

# Jaeska's Story

## Nicaragua

Jaeska is a seventh grader in Nicaragua's Laureles Norte neighborhood. She has an older brother and a twin sister, Javiera, who was born with Down syndrome, a hearing impairment, and who has not learned to speak. Javiera had surgery that helped, and now has hearing aids, but life is still hard for her.

It broke Jaeska's heart to see some family members treat her sister badly. "They thought her disability was contagious," she says.

Jaeska's school began using *Project Philip* Bible studies during their Christian education classes. She really enjoys the study. She notes, "I learned who God is, His characteristics, and what He does for us."

The *Project Philip* booklet from Bible League International has helped her cope with her feelings. She says, "These lessons helped me not feel so angry about how some people treated my sister."

During the study, Jaeska received Christ as her Savior, and her family began accepting her sister more. "As they got closer to Javiera, they realized that she is different but unique," she says. "She is affectionate and likes people."

Today, twelve-year-old Jaeska enjoys going to church with her parents. "I want to continue learning about Christ so I can help people like my sister believe in Him," she says. "I pray for the Lord to help her learn how to talk, be accepted at school, and for others to understand her disabilities."



## Questions:

How is Jaeska's life different than yours? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you or someone in your family ever been bullied like Jaeska's sister? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How has studying the Bible helped Jaeska? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_