

## Teaching Guide -The Xibe People

### Instructions for Leaders or Teachers

- Study all the material yourself before sharing it with others.
- Introduce the people group to the children.
- Listen to the audio information that describes the people group.
- Listen to any additional information provided.
- Do these things in the order listed. Some points can be skipped over if not usable.
- Use a map of globe to locate the area where the people group lives.
- Have children do map work that is age appropriate.
- Talk about the location of the Xibe people group in relation to the equator.
- Ask “Do the Xibe people live close to the equator?” If the answer is “Yes”, this indicates a hot/tropical climate.
- Ask, “Do the Xibe people live in a mountain area?” If the answer is “Yes”, this will indicate a colder/cooler climate.
- Have the children name the countries surrounding the country where the Xibe people group live.
- Look at the map included and see if the country has any access to an ocean or a river which would allow transport of goods.
- Talk about the ways the Xibe people group provide for basic human needs:
  - Food
  - Clothing
  - Shelter
  - Human relationships
  - Compare the answers with the way your own people provide these needs.
    - Are these customs of the Xibe people different from the way you live?
    - Talk about the importance of color and the meaning of color.
    - Talk about festivals and music.

- Talk about the animals that live in this country where the Xibe people live. Are the animals helpful to the people? Are the animals a danger to the people?
- What are the main spiritual beliefs of the Xibe people?
  - Have any of these people placed their faith in Jesus Christ?
    - Is there a church where these people may gather together to worship and study?
    - Do any Christians in this group face persecution, (treatment in a harsh or cruel way) for their beliefs?
- Ask your group of children if the Xibe people have any part of God's Word (The Bible), translated into their own language?
- Ask if they have any other Christian material?
  - Bible stories
  - Christian radio
  - Christian music Christian drama
  - Christian audiocassettes
- Pray for the Xibe people group using the prayer points you have heard. Are the children able to think of other things for which to pray?
- Are there people groups in your country who are still waiting to hear the message of God's love for all peoples? Pray for them too!
- Are there children or adults in your group who might like to train as Bible Translators? A Bible Translator put the words of the Bible into the words of a different language.
- Review the names and countries of other people groups you have already studied.
- If a craft or color page is included this week and is useful for your group of children to work on, do it now.

# X

## Xibe

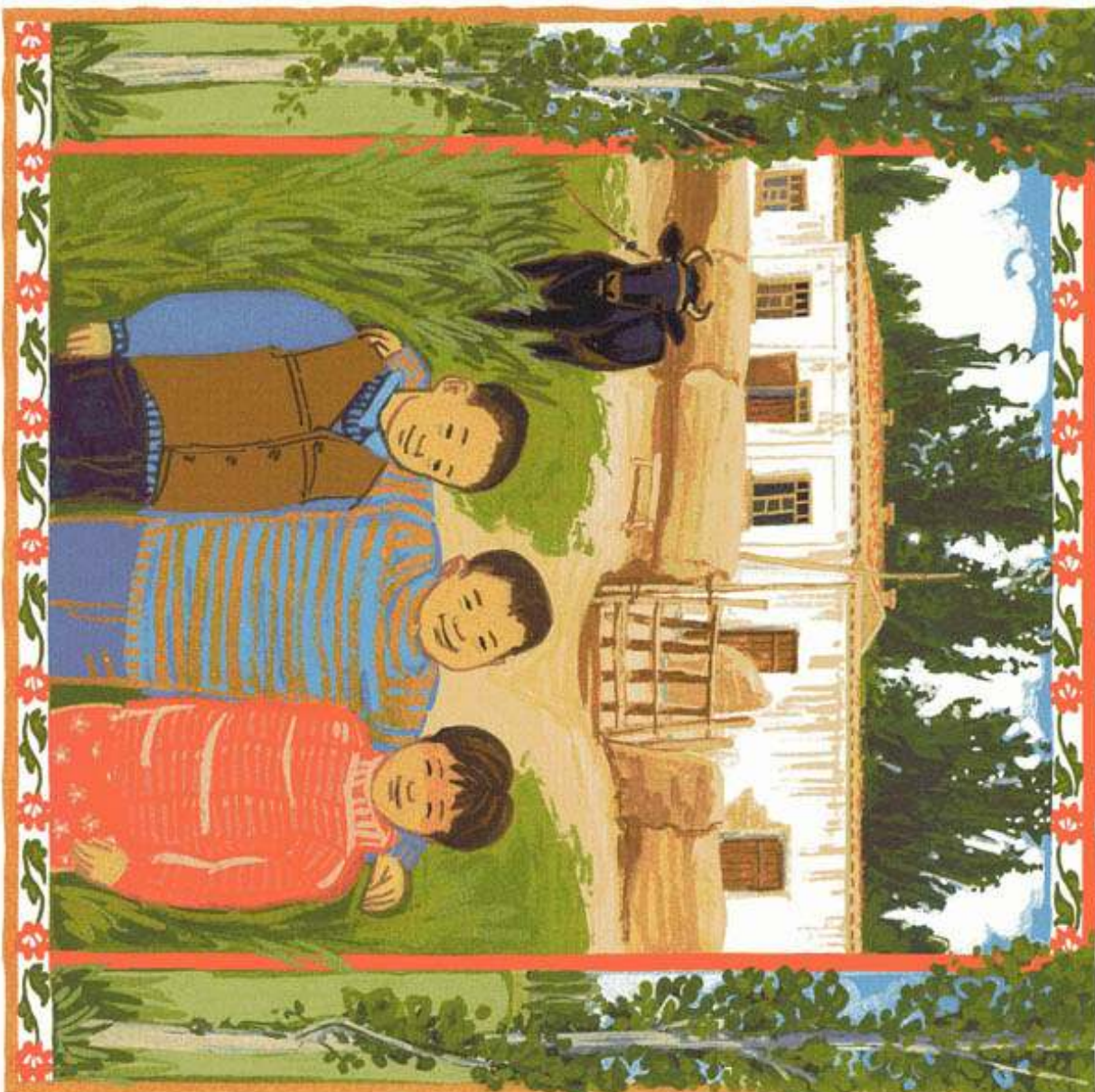
(SHEE-BOH)

The warm wind whistles and sky-high poplar trees rustle and whisper. A watchful cow moos her suspicions. She knows the chuckling cousins have plans. Soon the boys will grab their bows and zing whizzing arrows across the field.

The Xibe cousins live with their parents and grandparents in the big, adobe brick house. The family follows the old customs. When the girl was born, a red banner hung on the door and flickered in the breeze. When the boys were born, archers' bows rattled on the door.

Today Xibe men from western China herd animals and grow crops. A traditional festival is just around the corner when the boys' fathers will show off old-time skills of archery and horse riding.

*The Xibe people do not have the Bible in their own language.*





## The Xibe People

**Continent: Asia**

**Country: China**

### **Geographical Information:**

**China is a very large country. Many years ago the Xibe people were divided. The ruler of their area forced half of them to go on a long journey to a new home.**

- They traveled on foot or horseback to northeast China to serve as soldiers.
- The Xibe people have kept their own speech, clothing and customs that they brought with them so long ago.
- The western Xibe people still live in the Xingjiang Province of China. It borders Kazakhstan and Mongolia.

### **Find these areas on the maps of Asia and China.**

- Many many years ago the people of China learned how to make wonderful clothing from the cocoon of the silk worm.
- These worms are still raised in China and used for making silk.

### **Facts about the Xibe people:**

- The villages of Xibe people have about 100 to 200 houses. Each village is enclosed with a wall two or three miles long.
- The women decorate the house windows with beautiful paper-cut designs.
- The villages are located in areas where the Xibe can farm and herd sheep and cattle.
- They have many cows. The cows provide dairy products to eat such as milk, cheese, butter and cream.
- The Xibe grow and eat vegetables too. Some of the vegetables they grow are cabbage, leeks, carrots, celery and hot peppers.
- During time when they do not have much farm work, men enjoy hunting and fishing. They dry many of the fish they catch, and eat them during the cold winter months.
- Homes of the Xibe usually have a stove in the center to keep all the rooms warm when the weather is cold.

- There are two to four rooms off to each side of the center room.
- Each home has a courtyard where fruit trees and vegetables are grown.
- By building ditches and using streams the Xibe people are able to water their land even with very little rainfall.
- The men grow fields of wheat, wet rice and cotton.
- Xibe men wear short jackets with buttons down the front. They wear long trousers tightly tied around their ankles. In winter they wear long robes.
- The women wear close-fitting long gowns and decorate the hems and sleeves.
- Xibe men are excellent archers and horsemen.
- All the Xibe people love to sing and dance.
- From long ago and even now the Xibe people believe in an unseen world of many gods, demons, and ancestral spirits.
- The western Xibe have a great deal of respect for learning and education.
- Their language was once a written language, but the script was lost. Today the schools teach the language by telling stories and having children memorize them.
- Only portions of Scripture have been translated into Xibe. The people do have the JESUS video translated into their language. They have very little Christian materials and no Christian radio program to help them grow as Christians.
- The Chinese leaders have many rules and taboos against the spreading of the Message of Jesus.
- There are about 300 Christians among the Xibe.
- Korean missionaries have started a church among the Xibe.

### **You can pray for the western Xibe people.**

- Pray that the Chinese leaders will allow Christian missionaries and evangelists to work among the Xibe.
- Ask God to prepare Christian workers to be willing to go to China and work with the Xibe people.
- Pray that God will use the JESUS video to help the Xibe learn about God's love.

## China Animal Study

### Silkworms

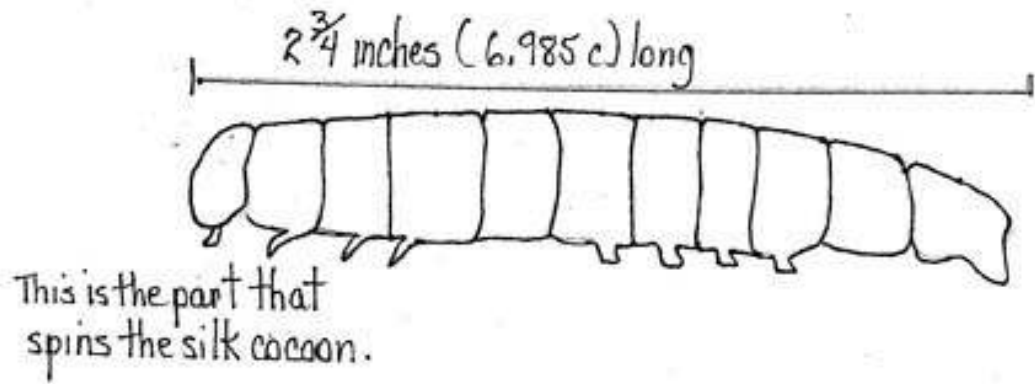
**Silkworms come from Northern China. It was the Chinese people who first learned to make the wonderful cloth from the silk thread. They discovered this about 4,000 years ago. They continue to raise silkworms and harvest the silk today.**

- The silkworm is not really a worm. It is a silkworm-moth that eats the leaves of mulberry trees.
- This moth lays tiny eggs that become white caterpillars.
- These caterpillars then spin white cocoons.
- Silkworms produce cocoons from which silk thread is made.
- The silkworm is allowed to make its cocoon and then it is killed with boiling water. The boiling water helps unravel all the silk thread from the cocoon. The silk that comes from this cocoon is a single long thread. It is very long.
- The material that is made from the silk thread is very fine, smooth, shiny and soft. It is very cool to wear in hot weather. It is also very costly material to buy.



### Silkworms





### Silkworm to color

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