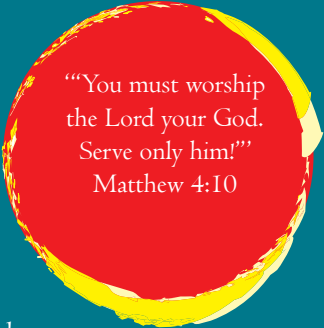


# DAY 1: MADAGASCAR

**W**hat do you think of when you hear the country Madagascar mentioned? Do you immediately think of Alex the lion, Marty the zebra or the cute penguins from the animated movies set in Madagascar? Some people may think of its famous vanilla which it grows and sells to other countries. Madagascar, however, is also known for being the fourth largest island in the world. It's about the size of France and is found about 250 miles off the coast of south-east Africa. Madagascar is a particularly interesting country because of its wildlife. Many of the plants and animals in Madagascar are not found anywhere else in the world. However, although it's rich in wildlife, it is one of the poorest countries in the world and so its people face many problems.



“You must worship  
the Lord your God.  
Serve only him!”  
Matthew 4:10

Over 200 years ago two men and their families went as missionaries to Madagascar. Sadly they all died within a few months except for one man called David Jones. Bravely, David did not give up but continued telling Madagascans about Jesus, many of whom became Christians. Later he also helped to translate the Bible into the Malagasy language.

Today many people in Madagascar still follow Jesus. However, some want to worship or pray to other gods and ancestral spirits as well as be a Christian. We know that this doesn't work and that God wants us to worship and serve only him.

## PRAY

- Thank God for the first missionaries to Madagascar.
- For Madagascan Christians to only worship Jesus.



### FACT FILE:

Population: 24 million  
Main Religion: Christianity  
Capital: Antananarivo  
Official Languages: Malagasy and French

### NEW WORD:

\* Ancestral spirits: spirits of dead relatives.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Madagascar is the only country where lemurs [like King Julien in the movie] can be found in the wild! There are around 100 different kinds of lemurs living there!

## ON THE MAP



# DAY 2: TOILETS

**I**magine what life would be like if you didn't have a toilet at home. What would you do when you needed the loo? You might have to go in your garden. Or in a bucket in your bedroom. What do you think your house would smell like? Would your garden be a nice place to play?

'Do not be selfish or greedy towards your poor brother. But give freely to him.'  
Deuteronomy  
15:7-8

## IT'S OUT OF ORDER!

Do you know that about 2.4 billion people do not have a toilet? This means that about a third of the world's population have to use fields, rivers, roadsides, plastic bags or buckets. This can cause germs to spread and people to become sick or even die. Almost 900 children die every day from diseases caused by not having a proper toilet or clean water. That's one child every two minutes.

## FLUSHING AWAY POVERTY

So what can we do to help? We can pray and we can give money to organisations such as Toilet Twinning. They work with local churches and communities to help people build a toilet and to teach them about hygiene such as washing their hands.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Over a lifetime, it's estimated the average person spends about three years sitting on a toilet!

### JOKE!

Why did the toilet paper roll down the hill? To get to the bottom!

## MEET NIVA

Niva is fourteen and lives in India. She and her family now have a toilet, thanks to Toilet Twinning. She says, 'Before, we used to go to the toilet in the fields and we had lots of problems. All the ladies in the family used to go out together at about 5.30 a.m. But I worried about snake bites and I don't like the dark'.



## PRAY

- For more poor people like Niva to be able to have a toilet to use.
- For those without a toilet to be protected from diseases.

## GET INTO IT!

Get a collecting box from Toilet Twinning and fill it with money until you reach £60 (\$77). Send the money to Toilet Twinning who will use it to help provide a toilet somewhere in the world. You will receive a certificate with a photo of the toilet you've twinned with, so you can then display it proudly.

