

orphans and vulnerable children

A LOVING FAMILY FOR EVERY CHILD

A Loving Family for Every Child

ISAIAH 1:17

Through the Kids Helping Kids resource, children will learn from and be inspired by children from around the world. The following resource shares stories from orphaned and vulnerable children and the ways that Covenant partners are showing the love of Christ by caring for and supporting children and families.

Kids Helping Kids enables us to partner with children on their spiritual journey to:

- fulfill Christ's commandment to love God and our neighbor,
- foster a larger kingdom view,
- provide a shared faith experience to build community,
- learn from the faith stories of other children around the world, and
- reflect and share their own stories of faith and what it means to respond thoughtfully and responsibly to other children's stories.

How can the children in your church learn from and be inspired by these stories?

This booklet contains the stories of twelve children, each with unique and often difficult family circumstances. It is our hope that these voices representing the 140° million children who are orphans or waiting to be united with loving families—will help shape the children in your care as they become sensitive to other's needs, inspiring them to respond thoughtfully and generously while at the same time being inspired by the lives of other children. Pay special attention to the sentences in each story that highlight the unique traits of each child and the ways that the children themselves are being helpers.

Special Note: Please be sensitive to the children in your care who may be experiencing similar family situations or are orphaned or vulnerable. Remember to provide extra care for them as you explore this resource together. Additionally, remind all children that each story is a unique experience and if their own family is experiencing difficulty, including divorce, that it does not necessarily mean they will be sent to a children's home or separated from their family.

Why take an offering each week?

Before taking an offering with the children each week, please read one of the stories, explore where it takes place in the world, engage in the cooperative game or craft, talk through the reflection, and pray for the child whose story was read using the prayer prompts. In this way, your children will connect with the bigger picture of God's kingdom and ways Covenant partners are walking alongside children.

We invite all churches to take an offering to begin teaching financial stewardship to children—what God has blessed us with, let us share with others. However, please remind children that even if they are unable to give money, their prayers are also offerings to God.

Gifts should be made out to

Kids Helping Kids: Orphans and Vulnerable Children Mail to: The Evangelical Covenant Church, attn: Covenant World Relief, 8303 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631

> Give online or download additional Kids Helping Kids resources at: CovChurch.org/kidshelpingkids

Thank you for joining us this year in providing children hope for a brighter future.

Email Questions To: CWR@covchurch.org or steve.burger@covchurch.org

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*UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/media/media_45279.html