

Table Talk Mexico

Alphabet Soup

Use each letter in the soup illustration to fill in the words below that relate to the country of Mexico. Each letter can only be used once. An answer key, along with printables, are available at: vomcanada.com/TableTalkMexico.



WORDS:

_u_ito T_ma_o

P_ra_id _ot_e_pe_s

_l_anoes _stiva_s

G_a_amol_ R_nfo_e_ts

Go_d_n Ea_e R_o_rande

Did You Know?
Sopa Azteca is a traditional soup that is made in many areas of Mexico. It consists of tomatoes, chicken, chickpeas, onions and love.

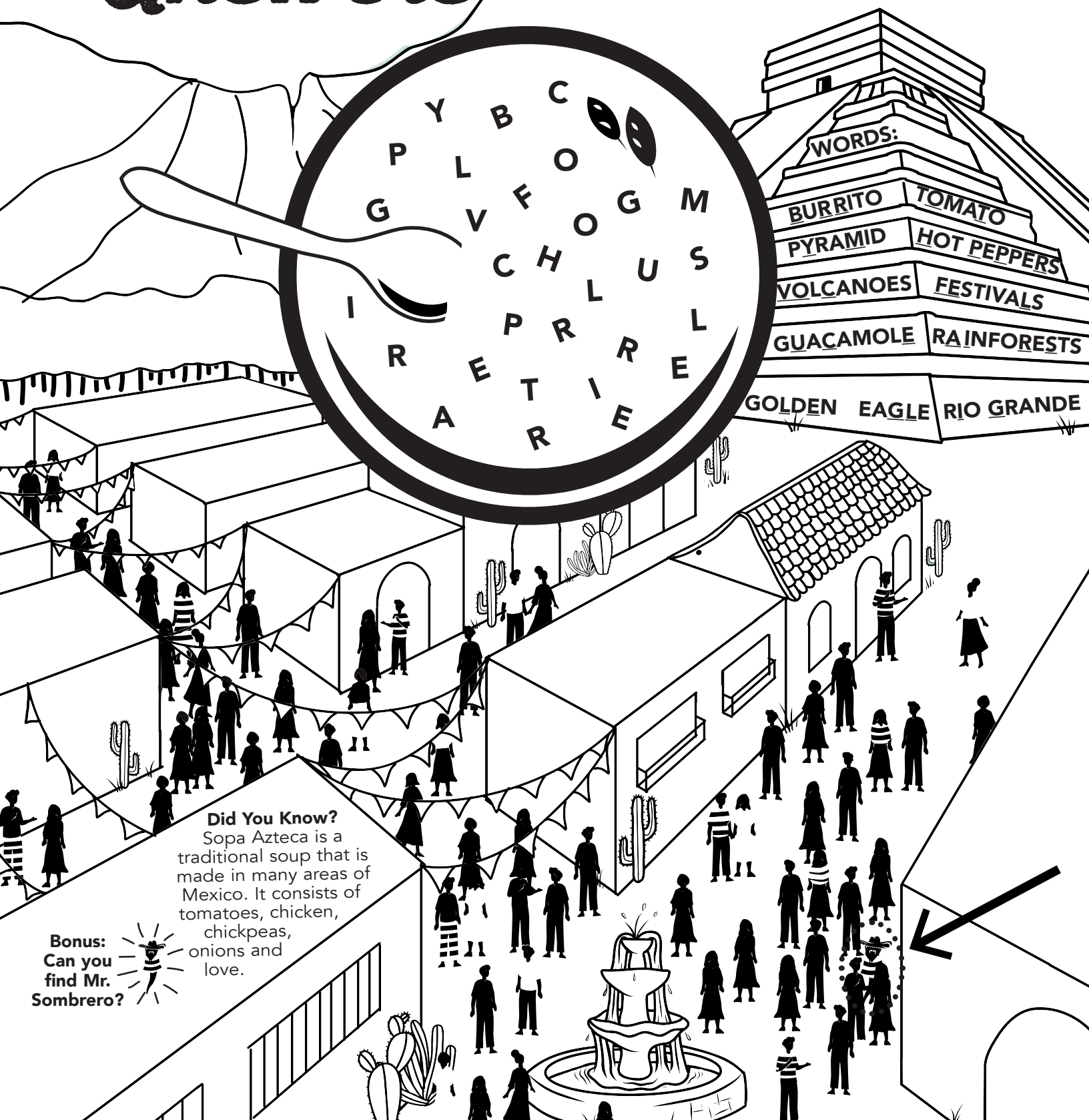
Bonus:
Can you find Mr. Sombrero?



Table Talk Mexico Answers

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WORDS:

BURRITO

TOMATO

PYRAMID

HOT PEPPERS

VOLCANOES

FESTIVALS

GUACAMOLE

RAINFORESTS

GOLDEN

EAGLE

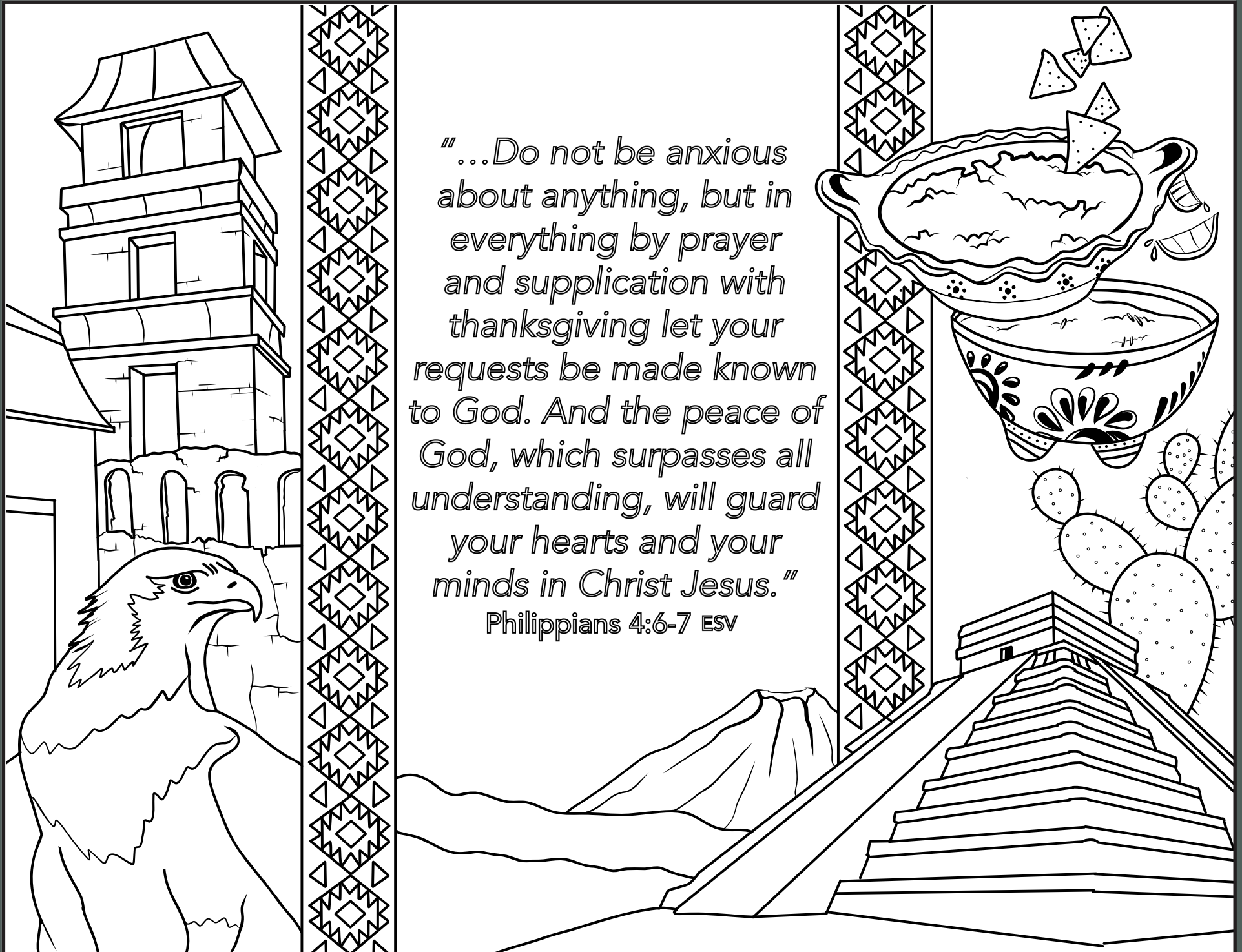
RIO GRANDE

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Start with Your Heart



"...Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7 ESV

July 2024

His Way "...Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 ESV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	PAKISTAN Pray for an evangelism team that was harassed after conducting an outreach in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region.	UGANDA Pray that militant Islamists who are persecuting Christians will discover the reality of Christ and turn to Him.	SOUTHERN MEXICO Pray for God's favour on displaced families that are returning to their villages to preach the Gospel.	NORTH KOREA Pray for Dylan Kim's father who is currently imprisoned in North Korea because of his missionary work.	INDIA Pray for new Christians facing pressure from their family members to return to Hinduism.	TÜRKIYE (TURKEY) Praise God for Nurettin who placed his faith in Christ soon after receiving a Bible!
NIGERIA Pray for the safe return of Christians who have been abducted by Islamic terrorists.	BRUNEI Pray that evangelists, who risk hefty fines and/or imprisonment for sharing the Gospel, will reach more people.	LIBYA Pray that the country's political insecurity will cause Libyans to seek the stability found only in Christ (Isaiah 33:6).	PHILIPPINES Pray that several new Christians on the predominantly Muslim island of Mindanao will stand firm amid persecution.	NEPAL Pray that anti-conversion laws and other restrictions will not silence Christians nor hamper their ministry work.	MOROCCO Pray that Christians who have been imprisoned for sharing their faith will continue to be bold witnesses behind bars.	ISRAEL (INCLUDING WEST BANK & GAZA) Pray for Christian converts from Islam who face persecution from members of their families and communities.
LEBANON Praise God that children like Betul are experiencing His love through a youth program!	IRAN Pray that Iranians suffering from drug addictions will find hope and deliverance in Jesus Christ.	AFGHANISTAN Praise God for those in the Hazara people group who have come to know the Lord!	CHINA Pray for strength on behalf of imprisoned Chinese Christians, such as Wang Yi, Li Juncui and Zhang Shaojie.	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pray that in the midst of the civil war, which is causing mass displacement, many will turn to Christ.	MOZAMBIQUE Pray for Christians who have fled attacks by militant Islamists and are concerned about the welfare of their family members.	BANGLADESH Pray that Christians in rural areas, including former Muslims, will have access to God's Word.
TUNISIA Pray for new Christians who are persecuted by their family members for leaving Islam.	BURKINA FASO Pray that attacks from terrorist groups like al-Qaida and the self-proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS) will cease.	KAZAKHSTAN Pray for Christians who have lost jobs and educational opportunities because of their faith.	EGYPT Pray for the continued success of Bible distribution efforts.	MYANMAR (BURMA) Pray for Christians and other innocent civilians who are caught in the crossfire of the ongoing civil war.	DR CONGO Pray that God will minister His provision and comfort to the children of two local missionaries who were martyred.	MAURITANIA Pray for the courage and wisdom of underground church leaders in their approach to outreach efforts.
DJIBOUTI Pray that Christians who have left Islam will stand firm when encountering persecution from their family members.	AZERBAIJAN Pray that churches will be able to register legally with the government to avoid harassment and fines.	KENYA Pray for the protection of believers and their church buildings in areas where Christianity is a minority.	BAHRAIN Pray for unlimited print and digital access to God's Word.			



More about Mexico!



One Way

Christo-paganism, the predominant religion practised in Mexico, is a blend of paganism with the rituals of Catholicism. Christo-pagans may identify themselves as witches, druids or, using the most commonly referenced term, "animists."

Animism is an ancient religion in which a person believes that created things – from trees and mountains to animals and humans – each consist of a godlike spirit. Endeavouring to appease these spirits often generates fear, driving communities in the participation of rituals and sacrifices to elicit ancestral intervention. One example of this is an annual festival called, "The Day of the Dead."

There are key differences between Christianity and animism. First, while animists believe that spirits reside in objects and living things, Christians believe in one God who commands we worship Him alone (Exodus 20:3). Second, serving God is not motivated by fear based on the need to appease Him or earn our salvation through good works and rituals (Ephesians 2:8-9). Rather, Christians are free to live peacefully with the assurance that God's love is unconditional and everlasting (Romans 5:1).

Way Out

There is a significant need for the truth of God's Word in remote communities of Mexico. VOMC partners with Galcom International to distribute audio Bibles in the recipients' native languages, specifically those residing in the unreached communities and jails of Ometepe, a southwestern city of Mexico. To learn more about VOMC's international projects, please visit www.vomcanada.com.

Weigh In

1. Mexican cuisine is well-known throughout the world. However, traditional Mexican food differs significantly from that which is marketed in Canada.

Research a traditional Mexican recipe and then prepare it. A great place to find a good recipe is through the website, www.travelfoodatlas.com/mexican-food, which offers numerous authentic dishes from Mexico. Afterwards, compare how it tastes to the other Mexican foods you've tried before. Which meal did you like better?

2. There are 77 volcanoes spanning the landscape of Mexico. Many of the active, dangerous volcanoes are in close proximity to heavily populated cities.

With eruptions happening frequently, living in an area close to an active volcano can be hazardous. Even if lava doesn't affect an area, volcanic ash and smoke can be devastating. Why do you think people continue living in these areas despite the potential risks?

3. Evangelists, pastors and missionaries commonly travel for several hours, or even days, in their efforts to reach small rural communities. Often, these trips include long stretches of journey in hot, uncomfortable run-down buses.

Imagine yourself riding in an uncomfortable bus while travelling among the Mexican mountains. What do you see and how do you feel? Can you endure another day of such travel? What would make this risky trip worth it? Would your answer be the same as the Christian evangelists working in this country?

4. People in Mexico celebrate numerous festivals throughout the year. Since these festivals involve heavy alcohol consumption and immoral pagan rituals, Christians refuse to participate or pay the required tax to support these festivities. Their refusal frequently results in persecution.

What's your opinion? Should Mexican Christians pay the festival tax to keep the peace in their communities? Or should they take a stand against it and consequently face persecution? Can you think of a Canadian parade or festival where Christians are pressured to conform to unbiblical social standards?

Recommended Reads:

- *Off We Go to Mexico* by Laurie Krebs and Christopher Corr. (Early Readers)
- *Let's Learn About Mexico: Activity and Coloring Book* by Yuko Green. (Ages 6-10)
- *Christian Heroes: Then & Now – Cameron Townsend, Good News In Every Language* by Janet Bengé and Geoff Bengé.

Sources:

- <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/getting-around-mexico>
- <https://www.volcanodiscovery.com/mexico.html>
- <https://travelfoodatlas.com/mexican-food>
- <https://anthropologyreview.org/anthropology-glossary-of-terms/animism>