



## *Pastor's Comments*

In large print at:  
[www.NAOG.ws/pc](http://www.NAOG.ws/pc)  
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### **Maria's Little Book**

"Dad, please take the book," pled 11-year-old Maria. "You can read it tonight during your break." "No, Maria, I don't have time. Where's my lunch?" As he disappeared into the kitchen, Maria slipped the little book into his coat pocket. Her Dad, lunch in hand, picked up his coat, gave Maria a kiss and walked out the door. "Please, Lord Jesus," prayed Maria, "Make Daddy read that book. I so want him to come to know you." Her Dad had turned morose after her mother's death two years before, but she had found Christ at a little Protestant church in central Chile. Maria had received the book from a missionary hoping that her dad would read it and be saved.

An explosion at 1:10 a.m. shook the mining town awake! Sirens wailed. Maria was among the townspeople who rushed to the mine entrance. Her father was not among the first survivors! Hope faded. Late in the second night the missing men were found deep in the mine—they were in a circle, all eight of them. One man had a small book in his hand. With a piece of charcoal he had scratched: "My dearest little Maria, when you read this, I will be with your mother. Thank you for putting this book in my pocket. I read it several times while the men listened. I did what the book says and accepted Jesus as my Savior. I love you very much. One day we'll all be together in heaven. All my love, dearest Maria, and God bless you."

Maria's little book summarized the biblical truth that all have sinned and are in need of salvation (Rom. 3:23). It revealed that Jesus Christ is the only means of being saved from sin's eternal punishment (see [www.naog.ws/theway.htm](http://www.naog.ws/theway.htm)). It urged readers to repent of their sins, believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior, and accept Him into their hearts as Lord (John 1:12, Rev. 3:20). Maria's dad did that—Have you?

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