



Operation Christmas Child® **IMPACT REPORT**



Middle East

PREPARED FOR

Operation Christmas Child

We praise God for your partnership in sending the Good News of Jesus Christ to children around the world through gift-filled [Operation Christmas Child](#) shoeboxes. Samaritan's Purse sends your prayerfully packed shoeboxes to ministry partners in more than 100 nations. These trained volunteers host festive outreach events where they present the Gospel in a child-friendly way and hand out the shoebox gifts as a tangible expression of God's love. In addition, each child also receives a Gospel storybook to point them to God's Greatest Gift, His Son, Jesus Christ. Many shoebox recipients are invited to participate in our 12-lesson follow-up discipleship programme, The Greatest Journey, where they learn how to follow Christ and share Him with friends and family. As they, in turn, come to Christ and tell still others, believers and churches are multiplying all over the world!

220 = 220
MILLION = MILLION

shoebox gifts
delivered since 1993.

Gospel
opportunities.

11.3
MILLION

shoebox gifts collected
globally in 2023.

237,735

of these came from
the United Kingdom

118,000+

outreach events led by trained local church leaders.



The Greatest Gift
Gospel story booklet
accompanies
shoebox gifts.

Available in
107
LANGUAGES

More than

100 COUNTRIES

receive shoebox gifts for boys and girls.

11
NATIONS

collected shoeboxes in 2023:
Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland,
Germany, New Zealand,
South Korea, Spain, Switzerland,
United Kingdom, United States.



Honduras



Fiji

12
SCRIPTURE
LESSONS

in each student workbook:
6 on coming to know Christ;
3 on growing in faith;
3 on sharing with others.

40 MILLION+

boys and girls enrolled since 2009.

1.9 MILLION+

volunteer teachers trained from
local churches worldwide.

20 MILLION+

children reported decisions for Christ since 2009.

The Greatest Journey®

[The Greatest Journey](#), the follow-up discipleship programme Samaritan's Purse developed for shoebox recipients, teaches children to follow Christ and tell others about Him.

Taught by trained local volunteers, the course equips students to follow Christ for a lifetime. Graduates receive a certificate and their own copy of God's Word in their language. For many children and their families, this is their first Bible.

As the boys and girls share their faith with family and friends, communities are transformed, and the influence of a simple shoebox gift multiplies.

**"Let the little children
come to Me, and do not
forbid them; for of such is
the kingdom of God."**

—Luke 18:16



Gabon

Scaling Mountains with Shoebox Gifts and the Gospel

The steep footpath that ran alongside the cliff had become a trail of slimy, unrelenting mud. But it was the only way to reach a Filipino community nestled in the mountain forest—a nearly 35-mile walk from the nearest town.

Undaunted by the conditions, Pastor Jacob*, together with his wife, daughter, and a small ministry team, strapped cartons of Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to a dirt bike. They endeavored to bring boys and girls and their families a message they had never heard before—the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The eternity-changing nature of their mission gave the team courage despite the obstacles.

“The motorbike would tip over 15 times every half mile because of the weight of the cartons,” Pastor Jacob said. Where the path became particularly gnarly, they carried the boxes, holding on to tree roots for support. But after crossing three rivers, the team rejoiced to make their final ascent into the village.

Pastor Jacob quickly gathered the children together for an outreach event to explain why they had come. Using colourful posters from Samaritan' Purse, his wife and daughter presented the Gospel to the children in a way they could understand, while at the same time Pastor Jacob shared a similar message of Good News with the parents. After a countdown, the boys and girls tore into their shoebox gifts with excitement, the fun items inside reinforcing to their little hearts how much God loved them.

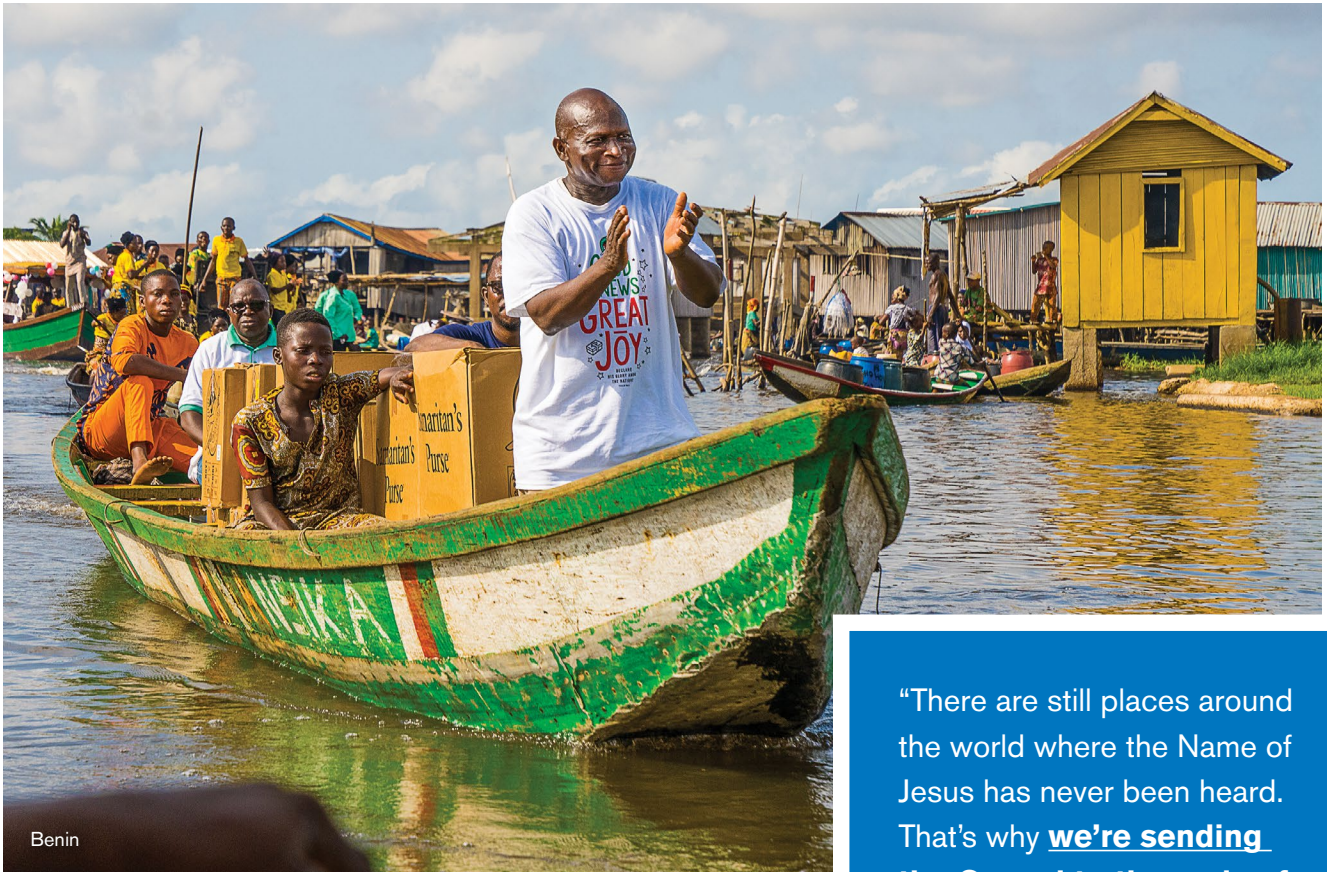
The next day, Pastor Jacob and his wife invited the children to participate in The Greatest Journey follow-up discipleship programme. As they shared the Bible lessons, the boys and girls learned to follow the God they had just heard about and even share His Son, Jesus Christ, with others. The children completed all 12 lessons and graduated from The Greatest Journey, relaying their Scripture memory verses to their neighbours who had come to watch the ceremony.

The Good News spread to more and more people throughout their community, drawing many to saving faith in Jesus Christ!

*Name has been changed for security purposes.



Philippines



Benin

“There are still places around the world where the Name of Jesus has never been heard. That’s why **we’re sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth** through Operation Christmas Child.”

—Franklin Graham
President, Samaritan’s Purse



Philippines

Sending the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

Four years ago, a 9-year-old girl in the Middle East received a shoebox gift, complete with items that quickly became her favourites: a cuddly toy bird and The Greatest Gift Gospel storybook. God stirred her heart as she read the stories, and she soon enrolled in discipleship classes through her church.

“After hearing the story of the cross and how Jesus died for me, I gave my life to Christ,” she said. “I trusted Him fully.”

Recently, she gathered 13 of her friends on the street and began teaching them the discipleship lessons she had learned. As a result, six of these boys and girls accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

When the girl's family moved a couple streets away, she started a second discipleship group with 13 new boys and girls. This time, five others came to faith.

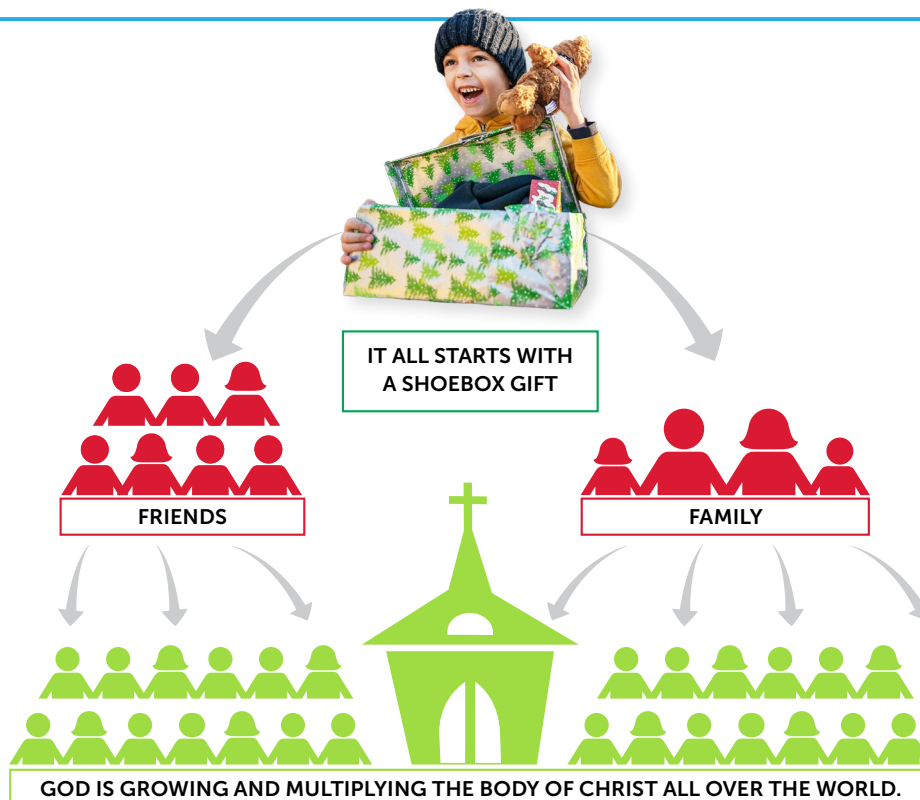
Through one shoebox gift, a dozen children are now sharing Christ with others!

Reaching young evangelists like these sometimes means sending shoeboxes through [Build a Shoebox Online](#). These shoebox gifts are packed with special care to avoid cultural, religious, or customs challenges.

Samaritan's Purse plans to deliver shoebox gifts in **1,000+** **HARD TO REACH PEOPLE GROUPS** by 2028.

1,000+ **PACIFIC ISLANDS** have received gift-filled shoeboxes over the past few years.

EVANGELISM. DISCIPLESHIP. MULTIPLICATION.





Namibia



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