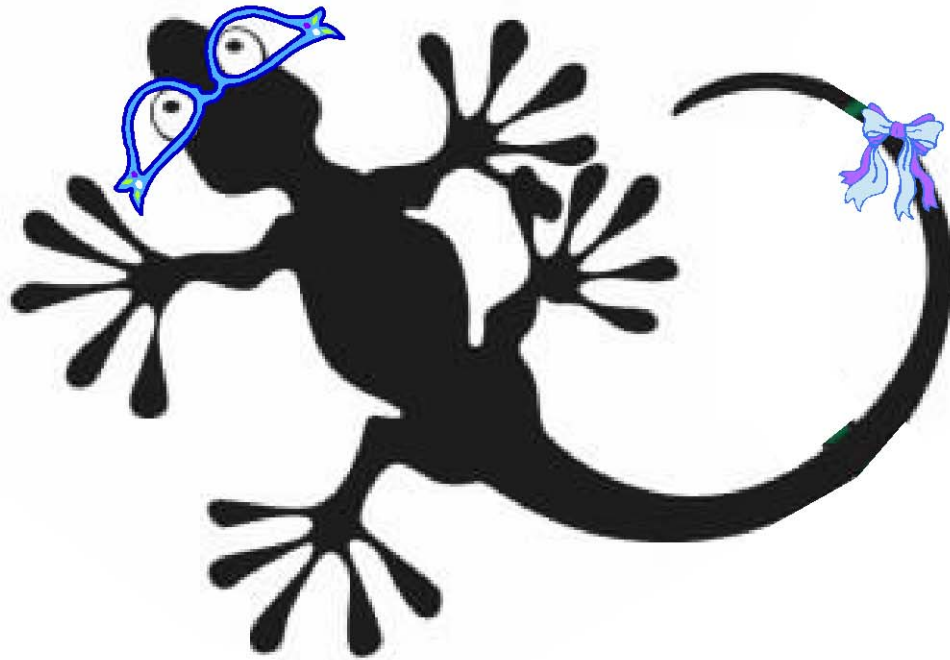


Gertie the Goofy Gecko

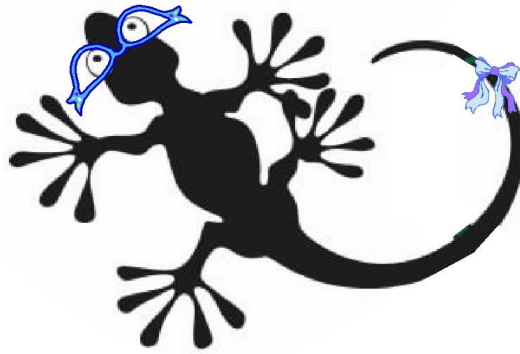


Lessons from a Lizard

Aunt Sharon

Gertie the Goofy Gecko

Lessons from a Lizard



Getting to Know Gertie

Gertie is a lizard that lives in Mexico.

Her coloring is a creamish brown.

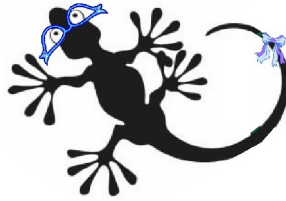
She sings with a clicky sound.

She likes to eat bugs.

She leaves her “tracks” all around.

She lays eggs from which her babies hatch.

Gertie the Goofy Gecko



Gertie Helps the Missionary

This may really sound “goofy”, but Gertie really does help the missionary! Do you know how Gertie helps the missionary? She eats bugs! Do you like bugs in your house? The missionary doesn’t like bugs in the house either.

Gertie roams around in and out of the house looking for bugs. When she finds one, “zap” goes her long tongue and it is “adios” bug! But Gertie also has an enemy. She has to watch out for cats, because cats like to play with and torment geckos.

The missionary likes Gertie, because she helps control the bugs in the house. Thank you, Gertie!

Have you ever helped a missionary? How have you helped a missionary? Would you like to help a missionary? What is a missionary? How can you help a missionary?

Missionaries need prayer. What is prayer? Does prayer help the missionary? Yes, it certainly does, because God hears and answers prayers. Missionaries need lots of prayer. They need you to pray that God will protect them. You could pray that God would supply the things they need. Pray that God will bless what they are doing for Him.

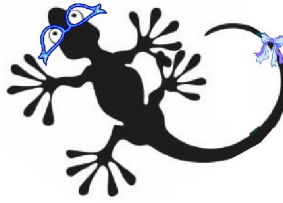
Missionaries need offerings so they can go to other countries and live there. They need offerings so they can purchase (buy) things that are needed to tell the people about Jesus. God supplies their needs through the offerings of God’s people in the churches.

Missionaries need help from other people who will go with them to the country where they are ministering for Jesus. Would you be willing to be a missionary and go to another country to tell people about Jesus?

Gertie helps the missionaries. Would you like to help a missionary? You can pray, You can give and you can go be a missionary.

Philippians 4:13-19 - Mark 16:15

Gertie the Goofy Gecko



GERTIE LIKES TO HIDE

Do you like to hide? It is fun to play “Hide and Seek”. Gertie likes to hide so no one can see her. She knows that if a cat or a person can see her, they might try to harm her. She is afraid of people and cats.

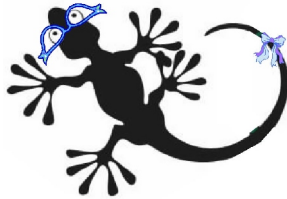
When the missionary goes into the room where Gertie is, Gertie sits very still. She thinks that because she is almost the same color as the walls, that no one can see her. This is called “camouflage”. When you are the same color as the things around you it is harder to be seen. But when Gertie moves, then she can be seen. Movement is more easily seen than sitting still.

Sometimes people think they can hide from God. They think they can hide in the world. Do you think you can hide from God? No, God can see everything and God knows everything! We don’t need to hide from God. God doesn’t want to hurt us. He loves us. He wants to help us.

God wants us to be moving. He wants us to work for Him. What does He want us to do for Him? He wants us to help other people. How can we help other people? We can tell them about Jesus. We can love and help them do things. How can you help God? How can you help someone? God likes to see us moving and helping. (Ephesians 2:10; James 1:22)

Gertie has to move in order to find food and water. She can’t hide all the time. We shouldn’t hide from God. We should be moving and helping.

Gertie the Goofy Gecko



GERTIE LIKES TO SING

If you visited the missionaries and stayed all night at their house, you might hear a goofy clicking sound. That's Gertie singing! Gertie likes to sing. She sings to communicate (talk to) other geckos.

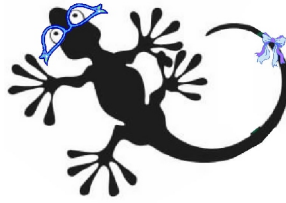
Do you like to sing. I hope so. God wants us to sing. (Colossians 3:16) When we sing, we sing praises to God. He likes that. Some songs that we sing are to tell people what Jesus has done for us. Sometimes we sing Bible verses. Can you name some of the songs we sing?

Do you sing at home, too? When we sing at home, or at play, or wherever we are, we are telling others about God. God wants us to tell others about Him.

You can make up songs, too! Would you like to write a song? What would you like to say in your song? It's fun to write songs. Try it, you will like it!

Listen for Gertie to sing! Then you sing, too! I hope you like to sing as much as Gertie does! God wants us to sing!

Gertie the Goofy Gecko



GERTIE TAKES A TRIP

Do you like to take trips? What trips have you taken? Missionaries take a lot of trips. Lizards don't usually take very long trips. They usually stay in the same house all their lives. But Gertie.....Gertie is different!

What do you take on trips? A suitcase....That's right! What do you put in your suitcase? Clothes, etc. Toothbrush? I hope so! But did you ever take a Lizard on a trip?

One day the missionaries were getting ready to come back to the United States and visit some churches. They left their suitcase open on the bed while they were packing. Gertie got a little curious and guess what happened?

When the missionaries got to the U.S.A., they opened their suitcases and guess who scurried out. You guessed it! Gertie!

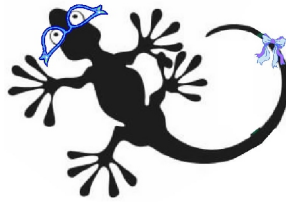
Jesus made a special trip one day. One day he left Heaven and came to Earth. He came as a baby, but he grew up, and one day, He died on the cross for our sins. If we believe that He died for our sins, was buried and rose again from the dead and ask Him to save us, He will do just that. Then one day we can make a trip from Earth to Heaven to live with Him. Have you asked Him so save you from your sins? If not, you can do it right now! Would you like to?

Missionaries go to other countries to tell other people that Jesus loves them and wants them to be saved too. They have to travel a lot, to a lot of places. You could travel a lot and tell people about Jesus too! Would you like to do that? I hope so.

Gertie was goofy for crawling into that suitcase, but she did help us teach this lesson! We learned another lesson from Gertie, the goofy lizard!

Matthew 28:18-20

Gertie the Goofy Gecko



GERTIE DOES THE IMPOSSIBLE

Have you ever wanted to walk up the wall or walk on the ceiling? For us that is impossible. But, Gertie can! In fact, most of the time I see Gertie, she is climbing up a wall. Gertie doesn't fall because God gave her special feet. There are little things on her feet that make her be able to stick on the wall.

God can do anything, even the impossible. He made the earth and everything in it. (John 1:1-3) God can help us do things that seem impossible, too. He can help us do great things for Him.

If we love Him and obey Him; If we read His Word and pray; If we believe Him, we can do great things for God. He wants to do great things with us, but we have to put Him first in our lives. One great man of God said: "Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God."

Gertie does what seems impossible to us, because God made her so she can do it. God can help us do the impossible, too. Would you like to do great things for God? I hope so. Another great man of God said: "The world has yet to see what God can do with a man completely surrendered to Him." Will you be that person?

Who is Aunt Sharon?



Larry and Sharon Lilly have been missionaries to Mexico since 1970. Sharon felt as a little girl that she would some day be a missionary. She married Larry after finishing Bible College. Later God called Larry to be a missionary and they surrendered to go to the country of Mexico.

They published a magazine for Christian teachers in Spanish (El Maestro Cristiano) for many years. While writing stories for the magazine, Sharon became “Tía Sara” or Aunt Sharon. Although now, she is thinking of being called “Grandma Sharon”!

We hope that these stories will not only lead children to Jesus Christ, but will also teach many things that will help them to grow as Christians. We hope that some will give their lives to Jesus to serve Him in full-time service and that many will surrender their lives to serve God on the mission field.

Another goal for these stories is to keep missions and missionaries in the minds and hearts of those who hear them. They can be used as stories in themselves, as an introduction for a lesson, or as a series of stories in the opening exercises of Sunday School or Vacation Bible School.

You can also visit us on the WEB at www.lillymx.com . You will find links there for these stories soon.

May God bless the use of these stories. And remember to pray for the Lilly family and the Baptist Bible College of Cd. Mante, Tamaulipas, Mexico.