

**Introduction
For Teachers
Of
From Akebu to Zapotec**

Question: Why use this material for teaching children?

Answer: The New Testament book of Acts gives the following promise:

“God made the world and everything in it. He is Lord of heaven and earth. He does not live in temples built by human hands. He does not need help from anyone. He gives life and breath and everything else to all people. From one person, God made all nations who live on earth. God decided when and where every nation would be. God has done all this so that we will look for him. So that we will reach out and find him. He is not far from any of us. He gives us power to live and move and be who we are. We are his children.”

-CEV Contemporary English Version

Each of us (adults and children) should believe that God has saved us for a special purpose. Like Abram, we should want to be a blessing to all peoples on earth. When God called Abram in Genesis he said:

“I will bless you and make your descendants into a great nation. You will become famous and be a blessing to others... Everyone on earth will be blessed because of you.”

This blessing will be given to all people only if Christians obey the commandment of Jesus Christ himself. This commandment is found in the final chapter of the book of Mark. Jesus commands us to “*Go and preach the good news to everyone in the world.*”

Prayer is the main part of obeying this commandment. Adults and children everywhere can pray...and then watch God work!

This study describes twenty-six (26) people groups. One way of using the study is to focus on one group each week.

As you study you will see how God has provided for the needs of each people group. All of these groups are still waiting for the life-changing message of Jesus. His life and death show us how much God loves us. He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die and live again for us. He went everywhere in his own country telling the message of God’s love. You and the children you work with can pray for each people group. God will provide the way to give God’s message to each group.

As you teach, your students will learn more details about the world they live in. They will learn about geography, countries, animals, and how people have learned to live under many different conditions.

(For Children)

**Introduction to Course of Study
For
From Akebu to Zapotec**

The Bible tells us that God created the whole world and everything in it. (Genesis 1:1) This means that God created men and women. When God saw what he had created, he said, “That’s good!”(Genesis 1:31) God loves all that he created. God especially loves people. He created us able to think and plan and make choices. (Genesis 1:27) We are able to love God. We can love ourselves. We can love other people and want good things for them.

God loves us and he made us different from each other. People living in different parts of our world look different. Some of us are tall, some are short. Some have black skins. Other people have different shades of brown skin or even very light skin. We all have different colored hair and different colored eyes. Yet because God made us, he loves every one of us. He wants us to know and love him.

No matter where we live, we all have certain needs. We all need food and water. We all need some kind of shelter, a place stay dry or warm. We all need clothing and a way to keep warm or cool. We need a language that lets us talk with our families and friends. And we all need people to love and those who love us. We all need to know that God loves us. We need to know that God sent his son, Jesus, to show us how to love each other. (John 3:16)

People all over the world have different ways to take care of these needs. The foods we eat are different. The homes and clothes we wear are different. The languages and gestures we use are different. Sometimes these differences are because of where we live, and the weather that surrounds us. If we live in cold places, we need warm houses and clothing. If we live in hot places we need cool shelters and fewer clothes. As you study each lesson, look at the pictures in *From Akebu to Zapotec*. You will see different types of homes and clothes. Now look at the surroundings in the pictures. Can you tell if these people live in hot or cold place?

God has made our world full of colors. But not all colors mean the same thing to all people groups and languages. Some of the colors you see may not make sense to you. They probably mean something different to that people group.

God has made our world full of different kinds of animals. (Genesis1: 24-25) The animals live in different places because of the surroundings and the weather. Look at the pictures. Can you see animals that are different from the ones you know? You will find out about some of these animals as we study this material.

God gave us language too. But we do not all speak the same language. All over the world different people groups use different languages to talk and laugh and pray and even sometimes cry together.

The first language we learn as young children is usually the most important one to each of us. We call that our “mother tongue”. It is the language that speaks what our heart (mind) feels. God wants us to know about him

in the language that is most important to us. That is why the translation of God's Message is so important. God wants all people to learn about him in their own language. He wants to use their own way of talking and laughing. God want to use their own way of telling stories and asking questions.

None of the people groups you will learn about in this material have God's message of love in their own language. Maybe your own mother tongue does not have God's Word in written form. Maybe you can listen to God's Message on cassette tape. Perhaps some other people group in your own country does not have God's Word in written form. Maybe they can listen to God's Message by listening to a storyteller. It does not matter how we learn about God but it does matter that we should decide to follow the Jesus Way by loving God, other people and ourselves.

God hears and answers our prayers when we talk to him. Tell him what you need. Tell him what other people groups need. We all need some way of hearing or learning about God's Message [the Bible] in our own language. You will have a chance to pray for the people who do not have God's wonderful message of love. God answers our prayers (our talking to him). He always has answered. He always will answer.

Description of Landform Types

Atoll An atoll is a ring (or partial ring) of coral. This coral forms an island in an ocean or sea.

Continent The land mass on earth is divided into continents. There are seven continents.

Coral Coral is a hard stony substance. Coral is formed from the skeletons of many tiny sea animals. Coral is often colored pink, reddish, or white.

Cliff A cliff is a high, steep face of rock that drops sharply without a slope.

Desert A desert is a very dry area with little rainfall.

Dune A dune is a hill or a ridge made of sand.

Erupt To break out or burst forth suddenly and violently

Hill A hill is a raised area or mound of land.

Island An island is a piece of land that is surrounded by water.

Islet An islet is a very tiny island.

Lake A lake is a large body of fresh water surrounded by land on all sides.

Mountain A mountain is a very high, natural place on earth. A mountain is higher than a hill.

Ocean An ocean is a large body of salt water that surrounds a continent.

Peninsula A peninsula is a body of land that is surrounded by water on three sides.

Plain Plains are flat lands that have only small changes in height.

Plateau A plateau is a large flat area of land that is higher than the surrounding land.

Prairie A prairie is a wide, normally flat area of land. It has grasses and only a few trees.

River A river is a large, flowing body of fresh water that usually empties into a sea or ocean.

Savannah A word used in Africa to describe a prairie.

Sea A sea is a large body of salt water. A sea is often connected to an ocean.

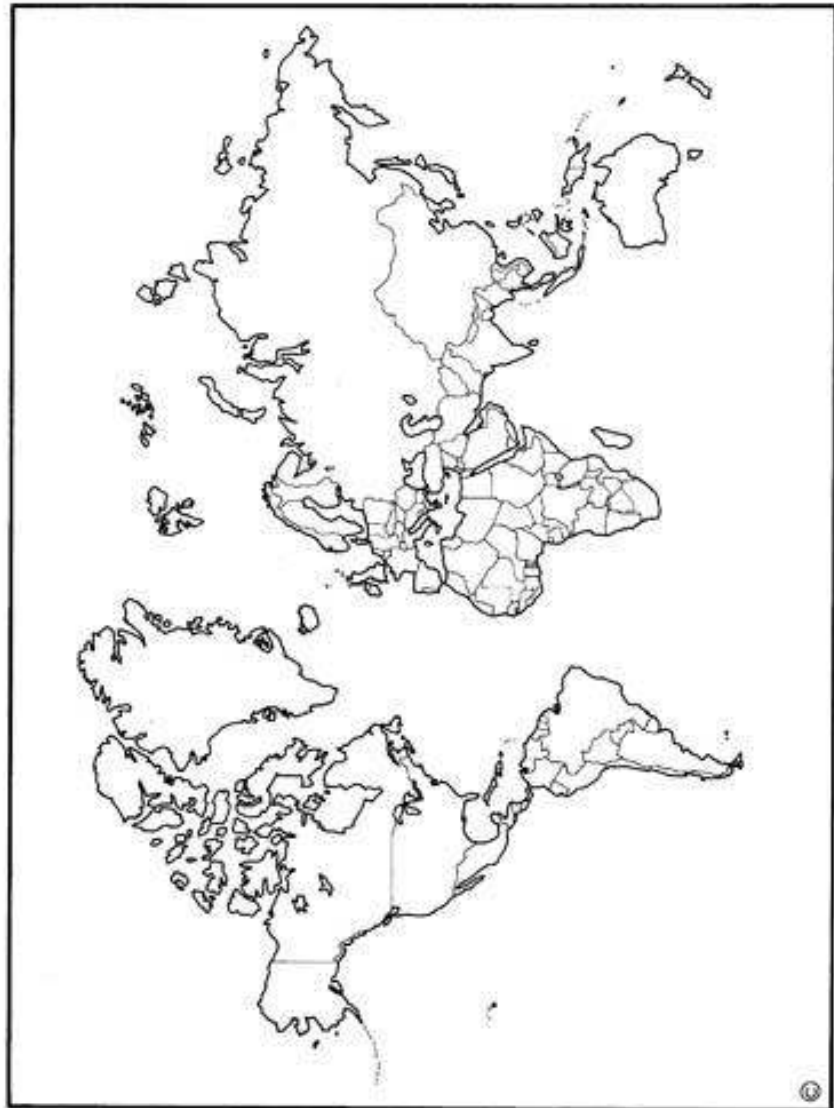
Swamp A swamp is a type of wetland. It has spongy, muddy land and a lot of water. Many trees and shrubs grow in swamps.

Waterfall A waterfall is a place in a river where water drops down a steep cliff.

Wetland An area of land covered or soaked with water

Valley A valley is a low place between hills or mountains.

Volcano A volcano is a mountainous opening in the earth's crust. When a volcano erupts, it spews out lava, ashes, and hot gases from deep inside the earth.



Map of the World

Animals Described in A-Z Curriculum

<u><i>Animal</i></u>	<u><i>Country</i></u>	<u><i>People</i></u>
Hippo	Togo	Akebu
Agouti	“	“
Yak	Bhutan	Brokpa
Sheep	“	“
Indochinese Tiger	Vietnam	Chut
Panda	China	Dongxiang
Butterfly	Elkei	Papua New Guinea
Warthog	Fania	Chad
Pangolin	Gusilay	Senegal
Great Indian Hornbill	Hrusso	India
Cotton-top Tamarin	Colombia	Ica
Anaconda	“	“
Hyena	Sudan	Jumjum
African Elephant	Cote D'Ivoire	Kulango
Zebra	Ethiopia	Libido
Orangutan	Malaysia	Melanau
Baboon	Nigeria	Ngizim

<u>Animal</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>People</u>
Peacock (Peafowl)	Indonesia	Osing
Tarsier	“	“
Asian Elephant	Thailand	Phuan
Python	“	“
Llama	Peru	Quechua
Bengal Tiger	Nepal	Rajbanshi
Snow Leopard	“	“
Lions	Tanzania	Safwa
Red-billed Oxpecker	“	“
Giraffe	“	“
Camel	North Africa	Temacine
Crocodile	Papua New Guinea	Umeda
Mongoose	India	Vadar
King Cobra	“	“
Fruit bat	Micronesia	Woleai
Silkworm	China	Xibe
Gecko	Myanmar	Yinbaw
Mosquito	“	‘
Burro	Mexico	Zapotec

**More material to use with older children:
For use with
From Akebu to Zapotec
Course of study**

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>People Group</u>
The Himalayas	Bhutan	Brokpa
Genghis Khan and his Mongol warriors	China	Dongxiang
The Great Wall of China	China	Dongxiang
Millet	Chad	Fania
Throwing Sticks	Sudan	Jumjum
Sago Palm Trees	Malaysia	Melanau
The Ancient Incas	Peru	Quechua
The Sahara Desert	North Africa	Temacine
Hear You: A Papua New Guinea Legend	PNG	Umeda
The Caste System of India	India	Vadar
Indian missionary: Sadhu Sundar Singh	India	Vadar

World Religions

- **Buddhism**
- **Christianity**
- **Hinduism**
- **Judaism**
- **Islam**
- **Tribal religions**

Followers are called:

Buddhists

Christians

Hindus

Jews

Muslims

Animists