

EXCEPTIONAL RICHES

My name is Amal.

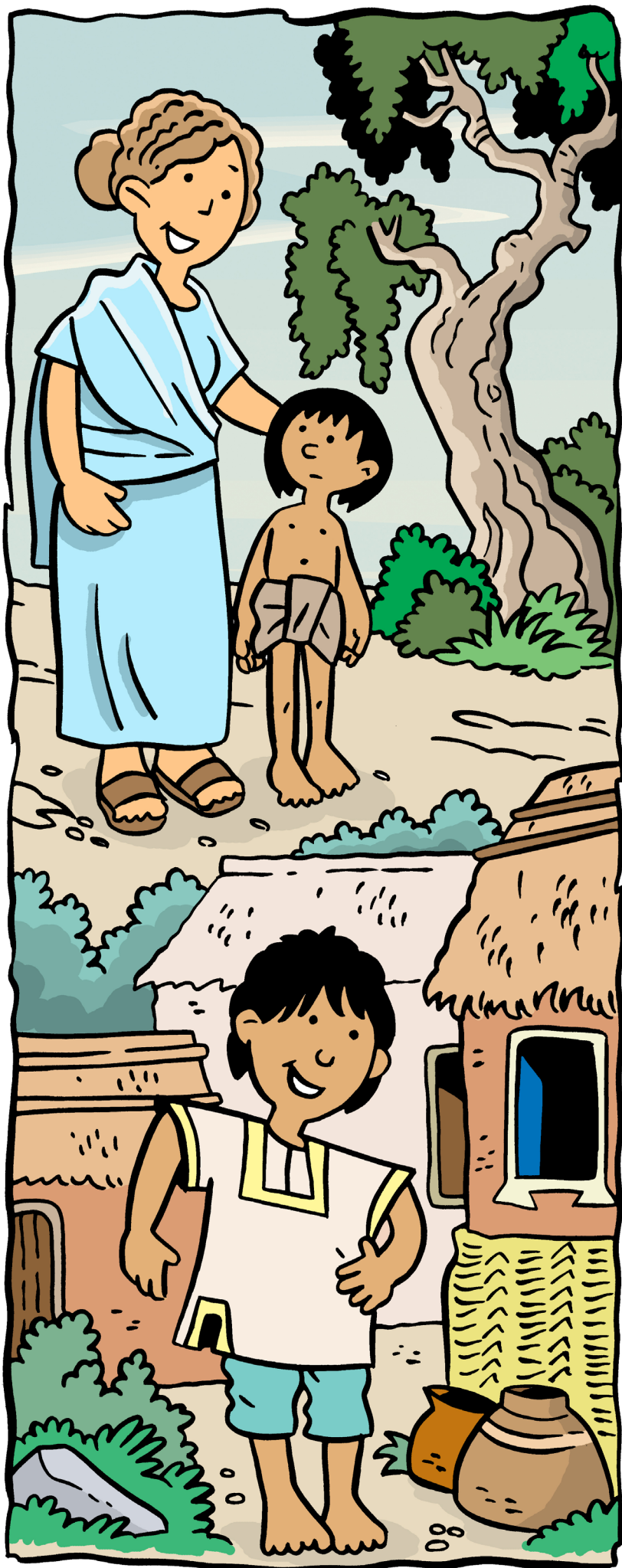
Soon after I was born, I was given away to be a slave. During my first years, I seldom heard kind words or knew what it was like to be loved.

However, that all changed when a missionary woman rescued me and took me to live with her and other missionaries in their orphanage.

At first, because I had been treated poorly before, I was afraid of the missionaries, but they slowly helped me trust them through the care they showed me.

They gave me clothes and food and a place to sleep, and told me how happy they were that I was with them. I had been given clothes and food as a slave too, but the kindness the missionaries showed me was different. When they gave me my clothes, they smiled. When they served me food, they would often sit down and eat next to me.

There were even toys to play with—bats and balls, and horses and wagons carved out of wood. I had never had toys before.



I was given a place to sit at a desk in the school, where the missionaries taught me to read and write.

The missionaries were very polite and kind to me. When they wanted me to do something they would say “please,” and they would often thank me for my help.

It wasn't long before I trusted the missionaries, and soon grew to love them. The first time one of them hugged me is still very fresh in my memory. I had never experienced such love before, and I knew then that I wanted to always have that warmth in my life.

I became a very wealthy boy. I don't mean I was rich with lots of toys and nice things. I actually only had simple toys and clothing. I ate well, but because there were so many of us in the orphanage, we ate simple meals.

However, we were well off in the most important ways. We were rich in love and respect. And best of all, we were taught the source of that love—Jesus and God's Word!

S&S link: Christian Life and Faith: Witnessing and Missionary Training: Missionary life-1a

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