everyone in the church was like Gaius, however. Another man named Diotrephes resisted John's teaching to show love and support to missionaries. Diotrephes was one of the church leaders. He actually told people to leave the church if they showed hospitality to traveling teachers. Diotrephes was full of his own importance as a leader and gossiped maliciously about John and his fellow workers. He wanted people to think badly about John and spread lies about him. John assured Gaius that when he came to visit, he would expose Diotrephes' sin. John wanted to make it clear that Diotrephes' behavior was to be avoided, not copied. "Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God" (3 Jn. 1:11). This verse indicates that Diotrephes was likely not a true Christian. Remember that true Christians don't continue in sin. As John said in 1 Jn. 3:6, "No one who lives in Him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen Him or known Him."

John went on to praise another man named Demetrius. Demetrius was probably one of the missionaries Diotrephes would not allow people to invite into their homes. Gaius had no reason to hesitate showing hospitality to Demetrius. John stated, "Demetrius is well spoken of by everyone—and even by the truth itself. We also speak well of him, and you know that our testimony is true" (3 Jn. 1:12). John could personally attest that Demetrius was a true teacher of the Gospel.

There is much we can learn from this letter written by John. Most importantly, we clearly see from 3 John that we are to love and support our missionaries, pray for them faithfully, invite them into your home when you can, and support them generously with your money. When we do, like Gaius, we are partners with them in spreading the good news about Jesus. What a wonderful way to spend our time and money!

Secondly, we are to live to have a reputation like Gaius and Demetrius. The love that Gaius showed to other believers was well known. He was obedient to Christ and faithful to God's Word. Demetrius was so well thought of that John could whole-heartedly recommend that Gaius support him in every way possible. Are you known for your love and kindness and for clinging faithfully to the truth of God's Word?

Thirdly, we likely will face opposition from people like Diotrephes when we obey God's truth. Jesus Himself said, "Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you also" (Jn. 15:20a). Even so, we need to continue to obey. God

will reward us. "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Gal. 6:9, 10).

Lastly, sin needs to be exposed in the church. Diotrephes was a gossip and told people not to obey the apostle John. Such people are called divisive. Titus 3:10 and 11 says, "Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned." The church needs to remain pure so that we can be an effective witness for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Aim Questions:

1. **To who did John write 3 John?** *Gaius.*
2. **What was John happy to hear about?** *Gaius was walking in the truth.*
3. **What did John want Gaius to do?** *Show hospitality to Demetrius.*
4. **Why was this important?** *It allowed Demetrius to keep sharing the Gospel with other people.*
5. **How can you show hospitality?** *Making guests feel welcome.*
6. **How can you help missionaries?** *Pray and give financially.*



Look:



Listen to Tapes of Missionary Conversation (Activity). 🐛 Request a copy of some of the recent missionary conversations with the Campbells, Moores, Belches, Widmers, Smiths, or Evelyn Hattan. Have the children pray for the missionaries. ,



Preparing to be a Missionary (Relay Race). 🐛 Using 3 John as an example, ask the students what character qualities and knowledge a missionary needs to have? Write five or six of these on pieces of paper and attach them to articles of clothing. Make two or three sets of these "missionary clothes." (*Don't use hats as they can spread lice.*) Divide the class into teams. Have each student put on the clothes one at a time, run to the other side of the room, touch the wall, come back, and take them off. As they put the clothes on and take them off, have them say the qualities of a faithful missionary.



Missionary Packet Part 2 (Activity). 🐛, 🦋 Write a letter to a missionary. Have each student write a letter to the class missionary, telling what he or she is learning about in Sunday school and what each is doing out of church as well. For example: sports, clubs, vacations, etc. For K-1st grade, have one table leader write a letter for a whole table. Have the students share what they would like in the letter.



Letter of Recommendation (Discussion). 🦋 Look at what John says about the qualifications of Demetrius. Ask students what they would want someone to write about them. Have them choose one or two things that they want God to help them with so that one day someone could say they are trustworthy or faithful with the Gospel.



Missionaries and Opposition (Discussion). 🦋 Share some of the stories of how our missionaries are sometimes opposed by others or go through dangers on the mission field. Read excerpts from books about famous missionaries who have undergone great trials for the "sake of the Name." Read 3 John 1:7-8. Remind students that as we help missionaries, we too are working together for the truth of the Gospel.



Songs:



I'd Like to Tell (tune: "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing")
I'd like to tell the world about the perfect love of God,
And of His Son and what He's done to save us from our sin.



Go Tell (tune: "This Train")

Go tell the Gospel Story, children. (Repeat)
Go tell the Gospel Story,
And you'll bring our Lord God glory.
Go tell the Gospel Story, children.

Tell it in Venezuela, children. (Repeat)
Tell it in Venezuela.
With the Widmers and the Belches,
Tell it in Venezuela, children.

Tell it in Marseilles, France now, children. (Repeat)
Tell it in Marseilles, France, now.
With the Moores, we'll shout it aloud,
Tell it in Marseilles, France now, children.

Tell it in Indonesia, children (Repeat)
Tell it in Indonesia
Help the Campbells to spread God's love
Tell it in Indonesia, children

Tell it in Zambia now, children. (Repeat)
Tell it in Zambia.
With Miss Hattan we'll shout aloud,
Tell it in Zambia now, children.



We Will Go Share (tune: "Peace Like a River")

We will go share the Gospel.
We will go share the Gospel.
We will go share the Gospel with the world.
(Repeat)

We will share in our home, and we will share in our city,
We will share everywhere around the world.
We will share in our country, we will share 'cross the ocean,
We will share everywhere around the world.



Tell the Gospel Story (tune: "Jesus Loves the Little Children")

Tell the Gospel Story, children, to the people in the world.
Tell it here and tell it there,
You can tell it everywhere.
Spread the news about our Savior to the world.



Oh, We've Got the Good News (tune: "If I Had a Hammer")

Oh, we've got the Good News, we'll share it in the morning.
We'll share it in the evening all over this land.
Let's share about God's Son, let's share about His gift,
Let's share of His love for our brothers and sisters
All over this land.



Jesus Is the Son of God (tune: "Jesus Loves Me")

Jesus is the Son of God; He has come to show us love.
This is how I know God loves--He sent Jesus from above.

Yes, Jesus loves me (Sing three times)
The Bible tells me so.



Tell Them (tune: "Day-o" chorus)

Tell them, oh-oh, te-e-ell them,
Tell them about the Savior and His love. (Repeat)

Go and share it, share the Gospel Story.
Tell them about the Savior and His love. I said...

Tell it with the Moores in France,
Tell them about the Savior and His love.

Tell it with Miss Hattan in Za-ambi-yah,
Tell them about the Savior and His love.

Tell it with the Campbells in Indonesia,
Tell them about the Savior and His love.

Tell it with the Belches in Venezuela,
Tell them about the Savior and His love.



Took:



Battling Bullies (Discussion). 🐍, 🦋 Is there someone you know who is being picked on by a bully? Is there a student in your class or school who gets picked on? What do you do about it? How can you stand up for what is right and show Biblical love?



Know Your Missionary (Crossword Puzzle). 🐍, 🦋 Have students learn the facts about FBC's missionaries. Use just your class missionary crossword puzzle or select more than one so that the class can get to know the missionaries sent out from our church body, **3JN01.GF4 Pgs. 1-6**. Please order the appropriate missionary information sheets for the students so that they can find the answers. Answer Key: **3JN01.GF4 Pgs. 7-8**. The FBC missionaries are: Dave and Lois Belch, Evelyn Hattan, Jim and Millie Moore, Tim and Leslie Widmer, Phil and Denise Campbell, Peter and Sonya Smith. Encourage the students to continue praying for their missionaries throughout the week.



Missionary Packet Part 3 (Activity). 🐍, 🦋 Send a class picture to a missionary. Set up the banner with the class title on it made in the HOOK time. Bring a Polaroid camera and take a picture of the class. If you would like Dan Jarms or Dan Busse to take a digital picture, call and schedule a time. Once the letters are written from the LOOK time and the picture printed, put it in an envelope and return it to Children's Ministry for mailing. We will mail it to the missionary.

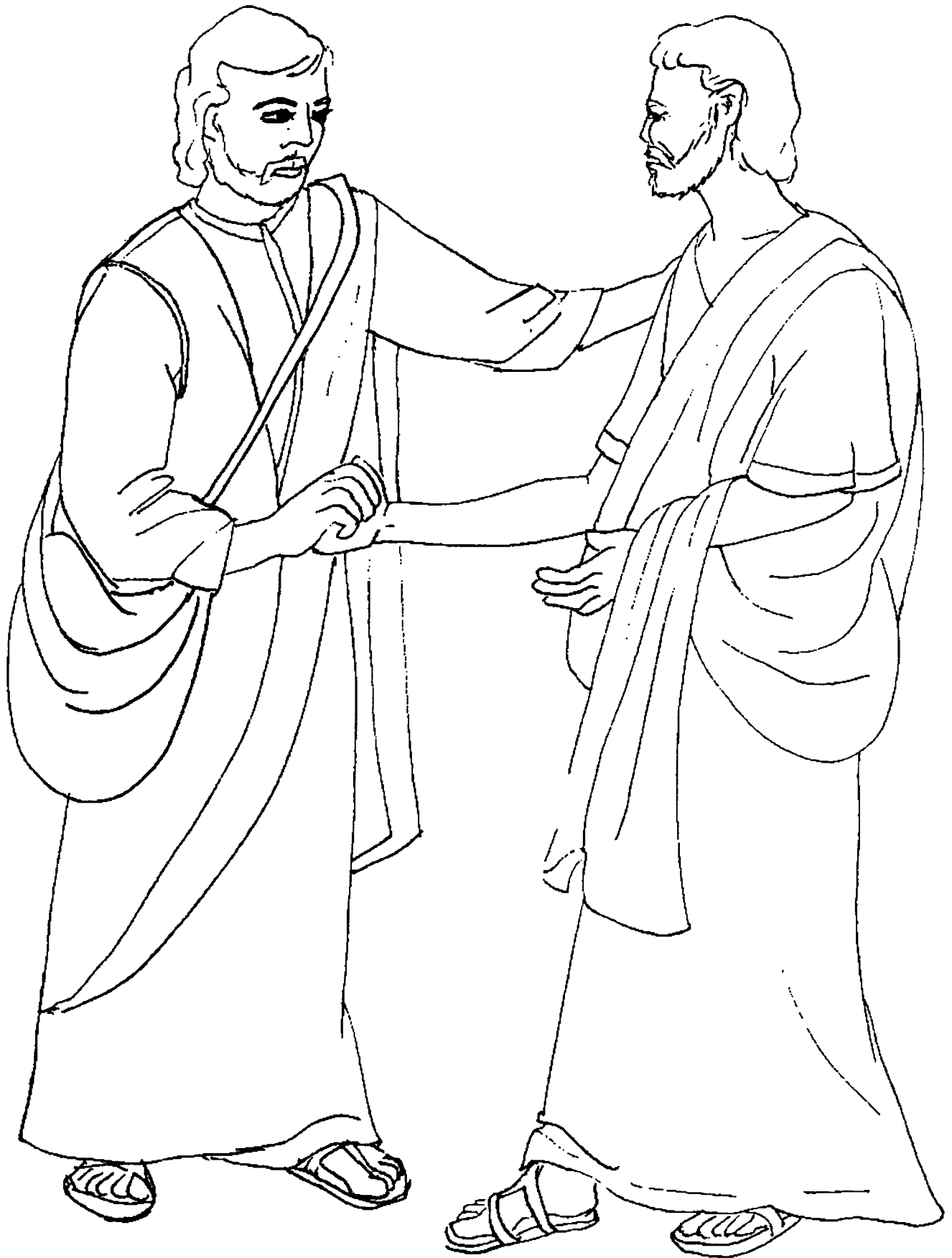


Stand Up for What is Right (Discussion). 🦋 Being a Christian means that we act according to what we believe. Sometimes this is difficult. Ask students in what areas they need to stand for the truth.

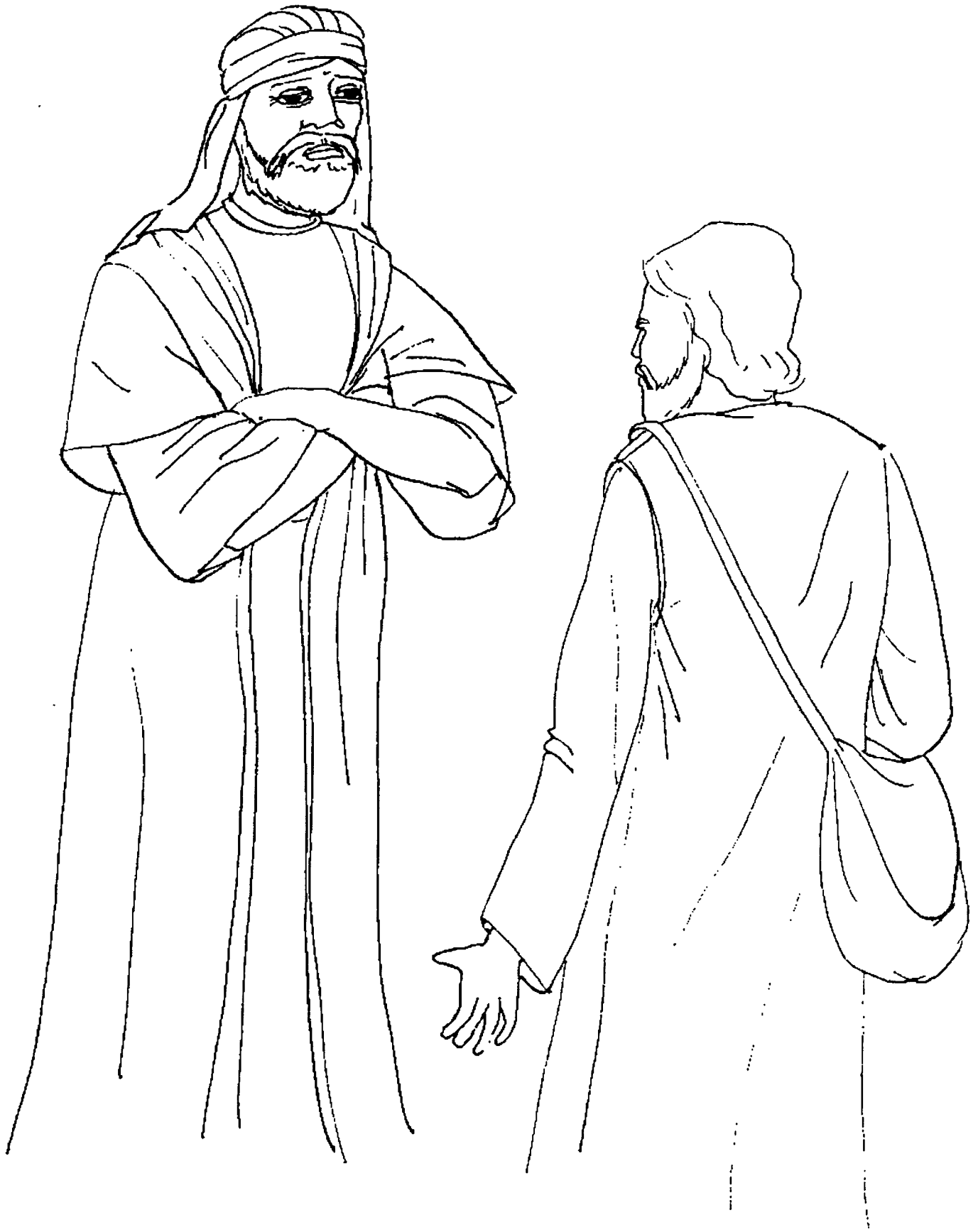
John Rejoices



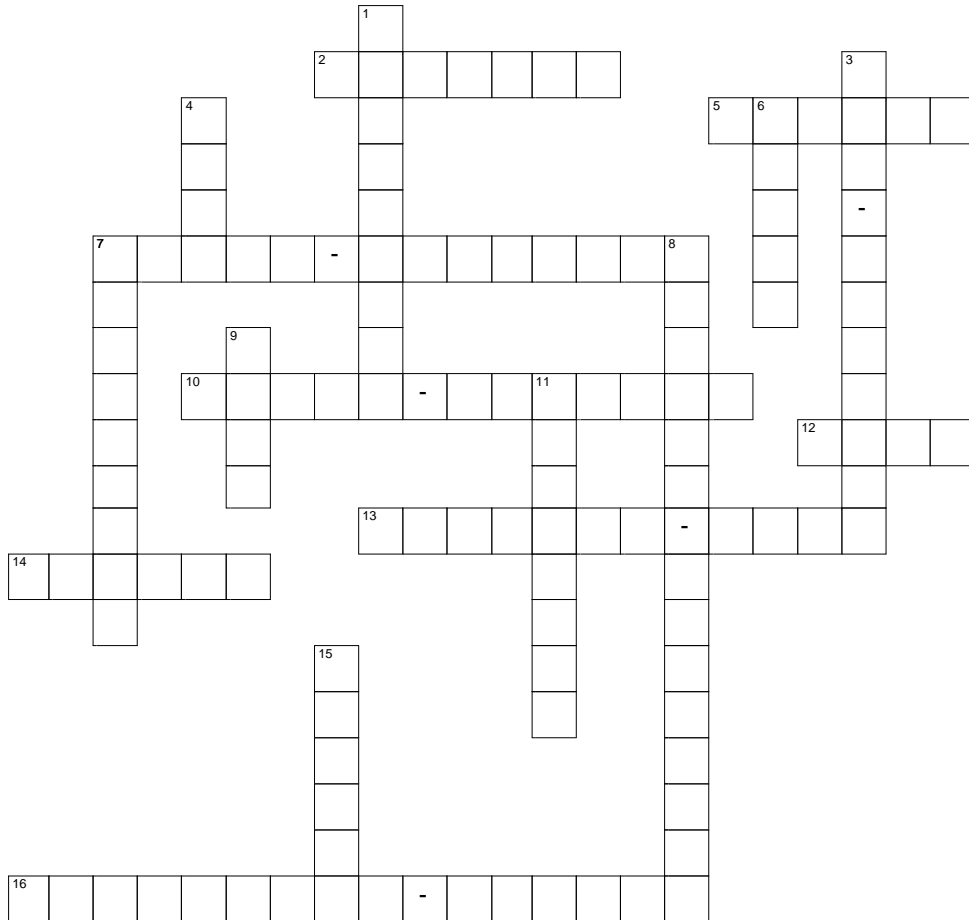
Gaius Welcomes Demetrius



Diotrephes Refuses to Welcome Demetrius



Know Your Missionary Peter & Sonya Smith



ACROSS

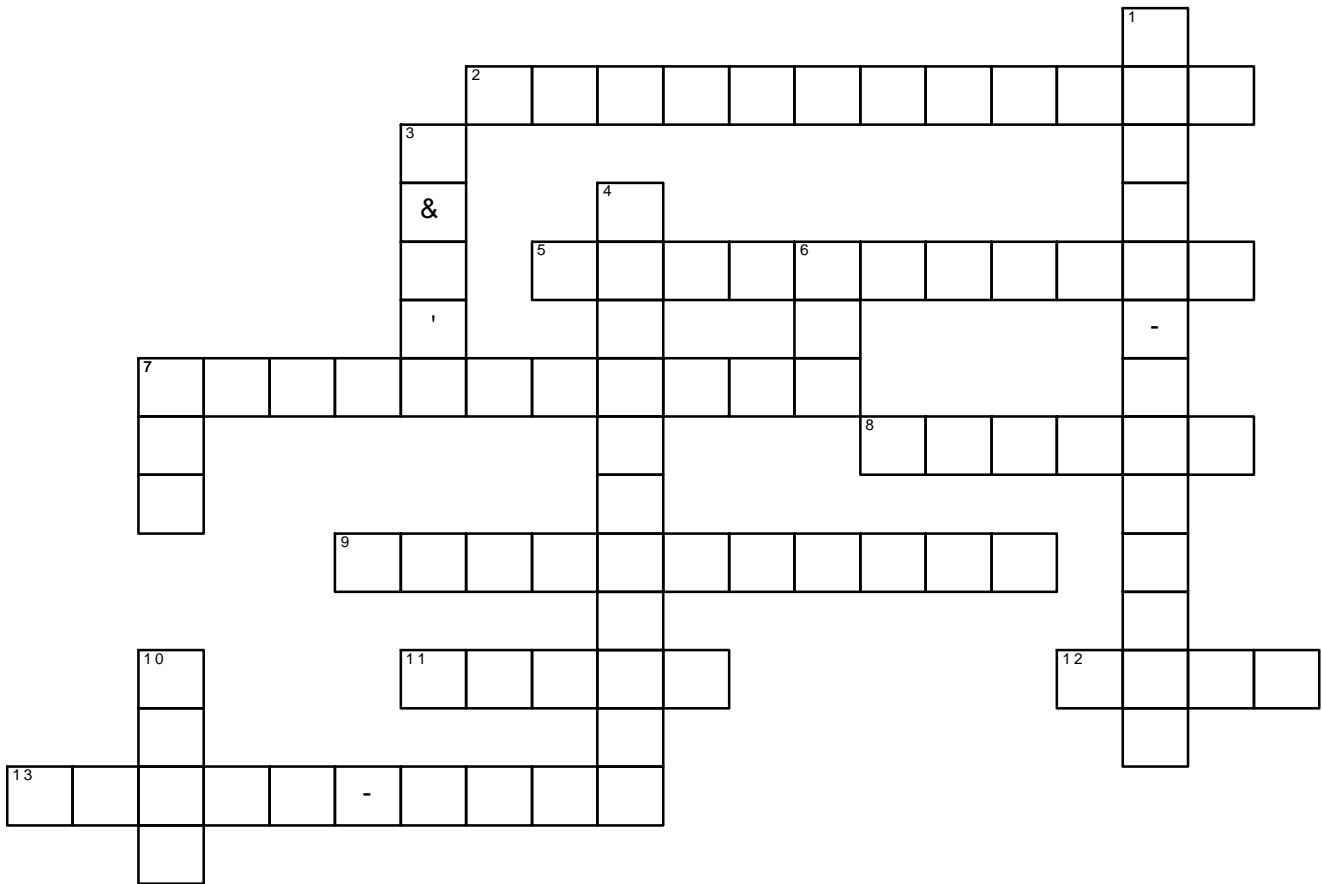
2. A name of their son found in the new Testament.
5. The name of their youngest son.
7. What country do they serve in?
10. What is one thing I can do to encourage the Smiths?
12. How many children do they have?
13. What is their favorite candy?
14. The city where they minister.
16. Another type of book they like to read.

DOWN

1. The name of their daughter.
3. What is their favorite cookie?
4. What can I do to support them materially?
6. To ___ ___ ___ is to take up and make one's own (Webster's)
7. What kind of music do they like?
8. What is their ministry?
9. What is the most important thing I can do for the Smiths spiritually?
11. A type of book they read.
15. The name of their oldest son.

Know Your Missionary

Phil & Denise Campbell



ACROSS

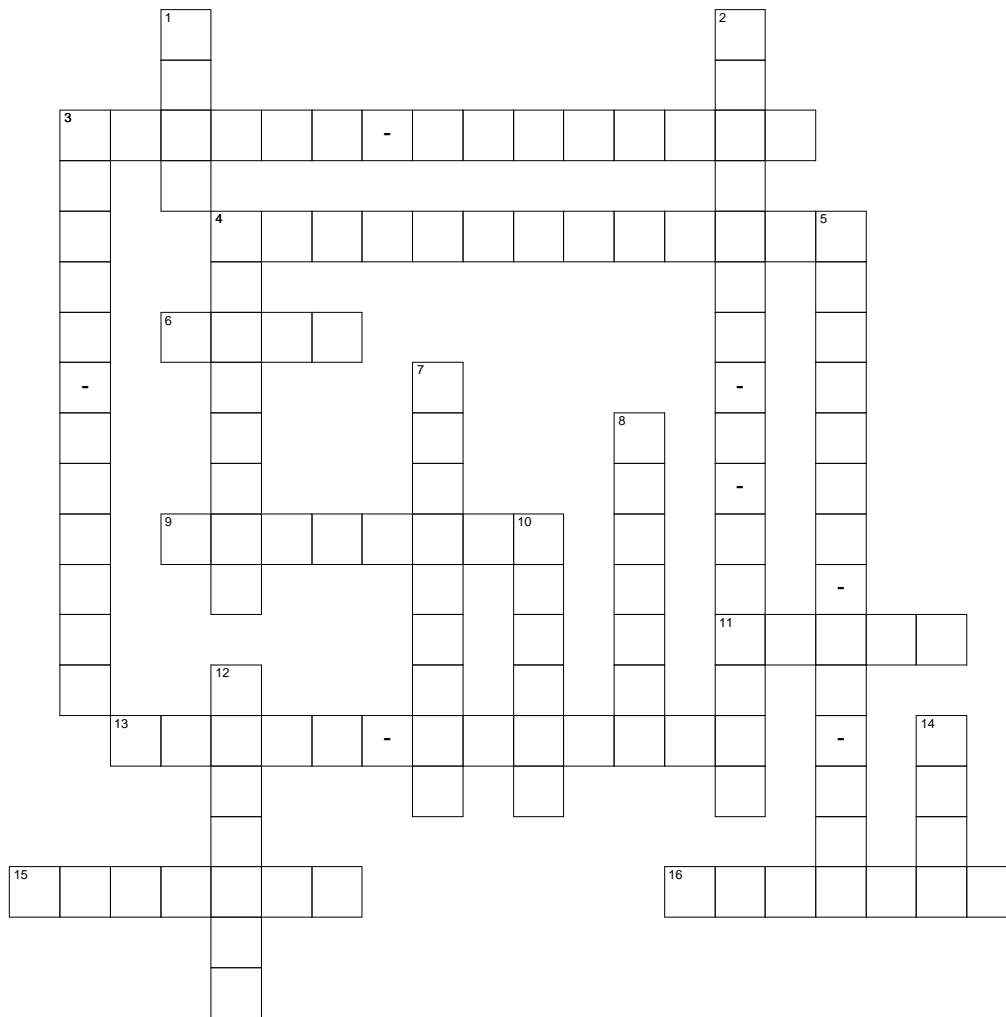
2. What type of music do they enjoy?
5. The country where they serve.
7. Their ministry.
8. What is the name of their youngest son?
9. What kind of books do they enjoy reading?
11. To _ _ _ _ is to take up and make one's own (Webster's)
12. What is the most important thing I can do for the Campbells spiritually?
13. The city where they live.

DOWN

1. What is one thing I can do to encourage the Campbells?
3. What is their favorite candy?
4. A favorite hobby.
6. The name of their oldest son.
7. The number of their children.
10. What can I do to support them materially?

Know Your Missionary

Dave & Lois Belch



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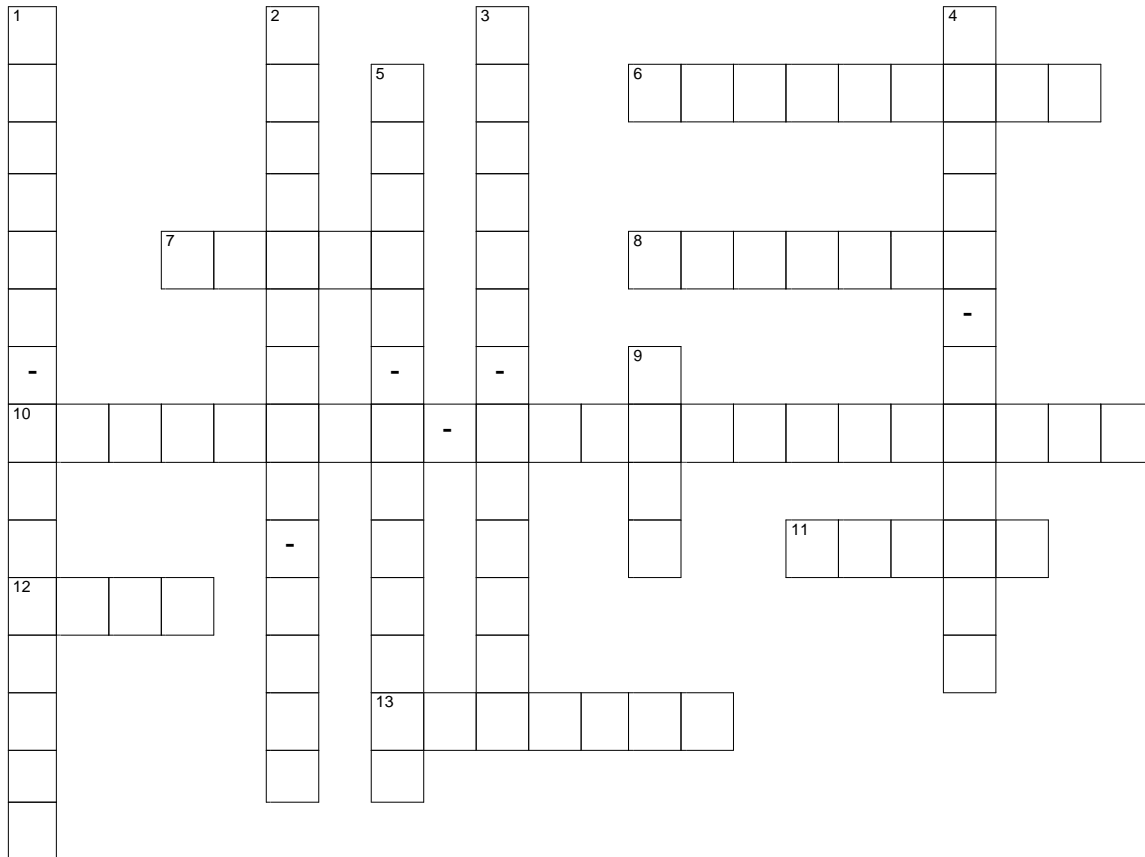
3. What is their ministry?
4. What is their favorite cookie?
6. What is the most important thing I can do for the Belchs spiritually?
9. What is their favorite candy?
11. To ___ ___ ___ is to take up and make one's own. (Webster's)
13. What is one thing I can do to encourage the Belches?
15. The name of their oldest daughter.
16. The name of their youngest son.

DOWN

1. How many children do they have?
2. Their favorite music.
3. Lois' hobby.
4. The name of their youngest daughter?
5. A theme of a favorite type of book they enjoy.
7. What country do they serve in?
8. The city where they minister.
10. One of Dave's hobbies.
12. The name of their oldest son.
14. What can I do to support them materially?

Know Your Missionary

Evelyn Hattan



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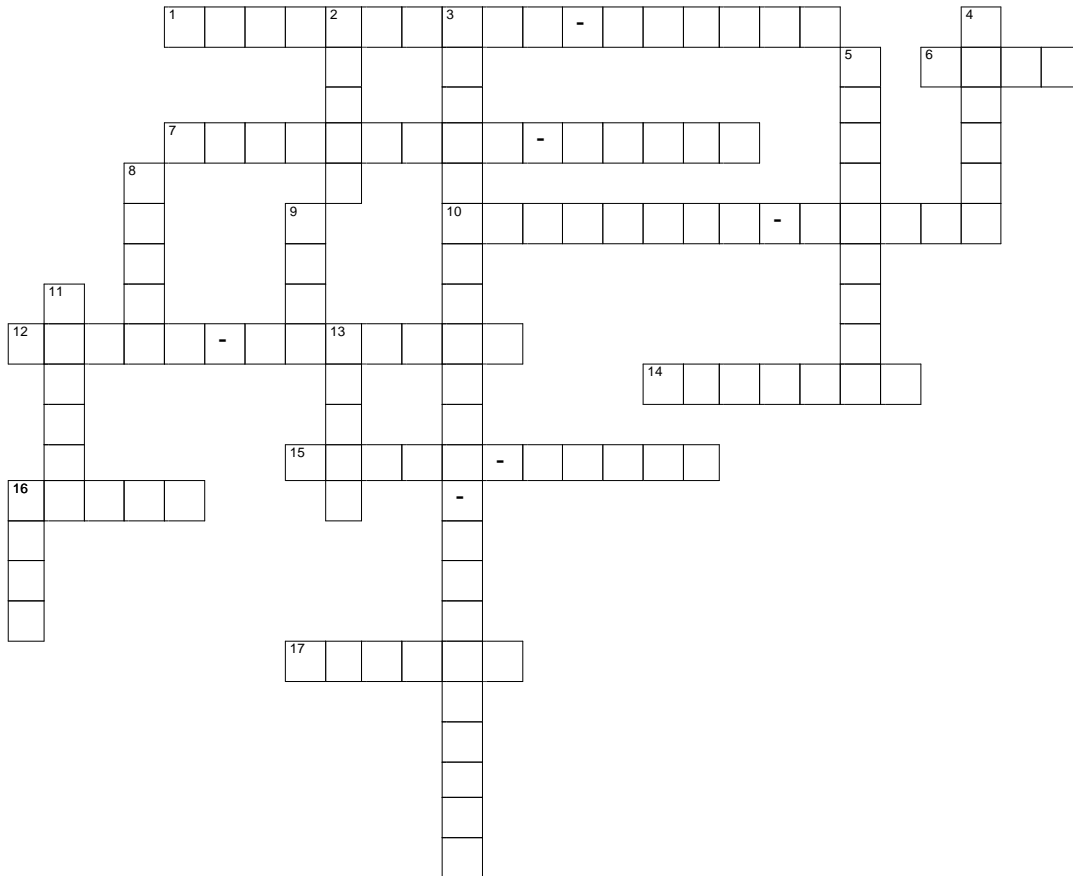
- 6. Evelyn's favorite candy.
- 7. To ____ is to take up and make one's own (Webster's)
- 10. Evelyn's ministry and job.
- 11. She enjoys playing this instrument.
- 12. What is the most important thing I can do for Evelyn spiritually?
- 13. One of her hobbies.

DOWN

- 1. The place where she ministers.
- 2. Her favorite cookie.
- 3. The country where Evelyn's lives.
- 4. The name of her sister who is the wife of a FBC pastor.
- 5. What is one thing I can do to encourage Evelyn?
- 8. A type of book she enjoys.
- 9. What can I do to support Evelyn materially?

Know Your Missionary

Jim & Millie Moore



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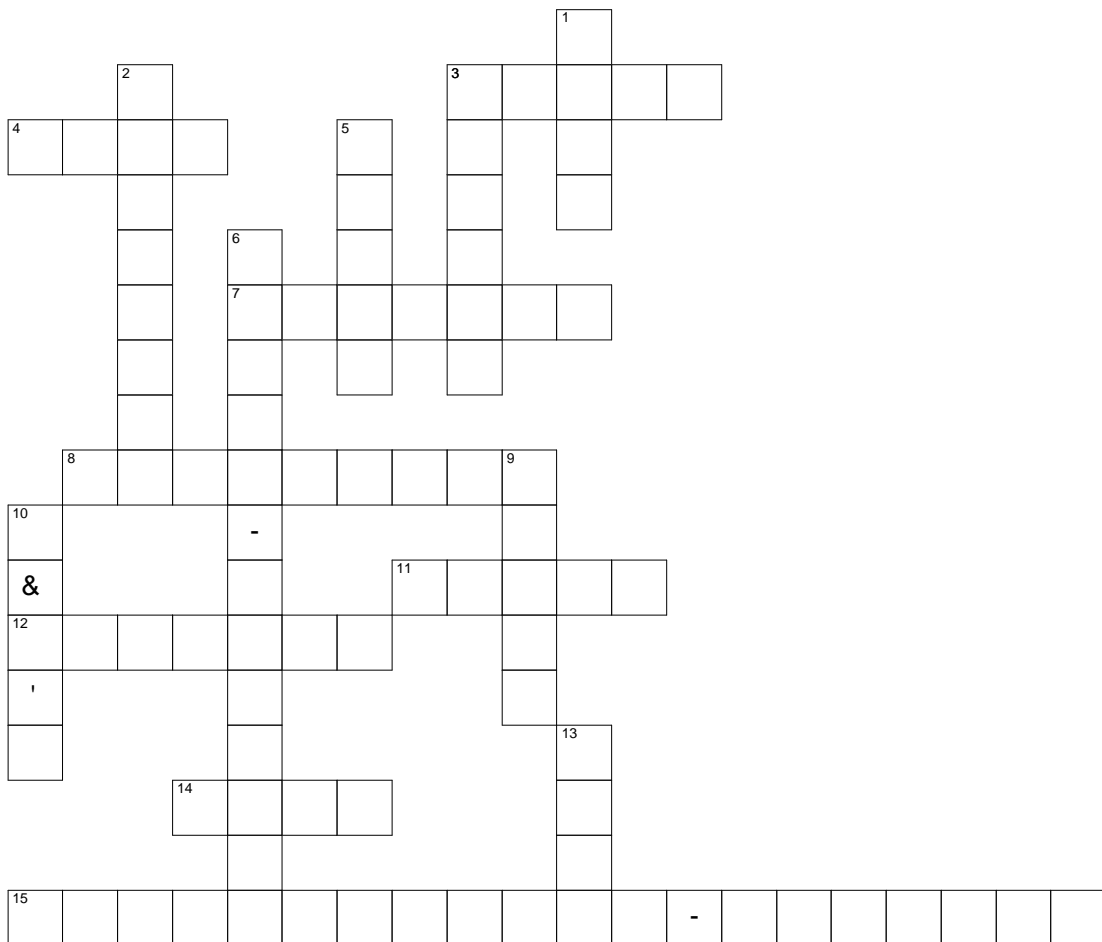
1. Millie enjoys these type of books.
6. What is the most important thing I can do for the Moores spiritually?
7. A favorite cookie.
10. The type of books Jim enjoys.
12. What is one thing I can do to encourage the Moores?
14. The name of their oldest son.
15. A favorite candy they enjoy.
16. The name of their youngest son.
17. Jim's hobby.

DOWN

2. Another favorite cookie
3. They enjoy listening to this type of music.
4. Millie's hobby.
5. The city where they live.
8. To ___ ___ ___ ___ is to take up and make one's own (Webster's)
9. What can I do to support them materially?
11. The country they are in.
16. The name of one of their sons.
13. The number of children they have.

Know Your Missionary

Tim & Leslie Widmer



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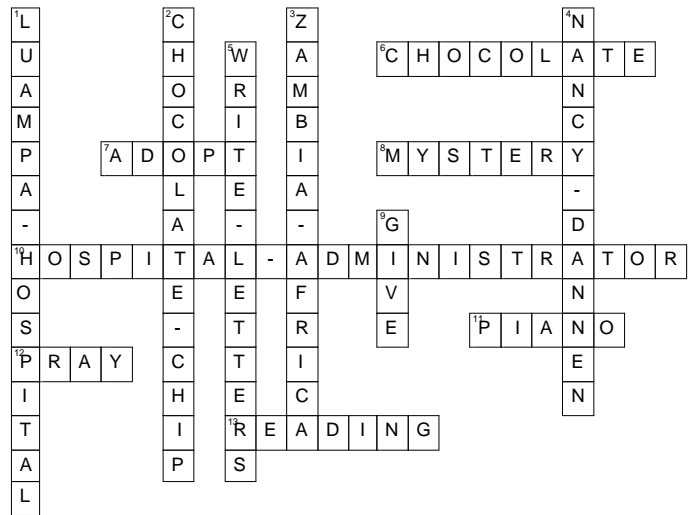
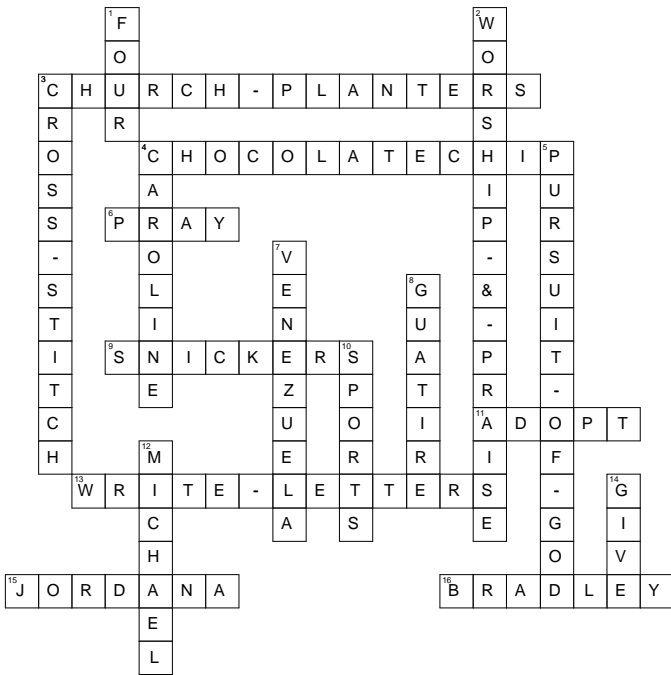
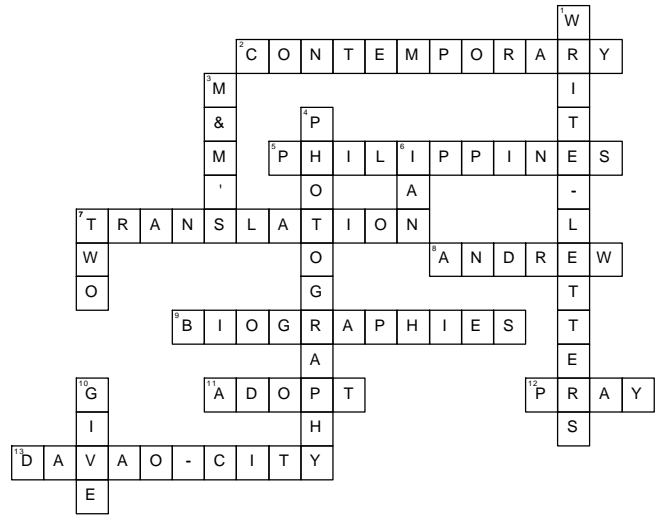
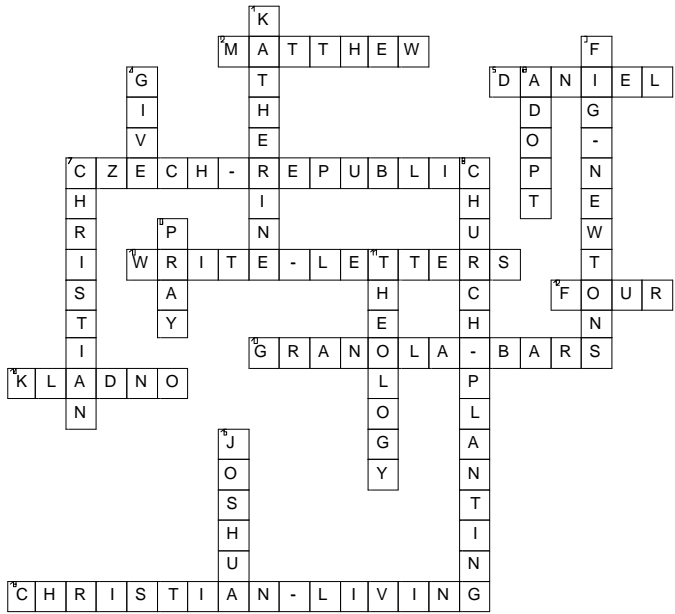
3. How many children do they have?
4. The name of their daughter.
7. A hobby they enjoy.
8. In what country have they been missionaries?
11. A grandpa's name.
12. The type of books Sean & Erin enjoy.
14. What is the name of their oldest son?
15. The name of the school where they ministered.

DOWN

1. What is the most important thing I can do for the Widmers spiritually?
2. Another favorite candy they enjoy.
3. What is the name of their youngest son?
5. A grandma's name.
6. What is one thing I can do to encourage the Widmers?
9. To ___ ___ ___ is to take up and make one's own (Webster's)
10. One of their favorite candies.
13. What can I do to support them materially?

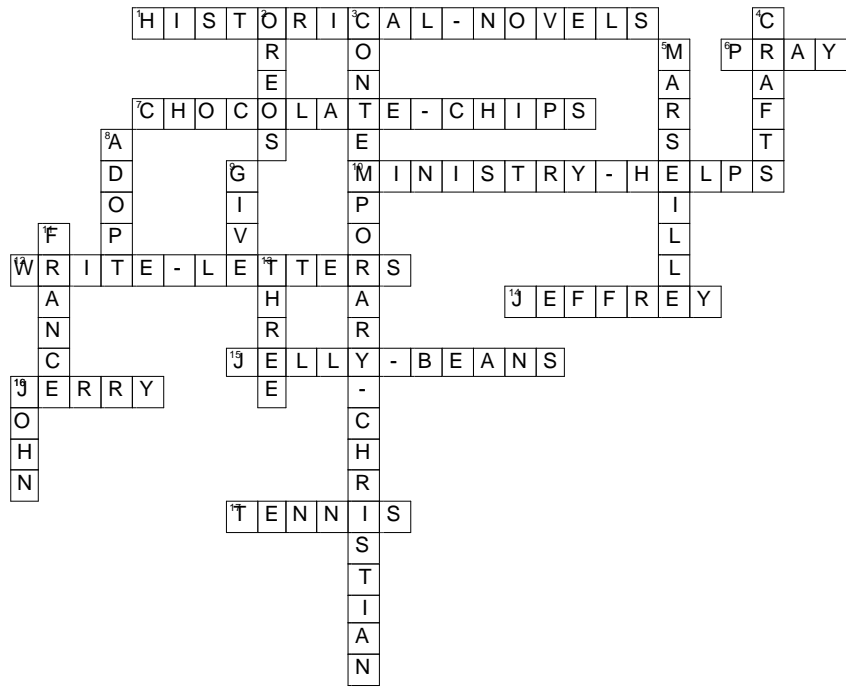
SMITH

CAMPBELL

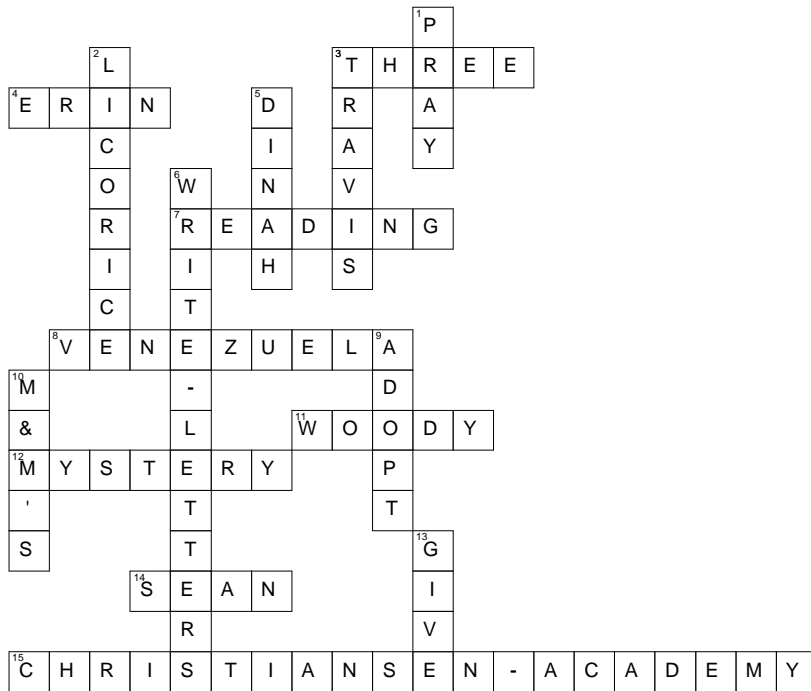


HATTAN

BELCH



MOORE



WIDMER