

WEEK 20 • MAY 20, 2023

Papua New Guinea: Dorcas

Deuteronomy 6:7—“You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”

In a small village in the jungle of Papua New Guinea lives a young girl named Dorcas. Her family is Adventist, and they share God’s love with others whenever they can.

Dorcas wanted to find a new way to share her love for Jesus with her friends. She decided to copy Bible verses onto pieces of paper to share with two of her best friends. She copied verses from her Bible and gave them to her best friends the next day. The girls agreed to memorize the verses. The girls memorized the verses and repeated them the next day. Soon they were meeting every day at lunchtime near the river to sing, study the Bible, and recite their memory verses.

Others began coming, and the group quickly grew. More children began memorizing Bible verses. When Dorcas told her mother how many children were attending her little group to learn about God, her mother suggested they meet in the evening at their house so more children could come. They began meeting every Wednesday and Friday evening. Soon their group grew to more than 40 children. Some of the children’s parents began coming as well.

Dorcas invited her friends to attend the Adventist church on Sabbath, and many children—and some parents—joined them. In time several of the children and some parents gave their hearts to Jesus and joined the little Adventist church. The little church outgrew its small building and began meeting under a tarp until they could build a bigger church.

One sunny Sabbath the church members gathered at the river where Dorcas was baptized. It was a memorable day for Dorcas, her family, and the entire church.

Dorcas is attending an Adventist boarding school far from her home. But she continues sharing her faith with others while her family shares their faith in their village by the river.

Sharing our faith is the best way to grow our church and build our own faith. And by regularly giving our Promise offerings we are helping to build the church in large cities and tiny villages in the jungle of Papua New Guinea. Let’s give regularly and liberally to finish the work around the world.

