



# EVERY SHOEBOX GIFT TELLS A STORY...

Mark was 14 when a church in El Salvador invited him to a special event. “I felt shy since I was tall for my age, and some children said I wasn’t 14,” he recalled.

After songs and a devotional about Jesus, the teachers said there was a surprise. Mark thought it would be notebooks and pencils, but then a curtain lifted to reveal a stack of shoeboxes. Mark received his box and waited anxiously until all the other children had received their gifts. Then, he lifted the lid.

“I found a stuffed animal, notebooks, toothbrush, and many other beautiful things, which I very, very much liked,” he said gratefully.

The church later invited Mark to learn about Jesus through The Greatest Journey follow-up discipleship course. Mark attended all 12 lessons and graduated, receiving a graduation certificate and a New Testament in Spanish. “Even today, I have kept my diploma and my workbook, which is the foundation of who I am, with God’s help,” Mark said.

Mark became a youth leader at his church. “Now, I teach children... helping them learn about God,” he said. “I’m happy to see them walking on the good path, and I love to see the smiles on the faces of the little ones...I’m helping them to forget their sadness.”

**9.1 MILLION GOSPEL OPPORTUNITIES PACKED  
WORLDWIDE IN 2020**

# THANK YOU!

