

HOPE SUNDAY WEEKEND SERVICES GUIDE



USE FOR: Planning the service Scripture Suggestions

Hope Sunday Weekend Services Guide

Create a great event that will inspire people in your church to sponsor children in DR Congo! Below you'll find all the details for the event itself. A planning and promotion schedule can be found in the **Hope Sunday Planning Guide**. If you have any questions, please call CKC at **773-442-6578** or email us at **covenantkidscongo@covchurch.org**.

During the Service:

Hope Sunday can be as long or as short as time allows. Here are some options:

During the service, just 5 minutes:

- 1. Show a CKC video
- 2. Talk about child sponsorship
- 3. Ask congregants to go to the sponsorship table after the service

During the service, just the sermon:

- 1. Incorporate the significance of sponsoring a child in your sermon
- 2. Show a CKC video, speak about life in DR Congo, and discuss the ECC's relationship with our brothers and sisters in Congo
- 3. Ask congregants to go to the sponsorship table after the service

Full-service event:

- 1. Use Hope Sunday as the theme for the entire worship experience
- 2. Craft a sermon around compassion, show a CKC video, and discuss how sponsorship provides an opportunity for Christians to answer God's urgent call to serve "the least of these." Music, prayers, and Scripture readings can support powerful biblical themes of compassion and loving our neighbor.
- 3. Ask congregants to go to the sponsorship table after the service

No matter which format you choose, make sure to have a sponsorship invitation **at the end of your service**. Your pastor/speaker can invite everyone to visit the sponsorship table. For more details, see **Hope Sunday Pastor Talking Points**.

After the Service:

In the church lobby or fellowship hall, set up a sponsorship table where congregants can learn more and commit to sponsoring a child. Details on how to set up the table can be found in the **Hope Sunday Planning Guide**.

At the sponsorship table, be prepared (and prepare your volunteers) to share about why CKC sponsorship matters to you and to answer any questions people may have. Read the "How to Run the Sponsorship Table" handout for guidance.

Video Options

Download these videos at covchurch.org/hopesunday

- <u>The Impact of Sponsorship: Deborah's Story</u>
- What I've Seen in Congo: Greg Krieger's CKC Story
- <u>Women's Agricultural Groups</u>
- Women's Savings Groups
- <u>Clean Water for Congo: One Family's Story</u>
- Bright Hopes for the Children of Congo

Key Scripture Passages

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Isaiah 58:10

...and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.

Matthew 18:5

And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Matthew 25:34-36

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'