

World Champions

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

Country focus: Ukraine

Topic:
Pray about everything!

Ukraine is a large country in Eastern Europe where nearly 48 million people live—that's about the same number of people as all of us in New Zealand multiplied by twelve!

Many people go to church in Ukraine, and people love celebrating Christmas and Easter. But millions of people don't know that Jesus died for them.

Ukraine needs World Champions!



Bible reading:

Acts 12: 1-17

A servant girl called Rhoda prays with her church for Peter when he is in prison. What do you think God does?

Colour in Ukraine's flag. The top half is light blue to represent the sky. The bottom half is yellow, which represents the many wheat fields that there are in Ukraine.



World Champion children in Ukraine!



Christian children in Ukraine are taught to pray for everything—and they do! People working with children in Ukraine have been surprised to find that not only do they pray for their food, but they pray before getting in a car, before going to school, and even before they play a game with their friends! They thank God for His goodness, pray for safety and for God to be pleased with what they are doing.

Maybe they have learned this month's memory verse in their own language. You can too— use the code to change the Ukrainian letters into ones you can read!

Ђ	Ѓ	Є	Б	Љ	Њ	Ћ	Й	Ю	Ц	Б	Г	Д	Ж	З	Л	П	Ф	Ц	Ч	Щ	Ъ	Э	С	Я	Ў
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

БЗЖ Ч ЭЗФФЯ ЋЃЗЩЧ ЋЖЯЧЙЮЖЋ,

ЃЩЧ ЛФЋЯ ЋЃЗЩЧ ЉЉЉФЯЧЙЮЖЋ.



ЭЮЧЙ ЧЙЋЖБЊЩГ ЙЉЋФЧЦ ЗЊЊЉФ ЩЛ

ЯЗЩФ ЛФЋЯЉФЦ ЋЖБ ФЉПЩЉЦЧЦ ЧЗ ЋЗБ.

4:6

ЛЙЮ ГЮЛЛЮЋЖЦ

(CEV translation)

Newsflash! God answers children's prayers in Ukraine!

In June 2004, some Ukrainian 12 year olds from a youth club went with a team from OM to visit a shelter where people lived. They did a presentation about God and gave gifts to the people there.

Being Ukrainian, they probably prayed before they did anything, including getting back on the bus to go home!

On the way home, there was a terrible accident. The road was wet and the driver lost control of the bus. It flipped over into a ditch. Everyone climbed out quickly, worried that there would be an explosion. Then they all prayed together, thanking God for keeping them safe.

The ambulance workers were surprised and said that others in the same kind of accident would have died. "This is really God's miracle," said one doctor who wasn't even a Christian!

YUM!

Do you like noodles? Children in Ukraine LOVE them, but probably in quite a different way to what you are used to. Ask an adult to help you make this traditional Ukrainian meal...

Ingredients:

1 cup of noodles or spaghetti (or a 2-minute noodle packet without the flavour sachet.)

3 cups of milk

Sugar

Salt & Butter



Method:

Boil the noodles with the milk until they are soft. Keep stirring to stop them from burning. You could also cook them in the microwave and stir them every two minutes.

Add some sugar and serve them hot.

You can also add salt and butter to add to the taste and eat them with crusty bread. But pray first!



Kids' Games in Ukraine

The national anthem plays. The young athletes confidently approach the tri-level podium to receive medals for first, second and third place in soccer, basketball, track and field, table tennis and chess.

Chess? No, it's not an Olympic sport, and it wasn't the Olympics in Athens. But for five weekends every year in Ukraine, over 3000 children participate in KidsGames, where they play sports, have fun and learn about Jesus and the Bible.

Children that successfully complete the five-week programme receive certificates, a Ukrainian New Testament and a book about a Christian sports Champion.



The medal ceremony



Boys reading the New Testament they were given at the games

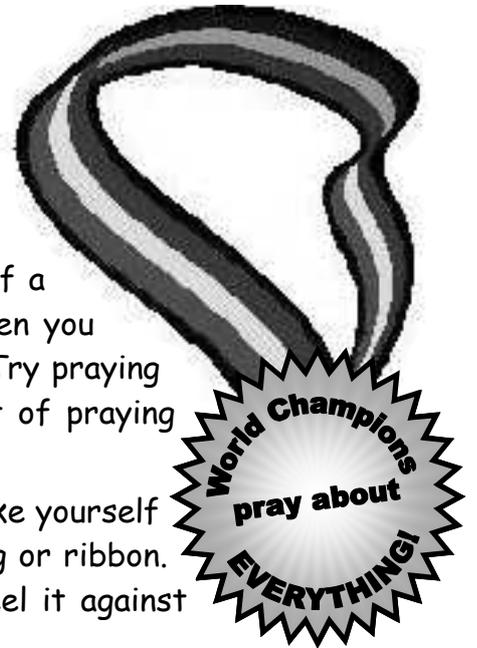
Did you know...

- The most popular sport in Ukraine is soccer
- The man who invented the helicopter, Igor Sikorsky, was from Ukraine.
- The world's oldest surviving house is in Ukraine. It is made from Mammoth bones!
- People believe the first horses were tamed in Ukraine, about 6000 years ago!



World Champions... Pray!

We can really learn about how to pray from the children on Ukraine and this month's memory verse.

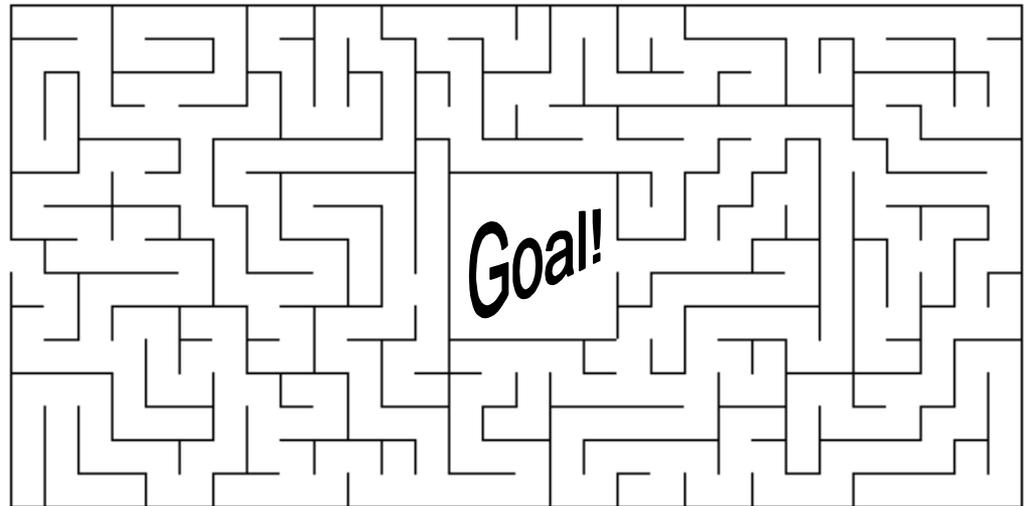


Why don't you try to pray about EVERYTHING. Set yourself a day to try this challenge out. When you wake up, pray. When you eat, pray. When you leave your house to go to school, pray! Try praying before you start doing anything new—you'll be getting a lot of praying done on that day!

You may need something to remind you to pray. You could make yourself a medal. Colour it in and hang it around your neck with string or ribbon. Even if you keep it out of sight under your top, you will feel it against your skin and be reminded to pray about everything!



Help this Ukrainian boy score a goal in his favourite sport! How fast can you do it?



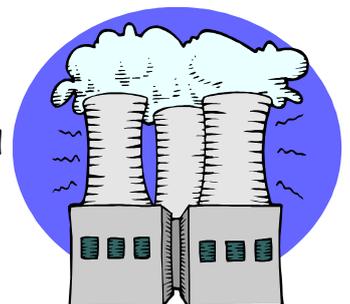
World Champions... Give!

If you would like to give towards the KidsGames that happen every year in Ukraine, you can save some money this month for them. Send it to us and we'll send it to our people who run KidsGames. They may use it to buy Bibles or books for the children, or use it to buy sports equipment to make sure the games are the best they can be for the children.

Remember that our theme this month is to pray about everything. You can pray that God gives you other ideas about how to give your time, your friendship and the good news about Jesus to other people around you!

Did you know...

Nearly 20 years ago, the world's worst nuclear power accident happened at a place called Chernobyl in Ukraine. Many people died, and even today, people who live near the area have a bigger chance of getting some sicknesses because of the radiation in the air. World Champions can pray for God to help these people.





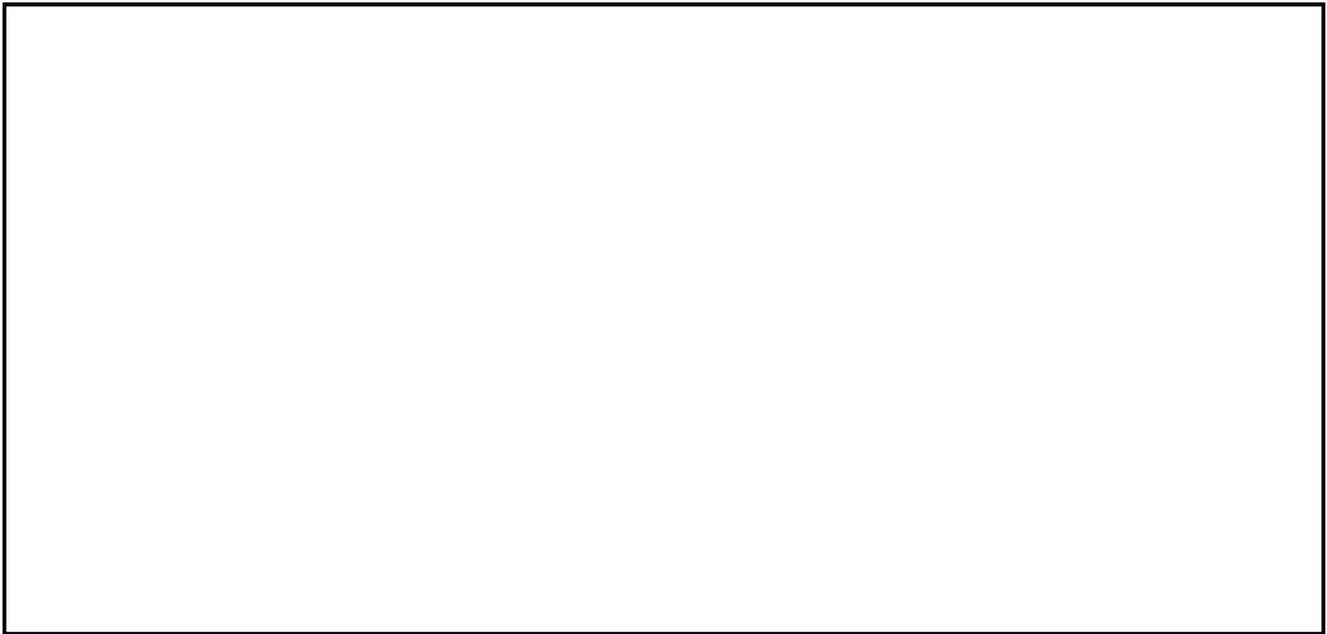
World Champions... Go for it!

Praying to God about everything with your friends can be a wonderful way to show your love to Him! When other people see this, they can also see how special God is to all of you. Here are some ways to *Go for it* and get time to pray with your friends:

- Pray with some friends at lunch time or break time at school
- Organise a sleep over where you spend some time praying as well as having fun!
- Go for a prayer walk with some friends. Walk around your school or neighbourhood, and when you see something, pray about it to God. You don't need to have your eyes shut (or you might walk into a tree!) Just talk to God as if He was walking there next to you—the Bible tells us that He is there whenever some people meet because of Him:

***Whenever two or three of you come together in my name,
I am there with you. Matthew 18:20 (CEV translation)***

Draw a picture of this verse here:



'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?

PO Box 76882
Manukau City
Auckland 2241
New Zealand

Phone: 09 928 0802
Email: info.nz@om.org
www.om.org.nz