

BAPTIST FEATURES

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CHILDREN'S PAGE
May 5, 1955

PETER MEETS A MISSIONARY
BY: Mary Hemen Adkins

Peter came running into the kitchen. "Mother! May I go skating? May I?"

"You may go, Peter, but remember, we are having company tonight," Mother said as she took the bottle out of baby Linda's mouth.

Peter went over to look at Linda.

"Would you like to hold her, Peter?"

Peter lifted Linda to his shoulder, just the way Mother had done. "She doesn't cry. I guess she likes me. She isn't very heavy, is she? I guess I'm pretty strong."

Mother laughed. "She gets still heavier before she learns to walk, Peter. You may not be anxious to hold her then, for she will wiggle a lot more, too!"

Peter gave Linda back to Mother. "Will she walk soon?"

"Not for a while yet. She has to learn to sit up first, and then to creep."

"Goodness! Babies have to learn almost as much as I do in school."

"Quite a bit at that, Mr. Peter. And now you had better get started before it is time to come home again."

"Who is our company tonight? Is it the missionary?"

"Yes, Mrs. Wagner from Mexico. She will speak to us in church tonight."

"Where is Mexico?"

It is down south of us."

"Don't all missionaries come from Africa? That's what Roger said."

"No, not at all. Every country needs missionaries, even our United States.

But enough talking. You had better go skating. Here comes Billy now."

Peter picked up his skates and ran off.

"Be back early, Peter."

Peter did get back early. He had just fed his dog Sandy when in the door came Father and Susan and a lady.

"Hello everybody!" Father looked into the carriage to see Linda. "Guess how we knew our missionary when all the people began getting off the train at once?"

The missionary laughed. "Susan saw me first."

"Yes, Mommy. She carried something. Can you guess?"

"I'll guess an umbrella," said Mother.

"I'll guess a red flower," said Peter.

Mrs. Wagner laughed and showed them a copy of Home Life.

"Why, of course," Mother said, "the magazine we get from our church! Peter,

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-2- Peter Meets a Missionary

will you hang up Mrs. Wagner's coat?"

"My what red cheeks your Peter has!" said Mrs. Wagner.

"I've been skating."

"Yes, Sometimes the boys and girls in Mexico skate, too. Would you and Susan like to see pictures of our boys and girls there?"

"Are they different?" asked Peter.

The missionary laughed. "They have the same number of arms and legs as you. They may dress a little differently and talk a little differently, but you would find them much the same."

Mrs. Wagner showed them the first picture. "Does your mother make bread?"

"No, but she makes cakes and chocolate cookies," Susan said.

"Here," said Mrs. Wagner, "is how the mothers bake bread in Mexico.

"look at the big ovens!"

"Yes, sometimes two or three women bake together."

"My," said Peter, "what are those children doing?"

"This picture was taken at Christmas time. On Christmas Eve, in Mexico, the children sing and the people give them good things to eat that look like doughnuts. The boys and girls pile the food high on their sticks as they go from house to house."

"The children wear bright clothes, don't they?" Peter said.

"They like colors, Peter, and they make lovely designs. See the sashes around the boys' waists?"

Susan peeked at the next picture. "Look at the farmer. He's wearing bright clothes, too."

"And what animal is that? It's not a horse," said Peter.

"No, it isn't. It is an ox. He can help the farmer plow the fields."

Peter thought a minute. "How do you help?"

"Well, Peter, we missionaries help by teaching in the schools and by helping people to get well, or to learn to read their own language."

"You mean not everyone can read?"

"Lots of people never learn. Our most important job is to help the people learn about Jesus. You see, lots of people don't know how to read; but also, lots of people never heard about Jesus. My, but we tell many stories about Jesus."

"I guess it is time for dinner now," said Mother.

"We had better let you eat, Mrs. Wagner," said Peter. "If you tell us the whole story of the people in Mexico, then you won't have anything left to say tonight at church!"

Mrs. Wagner laughed. "We missionaries always have plenty to tell, and we love to tell our story, Peter."

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A GIFT FOR MOTHER

A small round paper plate, two pieces of colored cord, and a small round colored picture will make a perfect little gift for your mother on Mother's Day.

(A.) Color the outside edge of the plate (or you might buy the colored plate at the dime store). (B.) Paste the picture in the center of the plate, (you will find the picture in a magazine). (C.) Now punch two small holes about one inch apart in the top edge of the plate. (D.) Pull the cord through both holes and tie in a pretty little knot. (NOTE TO EDITORS) Art by Rose Soeder.

WHO AM I?

By: Nona Keen Duffy

I live in the park
Overlooking the town;
I've stood up for years
Without lying down,
And I'm more than a hundred feet tall!

I have a big trunk
But not any clothes
To pack in the trunk
As you would suppose
And I never have traveled at all!

ANSWER: Tree

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Note to Editor: In setting type for above
please turn the line of answers upside
down.