

The Flores believe like we do - that God is no respecter of persons and that through knowledge of the Word, empowered by the gifts of the Spirit, children, also, can be trained to become useful and effective weapons in the hands of God.



If you would like to know more about the Flores' ministry, contact us!

Bible Search Puzzle

Read each scripture to find the correct bible names. The first letter of each name will help form a name found in this month's PAL page!

- Imprisoned for preaching with Paul (Acts 16:25) _ _ _ _ _
- Wise woman who married David (1 Sam. 25:42) _ _ _ _ _
- Disciple from Cana in Galilee (John 21:2) _ _ _ _ _
- Moses' right-hand man (Exodus 24:13) _ _ _ _ _
- Son of Ruth, grandpa of David (Ruth 4:17) _ _ _ _
- Prophet mourned by whole country (1 Sam. 25:1) _ _ _ _ _
- Priest's wife, prophet's mother (Luke 1:40.41) _ _ _ _ _
- Final name formed from first letters _ _ _ _ _

Although this month's page is a little late, we plan to make it up to you in December with a special fun-filled World Kids PAL page to celebrate Jesus' birthday!

'Til then,


love from Shirley!

(Answer to puzzle: San Jose)

World Kids PAL Page is a ministry of IMOF Inc, 8069 FM 1251E, Henderson, TX.
Tel: (903) 889-2233 E-mail: shirley@imofinc.org www.imofinc.org

World Kids

Fun facts for kids! True stories!



PAL Page

Issue no. 24 November/December 2005

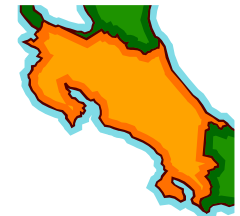


Did you know that there is a country in Latin America that has **NO** armed forces?

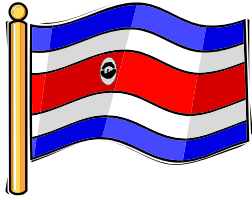
Mexico, Central and South America are well known for revolutions, dictatorships and military "coups" but one country in that

region doesn't even have a single soldier! It is **COSTA RICA!**

It is the oldest democracy in the region and since 1889 has had a freely elected government. The country has been basically peaceful and has had no fights with outside countries, so that in 1948 its armed forces were abolished completely! It is the third smallest country in Latin America, with less than 20,000 square miles (about half the size of Ohio and one twelfth the size of Texas!). See if you can find it on a map - it lies between the countries of Nicaragua and Panama, and borders both the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean.



Costa Rica has a population of just over 4 million people, most of whom are white or Mestizo, with very few native Indians.



The Costa Rican flag has a blue stripe at top and bottom, and a red stripe in the middle bordered above and below by a white stripe. The capital of Costa Rica is called San José, and it is a lovely city that is very clean and almost without slums. The slow settlement of Costa Rica through the years enabled its leaders to focus on economic development and education. As a result, not only is the country stable with the highest standard of living in the region, but it also has the highest literacy rate - schools are modern and almost everyone has a good education.

For many years Costa Rica was famous for its banana and coffee plantations, but in recent years, it has also expanded into other types of commercial agriculture, including pineapples, beef, sugar and ornamental plants.



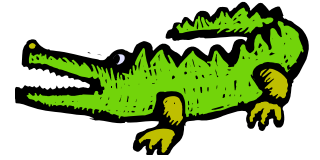
But the countryside of Costa Rica is especially beautiful with sparkling sandy beaches on both coasts, majestic volcanic mountains over 12,000 ft high, lush tropical forests and gorgeous waterfalls. It is not surprising that it has become a great tourist attraction for visitors from North and South America as well as other continents.

But of course, as we've mentioned before, NOWHERE on earth is completely perfect!! There are several active volcanoes in Costa Rica, and the country experiences earthquakes, hurricanes, and severe flooding during the heavy tropical storms that dump over 80 inches of rain on parts of the country each year!

We have some friends, named the Flores family, who have a wonderful children's ministry in Costa Rica. They live in the mountains less than 20 miles from San José, but sometimes the flooding is so bad that the roads are washed out and electric power is lost for long periods of time! They have written telling us that new clothes left hanging in the closet only a couple of weeks have been found with mould growing on them!



This past year there was very bad flooding due to hurricanes, and because of so many rivers overflowing, many crocodiles have been found near housing areas, posing a threat to the people! The flooding causes other "wildlife" to run for high ground also, including snakes and dangerous insects. A scorpion recently stung one of the Flores' daughters; and the mosquitoes causing dengue fever are so bad that if government inspectors find any standing water with dengue larvae in it near a home, the homeowners are fined \$900 US!!



Although Costa Rica is such an advanced and educated country, still about 18% of the population lives in poverty, and there are many problems that especially affect children, such as abuse in the home. A surprising number of children visit psychologists, and although most of the people are Catholic, there are still many who turn to fortunetellers or psychics. Many people do not know they can get the help they need from the Bible and by putting their faith in Jesus Christ.

True story! Our friends, Enrique and Carol Flores, have a very special ministry where they not only teach children about Jesus and the Bible, and help children who have suffered abuse in their homes, but they also train CHILDREN to minister to other children! Their teenage daughter, Jerusha, has formed a group of children that presents dramas and special events to share the Gospel and teach Bible truths. They reach children in churches, open air meetings, and are now even invited to share in schools! Many children attend leadership retreats (like camps) where they not only learn about Jesus and how He can heal them and help them with their problems, but they also have long prayer sessions and witness the power of the Holy Spirit. Some of the children have passed through special courses to teach them how to minister and help other children, and now are in charge of home groups of up to 10 children each, that meet each week in their homes!

