

MISSIONARY STORIES

REAL STORIES ABOUT SPREADING GOD'S WORD

The Guard Who Had a Dream!

THIS STORY IS ABOUT: GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

BIG IDEA

Nothing can stop God's work! When His people prayed, God even spoke to a guard in a dream to open the way.

THE STORY

A missionary named Mark Starin was on an important trip. He was carrying books and supplies to help with God's work in the Middle East.

But to get where he was going, he had to cross a tricky border.

At the border stood a guard, and he was not happy at all. He frowned and shook his head. 'No!' he said. 'You may not pass.' He warned that he might take all their things away.

Mark and his team could have been very worried. Instead, they bowed their heads and prayed quietly. 'Lord Jesus,' they whispered, 'please make a way for us.'

They waited. And they waited. And they kept right on trusting God to help them.



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THE STORY CONTINUES

After a while, the very same guard came back. But something was different about him. His angry frown was gone, and now he was smiling and friendly!

'Come on through,' the guard said kindly. He didn't just let them pass.

He actually helped them with their papers and even said, 'I hope your trip goes well!'

Mark and his team could hardly believe it. What had changed the guard's heart so quickly?

Later, they found out the wonderful secret. The night before, the guard had a dream! In the dream, he was warned not to get in the way of God's work.

God had spoken to that guard while he slept, and the guard listened.

That is why he changed his mind!

From then on, crossing that border became easy. Mark and his team knew exactly what had happened. God had answered their prayer in a way only He could!





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DID YOU KNOW?

- Mark Starin was a real missionary who served in the Middle East for many years.
- He wrote about his adventures in a real book called '40 Years of the Miraculous in the Middle East.'
- God spoke to the border guard in a dream the night before, warning him not to hinder God's work.
- After that day, crossing the border became much easier for the team's future trips!

MEMORY VERSE

“The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.” Proverbs 21:1

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why did the border guard say no at first?

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LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- 2 What did Mark and his team do while they waited at the border?

- 3 What did God use to change the guard's heart overnight?

- 4 The team trusted God even when things looked hard. When is a time you need to trust God this week?

- 5 How does it make you feel to know God can change anyone's heart, even someone who seems unfriendly?

LET'S PRAY

Dear Jesus, thank You that nothing can stop Your work. Thank You that You can change any heart and open any door. Help me to pray and trust You, even when things look hard. In Your name I pray, Amen.

TRY THIS!

Set up a pretend border crossing with a chair or a line of tape. Take turns being a 'friendly guard' who lets people through. As you play, talk about how God can change hearts. Then draw two pictures of the guard: one frowning, and one smiling after his dream!

