Did you know?

Kiribati is an island country in the Pacific Ocean, and it sits right on the equator! Kiribati is made up of 33 coral atolls (an atoll is a ring-shaped reef, island or group of small islands called islets). It’s about halfway between Hawaii and Australia, if you want to look it up on a world map and see where it is for yourself.

Around 90 percent of the people living in Kiribati are Christian. That’s pretty awesome! The Bible was first translated into Kiribati, the main language of the islands, back in 1893. That’s over 100 years ago! In the 1940s, a reverend named Kaitara Metai was working to make sure the translation was still understandable for the people. But then the islands were invaded by the Japanese during World War II, and he was worried that the Bible would be lost or destroyed. So he buried it in a wooden box in the sand to keep it safe during the war.

Two years later, Metai came back and dug up the box so he could work on it some more! To him, the Bible was a treasure — so digging up the box was like digging up the greatest treasure ever!

Let’s pray!

Dear Jesus,

Thank you that all three languages in Kiribati have the whole Bible! This country may be small, but you love each person and the language they speak. Thank you that so many people in Kiribati already know and love you. Help them to learn more about you every day and to share what they’ve learned with others too. And help us to remember that the Bible is the greatest treasure ever! We love you, Jesus!