

# World Champions

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



## Country focus: Pakistan

Topic:

Pakistan is home to MANY people - over 162 million! It has the 6th biggest population of any country in the world. 96% of the people in Pakistan are Muslims, making it the second-largest Muslim country

God helps us in times of trouble

in the world. Only about 2% of Pakistanis are Christians.

On 8th October 2005, a big earthquake hit the northern parts of Pakistan, and many people died or lost their homes. People are still having problems now because of it. Pakistan really needs World Champions to Pray, Give and Go For It!

## Bible reading:

The person who wrote this song really trusted God in difficult times!

Can you see the different ways that God helps people in this Psalm?

Psalm 46



## This month's memory verse - Fortresses in Pakistan:



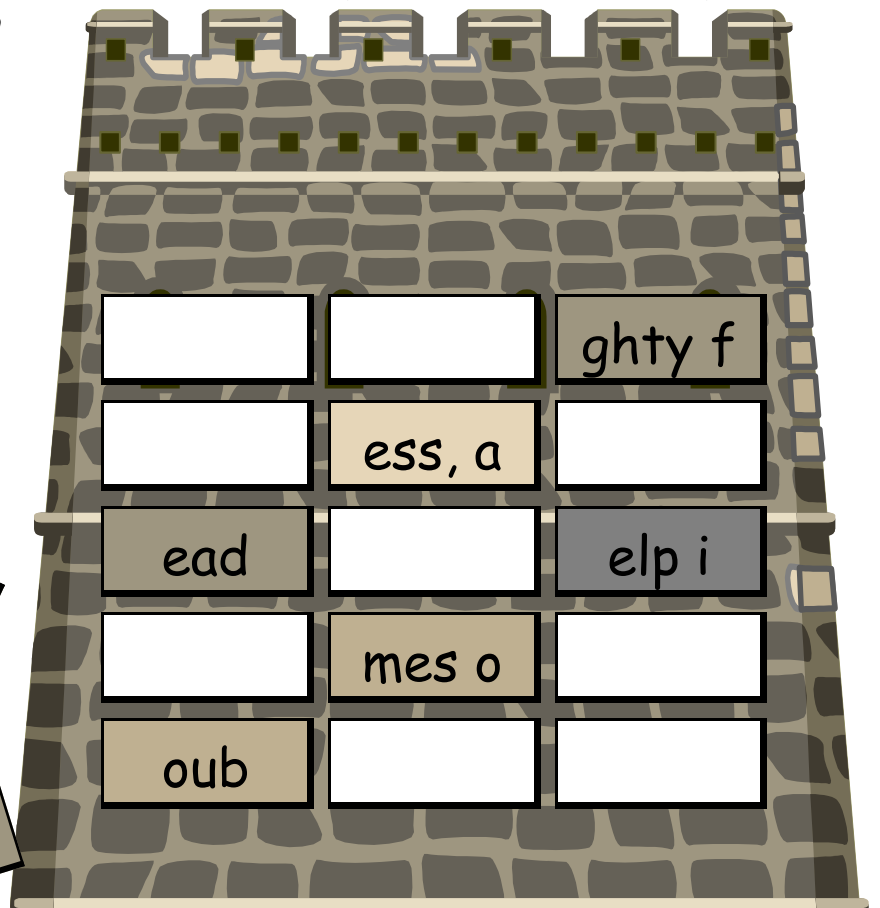
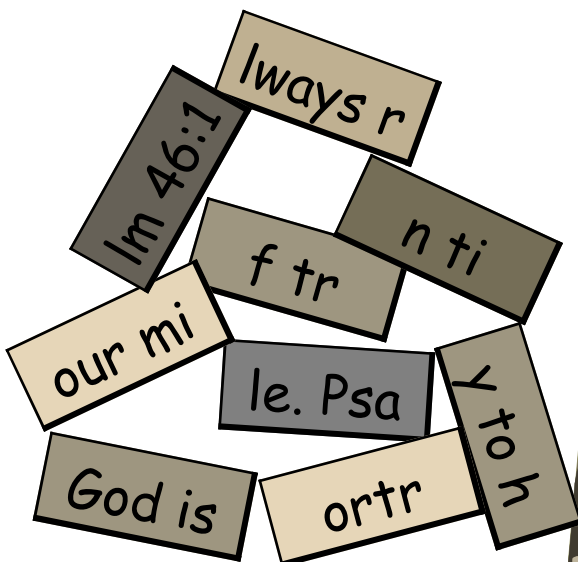
There are many fortresses in Pakistan. Some were built a few thousand years before Jesus was born! You can see two of the fortresses on these old stamps from Pakistan. People would run to fortresses when there were wars, and behind the thick and high walls, they would be protected from the enemy. Fortresses were the safest places to be.



This verse is from the CEV Translation of the Bible

So what do fortresses have to do with this month's memory verse?

Well, you'll just have to do some building to figure that out! This fortress is still being built. Can you finish it by putting the bricks in the right spaces to spell the memory verse?



## World Champions in Pakistan – OM teams:

*A boy at a Jesus march in Pakistan*

OM teams have been living and working in Pakistan for more than 25 years. Most of our workers in Pakistan come from Pakistan. They live their lives for God, doing their best to show people around them how much He loves them.

God is doing many good things in Pakistan. In many Muslim countries, it is very difficult to be a Christian. This is different in Pakistan. The law says that not only can you be a Christian, but you are free to tell other people about God.

So the OM team members go to people's houses and into the markets to tell people about Jesus. They run sports events and Sundays Schools. They work with churches, visit sick people, have Bible studies and teach Christians in Pakistan how to share God's love with others in Pakistan and around the world.



*A Sunday School class in Pakistan*

***This girl arrived in Pakistan to join OM a day before the earthquake struck. Read her diary of what happened:***

"We stood in the kitchen when suddenly everything around us started shaking like mad. The doorframes, the pictures on the wall, everything was shaking. We ourselves were shaking. We looked at each other: an earthquake? The stuff I had only just put on my shelf the day before, fell on the floor, and lamps on the ceiling swung back and forth.

Television soon showed us that a huge building nearby had collapsed. There was only a huge rubble heap to show where it had been.

But there was much greater devastation even in remote villages... That is why we are now trying to help by sending clothes, bedding and tents there.

What a welcome on the second day in a foreign place! But, thank God, I have survived! Thousands were not so fortunate."

## The earthquake in Pakistan

The last few years have been very difficult for people in Pakistan since the big earthquake. We are very thankful that nobody from our OM team was hurt, but are still very sad that many people were injured or died.

Thousands of people lost their homes or had people they loved die in the earthquake.

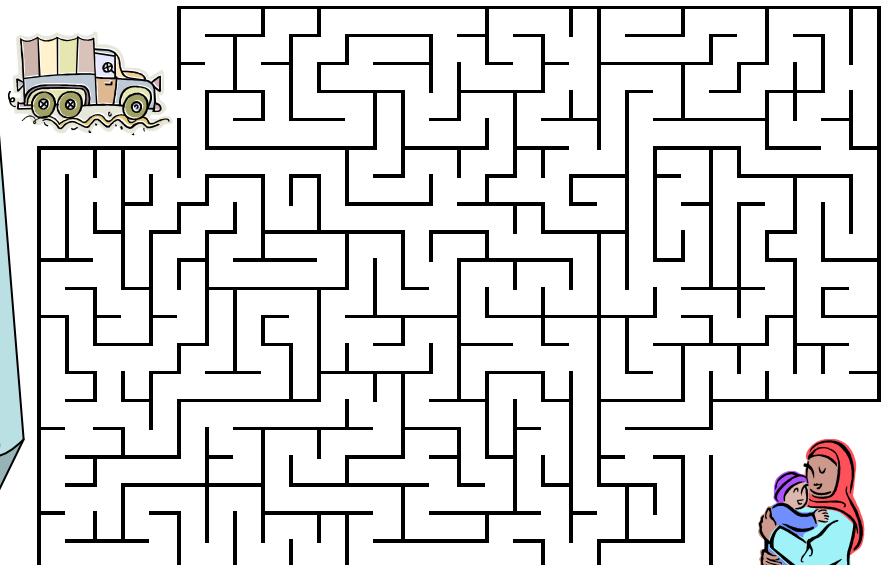
One big problem is that the winters in Pakistan are very cold, and many people's homes were destroyed in the earthquake. Many people still need warm clothing and shelter to sleep in. They also need food.

God does help people in times of trouble. Many people around the world have given food, medicine and money to help people in Pakistan, and a lot of groups are working there to try and help the people. But there are still thousands of people who need help. Many of them live in villages in the mountains, and because they are so far from good roads, it's hard to get supplies to them.

The OM team has been helping people in one remote village with food, shelter and help for families.



*Can you help the OM team get food and tents to the village? They have to be careful where to go, since many of the roads are blocked.*





## World Champions... Pray!

You can be a World Champion by praying for the people in Pakistan.

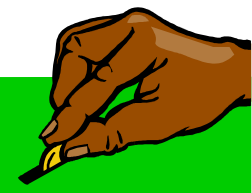
- Pray for all the people who are still finding it difficult to live because of the earthquake in 2005.

Pray that God will help them as they find shelter and food. Pray that God will comfort the people who are very sad or injured as well.

- Pray for all the workers helping the people in Pakistan. Pray that God will give them wisdom and strong hearts as they help people.
- Pray for the OM teams as they also help people in a village.
- Thank God that people are allowed to be Christians in Pakistan without getting into trouble.
- Pray that everyone in Pakistan will see that God is like a mighty fortress, and that they can ask Him to help them in this time of trouble.

### How can you remember to pray for Pakistan this month?

Why not make a Pakistan poster? You can find pictures of Pakistan from old newspapers, or ask an adult to print you some from the internet. Put them all together in a collage and write prayer ideas over the top. Put the poster in a place where lots of people can see it, and remind them all to pray with you for Pakistan this month.



## World Champions... Give!

God helps people in times of trouble. One way He is helping people in Pakistan now is through people all around the world who are donating money to help the poor people there.

There are many great organisations accepting donations to help the people in Pakistan. OM is one of them. If you would like to give us some money to help people in Pakistan, we will get it to our workers there.

### Speak Urdu, the National Language of Pakistan:

Hello = **Adaab**

How are you? = **Aapka Kya hal hey?**

Nice to meet you =

**Aap se mil kar khushi hui**

How are you? = **Aapka Kya hal hey?**

My name is ... = **Mera nam ... heh.**

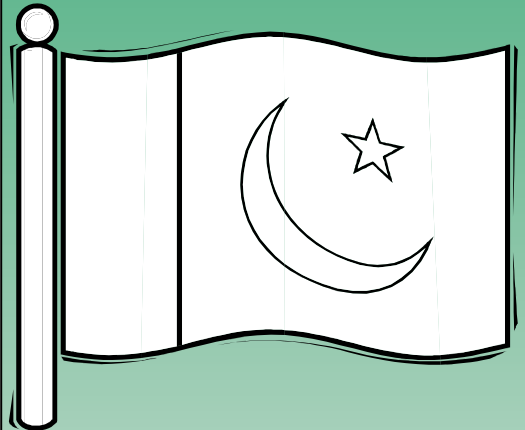
Good Bye = **Khuda Haafiz**

(this actually means God protect you)



### Colour in Pakistan's flag.

You only need green to colour in the background section behind the moon and star, and there you have it! Leave the left stripe, moon and star white. The crescent moon and star are common symbols in the Muslim religion, and green was the favourite colour of Mohammed, the first Muslim. He even used to wear green clothes and turbans.



### Did you know...

On average, 3 people live in every room in Pakistan. That is the highest rate in the world.

Do you have a soccer ball? If so, it was probably made in Pakistan. More than 9 out of 10 of the world's soccer balls are made there!



The first day of spring in the Muslim calendar is exciting for boys in Pakistan! They have exciting kite-fighting contests. Each boy puts powdered glass on their kite-strings. They then try to cut off each other's kites with their sharp strings as they fly. Whoever keeps his kite in the air the longest wins.



When a couple get married in Pakistan, the bride has detailed designs painted on her hands and feet with henna.

The groom's relatives give him necklaces of money to wear on the wedding day.





## World Champions... Go for it!

God is like a mighty fortress, and He helps us in times of trouble. Sometimes that can be hard to believe.

If God helps us, why does He allow bad things to happen in the first place? Why do things like earthquakes, wars and sadness happen?

It is difficult to know why God allows so many terrible things to happen in the world. Here are some things we DO know though. Have a look at these verses with an adult. It may help to have an easy to understand translation of the Bible:

### God made everything!

Proverbs 3:19 and Isaiah 42:5

### God is in charge of everything!

2 Kings 19:15, Daniel 2:20-21, Psalm 147:5, 15, Psalm 22:27-28

### Nothing happens that is outside of God's plans!

Psalm 40:5, Isaiah 14:24, Proverbs 16:4, 9

### Some bad things happen in the world because people choose not to follow God.

Remember when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden? Part of the result was that the earth wouldn't always be easy for people to live on. Genesis 3:17-19

We have to live with that too. Romans 5:18, Romans 8:20-22

### Even though we don't know WHY things happen, we know that God will use them to make good results!

Romans 8:28, Genesis 50:20, Ecclesiastes 3:11

### We need to trust God and know that He knows best!

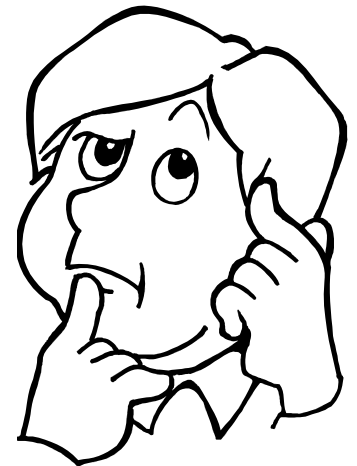
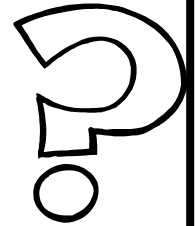
Jeremiah 29:11, 1 Corinthians 13:12. Read this story of how God allowed some bad things to happen to people so that they would worship Him: Jeremiah 32: 37-42

So how can you be a World Champion and Go for it this month? The best way is to remember that God is ready to help you in times of trouble. Tell Him what worries you. Think of God as a fortress where you can be safe. And trust that He knows best always, even if we don't understand why.

Just like God is using people to help the earthquake survivors in Pakistan, He can use YOU to help other people in their times of trouble. Look out for people who are not having an easy time. How can you be a World Champion and show God's love to them?

## God helps me when...

Write or draw times you can think of.  
How does God help you?



'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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