

SAMARITAN'S PURSE®

“GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES”

MATTHEW 28:19-20



EVANGELISM • DISCIPLESHIP • MULTIPLICATION



MONGOLIA

SHOEBOX GIFTS
SHOW CHILDREN
A TANGIBLE
EXPRESSION OF
GOD'S LOVE.



DEAR FRIEND,

There are millions of children in need around the world, many who have never received a gift. We want them to know God's gift of salvation through trusting and believing in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior and Lord. Each year, we partner with churches and ministries in more than 100 countries to tell boys and girls about Jesus through Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse.

That's just the beginning. Through The Greatest Journey, our follow-up discipleship program for shoebox gift recipients, children learn about Christ's love and share their faith with others.

This booklet highlights how our ministry partners are using the Gospel materials and training we provide to teach these young disciples to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). Please join us in praying for this new generation of evangelists and disciple makers.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham
President, Samaritan's Purse

“

EVERY
SHOEBOX
IS AN
OPPORTUNITY
TO REACH A
CHILD WITH
THE GOSPEL.

”



EVANGELISM



DISCIPLESHIP



MULTIPLICATION



EVERY SHOEBOX GIFT IS AN EXCELLENT RESOURCE FOR EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP, which leads to the multiplication of new believers and churches around the world. Local Christians share the Gospel, inviting children to trust in Jesus. Then, boys and girls receive a surprise that may be their first gift ever. They hold in their hands a tangible expression of God's love.



AFTER CHILDREN RECEIVE SHOEBOX GIFTS, many also participate in our 12-lesson discipleship program, The Greatest Journey. Through this course, which includes Bible stories and Scripture memorization, they learn how to follow Christ in their daily lives as they tell their family and friends about Him.

SHOEBOX OUTREACH EVENTS



LOCAL CHRISTIANS ARE TAUGHT to host a successful outreach event through the Ministry Partner Guide, a 36-page resource that outlines how to organize a shoebox gift distribution, share the Gospel, and invite children to participate in follow-up discipleship. It is full of colorful pictures and a suggested script to use as they present the Gospel message in a child-friendly way.



See what an outreach looks like: **SCAN TO WATCH**



EVERY SHOEBOX GIFT IS DESIGNED TO BE UNIQUE, representing how special each child is to God. Individuals, families, churches, and groups fill each shoebox with quality gifts—including school supplies, hygiene items, toys, and other fun items—for a girl or boy, ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Adding a personal note and photo often mean the most to a child. God can use the gift of a shoebox to open hearts to receive His love. Local Christians distribute the gifts during outreach events, telling the children about God's Greatest Gift, Jesus Christ.

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS, GREAT JOY OF THE GOSPEL!

THE GREATEST GIFT



IN ADDITION TO HEARING THE GOSPEL before receiving a shoebox gift, the boys and girls also receive a copy of *The Greatest Gift*, a Gospel booklet about the gift of salvation being in Jesus Christ alone. The booklet includes 11 Scripture stories and invites them to follow Christ. Children take this Gospel message home to read with their family and friends. We produce the Gospel booklet in more than 80 languages.

11
SCRIPTURE STORIES
IN OVER **90**
LANGUAGES



ANSWERED PRAYERS IN A SHOEBOX

“WHEN WE HAVE MONEY.” That’s what Kwale’s parents reminded him whenever the barefoot 13-year-old asked for a pair of shoes. Stepping on a thorn wasn’t as painful to the Tanzanian boy as being looked down upon by his classmates and teachers for being poor. The teen considered begging or stealing to get a pair of shoes. But one Sunday when he went to church with his mother, there was an Operation Christmas Child event where children received a gift-filled shoebox. What was inside Kwale’s shoebox? A variety of gifts including a pair of shoes that were exactly his size.



Watch what happens next:
SCAN TO WATCH



EVANGELISM

*“LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME ...
FOR OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD” —LUKE 18:16*



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX

GIFTS are delivered in-country to year-round national and regional leadership teams that coordinate the logistics of shoebox gift distributions in their countries. These Christian volunteers strategize how to reach the children in their country with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They train local volunteers—pastors, ministry leaders, and discipleship teachers—to lead outreach events and follow-up discipleship classes. With this approach, local Christians who know the culture and language best are given effective resources and a solid Biblical foundation so that they can communicate the Gospel within their own communities.



Namibia



View how shoeboxes get to the destinations:

SCAN TO WATCH



TO ENSURE QUALITY OUTREACH EVENTS AND FOLLOW-UP DISCIPLESHIP,



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAMS TRAIN



MASTER TRAINERS WHO TRAIN



TRAINERS, WHO IN TURN TRAIN



LOCAL TEACHERS

LEADERSHIP TEAMS & TRAINING

SENDING THE THE ENDS OF



GOSPEL TO THE EARTH



SHARING
THE GOSPEL IN
1,000
PACIFIC ISLANDS
THROUGH OPERATION
CHRISTMAS CHILD



GOING ISLAND TO ISLAND

We are taking the Gospel to half a million children in the Pacific Islands over the next few years as part of our commitment to *“proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation”* (Mark 16:15, ESV).



Learn about our
Pacific Islands initiative:
SCAN TO WATCH



“THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS,



HARD-TO-REACH PLACES

In some parts of the world access to the Gospel is restricted, so we distribute specially packed shoebox gifts—many of them through Pack a Shoebox Online (PackaBox.ca). This provides a way for believers in these places to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in a culturally sensitive way.

SHOEBOX GIFTS REACH A FAMILY FOR CHRIST

In one hard-to-reach nation, two brothers, ages 10 and 12, each received their first gift ever in an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. Being from a non-Christian background, they were surprised that their first visit to a church would result in such a wonderful gift.

One day, the church member who distributed the shoebox gifts visited the boys' home. The family was eager to thank this man for the treasures in the shoeboxes. “I love Christians and want to know more about Jesus Christ,” the mother said. She began attending church and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. She, in turn, shared the Gospel with her mother-in-law and sister-in-law, resulting in eight adults and two children in the family actively attending church.

• SINCE •
1993

WE HAVE
DELIVERED

SHOEBOX
GIFTS
IN OVER **170**
NATIONS &
TERRITORIES

INCLUDING
MORE THAN

50
HARD-TO-REACH
COUNTRIES

AND THE DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT” —John 1:5, ESV

MAKING JESUS' NAME KNOWN ACROSS THE GLOBE



UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

People groups are considered to be unreached with the Gospel if less than 2 percent of their overall population professes a belief in Jesus Christ. To reach these groups, Samaritan's Purse is partnering with Seed Company, an affiliate of Wycliffe Bible Translators, to translate Bible stories and our discipleship materials into dozens of languages where God's Word isn't known. Many of these are in oral-based cultures, where we are sharing the Gospel through solar-powered MP3 players.

Learn how unreached people groups are hearing about Jesus:

SCAN TO WATCH



WE ARE SHARING THE GOSPEL EACH YEAR AMONG MORE THAN 100 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS IN 50+ COUNTRIES.



UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS are hearing the Gospel for the first time through Operation Christmas Child.



IN THE MOUNTAINS OF MEXICO, an area pastor named José Benítez started a church among the Nahuatl people after dozens of children and parents in the village of La Laguna came to faith in Jesus through Operation Christmas Child.

"I SEE A PLACE where we're going to be able to train young boys and girls to grow in the Lord and to go to other communities to share the Gospel," Pastor José Benítez said about the new church.

PASTOR JOSÉ BENÍTEZ doesn't let having polio stop him from sharing the Gospel in remote villages such as La Laguna. Edward Graham attended the church dedication service with Pastor José.





AFTER RECEIVING SHOEBOX GIFTS, many children participate in our follow-up discipleship program called The Greatest Journey. Through this 12-lesson Bible-based course, millions of children are coming to know Jesus as their Savior, growing in their faith, and sharing the Gospel.

Every aspect of this program, from teacher training to student materials, is implemented for just \$6 a child. Find out more at SamaritansPurse.ca/TGJ



**A LOOK INSIDE:
THE GREATEST JOURNEY
STUDENT WORKBOOK**



Lesson 12

FIJI
A LOCAL CHURCH VOLUNTEER LEADS CHILDREN IN A LESSON OF THE GREATEST JOURNEY.

THE GREATEST JOURNEY

“DECLARE HIS GLORY AMONG THE NATIONS, HIS WONDERS AMONG ALL PEOPLES” —PSALM 96:3



TRAINED LOCAL CHURCH VOLUNTEERS use The Greatest Journey Teaching Guide. This in-depth manual helps teachers tell the Bible stories in an engaging way and apply them to their students' lives.

IN THE GREATEST JOURNEY WORKBOOK, the students are encouraged to follow along with each Bible story—asking questions, memorizing Scripture, and completing life application activities in class and at home.



**THE GREATEST JOURNEY
TEACHING GUIDE**



See The Greatest Journey in action:
SCAN TO WATCH



**THE GREATEST JOURNEY
STUDENT WORKBOOK**

Togo

DISCIPLESHIP

“THAT ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH MAY KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOD; THERE IS NO OTHER” —1 KINGS 8:60



LEARNING TO PRAY IN JESUS' NAME

IT WASN'T UNTIL DAPHNE BEGAN LEARNING ABOUT JESUS at age 10 through The Greatest Journey, our follow-up discipleship program for shoebox recipients, that she really started to understand who Jesus is and His power to transform lives. After completing the discipleship class, Daphne rereads lessons from The Greatest Journey with her grandmother and prays for family members to follow Jesus Christ.



Hear what Jesus means to Daphne:
SCAN TO WATCH



“
THE LORD'S PRESENCE IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING ...
IT'S MORE PRECIOUS THAN A FLOWER.
”

—Daphne



AFTER COMPLETING THE GREATEST JOURNEY, children attend a graduation celebration and receive a certificate. Most importantly, they are given a New Testament that includes selected Old Testament stories along with a dictionary of Biblical terms and a map of Bible lands. Complete with illustrations, it is often the first copy of God's Word the child, or their family, will own. Family and friends who attend the ceremony hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Hearing the Good News and testimonies during their loved ones' graduation ceremony reinforces the changes they have seen in the students' lives, and family members often come to faith in Christ.



View the excitement of a graduation:
SCAN TO WATCH

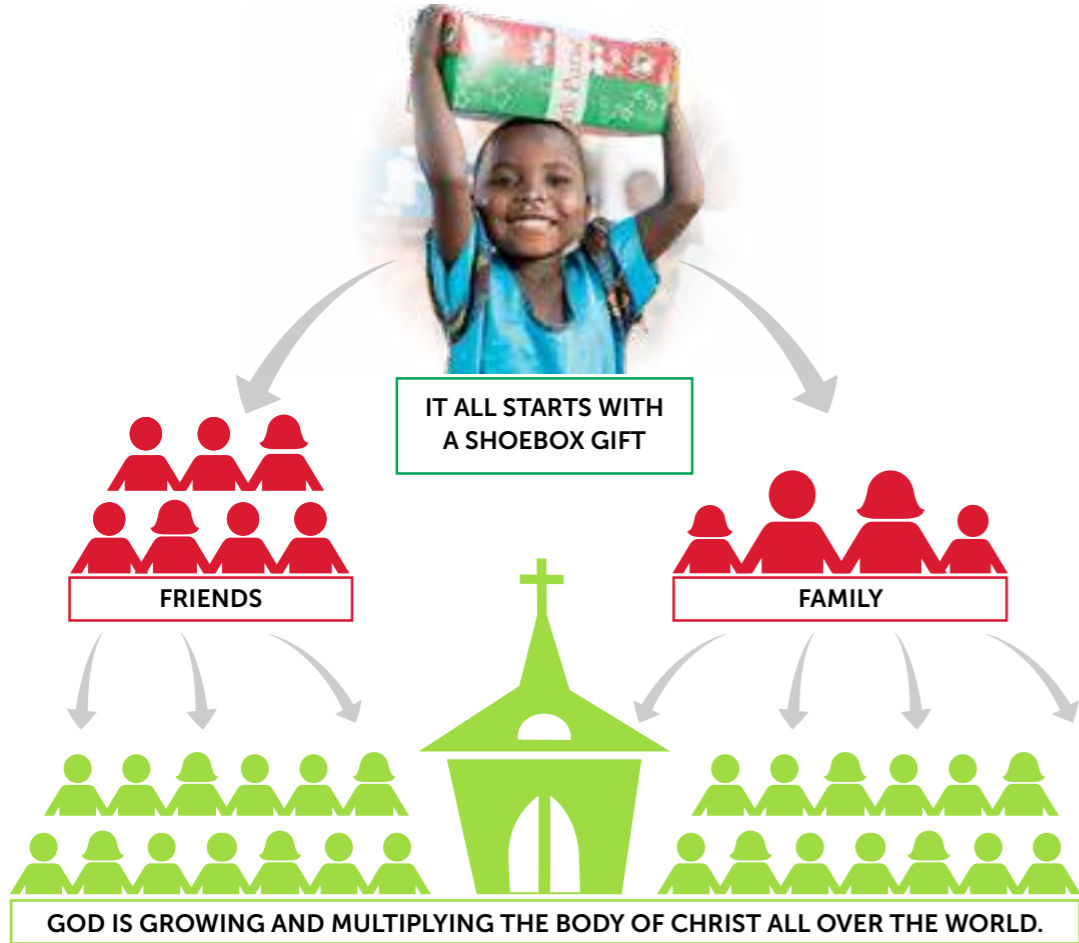


Peru

— A — GRADUATION CELEBRATION



AS CHILDREN HEAR THE GOSPEL at shoebox outreach events and participate in The Greatest Journey, they tell their family and friends about Jesus. This often results in further evangelism, discipleship, and the starting of churches in their communities.



SHOEBOX GIFTS OPEN DOORS TO COMMUNITIES WITHOUT A CHURCH

TUYA TSERENDASH left her lucrative business in Mongolia's capital of Ulaanbaatar to go to Bible school at age 52. After graduation, she returned to the rural province where she'd grown up and became a church planter. Tuya holds Operation Christmas Child outreach events and The Greatest Journey discipleship classes in areas where there are no evangelical churches. As a result of the Gospel spreading through the communities, six churches have formed where none had been before.



See new churches sharing the Gospel: **SCAN TO WATCH**



MULTIPLICATION

"FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, FOR IT IS THE POWER OF GOD TO SALVATION FOR EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES" —ROMANS 1:16



GOD USES SHOEBOXES IN EVANGELISM, DISCIPLESHIP, AND MULTIPLICATION.



IT BEGINS WITH YOU!

PRAY



PRAY FOR THE WORLDWIDE MINISTRY OF SAMARITAN'S PURSE AS WE SHARE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST, GOD'S GREATEST GIFT.



JOIN OUR PRAYER NETWORK!

Pray year-round with Operation Christmas Child, aided by monthly prayer requests.



The most important thing you can include with your shoebox gift is prayer. From the shoebox packers who pray for the boys and girls who will receive their gifts to the local teachers who pray for the children who attend The Greatest Journey discipleship classes, prayer is key to the work of Operation Christmas Child.

Sign up to be a Prayer Network Partner at
SAMARITANSPURSE.CA/OCCPRAY

GIVE



PACK A SHOEBOX! National Collection Week is the third week in November. Find gift ideas at SAMARITANSPURSE.CA/OCC



PRAY: Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. Including a personal note and photo makes a big impact.

\$10

A **\$10 DONATION PER SHOEBOX** helps with project costs such as collecting, processing, shipping, training local churches, and producing The Greatest Gift Gospel booklets.

SUPPORT THE GREATEST JOURNEY DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM

It takes \$6 to provide a child with a discipleship workbook, a trained teacher, a graduation certificate, and a New Testament in their language. Give via SAMARITANSPURSE.CA/TGJ



VOLUNTEER

Whether you volunteer with Operation Christmas Child **SHORT-TERM**, as a local **PROJECT LEADER**, or **YEAR-ROUND**, you are helping to bring the Good News of the Gospel to boys and girls around the world. Learn about these volunteer opportunities, training, and resources at SAMARITANSPURSE.CA/WAYS-TO-VOLUNTEER

SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEERS

Serve at a shoebox drop-off location or processing center.

PROJECT LEADERS

Lead your local church or group to become more involved in Operation Christmas Child through promoting shoebox packing.



YEAR-ROUND VOLUNTEERS

Mobilize Operation Christmas Child involvement in your community by joining a team of local volunteers serving in areas including team leadership, church relations, prayer, logistics, and others.



GREATEST JOURNEY™ BIBLE GAME APP FOR KIDS

This game, based on our international discipleship program for shoebox recipients, encourages children ages 5-9 to learn about God's Word and grow in their faith as they travel in time to witness Biblical events. It's free to download on Google Play and the Apple App Store with no in-app purchases or advertisements.

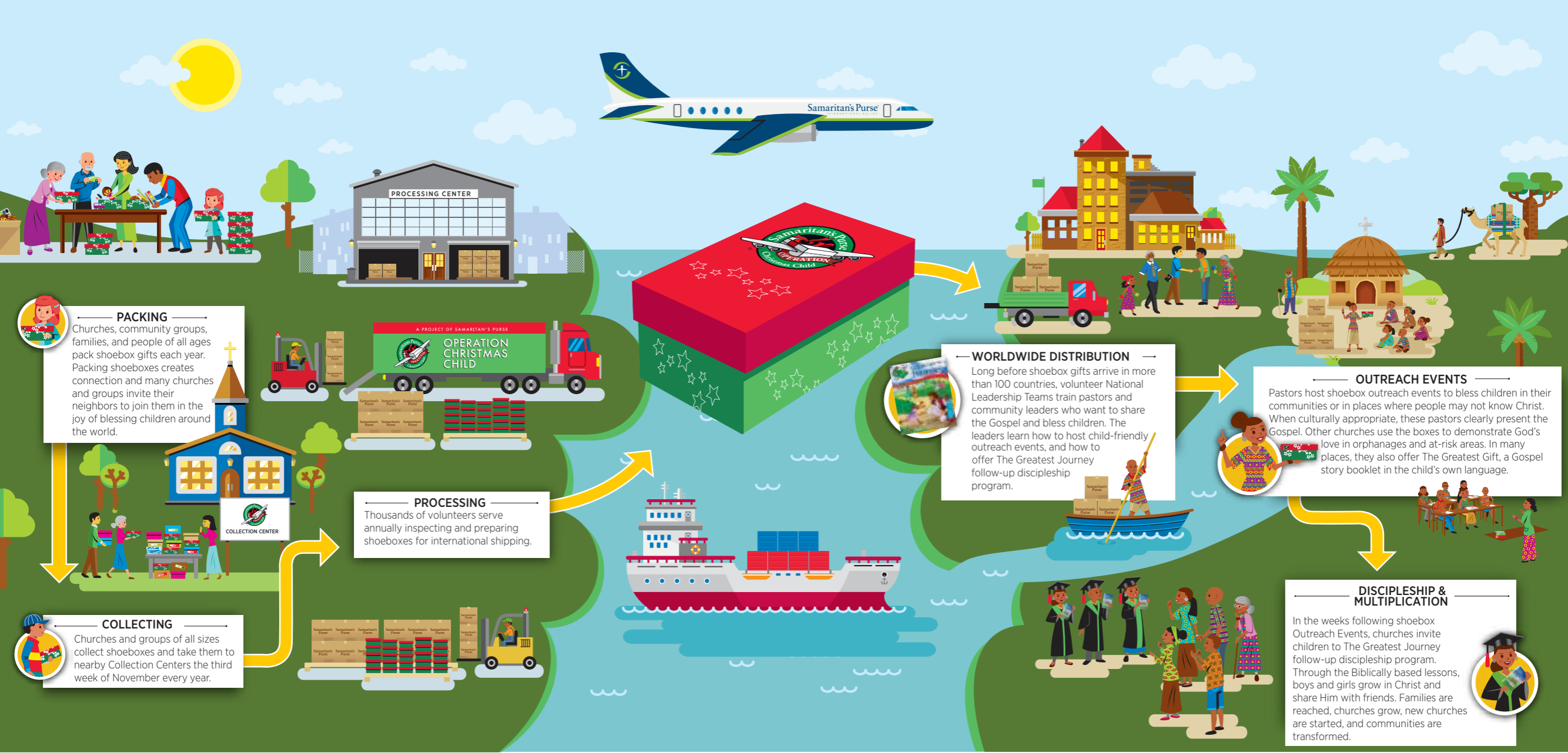


KIRIBATI

SHOEBOX GIFTS
BRING GOOD NEWS
AND GREAT JOY TO
CHILDREN IN THE
PACIFIC ISLANDS.

***“GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL
TO THE WHOLE CREATION” —MARK 16:15, ESV***

ORDER PREPRINTED SHOEBOXES & FREE PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS AT
SAMARITANSPURSE.CA/MATERIAL



PACKING

Churches, community groups, families, and people of all ages pack shoebox gifts each year. Packing shoeboxes creates connection and many churches and groups invite their neighbors to join them in the joy of blessing children around the world.



PROCESSING
Thousands of volunteers serve annually inspecting and preparing shoeboxes for international shipping.



COLLECTING

Churches and groups of all sizes collect shoeboxes and take them to nearby Collection Centers the third week of November every year.



WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

Long before shoebox gifts arrive in more than 100 countries, volunteer National Leadership Teams train pastors and community leaders who want to share the Gospel and bless children. The leaders learn how to host child-friendly outreach events, and how to offer The Greatest Journey follow-up discipleship program.



OUTREACH EVENTS

Pastors host shoebox outreach events to bless children in their communities or in places where people may not know Christ. When culturally appropriate, these pastors clearly present the Gospel. Other churches use the boxes to demonstrate God's love in orphanages and at-risk areas. In many places, they also offer The Greatest Gift, a Gospel story booklet in the child's own language.



DISCIPLESHIP & MULTIPLICATION

In the weeks following shoebox Outreach Events, churches invite children to The Greatest Journey follow-up discipleship program. Through the Biblically based lessons, boys and girls grow in Christ and share Him with friends. Families are reached, churches grow, new churches are started, and communities are transformed.



THE AMAZING JOURNEY OF A SIMPLE SHOEBOX GIFT BEGINS WITH YOU.

“GO AND DO LIKEWISE” —LUKE 10:37



South Africa