Many mission countries have dangerous wild animals, insects and spiders that missionaries don't find in their home lands and Papa New Guinea is no exception.

Most nights my Grandfather would take the big kerosene lantern down to the school so the boys could study, leaving the small lantern at home for my Grandmother and the children. One night, the twin babies were already asleep when she told Beverley it was time for her to go to bed. But on her way to bed Beverley cried out "Mummy mi sanap long wanpela centipede! I stood on a centipede!" Amazingly, it hadn't bitten her, but no matter where they looked, they couldn't find any trace of it. So Beverley prayed for God's protection and went to bed and her Mum went back to the lounge.

Now on a small cupboard in the children's room, Beverley had a Chinese doll with a round base that would rock and sing when it was pushed. All of a sudden, my Grandmother heard the doll sing. She grabbed a torch and rushed to the bedroom and found a huge centipede wrapped around the doll! Quickly, she sent a prayer heavenward, the centipede was so big she knew she wouldn't be able to kill it and Pa wasn't due back for a while yet. And just like that she heard his footsteps on the stairs! "

It took him a couple goes to knock the centipede onto the floor and it tried to disappear under one of the twins' cots. He kicked it out and stomped on it, squashing it with his heavy shoes; then it tried to run under the other cot and he had to kick it out again...

If God had not shut the centipede's mouth, or sent Pa home just in time to kill it, I would never have been born, because Beverley is my Mother and if you fold back the front cover you'll see a picture of how big the centipede was.

Shipwreck

Sabbath

Has anything scary ever happened to you?

Has anything painful ever happened to you?

Have you ever thought you might be die?

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<u>Sunday</u>

Paul had been in jail for more than 2 years when he asked to be sent to Rome.

An officer named Julius was given the job of taking a group of prisoners, including Paul, to Rome and some of Paul's friends also planned to go.



Bad weather made the trip slow and when they finally reached Fair Havens, Paul warned the captain that they should wait there for the winter to avoid

the severe storms that happened at that time of the year.



But when the weather improved the captain decided to sail. Without warning the weather turned bad and a galeforce wind blew the ship off course. For two weeks the storm continued and the sailers struggled to keep the ship afloat.

Then one night an angel visited Paul. The angel told him the ship would sink but the people would be saved. Paul encouraged everyone to eat they hadn't eaten during the storm.



The next morning the ship was wrecked near the island of Malta and everyone was able to swim or float to shore to shore.

The people of the island built a fire on the shore to warm the people who had been shipwrecked. Paul was helping with the fire when a poisonous snake bit him on the hand. The people saw the snake and said to each other, "He must be a murderer, he obviously deserves to die." But Paul just shook off the snake into the fire; the people waited for him to swell up or suddenly drop dead, but nothing happened. Then they changed their minds and decided he must be a god.

Paul healed the father of one of the officials of the island, then all the other sick people on the island came and were healed. When the time came to sail, people supplied them with everything they needed.

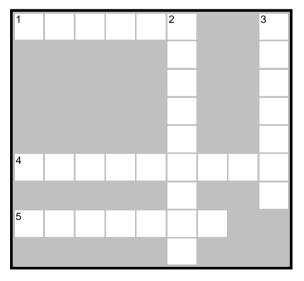
<u>Friday</u>

Ellen G White was a young woman at the time of the Great Disappointment in 1844. She writes, "It was not long after the passing of the time in 1844, that my first vision was given me. I was visiting Mrs. Haines at Portland, a dear sister in Christ, whose heart was knit with mine; five of us, all women, were kneeling quietly at the family altar. While we were praying, the power of God came upon me as I had never felt it before. I seemed to be surrounded with light, and to be rising higher and higher from the earth. I turned to look..." You can read about her first vision in *Life Sketches of Ellen G White Chapter 7* which is available on the internet.

Ellen G White was an important person in the development of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She wrote extensively on education, health and many other topics and played a key role in the creation of church run schools, training institutions, hospitals and missions.

She wasn't perfect, even the prophets in the Bible weren't perfect, but she does fit the tests of a prophet which you looked at on Wednesday.

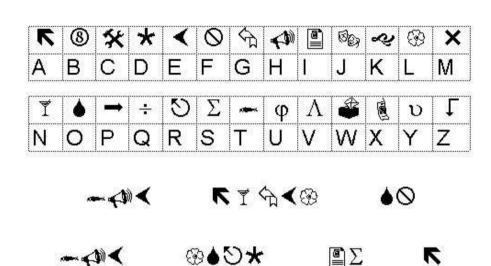
- What was Ellen doing when she received her first vision? (3d)
- What are two topics that Ellen wrote about? 1a, 4a
- What are some things she helped establish? S______
 ______(5a) and H______
 ______(2d)



Thursday

1

So many bad things happened to Paul, but he didn't give up. Use the code to find out what Paul knew. Psalms $34.7_{\mbox{\tiny NLT}}$



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Monday

A prophet is someone who receives messages from God; in this case, Paul received the message that although the ship would sink, no lives would be lost.

There were many prophets throughout the times of the Bible. A few wrote about things that happened in the past, such as Isaiah 14:12-16 where we learn about Lucifer becoming Satan; many prophets had messages for their kings and fellow countrymen. There are more than 300 prophecies in the Old Testament regarding Jesus birth, life, death and resurrection. The books of Daniel and Revelation in particular, contain prophecies about the end of the world.

Prophecy is one of the gifts of the spirit mentioned in Ephesians 4:11 but when Jesus spoke of the signs of the end of the world, He also warned about false prophets in Matthew 24:11. So the question to ask is, "Are there, or have there been any true prophets since Bible times?"

When Peter preached at Pentecost in Acts 2:17 he quoted the prophet Joel saying, "In the last days, God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams."

We call Revelation a book of prophecy; it is filled with images of things to come, and also, like the book of Daniel it contains many strange stories of things that are symbolic of other things such as Revelation $12:17_{KJV}$, talks about an end time people who have "have the testimony of Jesus Christ," and Revelation $19:10_{KJV}$ says, "the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

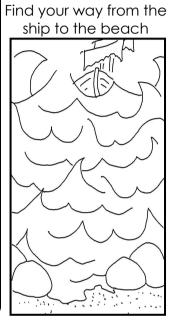
It was the prophet Amos in Amos $3:7_{\rm NLT}$ who said, "Indeed, the Sovereign Lord never does anything until he reveals his plans to his servants the prophets." And so as it seems that as we see the signs from Matthew 24 being fulfilled, we should also find true, modern day prophets.

<u>Tuesday</u>

 \mathcal{A}

Find the words in bold. This is a part from one of Paul's letters.

2 Corinthians 11:24 -27 Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me (Paul) thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was **beaten** with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole **night** and a **day** adrift at sea. I have travelled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danaer in the cities, in the **deserts**, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not. I have worked hard and long, enduring many sleepless nights. I have been hungry and thirsty and have often gone without food. I have **shivered** in the **cold**, without enough clothing to keep me warm.



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Wednesday

How can we know if a prophet is a true prophet or a false prophet? Fit the underlined words into the grid below

- 1. Do they teach what the <u>Bible</u> teaches? The NLT Bible says, "Look to <u>God's instructions and teachings</u>! People who contradict His word are completely in the dark." Isaiah 8:20.
- Would Jesus like what they are doing? Jesus Himself said, "Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves. You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the <u>way they act</u>." Matthew 7:16_{NLT}
- 3. Does what they say come true? Deuteronomy 18:22 says, "If the prophet speaks in the Lord's name but his prediction does not happen or come true, you will know that the Lord did not give that message. That prophet has spoken without my authority and need not be feared." NLT
- 4. Do they love Jesus?

