

World Champions

Operation Mobilisation New Zealand's newsletter for children who want to make a difference in God's World!



Country focus:
Mongolia

Topic:
Sing praises to God!

Sain baichagana-uu! Greetings from Mongolia, land of mountains, deserts, extreme weather and wild horses.

Mongolia is sandwiched between China and Russia, far away from any ocean, and is home to almost 3 million people.

There are not many towns and cities in Mongolia, and about 40% of the population live as travellers around the country with their sheep, horses and other animals, living in big tents called gers. Some people living in the cities still prefer to live in gers, even when there are normal houses around.

Mongolia used to be a Communist country. This means that people were not allowed to believe in God. Now the government has changed, and most people have gone back to their traditional religion, Buddhism.

In 1989, there were only 4 Christians that people knew about in Mongolia. Now there are over 10,000! This is great, but there are still many Mongolians who don't know about God's love.

Mongolia really need World Champions to Pray, Give and Go For It!

Bible reading:

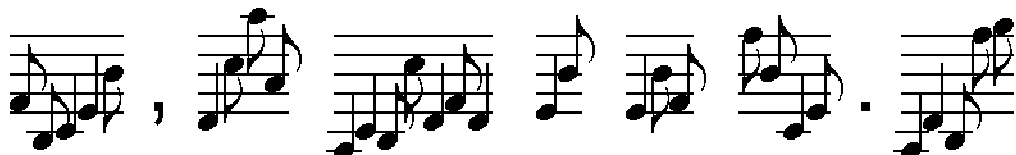
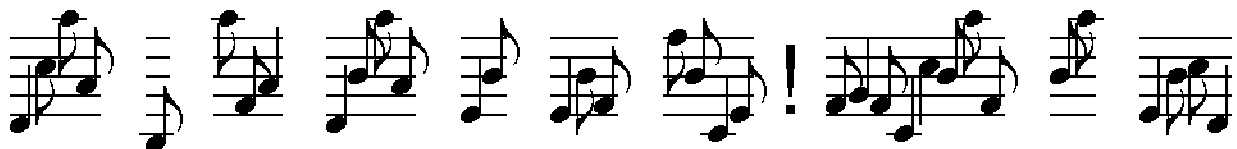
Read a beautiful song of praise to God in **Psalm 96**.



This month's memory verse:

We're feeling musical this month. Decode the music to figure out what this month's memory verse is:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



Meet Pastor Puje and the Heart Sounds team - World Champions in Mongolia:

Pastor Puje is from Mongolia. As well as leading his church, he loves to sing. He also wants children in Mongolia to have the chance to sing songs to God in their own language. Pastor Puje had written three original songs for children in Mongolian, and they were the only Mongolian Christian kids' songs in the country for a long time.

Then a team from Heart Sounds International, an OM team who help people around the world to record worship music in their own language, came to Mongolia to help Pastor Puje and the other Christians. They asked Pastor Puje to be in charge, and together, they ran workshops for musicians to help them learn how to write their own songs using their own Mongolian style of music and instruments. They then brought special recording equipment so the people could make tapes and CDs of their own music.



Mongolian Christian musicians recording a worship song with traditional instruments.

Not long ago, they put on a special concert for about 900 people. Ten new children's songs were performed for the first time by a big choir of kids of all ages. As well as that, they sang 14 other new songs, in traditional and modern styles. There was also a beautiful traditional dance to praise God. Local people said that this was the first time in Mongolian history that new children's music was featured in a Christian concert. These songs are now on CD so that children around the country, even those living in tents and travelling around the countryside, can learn the new songs and have songs in their own language to praise God!



This is the English translation of one of the Mongolian songs recorded. They have put Psalm 117 to music. Can you make a tune to sing Psalm 117 to?

Psalm 117

All nations, Praise the Lord!
All peoples, Exalt Him!
For His loving mercy towards us is great
And His truth lasts forever
Praise the Lord!

Did you know:

Mongolia is known for its 'Long Songs'. Some famous singers have been able to memorise 20,000 verses!

Mongolia has lots of young people. Two thirds of the population is younger than 30 and 36% is under 14.

Mongolia is the only country in the world where there are more horses than people!

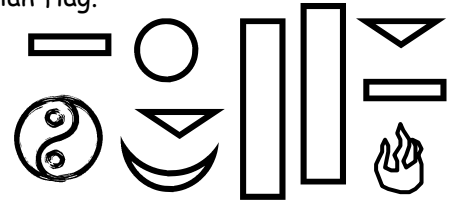
The ropes used to tie down the sides of the tents (gers) that many Mongolians live in are made out of horses' tails!

People in Mongolia put salt in their tea instead of sugar!



Draw the Mongolian flag!

We have all the shapes involved in the Mongolian flag, but they must have been shaken loose! Follow the instructions and put them in the right places to make the Mongolian flag.



The middle panel of the flag is blue, Mongolia's national colour. The outside panels are both red, which stands for progress. All the shapes above are yellow. When you draw them, keep them the same size as you see here.

1. Draw the flame shape in the panel on the left - in the middle and near the top.
The flame represents the past, present and future.
2. Draw the circle underneath the flame, almost touching, and the half-moon shape directly underneath it.
These stand for the sun and moon, which remind Mongolians of their ancestors. Genghis Khan was their most famous ancestor.
3. Draw one triangle directly under the moon.
Both the triangles represent arrow-heads, which symbolise that Mongolians are prepared to defend their country.
4. Draw the one tall rectangle to the left of the triangle, and the other to the right, so that their tops are level with the top of the triangle. Draw them close to the triangle, so their edges are almost touching.
These pillars stand for strength and remind Mongolians of their proverb: "Two friends are stronger than stone."
5. Draw the second triangle between these pillars so that its point is level with the bottom of them.
6. Now draw the horizontal rectangles—one just below the top triangle and one just above the bottom one. (They are the same width as the triangles.)
These horizontal rectangles represent being honest and doing right, whether you are powerful or not.
7. In the space left between the horizontal rectangles and the pillars, draw the circle with the pattern in it.
This is a well known Buddhist symbol called a yin yang. Mongolians use it to represent two fish who never close their eyes. This represents that Mongolians are watchful and always alert.



World Champions... Pray!

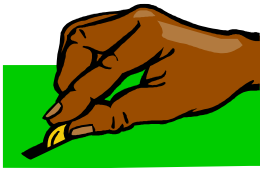
Can you remember this month to pray for the people in Mongolia? Here's some things to pray for:

- Thank God that many people are becoming Christians in Mongolia, and for people like Pastor Puje who are leading the churches.
- Thank God that there are now more Christian songs that people can sing in Mongolian.
- Mongolian people have only had a complete Bible in their own language for a few years. Pray for God to help them understand more about Him as they read and share what they know about His love to others.
- Pray for more people to tell people about God's love in Mongolia.

Did you know:

If you ever travel to Mongolia, there are some rules you should follow:

- Don't take food with your left hand.
- Don't whistle inside a tent.
- Never touch someone's hat!
- Always walk around a tent in a clockwise direction.
- Don't walk in front of an older person.



World Champions... Give!

You can also be a World Champion by giving.

One thing that is happening now is that churches in Mongolia are sending out their own missionaries around the world to tell people about God's love. Some of these Mongolian missionaries are working with OM.

Because people in Mongolia don't have very much money, it can be difficult for the churches to help support these missionaries overseas.

If you would like to, you can ask an adult to help you send some money to us to send to a Mongolian missionary. This can help them to keep working and help their church pay for things like their food and accommodation, wherever they are.



World Champions... Go for it!

The Bible tells us to sing praises to God. In Mongolia and around the world, people of all ages love singing songs to God to praise Him, tell about how great He is and thank Him for many things.

What is your favourite song to God? Why? What does it praise God for?

Have you ever tried writing your own song to praise God? Use these ideas to help you:

1. Read one or more of these Psalms. (Or you may find some others):

Psalm 96	Psalm 117
Psalm 8	Psalm 16
Psalm 19	Psalm 98
Psalm 100	Psalm 103

What did you like about the way they were written? What things did they praise God for?

2. Write down three things that you want to praise God for:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. Now try writing your things down in the style of a Psalm. As you read it, try humming a tune to go with it. Work on it until you are happy with the words and the sound. Now you have your own song to praise God!

4. Write down and practice your song. Why not teach it to someone else and see what they think of it? Perhaps you can get it recorded so you can listen to it and teach more people.

5. We would LOVE to hear your song if you write one! Either send us your words or make a recording to post or email to us. And as a thank you, we'd love to send you something special in return.

6. But remember, this is not a song to make you famous; it is a song to praise God. Sing it to Him often as you think about how great He is. We know that God loves to hear people praising Him. He will love to hear you too!

'World Champions' is made by OM New Zealand, where we want people of all ages to be a part of the wonderful things God is doing around the world. Why not contact us and see how else you can get involved?



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