



In the GEMS and Cadets mission badge this year we are going to learn about the Solomon Islands, why the hospital school is important, why it needs our help and what the bible tells us about helping others.

So..... Where is the Solomon Islands?

The Solomon Islands is an island country located in the Pacific Ocean northeast of Australia. Did you know that there are over 1,000 islands that make up the country. (But not all of them have people living on them). Honiara, the capital of the Solomon Islands, is on the largest island called Guadalcanal.



Is the Solomon Islands our neighbour?

Let's see what the bible teaches us! Discuss in your group who Jesus calls our neighbour? Look up Luke 10:25-37 to help answer this question.

In Mark 12:31 who does Jesus teach us to Love?

.....

The second command is this: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' There are no commands more important than these."

Mark 12:31

Why does Jesus teach us to Love? 1 John 4:7-11

.....

Dear friends, we should love each other, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has become God's child and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love to us: He sent his one and only Son into the world so that we could have life through him. ¹⁰ This is what real love is: It is not our love for God; it is God's love for us. He sent his Son to die in our place to take away our sins. Dear friends, if God loved us that much we also should love each other

1 John 4:7-11



What do you think it would be like to live in the Solomon Islands?

Put a tick in the box if you think this is the same as how you live.

- There are many languages spoken in the islands though Pijin or Pidgin English is used by most people as a common language.
- The capital, Honiara is a fast growing city of approximately 70,000 people. Modern life and technology sit side by side with ancient traditions.
- The majority of Solomon Islanders are still living in rural villages. They gather food and live each day as it comes
- This daily life is based largely on fishing, hunting and crops and the shelter constructed from local timbers
- The concept of money is relatively new in Solomon Island culture and barter of goods and alternative forms of currency such as shell money are still practised.
- Many people build houses on stilts which helps keep them cool during the warm humid months.
- Electricity and other infrastructure including telephone and transportation are often lacking.
- Typical food eaten in the Solomons includes fish, chicken, pork, coconut, sweet potatoes and taro (a root vegetable).
- The weather is hot and **humid** with tropical monsoons (lots of rain).

Invisible Water
Have you ever felt the air just outside of a hot bath or shower? It feels wet, but you cannot see any water in the air. There really is water in the air, but it is in the form of a gas. This kind of water is called **water vapour**. You can't see it, but you can feel it. The water vapour that is in the air is called **humidity**.



Did you tick any boxes?

Life is different in the Solomon Islands. What does the bible teach us about loving people who live differently.

*I am free and belong to no one. But I make myself a slave to all people to win as many as I can. ²⁰To the Jews I became like a Jew to win the Jews.....
To those who are weak, I became weak so I could win the weak. I have become all things to all people so I could save some of them in any way possible. ²³I do all this because of the Good News and so I can share in its blessings.
1 Corinthians 9:19 ,22 & 23*

In 1 Corinthians 9:19,22 &23 What did Paul do to share the Good News of Jesus Christ?

.....
.....

In your group, talk about how we might do this.

A MISS MATCH MAKES A MESS
Look at Luke 5:36-39

How does our church share the Good News in the Solomon Islands?

When Paul became like other people he understood them and was able to share the Good News to them in a way that they could understand.

The Reformed Church does this in the Solomon Islands by sending missionaries to live there and become part of the people. Understanding their needs and sharing God's Word with them. Our missionaries have a special place to live that has water, lights and electricity (from the sun). This special place is called 'SWIM'. It is also used as a place for groups to stay when they come to help the Islanders or for the Islanders to come and learn about God.



Why do we help people?

The GEMS should know the answer to this question. (HINT: Micah6:8)

Look what the Bible says about helping people. Find the key words from each bible verse in the puzzle.

To act justly and to love **mercy** and to walk humbly with your God

Micah6:8

Suppose someone has enough to live and sees a brother or sister in **need**, but does not **help**. Then **God's love** is not living in that person. My children, we should love people not only with words and talk, but by our **actions** and true **caring**.

1 John3: 17& 18

Two people are better than one, because they get more done by **working together**. If one falls down, the other can help him up. But it is bad for the person who is alone and falls, because no one is there to help.

Ecclesiastes 4:9&10






compassion

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

What is our special mission project?

That's right, it is the Hospital School.

Have you ever been in hospital?

How did you travel to the hospital?	Kids in the Solomon Islands travel to hospital by road, foot, ship or canoe. <i>Remember they are on islands surrounded by water.</i>	
How long did you stay in hospital?	Kids stay in the Honiara hospital for weeks or months, even half a year. <i>That's a long time away from your home.</i>	
Did your family stay with you?	The family stay with the kids in hospital. Sometimes kids are at the hospital because their brother, sister, mother or father are sick. <i>You don't even need to be sick to be at the hospital.</i>	
Did you miss out on going to school?	Before the hospital school was built kids would miss out on school the whole time they were at the hospital. Some kid had never even been to school even if they were old enough to go.	
Did you have clothing, food and water?	Many of the kids in the hospital have only the clothes they are wearing. Sometimes that is just a pair of shorts.	

The Hospital School is building with four walls and a roof. It has some windows and a door but it needs some other things to make it a better school building. Can you match the problems below with the correct solutions.

Problem:	Solution:
It's a dark cloudy day and I am having trouble seeing my books.	Access ramp
I need to go to the toilet but there isn't one.	Water tap
I would like to go to school but I am in a wheelchair .	Fans
I am hot and have no energy to think.	Toilet
I am thirsty but I don't know where to get clean water.	Lights

These are the items the GEMS and Cadets will be raising money for.

Doing !

- Make and decorate an encouragement card to send to a child at the hospital school.
- Construct the 'Hospital School Money Box'. Raise money during the year for the school.
- Talk to your family about what you have learnt about the Solomon Islands, the Hospital School and why we help one another.
- Pray for kids and families in hospital.



Tangio tumas (*Thank you very much*)
From Betty the school teacher

Story: reminding us how to do (not do) mission !

From : Orphan Care Movement. (2018). When the Elephant Dances, the Mouse May Die. [online] Available at: <https://www.orphancaremovement.org/when-the-elephant-dances-the-mouse-may-die/> [Accessed 15 Feb. 2018].

Dr. Miriam Adeney, an anthropologist, missiologist, author, and associate professor of World Christian Studies at Seattle Pacific University, recounted the following story that an African Christian friend told her.

“Let me tell you a story about Americans,” an African Christian friend told her. “Elephant and Mouse were best friends. One day Elephant said, ‘Mouse, let’s have a party!’ Animals gathered from far and near. They ate. They drank. They sang. And they danced. And nobody celebrated more and danced harder than Elephant. After the party was over, Elephant exclaimed, ‘Mouse, did you ever go to a better party? What a blast!’

But Mouse did not answer.

‘Mouse, where are you?’ Elephant called. He looked around for his friend, and then shrank back in horror. There at Elephant’s feet lay Mouse. His little body was ground into the dirt. He had been smashed by the big feet of his exuberant friend, Elephant. Sometimes, that is what it is like to do mission with you Americans,” the African storyteller commented. “It is like dancing with an Elephant.”

Do not be like a ruler over people you are responsible for, but be good examples to them. Then when Christ, the Chief Shepherd, comes, you will get a glorious crown that will never lose its beauty. *1Peter 5:3*