

## Around the World With Billy Graham

*"I am convinced, through my travels and experiences, that  
people all over the world are hungry to hear the Word of God."*

—Billy Graham

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Billy Graham and his wife, Ruth, are welcomed after arriving at the airport in Seoul, South Korea, in May 1973.

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**GRADE LEVEL**

K-2<sup>nd</sup>

*"I have walked down jungle trails in Africa where I met fellow Christians; and immediately we were brothers even though we were separated by language, race, and culture."  
—Billy Graham*

**OBJECTIVES**

Students will be able to:

- Identify two or three of the countries visited by Billy Graham.
- Describe at least one of the cities where he preached.
- Identify some of the obstacles created by working and preaching in a foreign country.

**Pre-Visit Activities**

- Read and review the attached information with students, and discuss the following questions about two of the cities listed:
  - What continent is the city located on? Does it border an ocean or a river?
  - What kind of environment is the city located in?
  - What language do the people speak in this city? Would Billy Graham have needed a translator when preaching there?
  - What did Billy Graham do in each city?

**NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD COURSE OF STUDY**

- **K.SI.1** Classify useful sources of information.
- **K.RP.1** Understand the importance of good questions in conducting research.
- **1.SI.1** Recall useful sources of information.
- **2.IN.1** Understand appropriate procedures when reading for enjoyment and information.
- **K.C.1** Understand how individuals are similar and different.
- **1.G.1** Use geographic representations, terms, and technologies to process information from a spatial perspective.
- **1.C.1** Understand the diversity of people in the local community.
- **2.H.1** Understand how various sources provide information about the past.
- **2.G.1** Use geographic representations, terms, and technology to process information from a spatial perspective.

**Visit to the Library**

- Students will walk through *The Journey of Faith* tour with an assigned guide. Questions and themes to consider include:
  - Do you notice any items specifically related to Billy Graham's travels? If so, what are they?
  - What items do you notice that are from a particular city or Crusade?
  - Do you notice any items that have text in a foreign language? What are those items?

**Post-Visit Activities**

- Help students research one of the six cities highlighted in the next section in more detail and, as a class, create a profile sheet of that city. Include its weather, language(s), major religion(s), etc., either in a drawing or text. Ask students to consider how these factors might have affected Billy Graham and the Crusade. (For example: *The rain, sleet, and snow in London made the Crusade team worry that no one would come to the meetings.*)
- Ask students to imagine they have a pen pal in one of the six cities highlighted. Their pen pals attended the Billy Graham Crusade. What questions would they like to ask their pen pals about the Crusade?

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**NORTH CAROLINA  
STANDARD COURSE  
OF STUDY (cont.)**

- **2.C.1** Understand how various cultures influence communities.

**NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
HISTORY IN THE SCHOOLS**

- **Historical Thinking**  
**Standard 5:** Identify issues and problems in the past and analyze the interests, values, perspectives, and points of view of those involved in the situation.

**NATIONAL COUNCIL  
FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
GEOGRAPHY STANDARDS**

- **NSS-G.K-12.1 The World in Spatial Terms:**
  - As a result of activities in grades K–12, all students should understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.
  - Understand how to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context.
- **NSS-G.K-12.2 Places and Regions:**
  - As a result of activities in grades K–12, all students should understand how culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions.
- **NSS-G.K-12.6 The Uses of Geography:**
  - As a result of activities in grades K–12, all students should understand how to apply geography to interpret the past.

“Ask God to help you see the world the way He sees it.”

—Billy Graham

## Pre-Visit Reading: Overview

Billy Graham was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, but he didn't stay there long. During his life, he traveled to over 185 countries and territories across the globe and to all 50 states in the U.S. Along the way, he preached the Good News of Jesus Christ to more than 215 million people face to face. That's more than anyone else in history.

Here's a closer look at six of the cities and countries Billy Graham visited:



NOTES



Billy Graham greets congregants at the Church of the Resurrection in Durban, South Africa, on March 18, 1973.

- **London, England:** In 1952, two British Christian leaders invited Billy Graham to have Crusade services in London. Two years later, Graham and his wife, Ruth, boarded the passenger ship *SS United States* and headed across the Atlantic Ocean to England. Thousands of Christians all over the world prayed for that Crusade. It turned out to be the biggest evangelism event in England during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Britain's main news source—BBC Radio—even broadcast some of the Crusade's sermons across England.
- **Seoul, South Korea:** In 1973, Billy Graham traveled to the capital city of South Korea, called Seoul. During the closing service of the Crusade, Graham preached to more than 1 million people face to face. That was the largest live audience he ever addressed! Billy Kim, the interpreter who translated Graham's sermons from English to Korean, later became one of the country's most popular preachers.
- **Johannesburg, South Africa:** The same year that he held the South Korea Crusade, Billy Graham accepted an invitation to preach in South Africa. The country had strict laws called apartheid. These laws made black people and white people sit apart from each other during public meetings. But Billy Graham insisted that he be allowed to preach to mixed audiences of all races—and the government let him! The services featured traditional African music, including performances from a Zulu quartet. At one meeting, 60,000 people came to hear the Gospel from Graham.

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- **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil:** In 1974, Billy Graham traveled to Brazil for a five-day Crusade in the city of Rio de Janeiro. The last meeting had 225,000 people attend. That's the largest crowd ever to come to an evangelistic service in the Western Hemisphere. Brazil's president ordered that the last meeting be broadcast on all TV networks across the country, and 50 million people reportedly watched it.
- **Sydney, Australia:** Billy Graham visited Australia for the first time in 1959. He spent almost six months preaching there and in its neighboring country New Zealand. By the end of his stay, nearly half of Australia's population had heard Graham preach. They heard him either in person or by live broadcasts, which carried the Gospel message across the country. "There are generations of Australians who follow Christ now because of Billy Graham," explains Peter Furler, the former lead singer of the popular Christian band Newsboys.
- **Madras (Chennai), India:** In January 1956, Billy Graham took a six-city tour of India. The city of Madras, also called Chennai, was his second stop. Madras was jammed with people who had traveled long distances to attend the Crusade. A lot of people had even ridden the train for days to get there. Many travelers couldn't find a regular place to stay. Hundreds of them slept in the streets and then camped at the Crusade meeting site all day. During the Crusade, Graham explained to his listeners that Christianity had been in India long before America was even discovered.