

YOU
ME

FRIENDS
AROUND THE
WORLD



WE ARE CHILDREN
OF THE WORLD

DIVER-
SITY



A BOOKLET FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICE
AND OTHER CHILDREN'S GROUPS

CHILDREN FROM THE EVANGELICAL MISSION IN SOLIDARITY
INTRODUCE THEMSELVES



Evangelical Mission
in Solidarity

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YOU + ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD is an educational programme for Children's Service and in primary school. Children get to know each other worldwide: at eye level, ecumenically and open to commonalities and differences.

More information at www.ems-friends.org/en

GREETINGS



Love and peace in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Our international network of the Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS) is a matter close to my heart. Sharing life concerns and resources - as well as cooperating as Christians in Africa, South and East Asia, Europe and the Middle East, and giving testimony to the worldwide dimension of our faith – all this makes us feel closely connected to one another.

Seeing through other people's eyes, hearing through others' ears, broadening and enriching one's own faith and experiencing it anew in the community of others, standing together in solidarity, are all decisive characteristics of an international mission.

Since 2016, the children's programme YOU + ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD has been increasingly involving future generations.

This DIVERSITY booklet wants children to get to know each other across borders. It intends to make them see that they are part of the precious EMS network. What is more, they will find out how children live in very different contexts and learn how to treat each other with respect, trust and sensitivity.

I would be happy if this booklet were put to good and creative use in our EMS fellowship and beyond. Let us help children to experience how enriching diversity is. May God bless all your dedication to children, the youngest of our church members. <<

Habib Badr

Senior Pastor at the National Evangelical Church of Beirut (NECB) and Deputy Chair of the EMS Mission Council



When I was ten, I got to know Ashu, a boy from Cameroon, in my Religious Education class. My teacher was a missionary and, with great enthusiasm and conviction, he used an EMS booklet to tell us about a ›foreign‹ country and the responsibilities of the world church. To this day, I clearly remember Ashu's face, and his everyday life, the photo of his church, and that he particularly enjoyed eating spicy yam roots. Is that the reason why I work at EMS today? Who knows?

In this booklet DIVERSITY, children from the worldwide EMS Fellowship do not just introduce themselves: they entice every reader to enter a wonderfully colourful world. The way they see God and the world is enriching and unites us.

I hope you enjoy getting to know the EMS children. <<

Kerstin Neumann

Pastor and Head of the EMS Mission and Partnership Department



HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

The booklet you are holding in your hands will take you and your group of children on a world trip. Children from our Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS) introduce themselves in these beautifully designed pages. All over the world, a lot of research is currently going on about children and being published in studies. In our booklet we have let the children speak up themselves in authentic depictions of their concerns, joys and sorrows. They allow us to share their everyday lives and are in the centre of attention themselves. Stereotypes don't stand a chance. What is important is the diversity of God's children. This makes the booklet so special and promotes tolerance.

TAKING PART AND EXPERIENCING DIVERSITY

The children in your group discover the world of their peers worldwide. They engage with their issues and meet on an equal footing. They discover what they have in common and what distinguishes them. Yet we are all part of the large EMS Fellowship. The map of the world on page 22 and the »You belong to us!« game on page 6 will help the children to become acquainted with our global network.

EASY METHODS

You can use whole parts or just some elements of the booklet, e.g. show photos, paint or read something out – just depending on what suits your children's group. There are children's pages and thematic pages. All the methods and ideas are easy to apply and are open for many different forms of Sunday School or Children's Service. The children's pages in this booklet each start with a portrait followed by stories to read aloud, interviews, letters and photos. Notes on methods are always presented as a slip of paper. The thematic pages are called: Peace, Children's Service worldwide, and Prayer. Here, too, you will find ideas for creative practical work.

SYMBOLS FOR DIFFERENT TOPICS

The following symbols will enable you to look for, pick out and work on thematic priorities. All children said something about the areas of friends and family, games and hobbies, eating and drinking, dreams, music, faith, nature, school, and worries. The following symbols point to:



FRIENDS AND FAMILY



GAMES AND HOBBIES



EATING AND DRINKING



DREAMS



MUSIC



FAITH



NATURE



SCHOOL



WORRIES

HERE ARE EMSO AND PIPIT

GETTING TO KNOW THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

The two main characters, Emso, the elephant, and Pipit, the bird, lead us through the booklet. These characters make it easier for children to understand and they can learn through playful elements. Emso is a down-to-earth, curious elephant. Pipit is a nimble, inquisitive bird. Pipit and Emso are the best of friends. They both conduct interviews or contribute their thoughts. The children will love Pipit and Emso and discover the world with them.

To introduce Emso, the elephant, and Pipit, the bird, you can read out the descriptions and show the figures.

JOIN IN!



MY PROFILE

NAME: Emso, the elephant

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: worldwide

I AM HAPPY ABOUT: my friend Pipit, who is always there for me. We share everything with each other.



I WORRY ABOUT: our natural environment becoming more and more polluted, which is bad for everyone, animals and humans.

I DREAM ABOUT: a bathtub full of vegetables.



MY MESSAGE FOR ALL THE CHILDREN IN THE WORLD:

I hope you will all become friends.



MY PROFILE

NAME: Pipit, the bird

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: worldwide

I AM HAPPY ABOUT: being able to fly, visiting children all over the world, and getting to know them.



I AM WORRIED ABOUT: not being able to find food everywhere.

I DREAM ABOUT: flying with Emso one day.



MY MESSAGE FOR ALL THE CHILDREN IN THE WORLD:

Together we are strong!

YOU BELONG TO US!

THE EVANGELICAL MISSION IN SOLIDARITY INTRODUCES ITSELF – EXPLAINED FOR CHILDREN



Like us today, people are meeting for worship all over the world. They are part of a Christian community at the place where they live and part of a church in the country in which they live. They share their dreams and joys with one another, but also their fears and concerns. Many of these churches have joined together in our large fellowship, which is called the Evangelical Mission in Solidarity. In this great family, too, we look after and support one another. We share worries and joys. And just imagine: you and I are part of this community and therefore we are connected to children and adults worldwide. That is exciting! Let us, together, get to know children from our fellowship and find out where they come from, how they live and what they are concerned about. «



Read out the text and reflect together on why it is wonderful to belong to a community of Christians.

JOIN IN!



Evangelical Mission
in Solidarity

DADO

FROM

INDONESIA



MY PROFILE

NAME: Exel Chufi Tupilus Rumissing

NICKNAME: Dado

AGE: 10

CITY: Rantepao, Toraja Utara


MY COUNTRY'S FLAG:



I AM HAPPY ABOUT: my friends and my family. 

I AM WORRIED ABOUT: I am worried that, due to the school fees, I won't be able to continue going to school.

And I worry about my grades, too.

I DREAM ABOUT: becoming a police officer and making my family happy. 



- › Show the children the portrait and read the profile aloud.
- › Compare it with other profiles in the booklet.
- › Paint your own flag with the group.
- › Children may create their own profile. For example, paint or write and introduce themselves to each other.
- › Look at the map of the world (page 22), find where Dado lives and where we live; then think about how long a trip to see him would take.



MY FRIENDS

JOIN IN!

MY DAY – YOUR DAY

WE GET TO KNOW DADO'S DAY

» Hello!

I am Dado. This is what
my day is like: «



MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS



» IN THE MORNING

I wake up early and take a bath. Afterwards me and my family have breakfast. To my family belong my mother, my father, my five siblings, grandma, grandpa and my aunt with her child. After breakfast, I pack my things for the day and go to school. «

» IN SCHOOL



Math is my favourite subject. I simply like to calculate. All my friends from school are nice. Most of my teachers are very good, but strict as well. They teach us really good, so we can understand all the subjects. «

Someone reads out what Dado says about the times of the day, and shows the matching photo.

Depending on the size of the group, the children form small groups, or there is a joint discussion on what they do at this time of the day. The children note what they share with Dado and where they differ. At the end they think about what was new for them.

JOIN IN!

HOMEWORK



» AT MIDDAY

When I get home from school, I eat lunch. I like to eat vegetables with shredded coconut and pork and drink Sara'ba. That is a hot drink made from palm sugar, coconut milk and ginger. «



MY BUFFALO



IN THE AFTERNOON

After lunch, I meet my friends Maxi and Sadrak to play in the paddy fields. We like each other because we are happy together and laugh a lot. We meet every day. Together with my siblings, we take care of our buffalo. We also feed the buffalo along with our other animals. We have pigs, chicken, a dog and a cat. I also love to fly my kite or play with marbles. And I like to play hide and seek.



FLYING KITES IN THE PADDY FIELD

IN THE EVENING

After I get home in the evening, my family and I have dinner. Then I do my homework, read books or comics. Sometimes I sing. Music makes me happy and it also relaxes me. I also sing in my Sunday School Choir and play the traditional drum.



OUR RICE BARN

NATURE AND CREATION

On these two pages you will find ideas on the topics of Nature and Creation. You can use them for your children's group.

JOIN IN!

WHAT GROWS WHERE?

DISCUSSION WITH THE CHILDREN AND DRAWING PICTURES



Nature and creation are important to Dado, the Indonesian boy. Here you can discover, with your own group of children, what grows on the island of Sulawesi. Show the drawings of a banana, papaya, rice, and cassava and ask:

HAVE WE EVER EATEN THAT?

DOES THAT GROW HERE IN OUR COUNTRY, TOO?

WHAT GROWS IN OUR COUNTRY? DRAW IT.



CASSAVA



PAPAYA



BANANA



RICE PLANT

GOD'S CREATION – A GIFT FOR US

LOOKING NARRATION WITH PICTURES ON THE FLOOR



»God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.« Gen 1:31

At the very beginning of the Bible, in Genesis chapters 1 and 2, we find that God created the earth and all that lives and blooms in it, within six days. On the evening of the sixth day, God looked at it all, »and indeed, it was very good«. On the seventh day, God rested from all the work that he had done.

At Sunday School, the creation story can be told graphically by bringing along an item for every day of creation (the sun for the day, the moon for the night, animal figures, human figures, natural materials, etc.). It is best if the children sit in a circle. The objects can be gradually placed in the middle. The children can all say together, »And God saw that it was good.« The final result is a big, colourful picture on the floor. Then you can recite Psalm 104 with the children and thank God for the great gift of creation.

CARING FOR CREATION

DISCUSSION WITH THE CHILDREN



God's gift to us is the miracle of creation. At the same time, God gave us responsibility for the earth and all that lives on it. Yet we also note: the earth is changing. Children think about how the climate is changing and the environment is polluted. Dado is also worried about the climate. He says: »The climate is changing so quickly. Sometimes the crops are small for that reason. And plastic bags lie around everywhere in the fields and in the rivers.«

This point lends itself to a discussion with the children. You can name Dado's concerns and ask how the children see that. The teachers can ask questions such as:

**WHERE IS THE ENVIRONMENT IN DANGER
IN OUR COUNTRY?**

**DO WE NOTICE A CHANGE IN THE CLIMATE
AFFECTING THE WHOLE OF CREATION?**

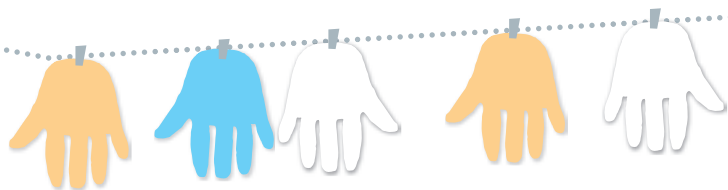
WHAT CAN WE DO TO CARE FOR CREATION?

MY PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

GALLERY WALK



One after the other, the children can now say what they are thinking about and what they want to pray for. They can trace their hands on a sheet of paper. Then they draw or write, in the outline, what responsibility they plan to take, what they have at heart, and what they would like to pray for. The hands filled with drawings or paintings can then be hung up in the church as a small exhibition – for adults too.



GAME

FRUIT SALAD GAME

Different kinds of fruits are selected, depending on the size of the group, e.g. bananas, papayas and oranges. Then the children can be divided into fruit groups. Everyone sits on chairs in a circle and one child stands in the middle without a chair. The idea is that this child should regain a chair. The girl or boy calls out a kind of fruit, e.g. banana. Now all the banana children have to stand up and look for a new chair, including the one in the middle. The child who does not get a free chair goes into the middle. The game starts all over again. Have fun!

**YOU
+
ME**

My message
for all the children
in the world:

»I live in a beautiful village with
traditional houses, bamboo trees and
rice barns.«



ASHLEIGH

FROM

SOUTH AFRICA



MY PROFILE

NAME: Ashleigh Phillips

AGE: 11

CITY: Stanford

MY COUNTRY'S FLAG:



I AM HAPPY ABOUT: playing with my friends. And I'm happy to have my parents, brothers, and sisters. I am blessed to have people who care about me when I'm at school and at Elim Home*.

I AM WORRIED ABOUT: being alone in my room when the light turns off.

I DREAM ABOUT: being a model with beautiful dresses.



- › Show the children the portrait and read the profile aloud.
- › Compare it with other profiles in the booklet.
- › Paint your own flag with the group.
- › Children may create their own profile. For example, paint or write and introduce themselves to each other.
- › Look at the map of the world (page 22) to find where Ashleigh lives and where we live; then think about how long the journey to see her would take.

JOIN IN!

*At Elim Home, children with mental and physical disabilities are cared for. It belongs to the Moravian Church in South Africa. Ashleigh lives there during schooltime.

THAT IS MY WORLD

PHOTO STORY AND STORY TO READ ALOUD



»» Hello!

I am Ashleigh!

You know Emso, the elephant, already. Recently he visited me in Elim Home in South Africa. That was terrific. We became great friends. He was very curious and interested in everything here. I showed him around and now I would like to show you too.

««

MY FRIENDS



MY FRIENDS

»»

The girl with the plaits is me. The other two are my friends Nadia and Lorenzo. In the photo we are wearing our school uniforms and have just come back from school. We three go to school together every morning. It is nearby. I like school and my favourite subject is drawing. The classes are from 8 to 12 in the morning. As soon as we get back we change into something comfortable and have lunch.

««



Make enlarged copies of the photos from the photo story or download and print the picture at www.ems-friends.org/en. Hang up the photos on a laundry line, one by one and read out the text. But you can also show the pictures from the booklet. After showing the photos and getting to know the children in Ashleigh's life, the children can also think together about what they would show Emso, the elephant, if he visited them. If you like you can hang up photos or paintings that the children bring along.

JOIN IN!



OUR PLAYGROUND



» That is our playground in Elim. Here the children from the village meet, enjoy the swings, walk the wooden fences, and enjoy their free time outside of school. «



OUR PLAYGROUND

IN MY FREE TIME

IN MY FREE TIME

» I love singing and dancing. I also play a lot with dolls. In the photo you can see me whistling a song. I always have some tune in my head. If you ask me: playing is what I enjoy most and music makes me happy. «



OUTDOORS IN NATURE

OUTDOORS IN NATURE



This is the nature in our surrounding area. From my window I see trees, flowers and can wonder at the beauty of God's creation. When I'm out in nature, all I can think about is music. «



THE CHURCH IN ELIM



THE CHURCH IN ELIM



Every Sunday, the carers from the Elim Home and I go to the Moravian Church in Elim. There we sing hymns and listen to the sermon.



WE PLANT TOMATOES



Here you can see me in our own greenhouse in Elim Home. Behind me are tomato bushes. I like to help with planting and caring for tomatoes. They taste wonderful – particularly with lettuce salad. Hmmm. Delicious!

I am glad that I could tell you a bit about my life. What would you show Emso and me if we came for a visit?



WE PLANT TOMATOES



GAME

COME AND PLAY WITH ME! BALL-GAME AND EXCHANGE

Ashleigh likes playing with dolls and with her friends. What do you like to play?

The children stand in a circle and throw a ball to each other. The child who catches the ball can say what he or she likes playing.

YOU
+
ME

My message for
all the children in the world:

»You should know that you
are all very important in this world. I wish
that other children with disabilities will get the
chance to go to school and to learn to read
and write – like me.«



PEACE

THIS IS WHAT PEACE MEANS FOR US

With the children, think about the meaning of peace. What is peace?
What does peace mean for you?

Then read out the quotations from the children worldwide with different voices, show pictures and get into conversation.

The children ask their parents and grandparents at home what peace means for them.

JOIN IN!

Peace is when
there is no noise in the
area and nobody is
disturbing when I am
sleeping.



ERNEST FROM GHANA

Peace means we
can live and work together
harmoniously. There is peace where I am
from, even though we live in a village
with different religions.



DADO FROM INDONESIA



FRIEDA FROM GERMANY

Frieda and Evelyn have drawn
pictures on »Peace« and would like
to show them to children
in other countries.



Peace means
to help and love one
another.



WOO HYEONG FROM SOUTH KOREA



In the blog
of the children's
programme
www.ems-friends.org/en
there is a detailed article
about the peace doves
from South Korea.

Woo Hyeong's Sunday School group made peace doves.
In Woo Hyeong's dove we read: God, please give South and
North Korea unity and freedom. The way reunification happened
peacefully in Germany.

For me, peace
means spending time with my
friends. It is a pleasure for
me to play with them.



ASHLEIGH FROM SOUTH AFRICA

There is peace in my
country, however, there are conflicts
based on religion. For me personally,
peace means not having to worry
about tests.



EVELYN FROM INDIA



PEACE BE WITH YOU!

THAT IS WHAT PIPIT SAYS



We have now heard what peace means for you quite personally. Peace is also important to Jesus. »Peace be with you« (Luke 24:36) – that is what Jesus says to his disciples when he first meets them after his resurrection. »Peace be with you« – that is what Jesus also wishes for us and for our lives.

For me, peace means living together in harmony. When Emso and I argue, I do not feel good. I am always pleased when we have made up. Then I feel better in my heart. This inner peace is a gift of God.

Jesus himself says in the Bible in John 14:27: »Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.« Let us together sing a peace song and give one another a sign of God's peace. «

The children's group reads out what Pipit, the bird, says about »peace«.

In conclusion the children can mutually wish each other God's blessing and sing a song about peace.

JOIN IN!

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU;

**THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU
AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU;**

**THE LORD LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE
UPON YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE.**

Numbers 6:24-26



ERNEST

FROM

GHANA



MY PROFILE

NAME: Ernest Twum

AGE: 7

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Accra

MY COUNTRY'S FLAG:



I AM HAPPY ABOUT: I am happy when my father allows me to play with my friends.

I AM WORRIED ABOUT: I am afraid of snakes, scorpions, and tigers. I am also afraid when I hear that someone is dead.

My friend died recently, so I am afraid of death.

I DREAM ABOUT: I want to become a pilot and drive my family.



- › Show the children the portrait and read the profile aloud.
- › Compare it with other profiles in the booklet.
- › Paint your own flag with the group.
- › Children may create their own profile. For example, paint or write and introduce themselves to each other.
- › Look at the map of the world (page 22), find where Ernest lives and where we live; then think about how long a trip to see him would take.

JOIN IN!



IN SCHOOL



ERNEST AND EMSO

INTERVIEW



Hello Ernest!

I am pleased to see you.

ERNEST: Hello, Emso. How nice of you to visit me in Ghana.

EMSO: Yes, I like to travel. I love visiting children all over the world and making friends everywhere. I also like holding interviews. It helps me that I am so curious and always have my microphone with me. May I ask you a couple of questions?

ERNEST: Sure! What interests you?

EMSO: Actually everything! But let's start with your family and friends. Who belongs to your family?

ERNEST: My auntie, my uncle, grandfather, grandmother, mother, father and my sister.



EMSO: Wonderful. And have you got friends as well?

ERNEST: You bet. My best friends are Miriam and Michael. I play a lot with Miriam. Michael and I like football. And you?

EMSO: My best friend is a little bird called Pipit.



- › For the interview, please portray Emso the elephant creatively: as a stick figure or draw an elephant.
Two staff or other children read the interview playing the two parts and show the photos.
- › After that, it would be good to work on the topic of »Children's Service worldwide« with the children (page 28 –31).

JOIN IN!

ERNEST: Funny! Elephant and little bird. My favorite animal is a hippopotamus. In fact, I have never seen a real one, but on television. It is big and it catches fish, I think.



EMSO: Interesting! I would never eat fish. I love leaves! What do you like to eat?

ERNEST: My favorite food is indomie, which are noodles, and jollof rice. I don't know how to prepare it, but I like it.



I LOVE JOLLOF RICE

EMSO: Ernest, what does a typical week day look like for you? That would interest the children worldwide particularly.

ERNEST: When I wake up in the morning, I brush my teeth, bathe, and then I go to school. Sometimes I walk with my sister and friends or sometimes my dad drives me to school. School starts at 7:30 in the morning. When we close from school, I walk with my friends back to our pharmacy shop. My mother runs it. In the afternoon, I sometimes play with my friends or help my mother at the pharmacy shop. After school, I stay at the pharmacy with my mother till the evening when daddy closes from work. Then he drives us home.

EMSO: And on Sunday?



ERNEST: I go to the Children's Service every Sunday. When I go to the Children's Service, I feel like God is there with us. I worship God and we praise him. We pray and our teachers teach us about how God died for us and that he saved us from anything bad.

EMSO: What does faith mean to you?

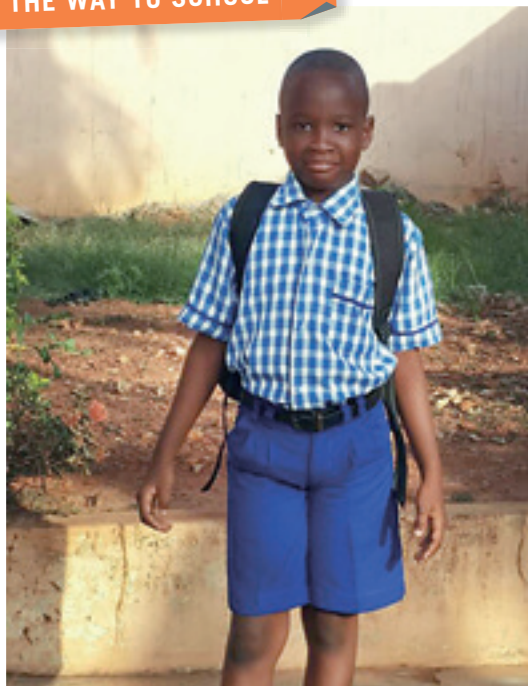


ERNEST: I believe in God. I know God to be good. He doesn't do anything bad and he doesn't want me to worship an idol. I also know Jesus. I believe in Jesus. I believe that Jesus died for our sins, to save us. I believe in that. I believe that all my sins are forgiven.

EMSO: So faith is very important to you. And many other children think so, too. Dear Ernest, many thanks for your friendship and the interview.



ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL



SONG



I WORSHIP YOU LET US SING TOGETHER

Ernest likes singing the song »Way Maker« by Sinach. It includes the line »I worship you, I worship you«.

With what song do you praise God?

IDEA

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORLDWIDE THIS IS HOW CHILDREN WORSHIP

Ernest likes going to the Children's Service in his church in Ghana. What is it like in other countries and congregations? On pages 28–31 children talk about their Children's Service or Sunday School. It is fascinating to look at the commonalities and differences.

YOU
+ ME

My message
for all the children
in the world:

»Rejoice about your parents and your friends.
Rejoice about what God has done for us.«



WE ARE CHILDREN
OF THE WORLD

DIVER- SITY



WE

YOU
+ ME

FRIENDS
AROUND THE
WORLD

A M E R I C A



Think together where these children live and where we live. How long would a trip take to visit each of these children?

JOIN IN!

FRIEDA

FROM

GERMANY



MY PROFILE

NAME: Frieda Spies

AGE: 6

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Rockenhausen

MY COUNTRY'S FLAG:



I AM HAPPY ABOUT: my friends, my birthday,
when I go to the swimming pool, school.



I AM WORRIED ABOUT: nothing really.

or yes: when I have lost something. I am afraid when there is flooding
because then I don't know what to do.

I DREAM ABOUT: my friends.



- › Show the children the portrait and read the profile aloud.
- › Compare it with other profiles in the booklet.
- › Paint your own flag with the group.
- › Children may create their own profile. For example, paint or write and introduce themselves to each other.
- › Look at the map of the world (page 22), to see where Frieda lives and where we live; then think about how long a trip to see her would take.



PROTESTANT CHURCH

JOIN IN!

FRIEDA AND PIPIT

A STORY TO READ ALOUD



Tweet. Tweet. Tweet. Hello, it's me, Pipit.

I'd like to tell you something today.

Recently I lived for a while in a big fir tree, surrounded by fields and a forest. That was great. My nest was protected by two other fir trees – right and left. And when I looked out of my nest I looked directly into the room of a girl. Just imagine, one day the girl looked out the window into my nest and waved to me and I waved back. Naturally, she was amazed at first. I flew to the window sill and introduced myself. We got on well right away. The girl's name is Frieda and we have now become really good friends.

Frieda, her sister Thea, her mum and dad live in southern Germany, in a city called Rockenhausen.



ROCKENHAUSEN

When you read out the story, portray Pipit the bird creatively: as a stick figure or draw a bird. Have Pipit fly around the room. Read the story to the children and show the pictures.

JOIN IN!



IN THE CLIMBING TREE



TREASURE HUNT

Frieda likes being outside. I have often gone with her on her adventures in the countryside. The scenery is very beautiful: cornfields, fir trees, deciduous trees, bright flowers, grass, willows, bushes, mountains and valleys. The houses all have a garden next to them. In her garden, Frieda has even planted a vegetable and flower bed. Raspberries, tomatoes and flowers grow there. She has also sown carrots and peas. She thinks about the natural environment a lot. For example, she asks how the wind and storms arise and why there is flooding.

WHAT THOUGHTS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT NATURE AND THE WEATHER?



GRILLING SAUSAGES

Frieda likes best being outside with her many friends: Jule, Ivan, Eileen, Melissa, Jakob, Kim, Madeleine, Greta und Leonie. On her sixth birthday they were all there and we had a treasure hunt outside. After that there was a barbecue in the garden. All the children cut a stick to spear their sausage and hold it over the fire.

Frieda's favourite food is Maultaschen soup*, Spaghetti Bolognese, bread with mushroom sausage, peppers, bananas and chocolate. She likes to drink water, milk, and cocoa without skin.

In the evenings, when I was sitting in my nest again, I heard Frieda's mum or dad reading a story to the sisters Frieda and Thea. Frieda and Thea sleep in one room. That is what Frieda wanted. That is why the two of them share a bedroom and a playroom. There Frieda plays with her Barbie house, does handicraft, dances or plays board games. Often, Frieda and Thea ride their bikes outside the house. They also like listening to music and her mum often says to her: »Sometimes you sing all day.«

*Maultaschen are a typical south German dish. They are small pockets of pasta filled with spinach, meat, and vegetables.

Because I want to get to know children all over the world, I flew away from Rockenhausen after a while. Yet Frieda and I have stayed good friends – to this day. Many people keep up their friendships over long distances. Frieda still has a friend who lives further away, like I do: that is Jule. She lives in Stuttgart, which is another city in southern Germany. Although she lives so far away, Jule is a very special friend for Frieda. They meet regularly and often think of one another. Just as I often think of Frieda.



ON THE BIKE

MY NAME – YOUR NAME

DISCOVERING MEANINGS OF NAMES



Read out the text by Pipit. Then each child can say something about their name. The children can also ask at home about the meaning of their name. The children's group can design a big poster on which each child writes their name themselves. The heading of the poster can be the passage from Isaiah 43:1: »God says: I have called you by name, you are mine«.

JOIN IN!



Frieda's name has a meaning.

Frieda comes from the German word »Frieden«, which means peace. Her parents say that the name suits her well. Frieda is a very friendly and peace-loving child and does not want to argue with anyone. My name comes from Indonesian and means »sparrow«. That suits me very well, don't you think? What about your name or the name of your friends?



WHAT MEANING DOES IT HAVE?

WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT IT?

YOU
+ ME



I drew this picture
for the children of
the world.



CHILDREN'S SERVICE WORLDWIDE



**THIS IS HOW WE WORSHIP,
THIS IS WHAT WE BELIEVE**

Every Sunday
the carers from the Elim
Home and I go to the Moravian
Church in Elim. There we sing
hymns and listen to the
sermon.



ASHLEIGH FROM SOUTH AFRICA

I go to Children's Service
every Sunday. When I go to Children's Service, I
feel like God is there with us. I worship God and we praise
him. We pray and our teachers teach us about how God died for us
and he saved us from anything bad. I believe in God. I know God to
be good. He doesn't do anything bad and he doesn't want me to
worship an idol. I also know Jesus. I believe in Jesus. I believe that
Jesus died for our sins, to save us. I believe in that.
I believe that all my sins are forgiven.



ERNEST FROM GHANA

The children talk about their faith and report
about the Sunday School or Children's Service
they attend. You can show your own group
the speech balloons and read them aloud.
Or you can cut out the speech balloons and
portraits and get different children to read
them out. Then you can discuss with the
children what the Children's Services have
in common and where they are different.
Perhaps the group can try out the Children's
Service of another church and see what it is
like to worship internationally.

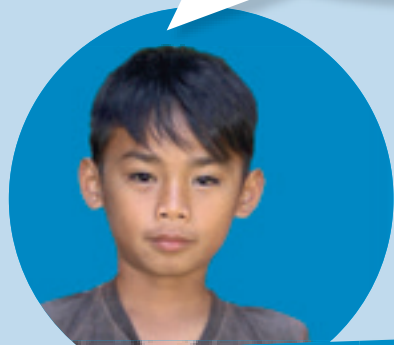
JOIN IN!



EVELYN FROM INDIA

I like going to the
Children's Service. We pray, sing
songs, learn about God, and play some
games. I believe in >God Jesus Christ<.
He provides us what we need. Faith in
God is important to me.

We have Children's Service on Sunday morning and Children's Gathering every Sunday afternoon. In our church, our Children's Service is divided into age groups: Pre-School, small children, big children and teenagers. Faith means I'm doing good things in my life. Faith helps me when I'm happy and sad. So, definitely faith is important to me. I believe in Jesus Christ. I come from a Christian family, so my grandparents and parents want me to have a strong faith. I think that my faith will grow stronger through reading the Bible, praying and joining Sunday School Service.



DADO FROM INDONESIA

In my town we have a special service for children every two months. It is called Rainbow Time and takes place on Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm. Someone tells us a story and we sit on chairs in a circle. We also make things, e.g. fish from salt dough, we bake small loaves or cook together. At the end we always eat lunch together. I like going to church. I like the hymns we sing there. I believe in God and that he gave us the world. Faith helps to protect me.



FRIEDA FROM GERMANY

I go to Children's Service every Sunday. We worship God and learn on the subjects about Jesus' love. First, we praise, pray, listen to the Bible, and act together. We end with the Lord's Prayer Song. I believe in Jesus, God, and the Holy Spirit. Faith is to believe what Jesus said. Faith is important to me.



WOO HYEONG FROM SOUTH KOREA



CHILDREN ARE PRECIOUS TO JESUS



THEOLOGICAL INPUT FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICE ON MARK 10:13-16

JESUS NOTICES THE CHILDREN

Jesus shows that he takes children seriously in their diversity. The disciples attempt to stop the children from going to Jesus. But Jesus reprimands his closest friends, then turns directly to the children and blesses them. Jesus notices the children. He takes their perspective and is pleased about their faith. For Jesus, the children are a model for adults.

Tell the story of Jesus blessing the children according to Mark 10:13-16 and then get into conversation with the children.

JOIN IN!

IDEA

WITH GOD THE SMALLEST ARE THE BIGGEST WORK BOOKLET »LET'S SHARE OUR FAITH«

Mark 9:33-37 is also about children. The booklet »Let's share our faith« from the EMS children's programme contains a story with movements. This could be acted out with the children at this point. You can find it on www.ems-friends.org/en under »Materials«.

You can also order the booklet by email at info@ems-friends.org. It is free of charge and available in English, German, Indonesian and Korean.

A MEETING AT EYE LEVEL

When Jesus speaks he looks straight at the children. He gets them to come into the middle of the group. What happens now is a meeting at eye level. Jesus embraces the children. The meetings in the EMS children's programme also take place at eye level. The networking of children worldwide is intended to foster appreciative relations among them. Those who meet at eye level can see, experience and celebrate the wealth of diversity.

ENCOURAGING AND BLESSING CHILDREN

The Bible story tells of Jesus approaching people who had been rejected or excluded and encouraging them to live. Children are empowered in their being and uniqueness, and encouraged. At the end of the scene, Jesus blesses the children. He blesses them in the name of God, for example for developing their own gifts and growing up free of care. Like the children whom Jesus calls to himself and blesses, all the children on this earth are loved by God. This story can empower children and let them find out that they are precious and that God loves them.



YOU + ME



LET US SING TOGETHER WORLDWIDE



Do you like singing as much as I do?

Worldwide different songs are sung at Children's Services. Try singing »He's Got the Whole World in His Hands«. In one verse it says »He's got YOU and ME brother/sister in his hands«. YOU and ME – that is what it is about. That is why it is written on the yellow balloon: YOU + ME! We get to know other children and find out where they live, what they like doing in their free time and how they worship at Sunday School or Children's Service. And in all this it is Jesus who connects us worldwide. The song »He's Got the Whole World in His Hand« is sung by you and many other children worldwide in many languages. That also connects us. Tra la la.



Portray Pipit, the bird, creatively. Pipit explains briefly why the song »He's Got the Whole World in His Hands« connects us all. After that everyone can sing it together – perhaps even with the refrain in another language?

JOIN IN!



HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD ...



ORDER BALLOONS
FREE OF CHARGE FROM
THE CHILDREN'S
PROGRAMME UNDER
INFO@EMS-FRIENDS.
ORG

WOO HYEONG

FROM

SOUTH KOREA



MY PROFILE

NAME: LEE, Woo Hyeong *

AGE: 9

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Goyang City

MY COUNTRY'S FLAG:



I AM HAPPY ABOUT: Playing computer games or board games with friends. 🎲



I AM WORRIED ABOUT: I am scared of big dogs and going to the dentist.

I DREAM ABOUT: I want to become a robot engineer and build a robot for my family and country. 🌐



I LIVE HERE

- › Show the children the portrait and read the profile aloud.
- › Compare it with other profiles in the booklet.
- › Paint your own flag with the group.
- › Children may create their own profile. For example, paint or write and introduce themselves to each other.
- › Look at the map of the world (page 22), find where Woo Hyeong lives and where we live; then think about how long a trip to see him would take.

JOIN IN!

이우형

*This is how LEE, Woo Hyeong writes his name in Korean

WOO HYEONG AND PIPIT

INTERVIEW



For the interview, portray Pipit, the bird, creatively. Two staff or older children read the interview in parts and show the pictures.

JOIN IN!



Hello Woo Hyeong. I'm happy to be here in South Korea to visit you. I had a great journey to Goyang City.

WOO HYEONG: Annyeong, Pipit!

PIPIT: Sorry, what did you just say?

WOO HYEONG: That's how we say hi to each other in South Korea. Annyeong means »Hello«. Though the correct translation says »Are you at peace?« That's how you spell it:

안녕?

PIPIT: I see! Annyeong, Woo Hyeong! It is beautiful being here in Goyang in South Korea. And I really like the big Hosu Park. Especially because I can find a lot of food for myself, as well as listening to the sounds of the other birds.

WOO HYEONG: That's right, Pipit. Our city really is beautiful. I like the city. It is said that »Goyang is the city of people more beautiful than flowers«. Goyang is also known for it's annual flower festival. I like the roses and pine trees. When I look outside my window I can see pine trees and the grass of the park next to our apartment. I live here with my two sisters, my mother and my father.



PIPIT: I like seeing green areas in cities. Because it makes me happy to listen to the other birds' songs. Sometimes I get carried away and just sing along. Do you like to sing?

WOO HYEONG: Yes, I love to sing. I even sing in our Church Choir. My favorite song is »Bom Bom Bom« by Roy Kim. And I also play the piano. Music helps me to relax, removes stress and makes me feel at peace.



PIPIT: What else do you enjoy doing in your free time?

WOO HYEONG: I like playing LEGO with my friends and parents. And I also enjoy drawing, reading cartoons and science fiction books or doing origami. I also play a lot of soccer with my friends.



MY DAD, MY SISTER AND ME



MY SISTERS

PIPIT: Who are your friends?



WOO HYEONG: My best friends are Hyeong Bin, Seok Gyeom, Joo Hyeon and Ha Jin. It is important to me that we are friendly and show kindness to one another.

PIPIT: I feel the same way. Emso is my best friend. I am so thankful to have him as my friend.

Real friends are like treasures.

Ehm...Woo Hyeong, I'd like to ask you what a typical day in your life looks like.



OLYMPIA 2018



WE ARE BAKING TOGETHER



WOO HYEONG: I get up around 8 am and have breakfast with my family. I go to school at 9 am and take various classes. One of my favourite subjects is science. I am interested in becoming a scientist or a robot engineer. Science is fun when I realize the principles of science. I like Albert Einstein.

I come back from school at 3 pm to play soccer with my friends or go to the English Academy and study English. In the evening, I play board games with my dad and sisters, play computer games and have a good dinner. And then, I read a book before I go to sleep. I pray and go to bed at 9:30 pm.



PIPIT: It's great that you pray in the evening. I always do that, too. It does you good to lay everything in God's hand again at the end of the day.



WOO HYEONG: Yes, that's true. Faith is important to me.

PIPIT: I'm gradually getting hungry. I feel like some fresh seeds. What do you like eating and drinking?

WOO HYEONG: I love milk and aloe juice. My favorite food is grilled duck meat. Pipit, you could try a traditional Korean dish today. How about Kimchi and Bulgogi? I can recommend that.

PIPIT: Good idea. Thank you for the tip. It is nice to meet you, Woo Hyeong.

MY IDEA FOR THE FUTURE

THE CHILDREN DRAW THEIR VISIONS

Woo Hyeong would like to become a scientist or engineer and build a robot. What could the robot look like? What would you like to plan or design one day? Is there an idea you dream about? Paint a picture of it. The pictures can be sent to the children's programme team YOU+ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD in Stuttgart. They will be published on its blog at www.ems-friends.org/en.

Please send them to this address:
Evangelical Mission in Solidarity
YOU+ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD
Vogelsangstr. 62, 70197 Stuttgart, Germany
info@ems-friends.org



*Kimchi is a traditional Korean cabbage dish and Bulgogi is a hot Korean meat dish that is mostly eaten on festival days.

YOU
+ ME

My message
for all the children
in the world:

»It's great that you are there.
I hope you live in a peaceful country.
I dream of world peace.«



EVELYN

FROM
INDIA



MY PROFILE

NAME: K. Evelyn Natalia

AGE: 8

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Chennai

MY COUNTRY'S FLAG:



I AM HAPPY ABOUT: my parents, my school and the
Childrens' Sunday School.



I AM WORRIED ABOUT: I am scared of lizards, rats, cockroaches
and snakes.

I DREAM ABOUT: a world without pain and suffering.



- › Show the children the portrait and read the profile aloud.
- › Compare it with other profiles in the booklet.
- › Paint your own flag with the group.
- › Children may create their own profile. For example, paint or write and introduce themselves to each other.
- › Look at the map of the world (page 22), find where Evelyn lives and where we live; then think about how long a trip to see her would take.

JOIN IN!

To all the children
in the world



A LETTER FROM INDIA

LETTER AND LOOKING AT PICTURES

Read out Evelyn's letter to the children and show the pictures. If you like you can put the letter and the pictures in a big envelope in the middle of the room. A child is allowed to open the envelope, distribute the pictures and read the letter aloud. Depending on the group, the letter can be interrupted at different places, in order to reflect with the children about their own lives and relate it to Evelyn's.

JOIN IN!

ME IN MY SCHOOL UNIFORM



Dear children in the world,

I am happy to write to you today and would like to report on how I live. My name is Evelyn Natalia and I am eight years old. Together with my parents I live in the city of Chennai in South India. So that you can get to know me better, I have enclosed photos of me in the envelope. This morning I was at school. Here in India we wear school uniforms. In the photo you can see the top part of my uniform. In school I look forward to my favourite teacher. She teaches science. We get on well and she always encourages me.

Still I am worried about school, too. I am worried about my grades and the Tamil language that I learn at school. We have to learn this language and it is hard for me because we do not speak it at home.


My friends are Kamika, Rithika, Freya, Joel and Melvin. We play hide and seek together, ride bikes or just chat. Although we all belong to different religions we are friends because we are the same age and because we help one another.



At home in the sitting room I watch TV, dance,
paint or sing. I love music and singing. So I am
also in the school choir. Music goes into my legs
and I dance away. My favourite song is
»More Love, More Power« – do you know that, too?



HERE IS WHERE I DANCE

I have drawn a picture for you that I would like to show you.
In our region there are many plants: roses, lotus, bougainvillea, ferns,
palms, basil and marigolds. Do they also grow where you live? 

In the picture with the Christmas tree you can see me at Christmas time.
That is a very happy time for me. I dream of a place in which all children
are happy.

Yours,

Evelyn Natalia



IDEA

MAIL FOR THE CHILDREN IN THE WORLD WRITING LETTERS

Write letters and send them to the team of the
children's programme YOU + ME: FRIENDS
AROUND THE WORLD in Stuttgart. Some of
the letters will be posted on the blog of the
children's programme www.ems-friends.org/en.
Please send them to:

Evangelical Mission in Solidarity
YOU + ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD
Vogelsangstr. 62, 70197 Stuttgart, Germany
info@ems-friends.org

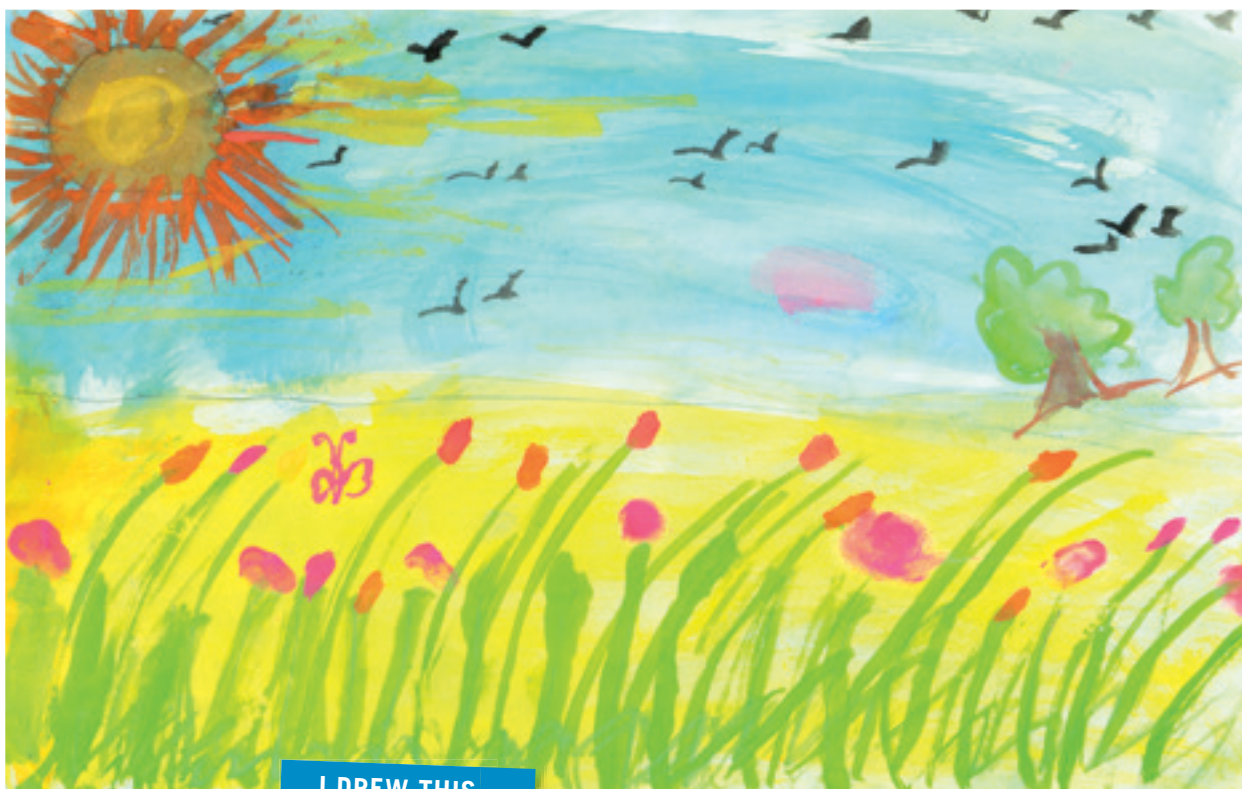


AT CHRISTMAS TIME

MY PAINTING



LOOKING AT A PICTURE



I DREW THIS

Show the children the painting and together discover it by asking questions.

JOIN IN!

WHAT CAN YOU SEE IN THE PICTURE?

WHAT COLOURS ARE STRIKING?

WHAT IS THE MOOD OF THE PICTURE?
IS IT WARM OR COLD?

DO YOU RECOGNISE ANIMALS?

WHAT KIND OF FLOWERS COULD THESE BE?

IF YOU WERE TO FRAME IT
WHAT COLOUR WOULD THE FRAME HAVE?

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SUCH A LANDSCAPE BEFORE?

WHAT SEASON OF THE YEAR COULD THAT BE?

YOU
+ ME

My message
for all the children
in the world:

»I would like to see all the children
being happy.«



PRAYER



WE TALK WITH GOD

WHAT IS PRAYING? EMSO REPORTS

Portray Emso, the elephant, creatively. Emso gets into conversation with the children. The children can exchange their ideas on the given questions. Finally, read out Emso's thoughts about prayer. This lends itself to thinking about how prayer takes place in other religions.

JOIN IN!



Praying?

What is that actually and how do you do it?

Praying! Yes, that is talking to God. And the great thing is: it can be done at any time and everywhere. I, personally, always pray with Pipit before meals. We thank God for the food and that God supplies our needs so well. Often we pray together in the morning as well and lay the whole day in God's hand. In the evening, when I am lying in bed, I think about the day again and pray quietly to myself. I thank God for the nice moments during the day. If something is bothering me, I also tell God. I feel close to God when I talk to him. Isn't it wonderful that someone is there to whom I can come and who always listens to me? God does not have certain office hours, like a doctor or a dentist. You can always talk to God.



The people in the world pray differently.
Let us think about that together:

WHEN DO PEOPLE PRAY?

WHERE DO PEOPLE PRAY?

HOW DO PEOPLE PRAY?
FOLDING HANDS? RAISING HANDS HIGH?

WHAT DO PEOPLE PRAY?



JESUS IS THERE FOR ME – ALWAYS AND EVERYWHERE

MY PERSONAL PRAYER

Read out Emso's text.
The children continue to think about what prayer means for them personally and what they would like to pray for.

JOIN IN!



Praying together connects us across the world. In prayer I can bring all my worries, requests and thoughts before God. In the Bible it says in 1 Peter 5:7, »Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.«

Let us think together:

WHAT DO I WANT TO PRAY FOR?

**HAVE I SOMETHING ON MY HEART
THAT I WANT TO PRAY FOR?**

FOR WHAT ENCOUNTER OR EXPERIENCE WOULD I LIKE TO THANK GOD?

OUR PRAYER

WRITE DOWN PRAYERS AND SEND THEM IN

To conclude, the group can write a prayer together to appear on the blog of the children's programme www.ems-friends.org/en. Please send it to:

Evangelical Mission in Solidarity
YOU + ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD
Vogelsangstr. 62, 70197 Stuttgart, Germany
info@ems-friends.org

JOIN IN!



IDEA

LORD'S PRAYER A PRAYER CONNECTS US

A prayer connects us all. Christians all over the world say the Lord's Prayer. Do the children already know it by heart? Say the Lord's Prayer with the children or read it in the Bible in Matthew 6:9-13. Discuss together what thoughts and pictures we have when praying.

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**Interviews for the countries (in the EMS member
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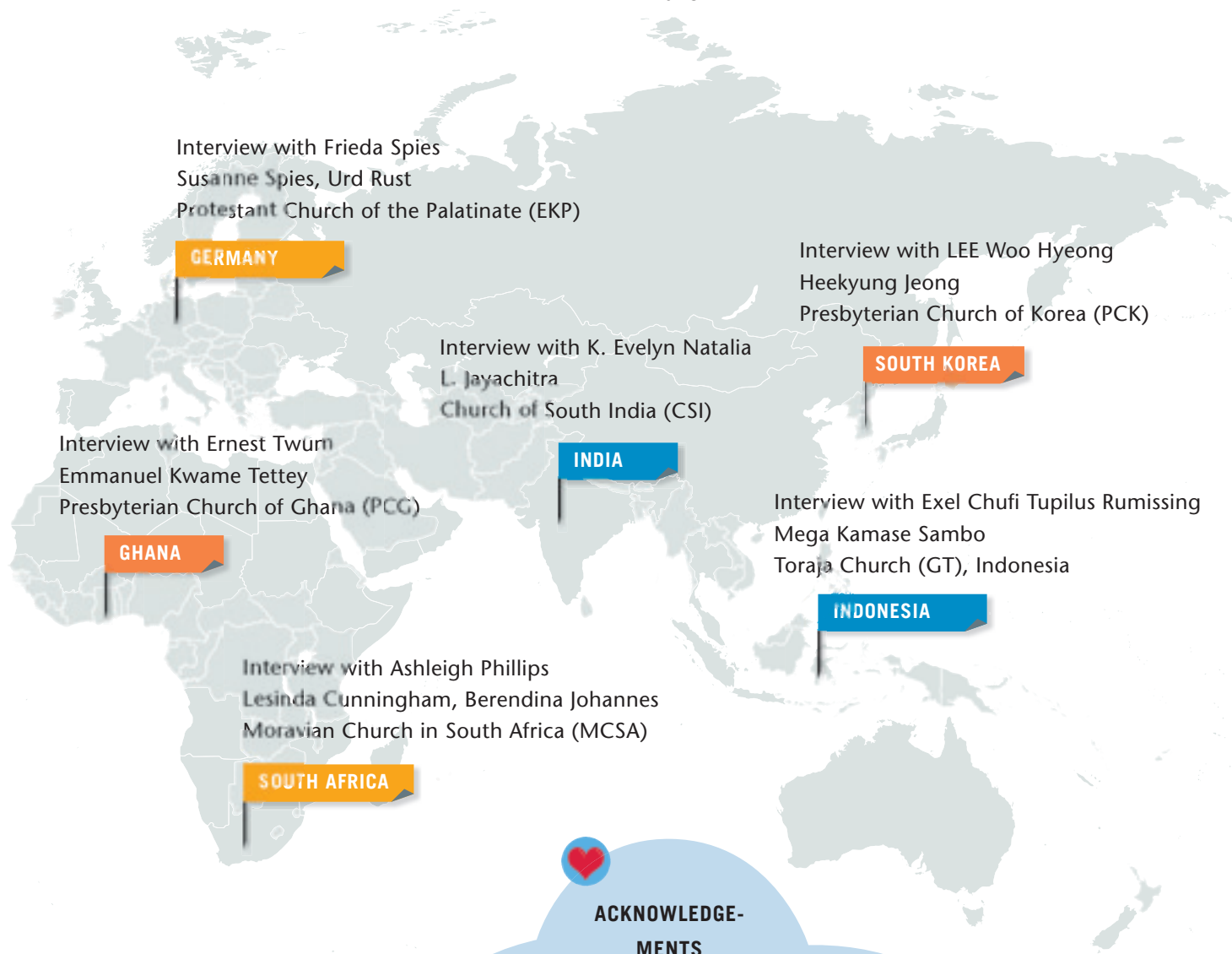
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Cecil Victor; p. 3: Lohnes; pp. 7-11: Sambo; pp. 12-15:
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LEE, K. James Cecil Victor; pp. 19-21: Tettey; pp. 22/23:
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Interview with Frieda Spies
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Protestant Church of the Palatinate (EKP)

GERMANY

Interview with LEE Woo Hyeong
Heekyung Jeong
Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK)

SOUTH KOREA

Interview with K. Evelyn Natalia
L. Jayachitra
Church of South India (CSI)

INDIA

Interview with Ernest Twum
Emmanuel Kwame Tettey
Presbyterian Church of Ghana (PCG)

GHANA

Interview with Exel Chufi Tupilus Rumissing
Mega Kamase Sambo
Toraja Church (GT), Indonesia

INDONESIA

Interview with Ashleigh Phillips
Lesinda Cunningham, Berendina Johannes
Moravian Church in South Africa (MCSA)

SOUTH AFRICA

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FEEDBACK WANTED!

Do send us photos, prayers, and letters from your children's group. It will be interesting to see how you work with the booklet worldwide. Please send your feedback to the children's programme team:

Evangelical Mission in Solidarity
YOU+ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD
Vogelsangstr. 62, 70197 Stuttgart, Germany
+ 49 (0) 711 / 636 78 44, info@ems-friends.org

A selection of your ideas will then be posted on the programme blog at www.ems-friends.org/en

JOIN IN!

INTERNATIONAL BLOG ON CHILDREN WORLDWIDE

The children's programme YOU+ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD offers an interesting blog for staff of Sunday School or Children's Services. Authors from all over the world write regularly about these topics. Staff share their ideas directly, but that is not all. We present current studies on child-related topics and announce events around the topic of Global Learning with children.

Anyone who wishes can write themselves and become part of the international EMS Fellowship. In order to keep a structure, the blog can be divided into the topics: festivals worldwide, intercultural learning, fair trade, Children's Service, children worldwide.



www.ems-friends.org/en

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