

## A NEW MISSION FIELD

APRIL 1

### NARRATION

### GRAPHICS AND CLIPS

**CN. 01** Being a Seventh-day Adventist in some places can be a lot more challenging than in others. Timor-Leste, a small island nation located in Southeast Asia, is home to 1.2 million people, most of whom are Catholic. About 500 Seventh-day Adventists live there, worshipping in one official church in the capital city, and three other groups spread across the island. Sadly, Adventist members in Timor-Leste face persecution and are often rejected, persecuted, or fired from their jobs.

Images related to the text and animation.

**CN. 02** Joaquina is a tailor who lives in a humble home that is also her shop and workplace. She sews clothes and other creative items to earn a living. Joaquina suffers a lot of pain and physical challenges. One day she felt so weak that she prayed for God to help her. Soon afterward, two Adventists came to her house, prayed with her, and gave her a Bible.

Images related to the text and animation.

**CN. 03** Joaquina studied the Bible and became convinced that God's truth lay in the Adventist teachings, even if that meant closing her shop on Sabbaths to worship with the Adventist community. When her neighbors learned that she had left her former church to become an Adventist, they filed a complaint against her, and she was arrested.

Images related to the text and animation.

**CN. 04** It was a difficult time for Joaquina, but God gave her strength. She was freed and cleared of wrongdoing, and now she talks to her neighbors about God despite her persecution.

Images related to the text and animation.

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**CN. 05** Adventist children also go through challenging situations in Timor-Leste, like being expelled for not attending school on Sabbath. Public schools meet six days a week. When children refuse to attend school on Sabbath, they are forced to abandon the school with no chance of appealing.

**CN. 06** In 2015 part of the world church's offerings helped build an Adventist elementary school where students can study without fear of being expelled. The school is registered as an international school with English classes. Enrollment grew steadily, and a dormitory was needed to accommodate students who lived far from the school. Many non-Adventist parents are also eager to send their children to this school as they can see the good and healthy environment that it offers.

**CN. 07** Part of our Promise offerings helped to build the dormitory and will continue to support the work in Timor-Leste. Let's help continue evangelism in Timor-Leste and pray that God will strengthen the believers as they work to break down prejudice and reach out to those who want to know God personally. As we return our Tithe and Promise, regular and systematic offerings, may we put our desires last and God first.

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