

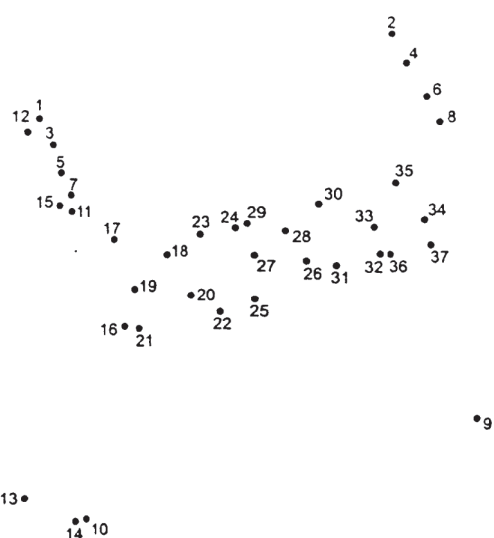
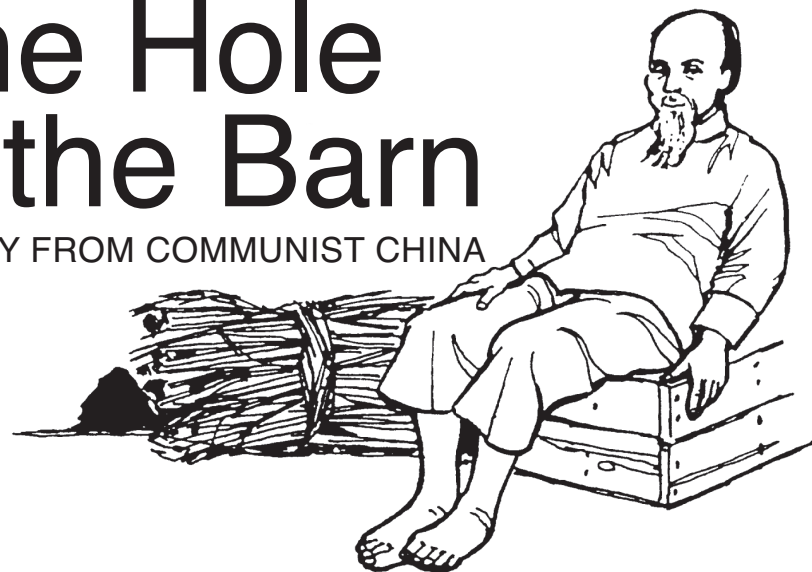
Help us find the countries and capitals of the nations being featured during the International Day of Prayer

P O N E W D E L H I  
 Y L S G B I W A S C  
 O M A L E M V X Q B  
 N E E O M D W A R I  
 G G R G I A C O I N  
 Y V T A S M A R A D  
 A X I B U L Z M A I  
 N O R T H K O R E A  
 G B E X N M P R C Y  
 M N S E V I D L A M

Countries:	Capitals:
North Korea	Pyongyang
India	New Delhi
Maldives	Male
Eritrea	Asmara

# The Hole in the Barn

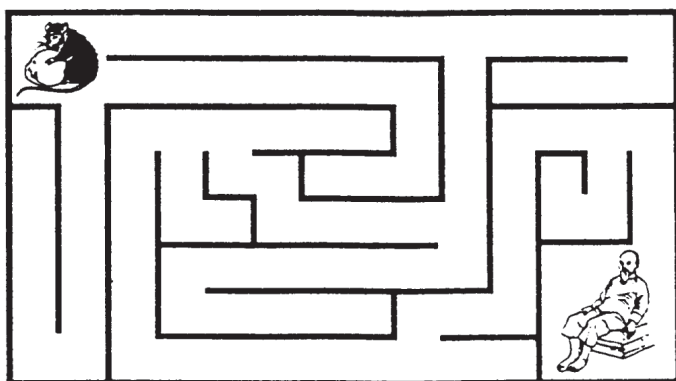
A STORY FROM COMMUNIST CHINA



Connect  
the  
Dots

To find out what persecuted Christians worldwide are hoping to receive.

Connect Dots 1 to 15 first, then do 16 to 37



Help the rat find the Christian man.

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An old man lived in a sprawling village in inland China. He was very poor, the poorest person in the whole village. He couldn't even read. As a child, he'd been forced to leave school because he was so slow in learning how to read.

But the old man knew Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, and he loved Him. Oh, how he loved the Lord Jesus!

The Communist Party took over the government of China. Communists do not believe in Jesus, They persecute, they make life hard for anyone who believes in Jesus.

Because he was the poorest person in the village, the Communists made the old man head of the village. They gave him a big house. They gave him double portions of rice.

The Communists wanted to show the villagers how good they were. But they are not good people, really, because they do not follow God's way.

Since he loved the Lord Jesus so much, the old man used his new home for worship meetings. Christians from all around gathered in his big house to pray and worship God.

The old man shared his food with the hungry believers. Sometimes all he had left for himself was one pumpkin. He would cut it into seven pieces and make it last the week.

When the Communists learned what the old man was doing, they were angry. They did not want people to worship God.

"You must choose between obeying us or God," they ordered.

"I will not disobey my Lord," the old man said simply.

The Communists took away the old man's position as head of the village. They sent him out of the big house. They stopped his rice supply.

So the old man was again the poorest person in the village. He had no home. He had no food. But he still loved the Lord Jesus and believed He would provide for his every need.

A local farmer, who remembered the kindness of the old man, said, "You can stay in my barn." It was small and dark, but it was a roof over his head and shelter from the cold winds and wintry rain.

Now he had a place to live, but still no means of getting food, because all of his friends were very poor, too. As the days passed, the old man grew weak with hunger.

One morning the old man felt a cold draft blowing through the barn. There was a large hole in the wall. He tried to block it with stones but to no avail. He just couldn't stop up that hole.

"It must be the Lord's hole," he thought, and set himself to see what would happen. He sat very still, watching the hole, listening to every sound of early morning.

There was a scuffle outside the hole. Then a shining black nose in the midst of a magnificent pair of whiskers snuffled through the hole, followed by a pair of bright eyes and two pointed ears. A rat! And a very large one at that. The old man held his breath. The rat withdrew his head. But he was back again in a minute, right through the hole this time with something firm and round in his paws. He dragged it into a corner and scampered out again.

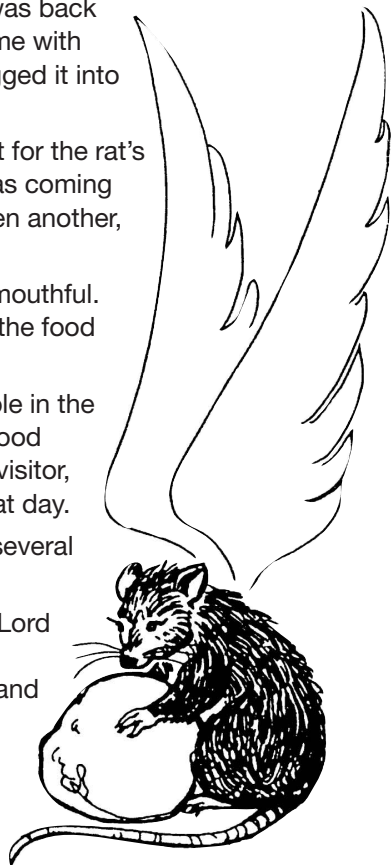
With a trembling hand the old man reached out for the rat's offering... it was a sweet potato! But the rat was coming again... and this time he brought a nut, and then another, and yet another, and more vegetables as well!

The man ate the food slowly, savouring every mouthful. His heart was full of praise to God for sending the food by this strange messenger.

Every morning the rat appeared through the hole in the barn wall. Every morning he brought the man food enough for the day; and if he was expecting a visitor, the rat would bring him a double portion for that day.

In this way the old man was fed every day for several months, until he grew strong again.

He had been faithful in sharing his love for the Lord Jesus. And God was faithful. He did not forget the old man when everything seemed so dark and hopeless, but provided him with the food and shelter he needed.



A TRUE STORY

What Bible incident does this story remind you of?

Look up 1 Kings 17: 1-7

What was the name of the prophet?

Who brought him food?

What did they bring?

When did they bring it?



The old man in China and the prophet in Palestine knew the secret Paul shared with the Philippian. Find it out for yourself.

11	21	6	13	3	20	8	10	10	16	18	14	14	10	21		
4	19	4	15	21	12	4	4	3	13	5	21	13	18	15	16	•••
8	12	2	7	15	8	16	17	9	4	16	18	16	•			
PHILIPPIANS 4:19 RSV																

A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	V	W	Y
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21