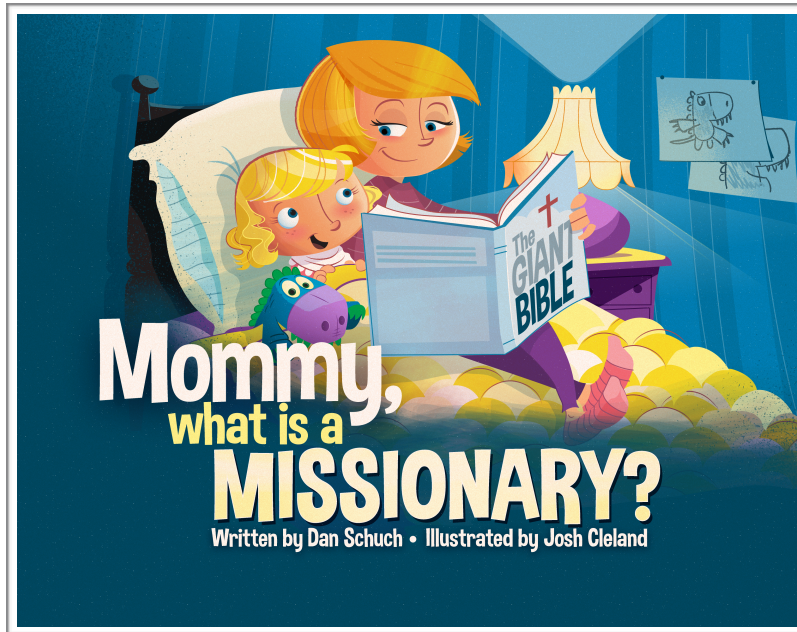


Mommy, What is a Missionary?

by Dan Schuch



Mommy, What is a Missionary? is written for young children. It tells the story of a loving mother who answers her daughter's tough questions about missionaries. Katie's mommy tells her how missionaries love to tell others about how much Jesus loves them, and Katie learns that missionaries enjoy praying for little children like herself. Katie comes to realize that she can pray for missionaries, too.

In 2002, author, Dan Schuch, was asked to speak at the funeral of a dear friend, a missionary, who had died suddenly. The missionary left behind a wife and two young children, and the night before his funeral Dan had a vision from God – which became this book. On the morning after the funeral the first draft of this book was sketched on a pad of paper.

Ten years later, Dan was inspired to complete the book, and with the help of a phenomenal illustrator and a deeply-committed publisher who shared the vision, *Mommy, What is a Missionary* became reality.

Parents and teachers can use this book to introduce children to missionaries and their mission work. Children will be engaged, thanks to the interactive questions on each page. A portion of this book's proceeds helps fund a college account for the children of the missionary who died.

Please contact Jami Carmichael at: jami@deeperiverbooks.com for more information.

Deep River
B O O K S



Dan Schuch - Beaverton, OR

Some people say that Dan Schuch is a twelve-year-old trapped in the body of a person who crossed over the half-century mark. He is an avid tennis player, loves musicals, games (board and computer), nature, sports of all kinds, movies, science fiction and everything in between. He deeply loves his wife, Chaleen, and shares his life with her and three cats. Dan suffers from a serious addiction to higher education, as evidenced by a bachelors, three masters degrees and seminary training. He is most passionate about teaching a weekly adult Bible study, something he has been doing for over 30 years, and also enjoys developing his own Bible study materials. *Mommy, What is a Missionary?* is Dan's first Christian children's book.

Connect with Dan Schuch:

www.whatisamissionary.com

Suggested Interview Questions for Dan Schuch, Author of *Mommy, What is a Missionary?*

1) Describe your book, *Mommy, What is a Missionary?*

Mommy, What is a Missionary? is a children's illustrated book that tells the story of a loving mother answering her young daughter's questions and teaching her about missionaries. The book is presented from the perspective of the child so the illustrations are whimsical at times and touching at others.

2) Why is this book important for Christian parents and churches?

The book is important for a number of reasons. We live in troubling times. I've been told, and have read in different places, that more Christians are being killed for their faith than at any time in history. While living here in a land of religious freedom I find this a bit hard to comprehend. Our missionaries throughout the world need our love and our prayers. I believe that we need our children praying for missionaries as well. We need a "revival" of prayer for our missionaries. If we teach our children to pray for missionaries now, as they grow up they will develop a love for missions and for Christ. Forty years from now, these children will be our leaders and we will have helped equip them to carry the message forward until He comes again as He promised. I believe that this book, laid out to me in a vision from God, can be a catalyst to do this.

3) What is the story behind the making of the book?

In 2002, a close friend of mine who was serving as a missionary died suddenly. I was asked to speak at his funeral. The evening before I spoke I had a vision - this book. The image was so vivid in my mind that in the morning when I awoke, I sketched it out on a notepad. When I returned home, I laid the entire book out in my desktop publishing program. About ten years later, I was inspired to complete this project. The journey it took and the people God has brought along the way to partner with me to get us all to this point is simply amazing.

4) What are your dreams and goals for this book?

It will be very interesting to me to see what God does with His book that he has entrusted me with to take from inspiration to a tangible book you can hold and read. I believe that every child needs this book. I believe every church needs this book.

5) Describe a situation when you knew, without a question, that God was involved with this book?

Well, the initial vision of the book got my attention immediately as one might expect, but there have been many others along the way. One of the pages in the book makes a point that missionaries can live in the United States and also in other countries. The illustrator took this idea of missionaries living in other countries and drew an image of the Taj Mahal in India. When we surprised Nancy, the wife of Lee (my friend and missionary who died) with a final draft of the book, she told us that they had lived in India for awhile. I did not know this, and certainly Josh, the illustrator did not know this. There was another specific instance in the book similar to this one.

6) The illustrations are amazing. Where did you find the illustrator?

I've known him for about ten years now. At one point, years ago, I was his Sunday School teacher. According to Josh, I first mentioned the book to him about eight years ago and I think I showed him the storyboard I had drawn up. When I started the journey of having the book published, I mentioned it to Josh casually but that was the end of that. A few weeks later, when it was time to get an illustrator involved with the project, the publisher sent me the portfolios of a number of illustrators and I was deciding which one to use. Just before I made my decision, Josh contacted me and told me that one night when he went to bed, he had a vision/thought from God that he needed to check with me to see if I still needed an illustrator for the book.

7) What did you hope to accomplish by putting questions in the back section of the book?

I am an instructional designer by trade. I design and develop training programs at work and have taught adult Sunday School for 30 years. The teacher/trainer in me sees a real opportunity to take this book and provide help that can be used when interacting with a child while reading the book together. There are interactive questions in the back for each page. These can be used in a formal setting in the child's bible study time at home or at church.