

GOD'S WORD

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Winning Others to Jesus

In 1999, when I worked in Zimbabwe, I took a group of young people visiting from Sahmyook University in South Korea from Harare to the Kariba hydroelectric dam, one of the largest human-made dams in the world.

The young people, along with their leader and my friend, Pastor Song, had come to tell others about Jesus. There is a large fishing community near the dam, which is where we were going. Pastor Song spoke some English. Most of the young people in the group hardly spoke any English, but this did not dampen their enthusiasm for influencing others for Jesus.

We arrived about 10:00 p.m. As we approached Kariba from a hill, I saw a big "city" down below. Then the road curved to the right, and we drove up another hill to the guest house. I told Pastor Song that I had no idea there was such a big city at the Kariba dam.

After breakfast we walked out to see the city. To our surprise, all we saw were water, three canoes, and a boat. There were a number of kids playing in the water, and some men mending their nets on the shores of the dam. Turning to one of the guest house workers, we asked him where the city was that we had seen the night before. He smiled and told us that we had seen people fishing. He explained that the best time to catch fish is at night, and lights are one of the techniques the fishers use. They take bright

lamps with them onto the lake. Fish are attracted to the light, and they come around the boats. The fishers use their nets to catch them. The Korean pastor asked if they also catch fish during the day. The worker told us that they do, but not as much as during the night. He pointed and said that some of the people we saw were catching fish with hooks. He looked at us, smiled, and said, "Though you can fish at any time of the day, the best time to fish, and catch lots of them, is at night." We thanked him and walked away. Pastor Song translated what the worker had said to the rest of the group.

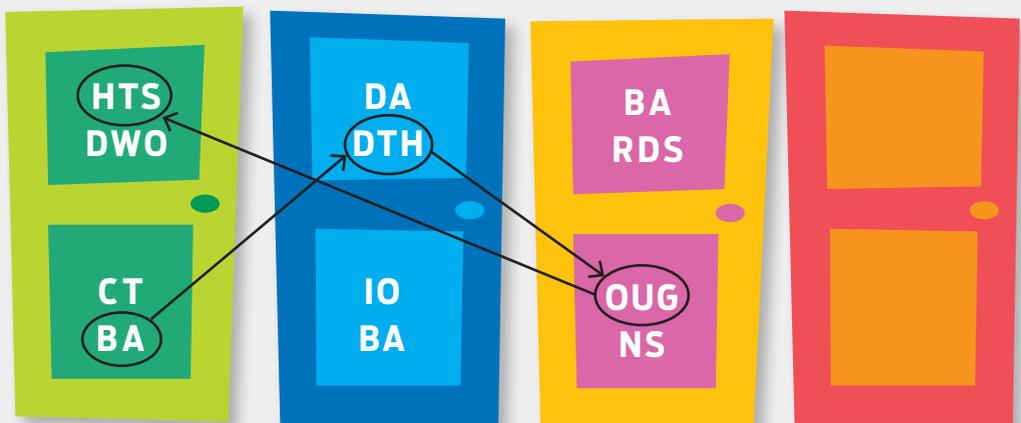
Soon the local pastor joined us with a group of about 25 kids. He told us that since it was a school holiday, the kids had volunteered to help us distribute tracts and handbills to the people.

Later on, after organizing ourselves, we distributed tracts door to door and office to office. It was great to see young people from Korea, who could hardly speak English, and children from Kariba, who chose not to play with their friends in the Kariba dam, work side by side distributing tracts and inviting people to come and learn about Jesus. These young people knew that God gave His Son to die for us so that we could be saved. They also realized that many people don't fully know this good news. And with such an eager group, it was just the right time to share God's message.

ACTIVITY

When you preach to other people, it helps you grow in Jesus. It also helps some of your listeners accept Jesus and close the doors on many evil things. Below are four doors. Draw lines connecting a set of letters from door to door until you have made the right word. There are three phrases. One phrase is "Bad Thoughts," and it has been connected for you.

Find the other two phrases. Here is a clue: all the phrases begin with the word "bad." After you have connected them, write your phrases on the fourth door.



KEY: Bad Thoughts, Bad Words, Bad Actions.