

Books For Roma Boys

Changed by the Word

Purpose Statement

To bring transformative reading material into the lives of young Roma boys that will re orientate the moral and spiritual compass of the next generation of Roma husbands and fathers.

Mission Statement

We believe the Gospel of Jesus can transform future Roma generations one means being through young boys adventure books that reflect the values of the Gospel.

Compelling Concept

Roma boys by their early teenage years in most cases have set patterns and habits in place that will perpetuate domestic violence, alcoholism and dishonesty in the culture. The use of spiritual role models using the form of young adult boys adventure books is a step towards creating a new Roma culture based on biblical values.

Content Overview

Series Title

The Adventures Of The Drava River Kids – Series of Ten Books (60 pages large font text)

Audience

Roma Boys 9 – 13 years old

Objective

To cover the Ten Commandments as moral concepts in the stories

Context :

- Petar and Jovan are 12 year old boy cousins that live in the same village in northern Serbia on the Croatian, Hungarian border
- They live just a few minutes bike ride from the Drava River
- Their village has 100 families
- Petar lives in a house with 3 rooms, outside toilet, outside water but they have electricity
- Jovan lives in a nice house with 4 rooms, electricity, running water, TV and inside toilet
- Both went to the Una Club and decided to become followers of Jesus
- Both their fathers are in the scrap metal business which they help in
- Petar's father is Djuro Jovan's father is Stefan
- Petar's father, Djuro is an alcoholic
- Jovan's father, Stefan does not drink
- Their fathers are brothers married to two sisters
- Petar's mother is Mirianna Jovan's mother is Jovanka
- Petar has 3 young brothers and one young sister
- Jovan has 2 smaller sisters

- The boys go to a school nearby and can read
- There is a wise man who lives in the village, Mr. Ignac who gives the boys advice about being followers of Jesus.
- There is a gang of four boys a little older who always fighting and persecuting the cousins.
- Each story has a moral to it that is based on one of the Ten Commandments
- The issue of adultery will be dealt with in terms of the strong protecting the weak rather than dealing with sexual content.

Title Outlines and Objectives

- The Mystery of the Missing Fish (Moral concerning Stealing) * Completed
 - The Boxing Gloves (Moral concerning protecting girls and small children) * Completed
 - The Fortune Teller's Dream (Moral concerning No other God's before me)
 - Ten Broken Bottles (Moral concerning honour Mother and Father)
 - Jovan's New Bicycle (Moral concerning not coveting)
 - The Stolen Football (Moral concerning not using God's name as swear word)
 - The Secret of the Ghost in the Forest (Moral concerning murder)
 - The Old Lady and the Graveyard (Moral concerning not worshipping idols)
 - A Boat to the Island on the Sea (Moral concerning keeping the Sabbath)
 - Mystery of the Stolen Mobile Phone (Moral concerning bearing false witness)
- Each of the stories will have major plot and a sub plot that run through the story.
 - Each book will be a stand alone as well as being part of the series.
 - The idea will be to take a theme that is integrated into the various plots which highlight and teach an aspect of the Ten Commandments.
 - Village life will dominate the plots with special focus on the black market sale of scrap metal, women searching in trash cans and the endemic domestic violence and alcoholism that is to be seen and felt everywhere.
 - The Gospel will not take the form of a crisis event around decisions being made but rather act as a backdrop to the Gospel of transformation that grows in the lives of the community.

Distribution

- The books will be part of the UNA Club model and will be used in the clubs.
- The aim is to have these books in 26 countries in Europe where the Roma are present.
- The idea is to also create some kind of Guild for readers and writers to belong to.