



Matthew 25:34-40 (NIV)

³⁴ “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. ³⁵ 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, ³⁶ 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.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

[LENTEN PRAYER GUIDE: WEEK 7]

The need for child sponsorship in Gemena

Children are the future. But in communities like Gemena, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), that future is threatened. Poverty prevents parents from giving their children the care they need. Disease steals their quality of life and keeps children from thriving.

Years of ongoing conflict in the DRC has left communities unstable and children vulnerable. The effects of war and corruption make it even more difficult for children and families to overcome poverty.

Join me in praying for the well-being of children in Gemena:

Dear God, our hearts are broken for the community of Gemena. We ask that you would equip us to love these children as you do. May they live in safety from conflict, ill health, hunger, and want.

The children and families of Gemena need so many things we take for granted: access to clean water and sanitation, well-staffed health facilities, schools, trained teachers, and basic school supplies.

The good news is that families are being provided with access to these basics thanks to child sponsorship. Through the Covenant Kids Congo partnership, World Vision is using sponsorship funds to address the root causes of poverty and help families in Gemena build a better future.

Let us ask that God would equip this community to overcome poverty:

Father of all, thank you that families in Gemena are being equipped to change their lives. Inspire us to invest in this community through child sponsorship. Stir in our hearts a deep desire to see more children connected with caring sponsors who will help to change their lives and transform their community.

Women and children in the DRC are often treated as if they have little value. They may be discriminated against, abused, or deprived of their rights. Poverty, exploitation, and a lack of opportunity make it hard for children and adults alike to understand their God-given worth.

Child sponsors have the chance to demonstrate God's love and invest in the life of a special child through prayers, letters, and messages of encouragement. Simply knowing that someone cares can make a world of difference for children and their families. And the tangible help they receive won't just make their lives better today; it will also equip them to build a sustainable future.

Let us pray that God would use us to bring change to this region:

God our provider, you came into the world and sacrificed yourself so that we—and the children of the DRC—might have “life in all its fullness” (John 10:10). Show us how we can follow your example and demonstrate your love to children and families in need. Make us instruments of your love for the children of Gemena.



The Evangelical Covenant Church is united by Christ in a holy covenant of churches empowered by the Holy Spirit to obey the great commandments and the great commission: to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to go into all the world and make disciples.

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.