

Adoniram and Ann Judson

1 Thessalonians 2 in Action

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:8-12

Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 2:8b *“We were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.”*

Lesson Focus: Last week we saw in the first part of this chapter how Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy were missionaries who loved the Thessalonian people so richly that they gave them not only the gospel, but their own lives as our memory verse says (same verse as last week). Sometimes the biblical characters can seem so far-off and obscure that it is good to teach children other examples of Christians who loved Jesus and lived their lives devoted to Him. Adoniram and Ann Judson were a married couple who were missionaries to the people of Burma (modern day Myanmar). Just like Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy gave their all to the people of Thessalonica and established a church there, Adoniram and Ann gave their all to the people of Burma and the Lord graciously used them in amazing ways. We hope this video will inspire the kids to be more mission-minded and that they also can make sacrifices for others for God’s glory.

Teachers: Please inform parents as they are dropping off their kids that they will be watching a cartoon video that has some intense moments in it. While the video tastefully portrays a lot of the bad things that really happened, it could frighten overly sensitive kids. Our conviction though is that this video is entirely appropriate for 1st-5th graders. If parents have any concerns, they may want to keep their kids with them in the main sanctuary. Please be encouraged to preview the video yourself beforehand. You can find it here: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/KidsSeries/310383?episode=1> If you don’t have a Rightnow Media account, you can get one free through RMC [here](#).

Schedule:

- 1) Bring kids into the main sanctuary as usual 10-15 minutes after start of service.
- 2) After worship we will introduce the video with some background information. *
- 3) Sit down with the kids and watch the video with them (about 30 minutes).
- 4) We will dismiss the kids back to their rooms where we will provide follow-up small group activities. **Teachers:** If this is your first time serving with this new group of kids, carve out some time to get to know them! *

Room Time Afterwards: We will have a coloring page, a “Zayat craft” (for 1st/2nd graders), and a decoder puzzle available after the lesson.

- 1st-2nd graders: Feel at liberty to either lead a small group discussion afterward (using the discussion Qs below or your own Qs) or leverage the above activities.
- 3rd-5th graders: Please process and digest the video with the kids in the classroom. You can use the discussion Qs below or feel free to come up with your own Qs.

Discussion Qs

Dig Into the Story

- 1) What difficulties did Adoniram and Ann Judson face as they preached the gospel to the people of Burma?
- 2) Read **1 Thessalonians 2:2**. What difficulties did Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy face when they preached the gospel to the people of Philippi and Thessalonica (also see **Acts 16:23-24** and **Acts 17:5-10**)
- 3) What danger did the Burmese fisherman face when he declared his faith in Jesus and got baptized?
- 4) How did the fisherman's life change after he believed and got baptized?
- 5) What was so important about the special pillow that Adoniram had?
- 6) Read **1 Thessalonians 2:8**. How did the Judsons show that the Burmese people were dear to them?
- 7) Read **1 Thessalonians 2:9**. In what ways did the Judsons "labor and toil" for the Burmese people?

Go Deeper

- 1) Despite the Judsons' "labor and toil" teaching and sharing Jesus with the Burmese people, it took years for the first person to believe. Have you ever prayed for someone or something for a long time and did not get an answer right away? How did you feel?
- 2) The Judsons faced many hardships in Burma. Adoniram lost his wife and his child to sickness. But by the time Adoniram died, there were over 8000 believers in Burma. Do you think God blessed the Judsons' work? Why or why not?
- 3) Read **2 Corinthians 4:18**. How does this verse relate to the Judsons' story in Burma?
- 4) **Teachers:** If you have any association with missionaries of RMC, consider bringing in one of their prayer cards and sharing with the kids where they serve and what they do. Also share how you support them through prayer and financial support. Then pray for that missionary as a class.
- 5) Have you ever considered being a missionary? Why or why not?