Chad: Hippos, Mangos, and Missionary Kids

Romans 10:14-15—“How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?”

Chad is a landlocked country in the heart of Africa. Far from the capital city stands Bere Adventist Hospital, the only healthcare facility available in the region. Overseeing the hospital and its patients are Drs. Olen and Danae [DAN-AV] Netteburg [Neh-teh-burg] and their family. The Netteberg children give us a peek into life in their mission field.

Hi! We’re the Netteburg kids. Our parents are missionary doctors, but we’re missionaries too because we love telling people about Jesus.

Juniper, age 6: I like animals. People bring us animals like our baby goat. Someone even gave us a camel! The local people raise them here. We live in a compound—a bunch of houses with a wall around them. We have lots of mango trees. During mango season, we don’t need dinner; we just pick mangos from the trees! My mother and I give baby clothes and blankets to new mommies while we talk about Jesus.

Addison, age 8: I like to visit the nearby villages. There are shepherds and farmers who live on what they can grow. On Sabbath, we hop in the truck and drive to remote villages to worship God under a big mango tree! We teach kids and their parents Bible stories and songs. It makes me sad to think of all the children who don’t know about Jesus.

Zane, 10: I love to swim in a nearby river during the summer. But we had to change rivers because hippos took over our river. Hippos are dangerous, so we can’t swim with them! I like to make stuff like bows and arrows. My friends from Chad can make the most amazing things out of trash—like cars and even airplanes! Most people here don’t know about Jesus, so I like telling people that Jesus loves them.

Lyol, 13: There is so much to do here! My mom does a lot of surgeries. My dad takes care of the sick patients and keeps the hospital running smoothly. He also homeschools us. We have fun here, but our work is serious, and we want everyone to know Jesus. She could share God’s love with others. All she had to do was obey Him.

When you give God your tithes and Promise offerings, remember that they help support the 400 missionaries around the world and Global Mission pioneers, too. Thank you for supporting us while we teach people about God. After all, that’s why we’re here.