

MisSion CriTikal

#9 – The Glob Gospel

It was the center of commotion that day in the little sheet metal shack Kustin village. The children and some teenagers too, were all grouped around something happening on the ground. It sounded a little like some hammering being done. Most of the smaller children couldn't see Lyla kneeling on the ground with a softball sized stone in her hand. Her other hand held a metal bracket being used as a chisel. But what was it? It looked like a worthless glob of something.

As the glob slowly became smaller pieces, a couple children lined up the smaller pieces in a row to be examined more closely. One of the other teens would occasionally pick up a glob piece and inspect it like you've seen rock archeologists looking for clues of the specimen's purpose and value.

The glob and its pieces were made out of something waxy, like a bunch of wax candles that had all melted together. The children kept asking each other, what it was, was it good for anything, and what Lyla would try to use it for. One of the teens noticed Lyla was breaking the glob into pieces according to their color, as best as she could.

Another teen's inspection revealed the glob had nothing to do with candles because there were no pieces of string mixed in the glob. Candles use string for a wick that holds the flame. No string; no wick; definitely not candles. So the questions continued.

Like a news bulletin on a radio, Lyla spoke to the whole group of youth, "Ya see the tent mission up there on the hill? Well you show up this Sunday a little after noon outside the tent and I'll show you what this glob is for. Ya all gonna come? I'll tell you a story about the glob – this glob. But you'll have to behave – no horseplay! OK?"

Every day until Sunday, the village children would group together and try to figure what the glob was for and what Lyla's story would be like.

Lyla explained to Lenny and Dae about the glob and what her Sunday plans were.

When the children began showing up Sunday afternoon, a

couple older teens were assigned to stand by the ropes and stakes to prevent any children running into them and being hurt. Outside the tent was a boxed in area with branches the same way that the mission had started. The children were all ushered to the boxed in area and told to face toward the tent. The boxed in area quickly became known as Lyla's Story Spot. Can you believe the Story Spot had to be enlarged the next Sunday? Sure did. And that wasn't the only time.

On the side of the tent where the roof meets the wall pieces, Lenny and Dae fixed some ragged pieces of cardboard that would soon tell a story to excited children with hungry hearts.

With all the concentration and quiet of someone defusing a live bomb, all the children watched Lyla as she began her story as she used the glob colors like crayons to draw on the cardboard.

She started with a dark black color and drew a ragged circle near the bottom edge of one of the cardboard pieces. The piece fell, but was quickly put back in place. As the story moved on, most of the children clapped, thankful that Lyla's story would continue. She explained the black was people's sin. To God, sin is blackish and ugly – it's things children and grownups do that displease Him – that make Him sad. (though Isaiah says sin is red like crimson.)

Above the black sin, Lyla drew some raindrops and explained that God was going to wash away the black sin. It would cause people to die, because the sinful people said they didn't love God. Next to the black sin, Lyla drew a boat with the brown glob piece. Peeking over the side of the boat she drew a stick man and some animal faces.

Using some red glob, Lyla drew some red lines down the side of the boat, below one of the animals. The red represented the shed blood of the sinless animal that washed away the black sin of those people who told God they loved and trusted Him.

The story that day ended with the drawing of a rainbow and God's promise it represented. What amazing things a Glob from God can do in the hands and hearts of serving saints. Try it!