

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It can be hard to tell how long you've been working on a book sometimes, but one way I've been able to track the years of research and writing is by looking at a drawing that has hung over the desk in my office since my daughter was young. I had just started figuring out what the book would be about when she offered to help me come up with the title and the cover. Her suggestion, *The Long Time Ago World Adventures*, features an illustration of a missionary standing atop a globe that resembles a chocolate-chip cookie, shouting out an invitation "Do You Wot TO Be A CiGih?" The artist is now old enough that she can't tell what that is supposed to mean (for those readers not used to translating the handwriting of first graders, it says: "Do you want to be a Christian?"). Measuring the development of a book alongside the growth of your child is one very clear way to realize just how long a project can take. There are so very many people to thank along the way.

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