

WEEK 48 • DECEMBER 2, 2023

Belize: The Little Preachers

Matthew 24:14—“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

Jaheel and his friend Joseph are eight years old and live in the country of Belize in Central America. The boys love living there because they know so many places to explore. They can go swimming with the fish in the ocean. Or they can go walking through the jungle to see the animals. Sometimes they can even find an ancient carved stone that may have been left by the people who lived in the area hundreds of years ago.

Joseph and Jaheel go to school in southern Belize. They like it there. During recess the children run outside to play. The boys enjoy playing marbles, and the girls like to jump rope. They study subjects like math, English, Spanish, history, and Bible. Jaheel and Joseph love to study the Bible. There are so many great stories to read. They like to preach, too.

Sometimes the teacher asks Jaheel to present a short sermon to the other students during worship time. When he preaches, he always asks Joseph to sing for the class. Joseph is a good singer. Jaheel gets a little nervous when it's time to speak in front of a group, but he knows that God will help him. So, he comes prepared with notes. As soon as the teacher introduces Jaheel and Joseph to the class, Jaheel doesn't feel nervous anymore!

“I like to preach about the stories I have read in the Bible,” Jaheel says. The other kids listen carefully to the lessons, and some of them ask questions after I'm done. I feel good that I can share some of God's Word with the other students. The pastor at my church told me that soon I can preach at my church! I'll be sure to invite Joseph to come sing there! Maybe someday I'll be a pastor, but I have to finish school first.”

There are a lot of children in Belize who love the Lord just as Jaheel does. Please pray for the children in the Adventist school so they will grow up and know what God wants them to do.

Every Adventist school is a mission field. Thousands of children never knew about Jesus until they enrolled in an Adventist school and studied stories of Jesus and His love. We can have a part in teaching children and adults about God's love when we bring our tithes and our Promise offerings to God each Sabbath. Let's remember that our regular Promise offerings—given to God as a percentage of our income—help to build and maintain mission schools in more than 100 countries.

