# **Caring for God's Creation**

PSALM 24:1

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 children who are involved in caring for God's creation through Covenant partnerships.

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 your whole church be inspired by this resource?

Through this resource we not only want to encourage children to care for creation, but to motivate and model stewardship for the adults in their congregation. We encourage you to find creative ways for the kids to share what they are learning and how they are engaging in creation care (for example, you could suggest ways for them to display their murals, help them host a recycling drive, encourage them to share a story from the resource with the congregation during the service, etc.). There are also many ways this resource could be used in an intergenerational space.

Many of the stories and activities focus on recycling used materials. Some of the activities and crafts include using recyclable materials. These activities start toward the middle of the resource. One way you could prepare the children for this section of the resource beforehand is to have a recycling drive to collect these materials in the weeks leading up to these activities. Involve the children and the whole church if possible.

## 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 has God blessed us with? How can we share with others? 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: Caring for God's Creation Mail to: The Evangelical Covenant Church, attn: Covenant World Relief and Development, 8303 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631

Thank you for joining us this year in caring for God's creation.

#### Email questions to: CWRD@covchurch.org

### To download additional Kids Helping Kids resources go to: CovChurch.org/kidshelpingkids

Thanks to Katie Isaza, Covenant global personnel, and Jesse Bolinder, associate pastor of youth, children, and families at Harbert Community Church in Sawyer, Michigan, for their work on the content.

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